



CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB

Chairman's Staying Alert (formerly Lockdown) Newsletter -Week 10

The summer solstice is upon us and we have a cornucopia of glorious evening light for cricket. The annoying problem here is that we still have no actual cricket. However, we do have full bookings for nets and training at both junior and senior levels. Well done to everyone who has organised this and to those who have been training. Appetite for the game seems keener than ever which is tremendously encouraging. Several votes of thanks go out this week to people whose actions are making such a positive contribution to the club. Christleton Parish Council have given us a 3 month rent holiday and we are very grateful to our parish councillors for offering such a warm and meaningful gesture in these far from normal times. Big thanks also to our friends at BK Electrical for sourcing and fitting a high-grade CCTV system for us. This system can see what you've got in your sandwiches. Or at least, the images it provides are crystal clear, and in view of our recent history, we're very glad to have this extra security. Lastly, thanks to our village Police/PCSO service for working so strongly with us to try to reduce instances of anti-social behaviour in our area. Whatever you are doing at present, stay safe, look after those around you, keep moving and stay in touch. I will look forward to seeing many more of you on the ground before too long. News of current cricketing items of interest can be found on page 2 of the newsletter.

Here, we'll continue with a review of some exciting, glorious June matches from simpler times.

1st XI v Stockport Georgians 22-6-2019

GD10 a year ago saw Stockport Georgians visit Little Heath. The skipper of the 2018 UK Fast League Champions took the decision to bat first. On this particular day, opening bowler Arslan Dar was in inspired form. His control of line is always immaculate and he asks batsmen questions with every ball. He can nibble the ball away but it is the one coming in to right handers that we all find so difficult. Plant that front pad to a ball nipping back and there's nowhere to go. Ashy finished with 8-39 on this day. Only 6 bowlers have taken a 1stXI 'eight-for', and Ashy is the only bowler to have done this twice. Four Georgians were lbw to Ashy as the innings closed at 107 all out. Leg Before Wicket has become an increasingly common form of dismissal in club cricket as umpires see Hawkeye's pronouncements on what might have clipped a bail. However, Hawkeye is not infallible as seen in this week's farcical proceedings at Villa Park.

After tea, a typically bruising innings of 48* from Mubashir Hassan went a long way to towards chasing down the target. Kiwi Josh Joseph gave sterling support with 33 but perished near the end trying to add to his 2 sixes. In the end, Swans secured the points after 22 overs and with only 3 wickets down. Kiwi Josh was not required to bowl on this occasion but read on for details of a time when he was turning his arm over.

1st XI v Middlewich June 2016

Back in the 2016 season, Swans' 1stXI had a June home fixture against opposition from Middlewich. The mid-Cheshire team won the toss and decided to have a bowl. This looked like an inspired decision as Swans' wickets started to tumble. Skipper Tom Norris showed resilience, putting together a patient 48 before being run out. The engine room at 5,6 and 7 then began to push the score along more briskly towards a respectable total of 202-6. Zain Butt 47, Ollie Morgan-Jones 26 and Kiwi Josh Joseph 33* were the men providing the impetus.

Popular Kiwi Josh may not have bowled in the game above. However, he was the main attraction in this game, producing figures of 6-29 in 12 overs of left arm flight and guile, keeping it tight and showing subtle variations of pace. Matt Astbury and Zaighum Abbas also had 2 wickets apiece to see Swans victorious. 121 all out was the final score, the win an outcome that looked much less certain after the first hour of play.

1st XI v Heaton Mersey 22-6-2013

Finally, we're featuring a third home game from GD10 and a third virtuoso bowling performance from a Swans' player. First though, we have some batting to discuss. Nick O'Connell was skipper that day and he decided to have first knock on a cool day at Little Heath. The innings stuttered throughout as batsmen found the going tough. Top scorers were young guns Matt Astbury 30 and Harry Peel 28. A total of 162 at half way seemed below par. Tea was quiet and reflective.

Heaton Mersey started well and were going along swimmingly at 101-2. At this point Iftikhar Naseer, who had been fine tuning the radar, suddenly began a golden spell of unplayable bowling. Ifti finished with 6-36 as the batting subsided to 114 all out. Ifti's figures were 0-30 when he took his first wicket. The stories of Iftikhar's big hitting are legendary, but Ifti's bowling was destructive too, and he's a lovely chap to boot.

2ndXI v Bredbury St Marks 21/6/2003

The ever-dependable Richard Morgan-Jones was skipper on the solstice day of 2003. Winning the toss, Richard asked our friends from Bredbury to bat first in cloudy overhead conditions. Jimmy Dathan opened the bowling that day and proved to be largely unplayable. His first 7 overs were maidens but he only had 1 wicket to show for these efforts. At the other end, Steve Jackson was in the wickets again. The wickets Jacko took in mid-late June were abundant and, of course, he was still refreshed and adrenalin-filled after attending his beloved IOM TT. On this occasion Steve bowled a 17 over spell to finish with an excellent 6-51. Wily veteran Brian Wareing rattled out 2 victims and the Bredbury innings was complete at 151 all out.

RMJ opened the batting and was progressing nicely before being bowled for 19. This brought Phil Tidy and Ravi Adapala together. The pair combined in a partnership of 90 which went a long way towards securing the win. Ravi was textbook through the covers and wristy through the leg-side in his 37. Phil was club Treasurer then and he still is. Such volunteers are invaluable off the pitch, but on this day it was Phil's stylish 79* that caught the eye on the field. Phil hit 13 fours in his unbeaten innings. Quite simply, Philip was the undisputed master of the back cut. The visitors this day posted a 4th slip, 2 gullies, a short 3rd man and a backward point- all to no avail as the ball was threaded through. A craftsman at work! Andy Moulds hit the winning runs that day. Johnny Read and Degsy Rodgers were due to be next in, so we had a strong 2nd team in the field that day.

Progress towards the return of recreational cricket.

I'd like to have some amazing news for you but the situation remains unaltered from last week. The world of recreational cricket is presently stuck on Stage 3 of the ECB Road to Recovery, which was featured in last week's newsletter. HMG announced yesterday that England has moved from Alert Level 4 to Level 3. The virus is still in general circulation but some gradual relaxation of restrictions can take place. HMG now needs to tell us which relaxations can take place and we will wait for news of this and any implications for cricket. Rest assured that as soon as we can safely do more, we will. The ECB issued a statement about the latest situation on Thursday and I have reproduced this below.

Statement for Counties and Premier Leagues Thursday 18 June for placement on County Cricket Board websites and onwards distribution to member clubs

The Secretary of State's message on Tuesday evening outlined plans for earmarking an early July date as being the earliest possible return for recreational cricket. Last week ECB published their 5 Step Roadmap highlighting that currently the game is in Step 3 of its return. The ECB will continue to work with and be led by UK Government advice, only advising clubs move into step 4 when the Government allows and when it is deemed medically safe to do so.

As cricket is a non-contact sport that involves individual disciplines within a team environment, the ECB are optimistic that forms of the game can be played while respecting social distancing. Step 4, Adapted Play, will allow for cricket to be played, operating under Government rules and with modifications to the game to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all involved. It is ECB's ambition to deliver guidelines for a return to play as soon as possible after the Government gives permission to proceed, but please note that given the importance of ensuring cricket clubs and individuals are as safe as can be, this may take a few days from any Government announcement. Further detail on National Competitions and National Participation Programmes will be shared with County Cricket Boards for onward distribution next week. In preparation for further ECB announcements, Competition organisers across Counties and Leagues are encouraged to begin considering how they will respond when the ECB advises that we are able to move into Step 4 and whether local competitions are feasible.

This week's ECB Clubs and Leagues Update focuses on these topics:

- NatWest Financial Guide for clubs
- Roadmap for Recreational Cricket FAQs
- #raisethebat campaign to recognise key workers
- Updated DBS guidance for club volunteers
- Google Digital Garage

The link to the latest email can be found here: <https://ecb-comms.co.uk/1FT6-6X147-757G090DCD/cr.aspx>

In addition, anyone who needs to produce signage will be interested in the following resources:
<https://resourcehub.ecb.co.uk/share/C637914F-4A76-4E65-AAA69068CAF75333/>

As always, thanks to Gareth Moorhouse at the Cheshire Cricket Board for keeping us informed in these extraordinary times.

Current guidelines for safer cricket practice

For PLAYERS



PLAYERS

STAY ALERT AND MAKE IT SAFER - COVID-19



COACH DEVELOPMENT

These guidelines are designed to ensure that players minimise the risk of infection/transmission of the coronavirus
Group sessions - 1 coach and 5 players maximum

| Prepare | Before | During | After |
|---|---|---|---|
|  <p>Hand sanitiser - write your name on it</p>  <p>Own drinks</p>  <p>Book on session</p>  <p>Equipment - bring own ball where possible</p>  <p>Arrive in your playing kit</p> |  <p>Place your bag in your allocated safe area¹</p>  <p>Wash your hands</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Wait for instructions from the coach before entering the playing area</p> </div> | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Follow the coach's instructions</p> </div>  <p>Do not share equipment²</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>One skin one ball - balls should not be touched by more than one player or shared²</p> </div> | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Create innovative ways to celebrate while maintaining social distancing where possible</p> </div>  <p>Always remain two metres apart²</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Saliva and sweat should not be applied to the ball at any time</p> </div> |
| | | | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Return to safe area</p> </div>  <p>Wash your hands</p>  <p>Clean kit and equipment</p> |
| | | | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Further guidance can be found at ecb.co.uk/gov.uk/coronavirus</p> <p>Guidance accurate as of 5 June 2020</p> <p>icoachcricket</p> </div> |

¹Children may require assistance from a parent/guardian to apply sun screen and tie laces etc
²Unless from the same household

And for COACHES



COACHES

STAY ALERT AND MAKE IT SAFER - COVID-19



COACH DEVELOPMENT

These guidelines are designed to ensure that coaches minimise the risk of infection/transmission of the coronavirus
Coaches should follow guidance from the Coaches Safety Pack for typical outdoor sessions and comply with deployment requirements such as DBS, safeguarding and first aid.
Group sessions - 1 coach and 5 players maximum

| Prepare | Before | During | After |
|---|---|---|---|
|  <p>Hand sanitiser - write your name on it</p>  <p>Where possible send plans/instructions to players and parents</p>  <p>Prepare and clean equipment including first aid kit and protective gloves</p>  <p>Own food and drink</p>  <p>Design or adapt practices to make them relevant to guidance¹</p>  <p>Allow 10 minutes transition time between multiple sessions</p> |  <p>Wash your hands</p>  <p>Allocate an area for first aid</p>  <p>Mark out a safe area for each player</p>  <p>Finalise risk assessment and take register</p>  <p>Set up and organise equipment required for session² - write each player's initials on balls</p>  <p>Begin session by briefing players</p> | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Provide clear instructions</p> </div>  <p>Always remain two metres apart³</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>One skin one ball - wear a mitt and another glove to protect yourself when collecting, feeding and receiving balls</p> </div>  <p>If players need to leave the practice area remind them of hygiene and social distancing measures</p>  <p>Clean any equipment that may have been touched in between activity eg cones or stumps</p> |  <p>Collect equipment</p>  <p>Clean kit and equipment</p>  <p>Wash hands</p>  <p>Allow 10 minutes transition time between multiple sessions</p> |
| | | | <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Further guidance can be found at ecb.co.uk/gov.uk/coronavirus</p> <p>Guidance accurate as of 5 June 2020</p> <p>icoachcricket</p> </div> |

¹See suggestions on icoachcricket ²Adjacent nets should not be used - leave one lane free between nets ³Unless from the same household