

# The First Graders

## Robert Close



### **Randwick Petersham 1st Grade cap number: 71**

Full name: **Robert Close**

Date and Place of Birth: **31 January 1990**

Secondary School: **Kinross Wolarai School, Orange, California**

Occupation: **Student**

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

<b>BATTING</b>									
Season	Mtch	Inns	no	Best	Runs	Ave.	100	50	Ct.
2008-09T20	3	1	1	13*	13	-			1
2009-10	4	3	2	6	6	6.00			2
T20	1	1	1	3*	3				0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13*</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>			<b>3</b>
<b>BOWLING</b>									
Season	Overs	Md	W	Runs	Ave.	Best	5w	10w	
2008-09T20	2.4	0	1	19	19	1-19			
2009-10	22	1	3	105	35.00	3-58			
T20	4	0	1	26	26	1-26			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>28.4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>30.00</b>	<b>3-58</b>			



After taking wickets in each of the eight innings in which he bowled in 2nd Grade, promising all-rounder Rob Close was selected to make his 1st Grade Belvidere Cup debut in a limited overs match against St George at Hurstville Oval on 20 December 2009. After Australian Test bowler Trent Copeland disposed of Rob without scoring off five balls, the 19 year old bowled tightly conceding just 23 runs from seven well-directed overs in a match where the side was well beaten.

Two matches later Close had his first wicket in 1st Grade when he broke a 76 runs partnership in another limited overs match against Blacktown at Coogee Oval. He went on to bowl his full complement of 10 overs and take 3-58 to ensure a good win for his team.

In his two other matches in the top grade he took two smart catches against Easts but couldn't manage a wicket in five overs while against Campbelltown-Camden at Coogee Oval he batted well at the tail end for five off 18 balls only to see day two washed out without a ball being bowled. He also played in a Twenty20 Cup match scoring 12 not out and taking 1-19 with the ball.

Close began the 2010-11 season in 2nd Grade but suffered an injury which ruled him out for the remainder of the season. The following summer Rob decided to switch clubs and joined University of New South Wales where he completed his studies in 2013.

In his five seasons with the club Rob Close scored 486 runs and took 62 wickets. In 2005-06 the Orange youngster was the bowling star of the club's A W Green Shield team taking 14 wickets at 12.21.

### **THE PETER ROLLS AWARD 2007-08**

*Peter Rolls is a Life Member of the club and a former 1st Grade player with Petersham Marrickville.*

#### **Rob Close**

Despite having to complete HSC exams in his hometown of Orange and deal with a bout of glandular fever, this promising all-rounder gave more than a glimpse of his undoubted talent this season. He played a leading role in 5th Grade's premiership win while also contributing to 4th Grade's charge for the title. Overall he scored 208 runs and took 12 wickets in just 10 matches with a top score of 69 in 5ths and a 3 for 39 bowling effort in 4ths. A stint in England this winter is sure to prime him for higher honours in the seasons ahead.

No. 71 Robert Close

After some sound all-round performances in 2nd Grade, Robert was promoted for the round 6 limited overs match against St George at Hurstville Oval. He scored 0 from 5 balls and finished with 0 for 23 from 7 overs.

In 43 degree heat at Coogee in a limited overs match against Blacktown, Close combined well with Nathan Price (3-44) to take 3 for 58 and ensure a solid win for his side by 114 runs.