

# The First Graders

Tim Laws



## **Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 53**

Full Name: **Timothy Laws**

Date and Place of Birth: **9 September 1984**

Secondary School: **Endeavour High School, Caringbah**

Occupation: **School teacher**

Playing role: **Right hand bat**

| <b>BATTING</b> |             |             |             |             |             |              |            |           |            |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Season</b>  | <b>Mtch</b> | <b>Inns</b> | <b>N.O.</b> | <b>Best</b> | <b>Runs</b> | <b>Ave.</b>  | <b>100</b> | <b>50</b> | <b>Ct.</b> |
| <b>2006-07</b> | 3           | 3           | 1           | 21          | 36          | 6.50         |            |           | 0          |
| <b>2007-08</b> | 17          | 17          | 1           | 133         | 338         | 21.13        | 1          |           | 7          |
| <b>2008-09</b> | 7           | 9           | 0           | 66          | 214         | 23.78        |            | 1         | 3          |
| <b>T20</b>     | 3           | 3           | 0           | 32          | 40          | 13.3         |            |           | 2          |
| <b>2009-10</b> | 7           | 3           | 0           | 8           | 15          | 5            |            |           | 1          |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>37</b>   | <b>35</b>   | <b>2</b>    | <b>133</b>  | <b>643</b>  | <b>19.48</b> | <b>1</b>   | <b>1</b>  | <b>13</b>  |



Tim Laws may well have been the hardest-hitting batsman to have played for the club. A former St George player he joined Randwick Petersham in 2006-07 and after hitting 122 against Mosman at Petersham Oval in 2nd Grade with five sixes and 11 fours in just 87 minutes, was promoted to 1st Grade. In his first match he scored a valuable 21 to help the side to an outright victory over Sydney University at Petersham Oval. And while his 1st Grade experience didn't bring him any great rewards that season he was a sensation in 2nd's averaging 57.20 to be the team's top batsman. His 667 runs overall was the third highest for the season.

Season 2007-08 brought high expectations with Tim playing all but four games in 1st Grade. The highlight of his season was 133 against Gordon which was part of a new 1st Grade sixth wicket partnership record of 112 he set with Usman Khawaja. Against his old club St George his 42 which included a flurry of sixes and fours enabled the side to snare a rare tie in the first game of the summer. In an amazing co-incidence, another quick-fire 45, this time against Bankstown at Coogee just a few weeks later, resulted in another tie.

An unfortunate injury restricted Tim's availability in 2008-09 but when he did get to play he showed what an outstanding attacking batsman he was. Many described him as a batsman in the "Adam Gilchrist mould". In round six against St George at Petersham he top-scored with 47 in a disappointing losing total of 146. He topped the batting again two rounds later against Penrith at Coogee with 39 out of a total of 183 which was also a losing one. His best score in 1sts that season was a fine 66 against Sutherland just after Christmas which again was the top score for the side and which again resulted in a loss.

But despite his restricted availability, season 2008-09 went down as a history-making one for Tim Laws. In the second of his two games in 2nd Grade he re-wrote the club record book. Against Bankstown at Coogee Oval, Tim hit the highest-ever score for the club when he rattled up 231 after coming in to bat with the score teetering at 4 for 24. It was also the highest 2nd Grade score for Randwick Petersham or any of its predecessors in that grade since J Noonan scored 244 for Randwick in 1906-07. The highest score in 2nd's for the old Marrickville club was 173 in 1945-46; for Petersham it was 205 in 1926-27; and for Petersham Marrickville it was 182 in 1977-78 by Brian Riley.

Tim's 231 was instrumental in recording a partnership of 309 with Brenton Barker in just 207 minutes which was the highest club partnership for any wicket in any grade let alone the fifth wicket in 2nd Grade. Brenton finished with 105 not out while Tim's 231 lasted 209 balls with 38 fours and four sixes. The team score of 7-389 declared was also a new record for 2nd Grade.

Again Laws was unavailable for the full season in 2009-10 playing just four matches in 2nd's while his seven appearances in an exceptionally strong 1st Grade side allowed him just three innings for just a handful of runs. Unfortunately Tim moved to the South Coast at the end of that season and was thereafter lost to the club. During his four summers with Randwick Petersham he accumulated 1,826 runs with three centuries and 36 catches.

Interestingly Tim Laws returned in 2012-13 as captain of the Illawarra team which lost to Randwick Petersham in the State Challenge Shield at Kensington Oval. Fittingly Laws top-scored with 40 made off just 23 balls which included six fours and a six.