



*Giving the young
and disadvantaged
a sporting chance*

MEDIA RELEASE

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AWARDS FOR LOCAL RISING STARS

Two local young cricketers have been honoured with Graham Wilkinson Memorial Junior Taverners Awards to help further their careers.

The winners of this year's awards are Clare Levings of the Weston Creek Molonglo Cricket Club and Ethan Fitzpatrick of the Ginninderra Cricket Club.

“Clare and Ethan are worthy winners of this prestigious local cricket award,” said Lord's Taverners ACT President, Ric Smith.

“The Lord's Taverners congratulates them both on their achievements to date and hopefully the additional support that comes with being a winner of a Junior Taverners Award will see them go on to even bigger and better things.”

For winning their awards (which take their name from the foundation President of the Lord's Taverners ACT), Clare and Ethan have each received \$1500 and a Kookaburra cricket kit.

The financial component of the awards is jointly funded by Graham Wilkinson's widow, Mrs Muriel Wilkinson, and the Lord's Taverners ACT.

Coincidentally, both Clare and Ethan are right-hand bats and leg-spin bowlers. Clare is also a member of the Australian women's under-15 squad.

Clare, 15, said: “It's a great honour to receive this award and it will provide a tremendous amount of support towards my ongoing cricketing journey.”

Ethan, 16, said: “I'm very honoured to have received this support and recognition for this scholarship. It will help to provide the assistance required to grow my game.”

The award-winners were announced at the 2019 Lord's Taverners ACT PM's XI and Annual Dinner.

The Junior Taverners Awards has been a Lord's Taverners ACT initiative since 1987 and past winners include Michael Bevan (1989) and Jason Behrendorff (2007).

The complete list of winners of the Graham Wilkinson Memorial Junior Taverners Awards can be found on the Lord's Taverners ACT website by clicking [here](#).

The Lord's Taverners would also like to acknowledge the support of Kookaburra and former committee member, Pete Wren for these awards.

Further information:

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The Lord's Taverners ACT is a charity which is dedicated to helping young people play cricket and other sports when they might otherwise not have the opportunity to do so.

Profiles – 2019 Graham Wilkinson Memorial Junior Taverners Award Winners

Clare Levings

Clare is an all-rounder (top-order bat, right-arm leg-spin bowler, sharp fielder and a handy part-time wicket-keeper) who has been selected in the under 15s Cricket Australia XI team to compete at the under 18 national championships to be held in Tasmania next January. Prior to this, she will attend a five-day talent camp in Brisbane at the National Cricket Centre. Selection in the Australian squad was as a result of some strong performances at the under 15s national championships held earlier in the year where she played with the ACT/NSW country team. A bowling highlight from this tournament was the last-round match against Queensland where Clare returned her best bowling figures of 5/38, which included a hat-trick, to help her team secure a spot in the final. Her highest batting score is 95 not out, which she achieved in Orange this year representing the under 15s ACT Meteors team. She is currently a member of the ACT Meteors women's team rookie squad.

Ethan Fitzpatrick

Ethan is a right-hand middle-order bat and leg-spin bowler who has been playing since he was five years old. Ethan has been a part of the ACT and Southern District representative teams since the age of 11 and he was recently selected in the under 17 ACT/NSW country team (injury prevented him from playing at the national championships). Ethan has also played for Sydney University last season in the Green Shield taking an impressive 5/32 and scoring 112 with the bat during the round games. He was also selected in the NSW Merit XI Green Shield side for that season. Ethan, who has played all his local cricket for the Ginninderra Cricket Club, debuted for the first-grade team last season and was part of the premiership-winning team. He is very much looking forward to continuing his cricket journey and to continue to learn and grow as a player, and hopefully one day play at the highest level.