



Hornchurch Cricket Club



NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2009

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENT

So near but so far, words that have once again described our season. For the third year running we have finished third and therefore missed out on promotion. After last year's controversy we started the season with great determination and at the end of July we were top winning 9 out of 12 games, the other three losing out to the weather after beginning totally in control.

Unfortunately we then lost two crucial games one to Loughton, who were promoted and the other to strugglers Hutton, both due to poor batting displays. This meant as we came to the last day of the season, it was not in our own hand and although we won so did the others and we missed out by two points.

Two days before this game, players and club members were shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the sudden death of Pat Sweeney, a greatly respected and loved member of our club. Being at that game, I was so impressed with the way our team went about the task, in such sad and difficult circumstances.

To win 13 games and not go up with 259 points has probably not been equalled, but that is **HORNCHURCH LUCK!** Paul Murray, as well as captaining the side was again our leading batsman with 668 league runs. His total commitment to the club is quite unbelievable, being head coach as well and not missing a single game or training session. After three years at our club Kym Beasleigh has left us to return to Australia. Kym was a superb batsman for us showing his quality on many occasions this year. We wish him all the best in the future. It was great to have Cameron Nupier back with us this season and although he did not repeat his incredible feat of 10 wickets and 100 runs in one match, he regularly contributed in a significant manner.

Mark Whitlock and Craig Smith were our leading wicket takers with 43 and 37 wickets respectively. After making his debut in 2008, Billy Gordon continued to impress, regularly scoring runs as opening batsman in our 1st XI. He is spending the winter in Australia, playing cricket and we look forward to seeing his progress next season. It was also a great encouragement to see three other youngsters making their 1st team debut's, Michael Bones, Jack Filtness and Jamie Sorrell and I have no doubt all will regularly feature in years to come.

Our 2nd XI were strengthened by having Cameron's brother Joel with us this year. One innings in particular he scored 178 off just 58 balls, typified his outstanding talent.

Andy Roberts was again the leading run scorer with Dean Skipper taking most wickets. Dean captained the side throughout the season and did an excellent job as we narrowly missed out on promotion.

The 3rd XI under Barry Bones captaincy also did well. Many of our youngsters regularly played in that side and continually made significant contributions. Barry however, was the leading wicket taker, well done to the old one!

Alan Foxton's 4th XI were once again predictable in coming 2nd for the fourth consecutive season. There were many good performances, including Mike Keanly's batting and Alan's bowling. Finishing leading wicket taker even though he suffered the indignity of being called a Pie Chucker on one occasion.

Although our 5th and 6th teams did not do so well we realised they are made up of a number of many youngsters between 13 and 15 years and we were encouraged by the progress many made.

There is no doubt youth cricket is the future at our club as our Cricket for All Programme continues to discover many talented youngsters. Not being as involved in the clubs day to day activities as I have been in the past, I was really encouraged to learn just what a successful season it had been for all our youth teams. Our youth presentation evening was a great occasion and I am sure if we had a little luck we would have won honours at all levels.

The commitment many coaches and managers put in throughout the season is quite remarkable and I thank them all for their effort.

As I have said many times, the overall success of our club is, off the field as well as on it. We are fortunate to have a number of dedicated members, none more than Dougie and Jackie, another predictable part of our season is coming top of the Essex Neame hospitality table. Jackie's tea's and baguettes are undoubtedly the best, all who have sampled them throughout the season will join me in thanking her.

I sincerely hope all members will make every effort to attend our A.G.M. in December, this is where the future of our club is discussed and everyone's input is encouraged.

May I wish everyone a happy and enjoyable Christmas if I don't see you there and all the very best in the New Year.

We look forward to the 2010 season being kinder to Hornchurch Cricket Club.

Jeremy West – Chairman HCC

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is on Sunday 6th December 2009 at the Pavilion, starting at 7.30pm prompt. Major decisions regarding the future of the Club are made at this meeting so it is imperative that you attend. You are reminded that under the Club's rules if you haven't paid your annual subscriptions you are not eligible to vote.

HOWZAT!



**DON'T BE ALARMED – IT'S ONLY THE BOWLERS
PRACTICING APPEALS!**

TROPHY WINNERS 2009

Trophy winners for 2009 are as detailed below.

Robertson Cup	Sat 1 st XI	Fielding	K. Beazleigh
Cander Cup	Sat 1 st XI	Batting	P. Murray
Mitchell Cup	Sat 1 st XI	Bowling	M. Whitlock
Hennin Cup	Sat 2 nd XI	Batting	J. Nupier
Hembery Cup	Sat 2 nd XI	Bowling	D. Skipper
Thurner Cup	Sat 3 rd XI	Batting	M. Roberts
Edwards Cup	Sat 3 rd XI	Bowling	B. Bones
Rainsford Trophy	Sat 4 th XI	Batting	M. Keanley
Scolding Cup	Sat 4 th XI	Bowling	A. Foxtton
Notley Cup	Sat 5 th XI	Batting	F. Jacobs
Balmford Cup	Sat 5 th XI	Bowling	F. Grann
Brooks Cup	Sat 6 th XI	Batting	L. Malkin
Shewring Cup	Sat 6 th XI	Bowling	N. Smith
Stuart Cup	Sun 1 st XI	Player	No Award
Rose Bowl	Sun 2 nd XI	Player	J. Sorrell
	Sun BL XI	Batting	TBA
	Sun BL XI	Bowling	TBA
Ede Cup	Colt 2009	Player	G. Tiwari
Cawthorne Cup	Over 40	Player	A. Foxtton
Hickinbottom Cup	Most Improved	Player	F. Jacobs
Presidents Cup	Clubman 2009	Member	A. Foxtton
Sport for All			J. Lacy

All trophies not collected at the Dinner & Dance will be available at the forthcoming AGM – a good excuse to attend.

2009 SEASON

For those interested in statistics you will have to wait until the Spring Newsletter as due to time constraints the 2009 full Club averages are delayed in being published.

HOWZAT!

The Devil challenged St Peter to a cricket match.

'Remember,' said St Peter, 'we have all the good cricketers up here.'

'Yes,' said the Devil, 'but we've got all the Umpires down here!'

REFLECTIONS OF THE 1st XI CAPTAIN

After another season gone by and the first eleven will be playing there cricket in Division 1 again next season.

We had no success in the cups this year being knocked out by last years winners Colchester in the League Cup where Kym made a very good 110 before being given run out when he had past the stumps. The CCC Cup was another non starter. Fielding a under strength side we were beaten quite easily by Harold Wood.

Hopefully next year we can have a repeat of 2008 cup run and gain some success.

The league season again I look back on with massive regret that we failed to get promotion AGAIN by finishing in dreaded 3rd position for the 3rd year running.

We started the season quite well with relegated Chingford coming to the Lodge. We were on the end of a winning draw but could not find the final wickets required to win the game. We then won our next 2 games comfortably. A draw against Ilford where we were set 280 to win in 44 overs and only falling 15 runs short was a great effort by a depleted team.

We then went on to win 8 out of the next 11 fixtures with 2 abandoned games and 1 defeat to eventual league winners Loughton. Still comfortable in second place the turning point of the season came when we went to Hutton when promotion was taken out of our hands. Doing a great job with the ball bowling them out for 148, we then fell 13 runs short being bowled out for 135.

We went on to win our last 2 games but missed out on promotion by 2 points. When 10 wins in a season will usually get you promoted in any division we were not that fortunate that we won 13 games and still didn't manage this feat.

A couple of notable contributions throughout the season, I managed to be the leading run scorer with 668 runs at an average of 39.28 scoring 1 hundred and 4 fifties with a top score of 120. Kym finished second with 590 at an average of 59 scoring 2 hundreds and 4 fifties with a top score of 122. I would like to take this time to thank Kym for his services to the club and wish him and his wife good luck back in Australia with their new family.

Our overseas player Cameron also had a good season scoring 499 runs at an average of 35.64 scoring 3 fifties and a top score of 106 no. He also had a good year with the ball claiming 34 victims at an average of 17.74.

A couple of other superb contributions this season were from Marc Whitlock who claimed 4 out of his 5 wicket hauls in successive games. He finished the team's highest wicket taker claiming 43 wickets at an average of 15.65. Craig Smith was the leading wicket taker in the league for most of the season but fell away towards the end of the season when the pitches dried up. Craig come back this year after a injury hit season last year with a new technique and it paid off through the season claiming 37 wickets at an average of 16.95.

One last player I would like to mention is Billy Gordon. In his first full season in the first team he showed that he has what it takes to play at the top level for the club. He finished up with 416 runs with an average of 32. When used as a bowler he also claimed 8 wickets. Billy has travelled to Australia for the winter where hopefully he will come back a stronger player. I & the Club wish him all the best for that.

I would just like to thank my wife Kel for putting up with my non stop cricket talk at home and supporting me through the season. Few other thanks must go to my dad for doing all the money collecting before the games and making the umpire's welcome, Marie-Ann for finding out all the rules of the cup competitions and scoring and getting Jamie to the games. Jackie for the massive spread she continues to put on for the whole of Hornchurch. To the great V.I.P club (you know who you are) that follow us home and away, I thank you. And to Jeremy and the committee for there support over the season. One last thank you must go to the late Pat Sweeney. The man who used to make the umpire's welcome at the Lodge and phone through all the results. You will be sadly missed by all at the club and more by a lot of the people involved in and around the first team.

May I take this chance to wish everyone a happy Xmas and a prosperous New Year. All the best

Paul Murray (Muzza) – Saturday 1st XI Captain

HOWZAT!

If all the Cricket Widows in the world were laid end to end, their husbands wouldn't notice until the end of the cricket season.

CLUB APPAREL

Cricket attire in the club colours complete with the HCC crest would make an excellent Christmas present and are available in various sizes from Chris O'Sullivan or Doug Shewring.

Old Style Shirts

Long Sleeve £8.00
Short Sleeve £7.50

Sweaters (All Wool)

Long Sleeve £47.00
Short Sleeve £39.00

Misc

Old Style Baseball Cap £16.00
New Style Baseball Cap £5.00

New Style Shirts

Shirt £18.00
Trousers £18.00

Sun Hat £8.50
Badges £1.50
Sweaters £3.00

Training/Leisure Gear

T Shirts £10.00
Shorts £10.00
Track Suits £40.00
C4A T Shirt £ 5.00

HOWZAT!



MIDDLE & LEG HARRY PLEASE.....

DAMN! - I KNEW I'D FORGOTTEN
SOMETHING.....!!!

MEMBERSHIP

If you have moved, are about to move, or change telephone numbers during the closed season, would you please inform Lance Malkin as soon as possible. This will enable us to send important information to you in the future as well as keep our records up to date.

TEAM CAPTAINS & YOUTH TEAM MANAGERS

There are those who are born to lead and those that aren't. Which category do you fit in? With a large number of teams the Club is always looking for Captains and Youth Team Managers to organise players both on and off the field. With regard to the Youth Team Managers you can easily just be a parent who doesn't play the game but is good at organising. If you feel you have something to contribute and would like to take part in the success of the Club please contact a member of the Management Committee.

PAT SWEENEY



It was a great shock for all our members to learn of the sudden death of Pat Sweeney on 3rd September 2009.

Pat was a great character in life and will be greatly missed by many people who knew and loved him.

His involvement with Hornchurch Cricket Club went back over twenty years, coming to the club as a parent of Luke and gradually taking on various roles within our youth sector and in the running of our club.

Over the last few years Pat was present at most 1st IX games, always portraying a true passion for Hornchurch, although not frightened to air his opinion when things were going wrong on the field. His legendary walks around the boundary, speeding up if the team seemed to be throwing the game away, were unique to Pat.

There is no doubt his presence was always appreciated, as he offered good advice as well as genuine help to the team, many looking upon him as a father figure.

The large number of people who attended his funeral, were a testament to the great respect and affection he was held in.

All at Hornchurch Cricket Club send their love to Diane, Chris, Julian, Luke & Liz, particularly at this time of year.

HORNCHURCH ON TOUR

After a break of several years we are organising a Midweek Cricket Tour to the South of England, and will be making a welcome return to the town of the famous "Jooster" incident - Bournemouth.

Fixtures have been arranged as follows:-

Monday August 2nd – Lymington CC
Tuesday August 3rd – Bournemouth CC
Wednesday August 4th – Broadstone CC
Thursday August 5th – TBA

Hotel venue and costs details are currently being finalised but if you are interested please contact Paul Murray Jnr or Dean Skipper.

UMPIRES AND SCORERS

The Shepherd Neame Essex League have embarked on a campaign to recruit Umpires and Scorers to stand in the lower team matches. Players have a responsibility to know the laws of the game so why not come along and get a better understanding of the LBW law instead of using the philosophy - if it hits your pads you're out (mentioning no names!).

Courses are held at the Pavilion every Wednesday during the winter . Anyone interested should contact Doug Shewring or Norman Balmford for further details.

HOWZAT!

Did you hear about the cricketer whose answering machine insisted he was not out?

WINTER COACHING & TRAINING

The winter coaching and training sessions are currently being finalised and will start early in the New Year. Contact your Youth Manager for details.

For the rest nets will be available at Chelmsford on Friday 15th January 9pm till 10pm, contact Doug Shewring.

Sunday morning trainings sessions at Chafford School for the U16 are currently being organised and are also hoping to start in the New Year, contact Barry Bones for further information.

PAVILION USE

Members are reminded that the pavilion and it's facilities are available for private functions. Any bookings should be made with the Club Secretary, Jackie Cubitt.

HOWZAT!



HIS BAILS I SAID!..... WHIP HIS BAILS OFF!!

EDITORS COMMENT

The Management Committee would like to take this opportunity in wishing all our members, parents and supporters a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and let's hope that next year we can bounce back, continue improving and make Hornchurch the best in Essex.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the next proposed issue of the H.C.C. Newsletter, then please contact Don Miller.

