



### **Byfleet Cricket Club 1st XI Report 2015 Season**

Following our successful first season in the Ryman Surrey Championship we were unsure of what challenges lay ahead in Division 4. We had a couple of personnel changes losing the services of overseas Brian Barnard and Ben Tyler moving to Datchet CC.

We overcame these losses and stretched our winning run to 14 consecutive games, comprehensively winning the first 5 games of the season. We gained a few new players including overseas player Tyron White a club mate of Brian's at Alberton CC in Johannesburg. He was to be a decent replacement and performed admirably with both Bat 359 runs & Ball 29 wickets.

Unfortunately our winning run came to an end against Kingstonian, we then lost 2 more games in the next month against eventual league champions (Guildford City) & runners-up (Dorking). Another run of 5 consecutive wins put us back in contention for promotion with a month to go.

Disappointingly due to holidays and injuries we found things extremely challenging and were rolled over in consecutive weeks for scores of 64 & a Division low of 23 against Farncombe. We managed just a solitary win in the last month of the season which secured us a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. It was an extremely successful season once again winning 12 leagues games out of 18, however at times our batting looked brittle when chasing 200+ totals.

Key contributions included 3 batsman scoring 350+ league runs with Andy Savage topping the batting stats with 379 runs including a century against Woking & Horsell, Ashley Rannie continued to show glimpses of his class including a score of 123 against Hampton Wick. Sam Crabtree was superb with the ball taking 45 league wickets and topped the division bowling charts. Four bowlers took 20+ wickets including 15 year old Sam Tyler who had a major breakthrough season taking 24 league wickets and 79 wickets in total over the season.

Our catching and fielding over the season was generally poor and this is something we must look to improve on with better practice and preparation at training and before games.

The Captains would like to personally thank Emily Buzaglo for scoring most weeks and moving our scoring into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with her new App! As always we have a wonderful team of tea ladies who kept us fed during the breaks and once again thanks for contributing towards our continued success.

Andy Savage

1<sup>st</sup> XI Joint Captain/Hon. Secretary