

CHRISTLETON CRICKET CLUB



13th June 2020

Chairman's Staying Alert (formerly Lockdown) Newsletter -Week 9

Game Day 9 of this (hopefully) unique season has arrived. We're only 2 games away from the half-way point and by the time we reach that milestone we will be past the longest day of the year. People will be about to remark that 'the nights are drawing in' and we will not have seen a ball bowled. Of course team sport is about building character and it has been heartening to see such a positive response from our members and supporters. Far from being despondent, net bookings are high and everyone is in good spirits. Club officers are working their socks off at this time. Many thanks to Vice-Chair Pete Roberts for his tireless hard work in getting practice up-and-running again. Junior coaching starts again next week albeit in a socially distanced way, and junior supremo Mark Inchley has worked into the night to try to balance the desire to play cricket with the strict ECB conditions for practising, such as 'one ball, one skin'. Safe Hands Nick Davis is on the scene making sure we consider welfare issues in everything we do. Vice-Presidents have responded to the club's position of having hardly any income by starting to send their annual contribution. Mandy has the interior of the club looking as never before. And of course, our groundsmen have the place looking magnificent: what youngster isn't going to want to run about out there after what they've been through in the last few weeks? So there's a lot of good news: we just need HMG and ECB to turn on more green lights and we'll be ready. Whatever you are doing 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 Timperley 13-6-2009

Looking through past games on GD9 one thing is clear: Iroshan de Silva usually scored runs. On this day 11 years ago, our visitors from Stockport Road won the toss and batted first. The early batters were going along serenely at 100-1 with plenty of overs left. At that stage, skipper Paul Allen brought back Matt Parkinson to partner Iroshan and the pair whittled away at the opposition batting so that at tea Timperley were 198-8. Matt finished with 4-73 from a marathon 19 overs, with Iro wheeling away for 3-49. Nineteen overs of the Matt Parkinson run up was a feast for the eyes of lucky watchers that afternoon. Former England Universities' bowler Matt was a magnificent sight in full flight.

After tea, the Swans' chase did not get off to the best of starts with 3 men back in the hutch for only 19. However, Iro was still there and just needed someone to hang in there with him. Initially this was youngster Ben Paterson, showing great maturity with a determined 39. Star of several newsletters Jamie Creek was there at the end with 30* as the target was reached after 41.4 overs. Meanwhile Iro had calmly stroked 21 fours around Little Heath in a 111* of pure class. I can picture Iroshan shots in my mind's eye: dispatched through backward point or down the ground, never over-hitting, always balanced and under control. He would have been a happy chap on the way home that night.



2ndXI v Davenham 14/6/2014 (More 2nd XI games follow on p.3)

The Seconds travelled to Butcher's Stile for a CCCL match in June 2014. Skipper Mike Gaynon won the toss and opted to bat. He must have been wondering about that decision as wickets began to tumble. Batters got starts but seemed unable to capitalise on their hard work, Ali Marks 36 and Alex Powell 20 getting out when well set. The innings looked like subsiding to a low total when inspiration arrived from an unexpected source. Dave Mumford is much more feted for his left arm swing bowling but on this occasion he proved mightily effective with the willow too. He launched a withering counterattack to score 85* from only 68 balls. Dave hit 11x4 and 3x6 in an exhilarating innings. Steve Jackson scored 14* but crucially kept the partnership intact for the final 12 overs. Tea was taken at 191-8.

As so often happens, momentum can carry through to the second innings. Dave Mumford ran out an opener for a duck but that was the end of his involvement with dismissals. Wickets fell steadily throughout the Davenham innings with Russ Butcher (featuring again!) taking 3-22 and 2-33 for Steve Jackson. With the score at 140-6 the game was in the balance. Skipper Mike then brought on the wily pace of Stewart Lunt. Good areas were probed and a devastating spell saw Stewart with 3-13 and the points in the bag for Swans. Davenham's renowned real ales would have tasted sweet that night.

ECB statement- Roadmap for safe return of recreational cricket.

This infographic shows where we're up to and how far we still have to travel: quite a long way to **go it seems**.

Here's an example of the FAQ:

Q. When do you envision we'll get to Stage 5, i.e. we'll be playing club cricket normally?

A. Moving to Stage 5 would involve the removal of social distancing measures, at this time, it is hard to see us getting to this stage this summer.

You can read the whole of the email here: <https://ecb-comms.co.uk/1FT6-6WP6D-757G090DCD/cr.aspx>

ROADMAP FOR THE RETURN OF RECREATIONAL CRICKET

ECB STATEMENT

England is currently in Step 3 of the roadmap for the return to recreational cricket. For recreational cricket in Wales, we understand that the Welsh Government are due to review current restrictions on 18 June, after which time we will provide further guidance on what a return to cricket activity for clubs in Wales looks like.

We will continue to be led by UK Government's advice but we have identified five steps to the recreational game's proposed phased return this summer.

Cricket is a non-contact sport that involves individual disciplines within a team environment. As such, forms of cricket can be played while respecting social distancing.

As the nation's summer sport, we want to play our part in helping to get people active - particularly children.

We will move into Step 4 of the roadmap when UK Government guidance allows and when it is medically safe to do so.

We will continue to work with players, volunteers, officials, community cricket stakeholders and the UK Government to ensure future guidance is both safe and implemented at the appropriate time.



STEP 1

Lockdown
23 March - 13 May

At-home training and basic use of cricket grounds but not facilities e.g. nets

- Essential ground maintenance



STEP 2

Household activity
13 May - 1 June
Guidance released 15 May

Use of outdoor facilities (e.g. nets, outfield, wicket)

- For individuals, individual households, or pairs of adults - all socially distanced
- 1-1 coaching permitted
- Essential ground maintenance
- Use of outdoor facilities
- All indoor facilities remain closed



STEP 3

Small group training
1 June - TBC
Guidance released 5 June

Use of outdoor facilities (e.g. nets, outfield, wicket)

- For individuals, individual households, or groups of up to 6 individuals regardless of household - all socially distanced
- 1:5 coaching permitted
- More than one group of 6 can train at the same time provided they are kept separate, and social distancing plus strict hygiene measures are observed



STEP 4

Adapted gameplay
Date TBC

Cricket matches adjusted to remain socially distanced

- COVID-19 adaptations for adult cricket
- COVID-19 adaptations for junior cricket
- Shorter formats - to allow more matches to take place
- All ground maintenance
- Outdoor facility usage
- Restricted use of hospitality in line with government guidelines
- Indoor facility usage in line with government guidelines



STEP 5

Unrestricted
Date TBC

- All formats, leagues and competitions available
- Full facility usage

Moving to stage five would involve the removal of social distancing measures.

2ndXI v Tattenhall June 2012

Swans' Seconds made the short trip to Tattenhall in June 2012. Cloudy overhead conditions persuaded the hosts to have Swans take first knock. There were early wickets because, of course, batting against the new ball is batting at its toughest, and at a score of 17-2 the Flacca men were very much on the front foot. The third wicket partnership brought together Ollie Morgan-Jones and Andy Heyland, and this pair really enjoyed what happened next. Ollie scored a determined and patient 73. He had the best seat in the house to see Andy compile 139 including 9x4 and 6x6. Whilst the non-striker would have had a great view of this innings, the role is not without peril as many of Andy's shots are aimed exactly in your direction. At The Flacca the same aiming point continues on to the tennis courts but no-one was injured I'm glad to say. Ollie and Andy's alliance notched up an impressive 216 runs, and is a club 2ndXI 3rd wicket partnership record. A final total of 253 saw Swans in confident mood at the half-way point.

Adam Gittins then hit his straps after tea, quickly removing the first 3 batsman, and at 14-3 and facing a large total the only question was could Swans capitalize on this excellent position? Adam finished with 3-29 and with 2 wickets apiece for Ollie Mo-Jo and Jason Ashcroft, and singles for Mike Gaynon and Ali Marks, the victory was wrapped up in 44 overs with the margin of victory 162 runs. The 2ndXI was extremely strong that day and this was an excellent win for skipper Matt Allen's team.

Look back to last season

A home game against friends and neighbours CCO awaited the Seconds this time last season. Skipper Harry Morris won the toss and elected to bat, which you really had to do under last season's rules. Harry opened and hit 12 fours in a frustratingly oh-so-close 96. He also hit 3 sixes that I seem to remember being pulled away behind square, Harry's modus operandi. Run-machine Dan Hamp was meanwhile scoring 12 fours and running hard in compiling a stylish 100. Ian Mitchell waded in with a truculent 56 and the declaration could be made with an imposing score on the board.

The ages of the 5 bowlers used by Swans added up to less than the 120 Club referred to below. Louis Mullineux led the attack with 4-23 whilst teenagers Max Wade 2-25 and Jack Harding 2-11 also enjoyed success. Nick O'Connell and Dev Bhadra completed the job with a wicket apiece. Special note to Paul Hickey who played one of the best innings that I saw by an opposing 2ndXI player last year, deserving more than his elegant 49.

Stats Corner

Wicket keepers

Over 24 victims

in a season

1st XI

Wicket keeping		
2008	Scott Graves	32 (26ct,6st)
1990	Terry Jonas	29 (22ct,7st)
1987	Terry Jonas	29 (14ct,15st)
1984	Terry Jonas	28 (16ct,12st)
1996	Terry Jonas	28 (18ct,10st)
1980	Peter Mitchell	28 (21ct, 7st)
1999	Russell Crowley	27 (24ct, 3st)
1986	Terry Jonas	26 (19ct, 7st)
1989	Terry Jonas	26 (18ct, 8st)
2002	Scott Hadnum	26 (17ct, 9st)

2nd XI

1984	Peter Mitchell	33 (24ct, 9st)
1983	Peter Mitchell	26 (13ct, 13st)
1990	Chris Cox	25 (11ct, 11st)
1994	Chris Cox	24 (11ct, 13st)

At various points in the 1990s Gordon Price and Chris Cox took great delight in informing opponents that they had fallen to a combination with over 120 years between them: the 120 Club