

The First Graders

James Le Huray



Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 11

Full Name: **James Rodwell LeHuray**

Date and Place of Birth: **15 May 1973, Sydney**

Secondary School: **St Andrews Cathedral School Sydney**

Occupation: **Deputy School Principal**

Playing role: **Right arm medium pace bowler/right hand bat**

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2001-02	16	8	3	15	19	3.80			4
2004-05	1	0	0	0	0	0			1
Totals	17	8	3	15	19	3.80			5
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2001-02	195.3	31	28	682	24.36	5-55	1		
2004-05	4	0	0	23	0	0-23			
Totals	199.3	31	28	705	25.18	5-55	1		



As a batsman it is fair to say that James LeHuray didn't rate. His top score of 15 in an aggregate of 19 in 17 innings proves the point. As a medium pace seam bowler however, it was a far different story. He had a rare ability with a cricket ball in his hand and he applied it well.

In the 2000-01 season James was quite a force in the Randwick 1st Grade team taking 27 wickets at 18.67 with his probing line and length proving a formidable hurdle for many opposing batsmen. His selection in the first Randwick Petersham 1st Grade team the following season 2001-02 was designed to provide the perfect foil for fast men Adam Warren and Andrew Harrison. With 28 wickets for the summer he justified the selector's confidence.

It wasn't his ability to totally destroy an opposing batting line-up. Rather it was his uncanny knack of coming on to bowl when the fast men were done and picking up the vital wicket while keeping the runs in check. In the one-dayer against Easts at Petersham the Dolphins rattled up a competitive 250 despite LeHuray proving to be both miserly and destructive taking 5-55 off 10 overs. That RPC won the match with the bat was due recognition of the LeHuray performance with the ball.

Again against Hawkesbury James' 4-33 knocked the stuffing out of the early batters and they couldn't recover going down by seven wickets. Wests were next on the receiving end of James' accuracy and could muster no more than 110 to give RPC a win by 182 runs. In a season when the team's firebrand Adam Warren took a record 63 wickets it was bowlers like James LeHuray, Andrew Harrison and Scott Obey at the other end who ensured that batsmen had little respite from an attack which rated one of the best in the competition. That a score of 200 or more was passed on only four occasions by opposing teams emphasised the quality of the RPC bowling attack.

The well-worn saying that bowlers win matches was never truer than in Randwick Petersham's first season. Six bowlers took 20 wickets or more that summer with LeHuray's 28 one of the prime reasons the team was able to string together 11 first innings wins. History shows the tragedy of the sides' slip from the top of the ladder with a decision in the appeal room relegating the team to fourth from Minor Premiership honours before going down in the Qualifying Final and an unexpected early exit from the finals series.

With competition for 1st Grade bowling spots red-hot the following season, James felt opportunities for him at that level lay elsewhere and he transferred to Easts. In 2004-05 however, he was back in the fold enjoying his game in the club's lower grades. Called to fill in in one game in 1st Grade he was back in action in his old spot albeit for a very brief four overs.

In 2005-06 James took on the 3rd Grade captaincy for the whole season. And while he understandably took out the bowling honours in that grade it was being named as the Sydney Cricket Association 3rd Grade Captain of the Year which gave him one of his major thrills in the game. With that award tucked in his armoury James LeHuray retired as a player. In his 15 years with Randwick/Randwick Petersham he took an impressive 408 wickets—341 for Randwick and 67 for Randwick Petersham.