



Name	Nick Kelly
DOB	25/07/1993
Nationality	New Zealander
Player Status	Available
Playing Role	Batter
Batting Style	LH Top Order Bat
Bowling Style	SLA Orthodox Spin
Entry Route	International Sportsperson Visa
Coaching Qualifications	NZC Level 1

Nick Kelly is an Australian-born batter playing for (and skippering) the star-studded Wellington Firebirds side in New Zealand domestic cricket.

He joined the Firebirds last summer (2022/23) following successful stints with the Otago Volts (2019/20-21/22), and Northern Knights (2015/16-18/19).

Courtesy of his domestic success, Kelly has earned recent New Zealand A honours with selection for their tour to Australia in Aug-Sept 2023. In his 2 first-class outings against Australia A, Kelly scored 129 runs at 32.25 in addition to a score of 52 in his solitary List A match against the NZ counterparts.

Over the past few years, Kelly has become one of New Zealand cricket's most prolific domestic batters. He has excelled across the three formats, particularly dominating first-class cricket with 579 runs at 44.53 (2020/21), 675 runs at 51.92 (2021/22), and 470 runs at 29.37 (2022/23) in recent years.

His 2021/22 first-class tally included a magnificent double century against a Central Districts bowling attack including Blackcaps' Doug Bracewell, Blair Tickner, and left-arm prospects Ray Toole, and Ben Wheeler. Kelly struck an undefeated 234* from only 245 balls, an innings that featured 25 fours and 9 sixes.

An explosive left-handed batter, Kelly made first-class debut against Auckland (October 2015), but it was the following

summer where he started to make waves, particular in 50-over cricket. Kelly struck an impressive 343 runs at 49, to include a brilliant 103-ball 118 (7x4s, 5x6s) against a Wellington attack that included the likes of Jetan Patel, Luke Woodcock, Scott Borthwick, and Brent Arnel. Kelly's exploits saw him finish sixth on the Ford Trophy run charts.

The following summer, Kelly continued his Ford Trophy domination, finishing sixth on the run charts with 313 runs at 39.12, including his second List A hundred - a brilliant 106 from 92 balls, including 7 sixes, before taking 2-55 in the second innings with his left-arm spin (the wickets of Jimmy Neesham and Mike Rippon).

A former New Zealand Under-19 player, who represented his country during the Townsville Under-19 Quadrangular Series in 2012, Kelly was always destined for Knights honours. During the same 2011/12 season, Kelly starred for the senior Counties Manukau provincial side and was named the Northern Districts' High Performance Development Academy "Player of the Year".

In 2012/13, Kelly made his ND 'A' debut and has therefore played four National Provincial A Tournaments averaging 38.40 (2014), 35.20 (2015), 35.50 (2016) and 45.75 (2017) with the bat, whilst also making useful contributions with his left-arm tweak.

He produced several notable 'A' Tournament scores, including a brilliant 74-ball 102 (9x4s, 4x6s) when chasing down Canterbury's 294. In January 2015, he belted a breath-taking Twenty20 37-ball 97 (9x4s, 9x6s) when promoted to open in pursuit of Otago's 148. In 2017, he plundered scores of 90 (from 72 balls) against Auckland following his 33-ball 57 vs the NZ U19s. During the 2018/19 season, he also struck an incredible 129-ball 200 for Manukau City in their Counties-Manukau Premier match against Papakura.

Kelly has also enjoyed success abroad, whilst playing for Downham Town during the 2015 and 2016 seasons. He churned out 1,529 runs at 80.47 and took 50 wickets at 19.82 to finish runner-up and top of the batting and bowling charts respectively in the Premier Division of the Norfolk Cricket Alliance. He returned and whilst he failed to replicate his prior numbers, he still managed 605 runs at 40.33 alongside 23 wickets at 21.04.

The former Knights, now Volts run machine then returned for a replacement stint for Rochdale in the Lancashire League (2018), hitting a high of 130 amongst 385 runs at 38.50. Over the past two UK seasons the run trend continued with two productive stints in the Home Counties Premier League for Harefield (1,750 runs at 43.75 and 16 wickets at 18.81).

Kelly is in the form of his life, and following his domestic season is potentially keen to return to Northern shores for another stint in 2024.

Overseas Statistics

Team (Season)	Mts	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	Ovs	Runs	Wkts	BB	Avg
Harefield (2023)	22	20	1	663	90*	34.89	11.4	54	1	1/18	54.00
Harefield (2022)	24	24	3	1087	132	51.76	43.4	247	15	5/21	16.47
Rochdale (2018)	11	10	0	385	130	38.50	56.3	208	8	4/42	26.00

Downham Town (2016)	17	15	0	605	129	40.33	113.2	484	23	5/37	21.04
Downham Town (2015)	28	25	6	1529	144	80.47	198.1	991	50	5/28	19.82

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