



Byfleet Cricket Club – Committee Report 2016

This last year has seen high and lows, frustrations and celebrations, good and bad – a real mixed bag. Off the field of play we have yet again been thwarted in our attempts to start the extension due entirely to the fact that the land purchase continues to drag on even though all parties have agreed terms. However, without ownership we cannot apply for the necessary grants/loans, which we are confident will be approved. The current situation will be explained in detail at the AGM but on the positive side, we have gone out to tender to 4 local builders and responses are due back by the end of November. The new Committee will then make the decision on the successful bid.

The new scoreboard and umpires facility more than met the requirements of the Surrey Championship and thanks are due to Gary Batten for overseeing the construction, Jewson's & Surrey Playing Fields for sponsoring the Materials/Funding plus Rob Deven & Richard Hackney for obtaining and installing the electrical fittings.

Major highlights of the year were:

1. Elizabeth Hackney selected to play for her Surrey Age Group and she has been retained for 2017.
2. Jennifer Bowman passing her Level 1 ACO Umpiring course and winning the Surrey OSCA for Officiating – her award was presented at the Oval and she was a finalist in the National OSCA Awards held at Lords.
3. Brian Barnard, guesting in a Sunday friendly fixture against Battersea Eagles breaking numerous Club records in scoring 309* in a 40 over game.
4. Numerous Colts players who established themselves in the senior teams e.g. Alfie and George Mickley (2nd XI), Charlie Black (1st XI), Dan Bowman (2nd XI and finished the season in the 1st XI), Louis Collins (2nd XI), the return of ex-Colt Tim Richards from University in August who made an immediate, positive impact in the 1st XI, Josh Hill & Lewis Deven (3rd XI)
5. The introduction of a Family Fun Day which was well organised and run successfully by Lucy Collins & Corrine Mickley and raised in the region of £1,000.00.

It was disappointing that the 1st XI lost a number of key players at the start of the season, flirted with the relegation places and suffered the resignation and departure of the skipper two-thirds of the way through. Liam Blake stepped into the breach and it was an immense achievement under his captaincy to win the last 5 games on the bounce and finish 3rd for the 2nd year running. If only the 1st XI had been able to defend scores of 250+ in the first 2 games we may well have been celebrating another promotion.

The 2nd XI early season performances were promising and they were challenging for the top spots but then fell away badly in the second half as the 1st XI required key 2nd XI players to step up. This was most unfortunate as it meant Greg Clough being unable to field a consistent side. This situation led to some very difficult selection challenges but, as the Membership agreed at the last AGM, the selection policy is that if a member indicates they are available, they are available for selection for any XI and if they refuse, they are deemed unavailable unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The 3rd XI under Iain Bowman and Rob Deven continued in their primary mission to blood the younger Colts into senior cricket and there is no doubt this has been a success even though the actual results may not reflect this.

Unfortunately, the nicest man in the Club, Neal Jones, suffered a serious leg injury early in the season and was unable to take up his Sunday captaincy role so Matt Rannie stepped in and under his captaincy won the Thameside Sunday League and numerous Match Managers took on the friendly matches e.g. Jamie Austin, as

well as running the Development XI which, this year, was a very young side and struggled against much older and stronger opposition.

Full reports for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Colts teams will be available at the AGM.

The Committee are exploring the possibility of hiring an external professional coach in 2017 for the senior teams. The role will be to take charge of the training evenings, properly structure them, focus on developing skills, ensure proper pre-match warm-ups and instil a much more professional attitude to training and performance on the field. The current ad-hoc training is no more than a knock about in the nets and is of limited/no value to members wishing to improve their skills and does not instil into the younger team members the right approach and attitude to make the Club even more successful. We are seeking the support of ALL members to make this a reality and this will be discussed at the AGM.

As you will see from the financial report the Club continues to be extremely well-managed financially, we made a modest profit and were able transfer a significant sum to the Clubhouse fund. We do not propose to increase any fees in 2017. The subscription initiative to encourage players to standardise on Club Playing Shirts was a limited success, not helped by supply problems, and we do not propose to repeat this in 2017. However, we will continue the incentive scheme introduced for League performances.

We are grateful to our sponsors for their continuing support of the Club –

1st XI - BTS Building Contractors Ltd

2nd XI – Matt Clark Logistics

3rd XI – Ged Hill

Adults – The Crabtree Partnership

Colts – Guillaumes Solicitors

Development/Under 19 T20 – The Ogilvy

Looking forward, the Committee remains focussed on the long-term plan for the Club to:

1. Continue our rise through the Surrey cricket structure.
2. Maintain and improve our Colts infrastructure.
3. Seek additional facilities to support the demand for cricket in the area.
4. Maintain a strong financial position and not chase success through imprudent financial decisions.
5. Maintain the ethos of the Club as a community asset and not to lose sight of our heritage or become over-ambitious in our vision.

In the past we have talked about the need to update the Club management structure to reflect the changing nature of the Club. At this point in time the Committee has decided to defer discussion until the new Clubhouse is a reality. The proposal (attached) remains on the table and any comments would be gratefully received.

I would like to thank again all those Members who contributed during 2016. As I said last year, it would be unfair to single out particular individuals for fear of missing out others. However, the current Committee is well aware that we need fresh blood and fresh ideas on the Committee and we have identified 2 functions that need addressing - a Communications Officer and Fund Raising. I am delighted to say that Penny Hackney has offered to take on the Fund Raising role and we are appealing for someone to manage the overall Club Communications role (website, newsletters, advertising etc.) This will also be discussed at the AGM.

In addition to the above, we need to recruit additional age-group coaches for the Colts. The current coaches get great pleasure and take great pride in helping the youngsters develop into players and we need more coaches to continue this work. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact Shaky. The Club will fully fund any course fees.

Bernie Dodwell
President, Byfleet CC
November 2016

Byfleet CC Draft Proposed Management Structure

Version 2, 27/11/14

Management Committee: All elected at AGM except where stated

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Welfare Officer
Cricket Manager
Club Captain
Marketing & Events Manager
Facilities Manager (appointed by Committee & paid)
Ground Manager (appointed by Committee & paid)

Responsibilities:

Secretary: As today with some functions taken over by the new roles

Treasurer: As today + annual budget

Welfare Officer: As today

Marketing & Events Manager

PR & advertising

In conjunction with the Facilities Manager, hiring of premises & event management.

Fund raising

Community liaison

Web site

Facilities Manager:

All aspects of running the Clubhouse including maintenance, upkeep & repair.

Hiring of premises (see above)

Bar management

Liaison with Nursery

Security

Purchase of equipment, furniture etc.

Teas, Catering

Ground Manager:

Maintenance & repair of ground equipment

Outfield & wicket preparation and maintenance

Purchase of equipment, supplies etc.

Nets, sightscreens, scoreboard etc. maintenance

Cricket Manager:

All aspects of the playing side including the Colts

Oversee selection of senior sides

Coaching, Training, Nets organisation

Umpires & scorers

League reporting

Fixtures

Overseas Player arrangements

Club Captain:

Primary League representative

Player's representative on the Committee

Under the Cricket Manager would be all senior Captains & Colts Manager. Reporting to Colts Manager would be the age-group Coaches. Keep the Colts Committee on which the Cricket Manager would sit.

The Team captains will be appointed by a Cricket Committee consisting of the Chairman, Cricket Manager, Club Captain.

The Chairman, Secretary & Treasurer would focus on the long-term development of the Club e.g. second ground, sponsorship, be involved in major expenditure or initiatives, development of high-level relationships with Woking BC, ECB, Surrey Championship and Surrey CC, grant applications, legal matters, any lease obligations, membership records, intra-club relationships, disciplinary issues, representation on local sports groups, maintenance of club records, remuneration of paid employees.