



The First Graders

Paul Horton

Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 39

Full name: **Paul James Horton**

Date and Place of Birth: **20 September 1982, Sydney, Aust.**

Secondary School: **St Margaret's, Airdrie, North Lanarkshire, UK**

Occupation: **Professional Cricketer**

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

BATTING									
Season	Mtch	Inns	N.O.	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2004-05	9	9	2	88	164	23.43		1	4
2005-06	14	16	0	110	447	27.94	1	2	8
Totals	23	25	2	110	611	26.57	1	4	12
BOWLING									
Season	Overs	Mdn	Wkts	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2005-06	.2	0	0	2	0	0-2			



While Paul Horton joined Randwick Petersham as an overseas player in 2004-05 he was in fact born and raised in Sydney before moving to Liverpool in England with his parents as a teenager. He joined Lancashire in 2003 making the first team squad before making the trip to Sydney to improve his batting and develop his game in the UK off-season.

Horton started with the club in 2nd Grade and quickly showed his class hitting 346 runs in his first eight matches with a highest score of 126 against Campbelltown at Coogee Oval in November 2004. He was soon after promoted to 1st Grade where he made his debut in the top grade against Parramatta at Merrylands Oval. While he only scored one run he took two great catches in a promising debut.

Later that season Horton top scored against Gordon at Petersham with a dashing 88 paving the way for a solid win by his team. And while he only averaged 23.43 in his nine matches in 1st Grade it was a successful season for the 22 year old finishing eighth in the overall club batting records with 510 runs for the summer.

Paul's development in Sydney was enough for him to return in 2005-06 where he played the full season in 1st Grade under new skipper Joseph Hill. And while the team had its worst season on record with the first of its three wins coming in round 15, Horton was one of the better performed batsmen with 447 at 27.94. His 110 against UTS Balmain on a dry and difficult Petersham Oval pitch was a season standout. He also made 54 against Easts while his 60 out of a total of 147 against Sydney University was an outstanding knock.

Returning to Lancashire Horton hit scores of 139, 149 and 152 in the 2007 County Championship. However, 2011 highlighted his Lancashire career. For the first time in 77 years Lancashire won the County Championship Division One title defeating Somerset at Taunton by eight wickets. Horton played a decisive part in the match with scores of 50 and 55 and shared in a 131 opening stand with Steven Moore in Lancashire's second innings scored in 16 overs. During the match, Horton passed 1,000 Championship runs in a season for the third time ending the season with 1,099 runs at an average of 37.89.

In 119 1st Class matches at the end of the 2011 English County season Paul had scored 7,121 runs at 38.91 with a highest score of 209. He compiled 14 centuries and 39 half centuries and claimed 130 catches.