

The First Graders

Eddie Otto

Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 34

Full Name: **Edward Barry Otto**

Date and Place of Birth: **26 July 1985, Sydney**

Secondary School: **Ashfield Boys High**

Occupation: **Primary School Teacher**

Playing role: **Right hand bat/ left arm orthodox spin bowler**



BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2003-04	3	1	1	13*	13				1
2005-06	6	7	0	16	67	9.57			3
2007-08	2	2	1	8	11	11			1
2008-09	18	20	7	81*	396	30.46		2	4
T20	2	2	0	20	29	14.5			1
2009-10	18	14	1	163	409	31.46	1		3
T20	2	2	1	26	31	31			0
2010-11	14	10	0	33	154	15.40			2
Totals	65	58	11	163	1,110	23.62	1	2	15
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2003-04	26	6	3	91	30.33	2-49			
2005-06	42.4	1	7	186	26.57	5-85	1		
2007-08	20	1	0	68		0-7			
2008-09	62	1	4	297	74.25	2-13			
T20	3	0	0	36	-	0-36			
2009-10	4	0	0	13					
2010-11	3	0	0	16					
Totals	160.4	9	14	707	50.5	5-85	1		



In Randwick Petersham's first season in 2001-02, Eddie Otto was quickly identified as one of the new club's most promising juniors having won Petersham-Marrickville's Most Outstanding under 16 Player the previous season. The youngster bowled left hand orthodox spin and was a handy lower order batsman. Having regard to that profile it is somewhat ironic that the name of Eddie Otto is etched in the club record books as the joint holder of the highest ever 1st Grade batting partnership as an opening batsman.

The occasion was a match against Gordon in 2009-10 when Eddie was promoted to open the innings with John McLoughlin. The pair put on a mammoth 293 for the 2nd wicket in 287 minutes at Chatswood Oval to successfully chase down Gordon's 9-354 declared. While McLoughlin remained 157 not out, Eddie scored 163 off 235 balls in 309 minutes with 27 fours. Coming together at 1-9, when Eddie departed the score was 2-302. That was the first of wins in all five grades for the day (a "Greenwash" in club terms) which followed five defeats at the hands of Sydney University the previous round.

Later that season Eddie opened the batting against Bankstown at Bankstown Oval and chasing a small target of 115, smashed a keen 47 to ensure the win and grab two bonus points. That was the first match in another "Greenwash" with all lower grades also winning on the day. Eddie's 409 runs that summer was third behind first class players Scott Coyte (610) and Usman Khawaja (506).

Eddie Otto made his 1st Grade debut in 2003-04 in a Limited Overs match against North Sydney at Coogee Oval on Sunday 11 January 2004. He took 1-29 off five overs after being presented with his "baggy green" cap by long-term mentor Greg Hartshorne. Two more matches followed that summer with 2-49 his best return.

It was two years before Eddie was again called into the top side and while opportunities were limited he performed well when given the chance. His effort against Wests at Petersham Oval was first class. Defending only 213 Otto knocked over the first three bats after being thrown the ball early. He managed to grab another couple to have five of the first six wickets before the target was reached. He finished with the impressive figures of 5-85.

Despite his undoubted talent it wasn't until 2008-09 that Eddie became a regular face in the 1st Grade side as a batsman and part-time spin bowler. That season he hit his then highest score in 1st Grade when he top scored with 81 not out against Bankstown at Bankstown Oval. He came to the wicket with the score 6-85 and helped set a reasonable target of 242 although

Bankstown went on to win the match. Two games later Otto was again in the runs when he figured in a new 1st Grade tenth wicket partnership record of 73 with Burt Cockley against Easts at Waverley Oval. Eddie remained 73 not out in a match the side lost by 19 runs. That record stood until 2013-14.

Much was expected of Eddie after his memorable 2009-10 season but the summer of 2010-11 brought more disappointment than success with runs hard to come by. Scores of 33 and 27 were his best in a season total of just 154. He had no such trouble in 2nd Grade however, sharing a new record opening partnership of 202 with Troy Brewster of which Eddie scored 118.

Eddie did not play after 2010-11 but coached the club's A W Green Shield and had a major role in the club's Academy. He has a club record of 172 matches, 2,797 runs, three centuries, 53 catches and 142 wickets.