

Crusader Sports

Formerly known as Willowsticks, Crusader continue to sponsor Dorset cricket at grass roots level and I would encourage all clubs to consider purchasing equipment and clothing through them. Mike Williams offers a personal ordering service and the quality and value of their products are excellent. Please phone the Cricket Centre if you need Mikes details or wish to see a catalogue

Girls & Ladies Cricket

Once again can I ask all clubs to consider starting a Ladies team if they have sufficient interest. A number of teams have entered Girls teams in the junior leagues and I would like to remind clubs that girls are permitted to play at an age group up to two years younger than themselves

Roger Boshier e mail: medina@boshier50.freereserve.co.uk

NEWSLETTER

Dear Club Secretary

As you can see from the above e mail address your secretary has changed. The baton is now firmly in my hands.

This is a whole new venture for me as I am an engineer by profession. I played cricket in Dorset for West Moors CC and was also a member of .D.A.C.U.S and for the last five years I have been the secretary of the Dorset 50+ Team.

As you can appreciate any Newsletter is only as good as the material it receives.

So let's have your contributions they will be greatly appreciated.

Please send any jokes, news, stories, funny incidents to the above e-mail and I will do my best to publish them.

When you have read this Newsletter would you please pass it on to somebody else in your club who may also find it interesting. You will find in this publication, contributions from Sean Walbridge from the County side and Geoff Lowton from the Umpires association , and I hope these will be the first of many.

Kind Regards
Roger Boshier

Grant aid for clubs

Clubs are always in need of funding to help with facilities and youth development and the ECB have produced a document called "A guide to funding for Cricket Clubs" This is a comprehensive list of full funding agencies that a club can apply to. If any club would like a copy of this document please call the Cricket Centre 01202 470852 or e mail Keith.brewer@ecb.co.uk

Club Mark

There are now 11 clubs in the county who have achieved Club Mark accreditation and I would like to thank those clubs for their efforts. Any other club wishing to achieve accreditation, particularly those with junior sections can get in touch with Keith Brewer at the Cricket Centre 01202 470852

Groundsmanship Course

There will be Level 1 spring Groundsmanship course at Dean Park on Sunday April 3rd 9 am to 4-30pm

The subjects covered include preparation of the square, machinery, mowing, rolling, watering, scarifying and brushing, fertiliser application, preparation of the match pitch, after match repairs and renovation. The Cost is £55 but anyone from a Dorset Cricket Club attending can claim a 50% reduction on application to Keith Brewer at the Cricket Centre. We will refund half the fee once the course is completed. There is an application form enclosed with this newsletter



D.C.A.50 + Nets

The nets for the 50+ team will run for three weeks at Bryanstone School Blandford. Starting from Fri. April 15th at 6.30. Any prospective Players will be most welcome, even if you are only 49 we can accommodate you in the friendly's. For further details phone the Secretary Roger Boshier on 01305 848105



Groundsmanship Association

This Association has been very successful in getting Cricket Groundsmen together to discuss best practice and to help raise the standard of groundsmanship.

The two trailers of specialist equipment are available to member clubs following appropriate training. Membership of the Association is only £10 a year and if your club has not already joined I would encourage it to do so.

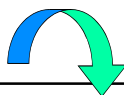
There will be regular get together to discuss the best ways of preparing our pitches.

There may be additional benefits such as cheaper loams and seed as well as access to the ground equipment. Please

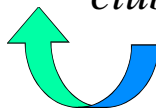
Contact Rod Hansford or Keith Brewer on (01202 470852) for further details

Junior Section

Access to grant aid is more difficult if your club does not have a junior section. This is one of the many reasons for a club to consider starting a junior team and once the decision is taken the rewards of seeing young players turn into good cricketers is great. There is a lot of help available to clubs and if your club is interested please get in touch with the Cricket Centre. We will help you make contact with local schools and get you started



school club



Club Welfare Officer Child protection

- The DCA is implementing the ECB Child protection policy known as 'Safe Hands' and part of this is ensuring all our coaches and junior managers at district and county level are CRB checked. At club level I would recommend that volunteers working with junior players are also CRB checked and that clubs appoint a Welfare Officer as a contact to work with the county welfare officer
- **Penny Fox Colbourne.** I have a quantity of CRB Forms at the cricket centre and any Clubs wanting forms should let me know and I will post them out.
- It is best to be checked through the ECB as this allows three years before the check needs to be completed again

Talented players

If your club has a talented player who you think could play county or district cricket at any age level please let the Cricket Centre know. We often hear comments from clubs saying that their players never get invited, and it is possible that some players can slip through the net. There is a structure of district and county cricket leading to the Academy which will ensure talented players are given every Opportunity once they are in the system.

CRICKET FORCE 2005

Cricket Force is an initiative developed as part of the ECB's Natwest Volunteer programme 'Get Involved'. The ECB encouraging cricket clubs throughout England and Wales to undertake major renovations to their clubhouses and grounds. The scheme involves volunteers from the local community (i.e., members of cricket club, parents, etc) working together to make a major improvement on the look and feel of our clubs. The idea is for the clubs to appeal to local businesses in order to receive as much sponsorship and materials as they can. These materials will be used for jobs including painting, scraping and building new facilities to make the clubs safer and more comfortable .

The first national Cricket Force weekend will take place on 2nd and 3rd April 2005 for all focus Clubs, during this weekend the ECB are hoping to attract over 10,000 volunteers, making it the biggest volunteering event ever staged. The initiative was piloted at Cerne Valley Cricket Club in Dorset, the Club encouraged players and members of the community to support them by persuading businesses to donate materials, time and expertise. Members of the club and the public were also kind enough to offer their services and donate resources to the project. The following projects were tackled; new kitchen fitted-bar refurbished-toilets and pavilion painted new showers installed

The approximate value of the materials used was £3000 most of which were donated, mainly from the business community. Some of the local companies who have contributed to Cricket Force so far are B&Q, Ultra-Seal, Hankinsons, Tesco and Asda. In 2005 we expect a number of Companies to get involved. 12 months after the first ever CricketForce, Lingfield CC reported an 83% increase in bar revenue, more juniors and seniors playing in teams, new sponsorships and community interest in the club is at an all time high, proving that partnerships between cricket, business and local people can really make a difference. If you are interested in holding a CricketForce event at your club and would like to find out more please get in touch with me at the Cricket Centre and I will get in touch to help with your project. As an extra incentive the Dorset Cricket Board are offering £50 towards ten projects judged to be the most needy. NatWest and the ECB are also offering resources to Clubs who register their event on the ECB website www.ecb.co.uk

Even you are planning a day to get your pavilion and ground up and running for the new season please do register on the website. I have also managed to get a quantity of paint from Fleetsbridge B+Q and any Clubs needing paint can get in touch with me.

Dorset needs more match officials

It's often said that the best umpire is the one you don't notice. The same is true of good scorers. We like to think that we go about our vital business with quiet efficiency, not showiness.

Our association – the Dorset Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers (DACUS) – goes about its work in the same quiet way. In fact we are so quiet that it came as a pleasant surprise to be asked to contribute to this newsletter. We have a lot to report, as we do not hibernate as some players do in the winter. We have been hard at it in the close season, working with the national association (ACU&S), to raise the standard of match officials throughout the county. Our members have been busy instructing on the laws of cricket and on scoring techniques. The courses run by ACU&S are our principal source for recruiting new volunteers. Despite all this work, we still do not have nearly enough umpires and scorers to provide officials for every match in Dorset, especially at weekends.

This is a great shame as it is wonderfully rewarding work, even if exacting. Experienced umpires will tell you that watching the whole game from the middle is a different experience. They often tell me that they have, from their privileged position, scored more brilliant centuries and taken more wickets (in their heads, of course) than ever they did as players.

Anyone reading this who would like to join our ranks will be made most welcome. You will be joining a band of dedicated, experienced and above all friendly people. There are training courses every winter to guide new entrants through the laws in a structured way which gives you real confidence-building knowledge of the game.

A pre-entry course, recently introduced by ACU&S to give a brief insight into the delights of umpiring, was staged in Blandford in early February. It was run by Colin Sturmey and Mark Charles at the invitation of the DCB. We hope to put on more such courses before the start of the season.

I shall be suggesting ways of improving recruitment at the March meeting of the committee of DACUS. I believe it is the duty of everyone who loves the game to ensure that we attract more active match officials. Anyone interested in training to become an umpire should call Michael Hopkins on 01202 699586 and potential scorers should call Christine Drew on 01202 887712.

DACUS has had some changes over the winter. Mark Charles did not seek re-election so I, a relative newcomer to Dorset, have taken over as chairman. Christine Drew has taken up the treasurer's responsibilities from Steve Barrett and Brian Medler has replaced Bob McCrae as appointments officer.

Geoff Lowden, chairman DACUS

Remember the General Meeting

**Monday
21st March 7.30 start
At
The Crown Hotel
Blandford**

CRICKET COACHING

The following statement should help to clarify any confusion with regard to the number of organisations offering cricket coaching and other cricket services .

The Dorset Cricket Board run a full programme of cricket within the County under the control of England and Wales Cricket Board. Courses for beginners, Club and school cricketers , district players and County are organised through the Dorset Cricket Centre by the County development officer and his team and are co-ordinated by the four districts in the North ,South ,East, and West. The Dorset Academy is run by the Dorset Cricket Board to prepare players for a possible first class career.any other organisations or bodies offering cricket coaching or other cricket related activities and do not carry the ECB logo and are not officially part of the County Board structure and therefore do not have a link to District , county and Academy pathways.

COACH EDUCATION

Any club with members wishing to take Level 1 or 2 coaching Qualification should note the following:-

Forthcoming Courses

The Coach education programme for 2005 will run until September when it will start again, until then the following courses will be available.

ECB Level 1 Fri 11th, Sat 12th,19th & 26th March

ECB Level 2 25th, 27th, 28th March

Thur 17th March Introduction to Video analysis 7pm to 10pm

Wed 23rd March Introduction to Net coaching 7pm to 10pm
These two courses are required for the level 2 course.

All the above will all take place at the **Dorset Cricket Centre.**

First aid and child protection courses required for both of these will be notified to candidates registered on the Level 1 and 2. If anyone has already registered and paid the course fee, could they please notify the Cricket Centre as soon as possible so there is no duplication. Please phone 01202 470852 e -mail andy@dorsetcricket.nildram.co.uk with details of name and address etc.

From September there will be a full programme of courses including "Into the schools" ECB Introductory courses and further Level 1 and 2 courses which will then be the new NCC courses.

Please phone or e-mail the Cricket Centre to receive an application form

Regards **Keith Brewer**

Dorset County Cricket Club

OBITUARIES

It is with regret that we report the death of two of Dorset's cricketing characters.

Mick Loader 64 years died suddenly on the 5th of January. For as long as most of us can remember Mick was a player secretary and groundsman at his beloved Cranborne. He could proudly claim to have played for the club for Fifty years. The huge gathering at his Funeral signified the respect in which he was held. He will be sadly missed

Trevor Hanham 52 years, passed away on the 17th of January. Trevor was a happy cricketer who over the years represented Stalbridge, Marnhull, and Gillingham. The lasting memory is of him emerging from behind the umpire off his two paces run up(long run up 3 paces) to deliver his left arm ultra slow deliveries.

WE SHALL MISS YOU BOTH

Well the 2005 season is approaching fast and preparations for the season are taking shape.

Due to my retirement and Vice-Captain Tim Lamb currently working abroad we will have a new Captain and Vice-Captain for this summer. The Dorset Committee has proposed Peter Deakin as Captain and Tom Hicks as his Vice. We are sure they will prove to be an excellent combination.

Last years Manager Ian Swarbrick has stood down due to work commitments and I have made the transition from player to manager. As many people know if possible id rather still be playing, but that's not the case and I will now focus my attention on the role of team manager.

Our aim is to get the players to work hard collectively and individually, ensuring a hard working team ethic. We made strides forward last year and if we make sure our preparations on and off the field are right we feel we can continue to move forward. We want to play hard on the field and retain a great team atmosphere off it.

One of the main aims of the Committee is to work towards improving and developing young players from within the County. This summer the side will be competing in the Southern Counties Under 21 Competition with Devon and Cornwall and the Isle of Wight. We want to use this side as a breeding ground for the full County side and see the youngsters progressing from the Development XI. All Club Secretary's will have received a letter from Clive Moore inviting them to nominate youngsters under 21 who they believe are worth considering for this level. I that this has been happened because it's a wonderful opportunity for any young player, to represent his County at any sport.

Best wishes for the 2005 Season

Sean Walbridge
Dorset Cricket Team Manager

UMPIRING

We can mark up a success for both the DCA and the DACU&S In running the first ever one evening training session. Whilst it is no substitute for the full course it will give the occasional umpire confidence and may persuade him/her to take the next step.

All those attending this experimental course were full of praise for the tutors Colin Sturmy and Mark Charles.

More of the same is planned around the County so watch this space