



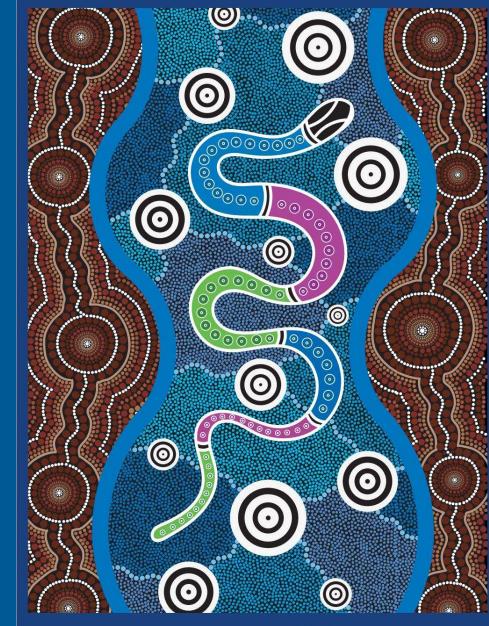
**CRICKET NSW**

First Nations  
Community Round  
2025-26

# First Nations Community Round 2025-26

The First Nations Round is a way clubs, players and volunteers can reaffirm our collective commitment to reconciliation, and deepen meaningful connections with Country, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and communities.

In doing so, we recognise the powerful and unique history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander engagement in Australia's favourite sport and celebrate the ongoing contributions of First Nations People across all aspects of our game.



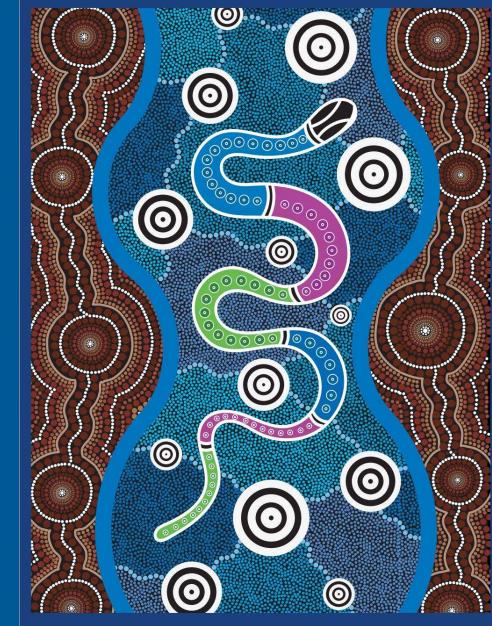
This document provides some ways you can support reconciliation through practical initiatives during the First Nations Round.

If you would like to discuss or get support with any ideas, please contact your local cricket manager or Cricket NSW staff member.



# Delivering an Acknowledgement or Welcome to Country

- Having an Acknowledgement or Welcome To Country is a tangible way to show respect by upholding cultural protocols.
- An Acknowledgement of Country is a way for *anyone* to show respect for Traditional Owners and the continuing connection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Country.
- A Welcome to Country is delivered by Traditional Owners of the land it is held welcoming visitors to their Country and offering safe passage. The Welcome to Country can take many forms including a speech, smoking ceremonies, singing and/or dancing.



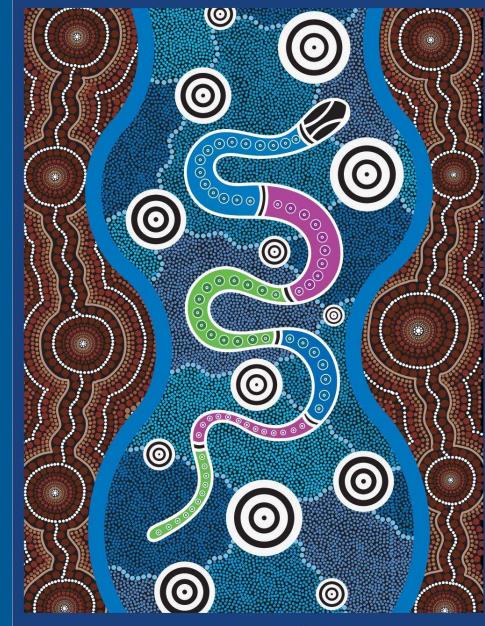
## Resources

- [Understand the differences between an Acknowledgement and a Welcome to Country, and why they are important.](#)
- [Find out the Country you are on](#)



## Support local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Businesses

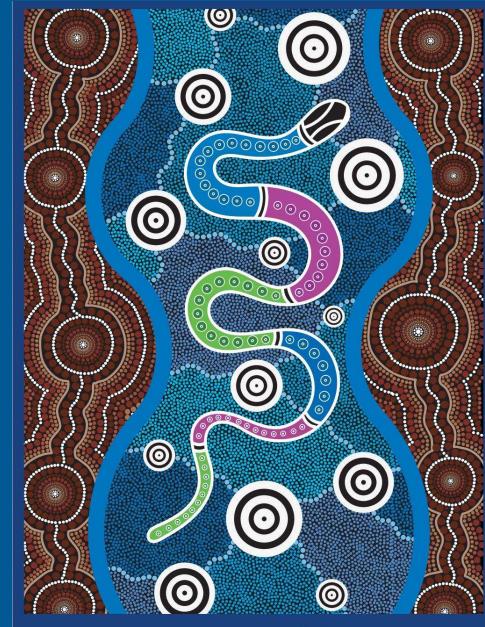
- Leverage this round to support the local community by purchasing from Indigenous businesses for goods and services. You can search for businesses [here](#).
- Commission a local artist to design artwork, playing kits and/or design stumps.
- When connecting with the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community it is important to allow time to foster the relationships and be respectful throughout the process.
- You can contact Local Government Authorities, and/or your State cricket association to help connect with the community.



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## Conduct a Barefoot Circle

- A Barefoot Circle is a cricket-centric way for players to take a moment prior to a series or match to connect with Country and pay respects to the Traditional Owners of the land they are playing on. It is performed barefoot to physically make a connection with the land.
- Barefoot Circles can be adapted to align with the local customs and practices of the Traditional Owners of the land it is being performed on.
- During a Barefoot Circle, your club might like to:
  - invite an Elder to say some words (after they have delivered a Welcome to Country); or
  - deliver an Acknowledgment of Country.

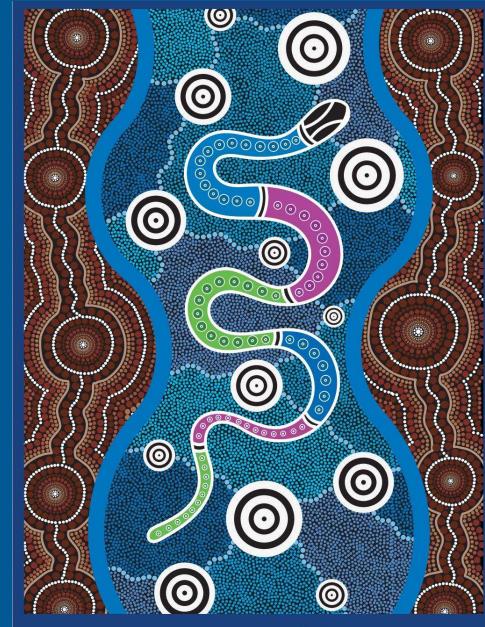


## Learn about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Culture & History

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have been living on the Australian continent and its adjacent islands for more than 65,000 years. Today, there are more than 250 distinct language groups spread throughout Australia, each with their own culture, customs, and laws.

### Resources

- Learn more about how life looks from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspective through this interactive module by [Share our Pride](#).
- Learn about the first Australian cricket team to tour England in 1868 [here](#).



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## WBBL First Nations Round Integration

- Like previous years, the WBBL First Nations Round and First Nations Community Round will be held the same week, highlighting and aligning the support for Australia's First Nations Peoples across all levels of cricket.
- The Weber WBBL|11 First Nations Round will be celebrated by Sydney Sixers and Sydney Thunder between November 15-23 and offers Community and Premier cricketers from around the state a further opportunity to show their support by attending the matches.
- Sydney Thunder will play a First Nations Round home game on November 19 against the Perth Scorchers at Drummoyne Oval. The Sydney Sixers, meanwhile, will play their First Nations Round match versus Melbourne Stars in a double header on November 20 at North Sydney Oval.
- The WBBL clubs will wear specially designed Indigenous kits, with Community and Premier cricketers invited to wear their clubs' own Indigenous strips.



# Addressing Racism

Cricket is a sport for all, and racism is not tolerated.

It is important to understand what racism looks like, the effects it can have on people and how to report.

You can report racism to your local Cricket Manager or Cricket NSW Integrity.

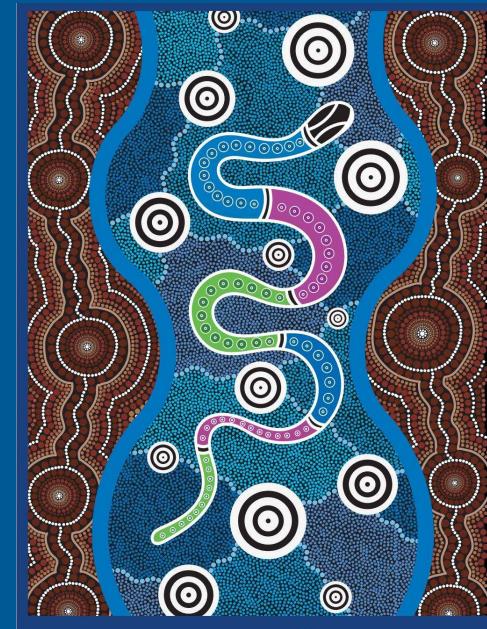
## Resources

- Commit to learn about racism and the effects it has
- Understand what it takes to be an ally
- Guide to Bystander Intervention

**Phone:** 1300 FAIR GAME (1300 3247 4263)

**Email:** [fairgame@coreintegrity.com.au](mailto:fairgame@coreintegrity.com.au)

**Online:** <http://qrs.ly/FairGameCA>



*Inspire Everyone to Play and Love Cricket*

