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NEWSLETTER


Dear Secretary

Welcome to what will be the last newsletter edited by me. I hope you all had an enjoyable season and perhaps, like me, wander at time passing so quickly that winter is almost upon us again.

You will have received the entry forms for the Indoor cricket which is being overseen by Clive Moore this year—back to its roots, so to speak! Good luck to all those clubs participating.

Keith Brewer, our excellent Development Officer, has several items of news for you, which are listed below. In fact this newsletter is generally made up of matters generated by him. I would have nothing to say if he did not supply me with material.

The Association and League AGM s will take place on 29 November 2004 at The Crown Hotel, Blandford. You will find a club data form with this newsletter and I would ask you to complete it and return it to me as soon as possible but no later than 29th November.



Groundsmanship Association

A reminder that if you haven't joined already it is a good idea to get your application in soon. Clubs in the Association will be able to purchase loam and seed at preferential rates and will benefit greatly from shared expertise with the County Pitch Advisors and other club Groundsmen. The Association also has two trailers of ground equipment including spikers and scarifiers that are available to hire at minimal cost. Please contact the Dorset Cricket Centre on 01202 470852. There is also a Level 1 course run twice yearly and a 50% subsidy available to clubs attending. There is a course on 29 September at Bournemouth Sports Club, Chapel Gate.

De Zoete Cup

The De Zoete cup was won by Suttoners who beat Christchurch in the final, Winton and Henstridge losing in the semi-finals. Unfortunately, there were only two entries from clubs outside the Bournemouth area. Perhaps your club would consider entering next year?

OSCAS

Congratulations to all those who have received a nomination for an Outstanding Service to Cricket Award. The ceremony is to be held at Lord's Cricket ground in October and is a means of thanking those many volunteers who unstintingly give their time to cricket. Volunteers in cricket are essential and we still have a number of vacancies to fill including the Secretary of the Dorset Cricket Association and Secretary of the Dorset Youth Forum. If anyone would like to know more please get in touch as soon as possible.

LEVEL 1 COACHING COURSE

A Level 1 coaching course will take place at Clayesmore School on :

17 December from
6.30 pm—9.30 pm

18/19 December from
9.00 am—6.00 pm

Anyone interested in taking the course should contact Simon Talbot 01300 320017.



★ Under 13/15 competitions

★ Congratulations must go to both the Under 13 and Under 15 teams who represented Dorset in the National finals.

★ Under 13: Poole beat Blandford in the Dorset final and went on to beat Cornwall which took them through to the last 32 in the country.

★ Having beaten Wiltshire, they lost to Somerset who were the eventual winners.
★ Under 15: Corfe Mullen beat Mudeford in the Dorset final and then beat Wiltshire. They too won through to the last 16 in the country and also lost to Somerset who, again were the eventual winners.

★ Thanks also to Bournemouth Cricket Club who hosted the National Finals again this year.

★ The competition next year will be run by Graham Symons. Our thanks to Tony Shearing who has done a magnificent job over many years.



Note from Editor

As I shall be bowing out from my cricket responsibilities at the AGM, I would like to take this opportunity of thanking everyone who has made my job so enjoyable. Special thanks must go to the committee members of the Board and Association (and in earlier days the Youth Forum) who have willingly and cheerfully given me the support, guidance and help I have needed over the years. I couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you all.
Chris Sexton

FOCUS CLUBS

You may be aware that the ECB has a strategy to target a limited number of clubs to deliver junior development. These clubs are expected to write development plans, to achieve Club Mark accreditation and to enter statistics on play-cricket.com and to set targets for increasing junior participation, qualifying coaches and volunteers. In return the ECB will support these clubs with financial and technical back-up and they will be prioritised for facility development. At the moment we have 14 clubs in the County named as focus clubs but not all of them are able to deliver these objectives. If your club is interested in becoming a focus club and you believe you can deliver then please get in touch.

Club Welfare Officer

If your club has a junior section then K Brewer would advise you to appoint a Welfare Officer who can liaise on all matters concerning child protection and welfare issues. Clubs should ensure all volunteers running junior sides and umpires should be CRB checked and any other volunteers complete a self declaration form. These forms are available from the Cricket Centre and if you are able to appoint a welfare officer please advise K Brewer as soon as possible. We also have a County Welfare Officer, Penny Fox-Colbourne, who is available to advise all clubs on child protection matters and she is keen to link up with the Club Welfare officers.

Talented players

Unless we hear from clubs then we are unable to invite talented players to District Assessment and trials. These are being held in all Districts in October so if you have a player who you think may be District or County standard please let the Cricket Centre have details. The players will be invited to trials within their relevant age group within the district.

Some clubs worry that players will be poached by other clubs but they are assured that this will not happen and the Board will take strong action against anyone doing this.

The District winter coaching will develop the players and they will return to their clubs better players and with the opportunity to repre-

CRICKET FORCE 2005

The 2nd and 3rd April 2005 are two dates to pencil in your diary. The ECB are planning the biggest volunteer day ever as Cricket Clubs are encouraged to use this day to stage a pre season Cricket Force event. From a basic spring clean of the pavilion to a full scale construction project the ECB would like clubs to plan an event. Barbecues, junior matches, bouncy castles, parents painting pavilions or weeding the flowerbeds, whatever the club needs to achieve can be done in a fun and exciting event.

NatWest are interested in sponsoring this event and a few large DIY companies may be looking to donate materials. There may also be some finance from the Dorset Cricket Board to help with your project. An event like this could be a fund raiser as well, and the event at Cerne Valley Cricket Club was a huge success last year. A DVD explaining the concept and how to organise a day is available free of charge from the ECB website www.ecb.co.uk.

Any club willing to have a go at a Cricket Force day should contact Keith Brewer at the Dorset Cricket Centre to register the event as soon as possible. He can supply further details about finance, etc. Even if you are just planning to service the roller and put linseed oil on the stump, he would like to know about it.

CLUB SCHOOL LINKS

Recently a number of clubs have managed to successfully link up with local primary and secondary schools to offer coaching and playing opportunities to children in those schools. If a club would like help getting into a local school or advice on setting up a formal agreement, please get in touch with Keith Brewer. It would also be helpful if details of existing links can be made known so that the Cricket Centre does not accidentally link a club with a school that already has a club associated with it.

