

GET A THIRD MAN IN !

• The Monthly Newsletter For Thurstonland CC

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NO MORE SITTING ON THE OLD SCHOOL BENCH

by Andrew Pearson

Busy and rewarding coaching sessions in local first and junior schools have certainly left little time for standing around benches, let alone sitting on them. As part of the club/school link in the Holmfirth pyramid twelve sessions have been scheduled for May in Farnley Tyas, Thurstonland, Brockholes, Honley and South Crosland.

Recognition must be given to Lee Booth's hard work in organising and running these sessions, helped by other volunteers, which have certainly been well received by the schools and enjoyed by the mainly nine and ten year olds, both boys and girls, who have taken part. Cricket skills via fun activities have been on the menu and, as well as introducing the game to those taking part, the profile of the club has been raised.

These activities are part of the constantly updated Club Development Plan with the next focus being on a replacement for the changing pavilion which was first used in 1911. Grant applications for financial assistance will be submitted to the local council and, although things tend to move slowly and nothing is guaranteed, a start has to be made.

A schools' mini-festival of cricket for Under 9s will be held at the club on Tuesday June 5th as a follow up to the coaching sessions. The club/school coordinators employed by Kirklees will be responsible for the organisation and we are looking forward to hosting the event which is separate from the Under 9 tournaments organised by the Huddersfield Junior Cricket League.

A CAST OF THOUSANDS

Although the heading is an attempt at an eye-catching exaggeration, moving the practice to Tuesday evening (6.00 to 7.30) for players in the Under 13, Under 11 and Under 9 age groups has been a great success. The 'signing on night' on April 12th was well attended and will be repeated next year and it has been followed by over twenty new young members joining the club. Up to thirty-five have been on the field on a Tuesday.

Four or five different groups are in action in and the energy and enthusiasm of the young players has kept the team of coaches busy and, as ever, the support of parents and other family members has to be recognised. Without their support such a level of activity could not take place.

The Under 15s now have their own slot from 5.30 to 7.00 on a Thursday with Under 17s and seniors following them. These sessions are also very well attended.

SENIOR CRICKET

The first team is in mid table in the Premier Section after its first six games with the fixture at Denby Dale rained off after about 75 minutes play. Having had no really close finishes in 2006, the other three games have seen two very tight encounters. The opening match against newly promoted

Fixtures

1st Team

Sat May 26
Cumberworth (A)

Sat Jun 02
Cawthorne (H)

Sat Jun 09
Old Almondburians (A)

Sat Jun 16
Leymoor (H)

Sat Jun 23
Green Moor (A)

Sat Jun 30
Azaad (H)

2nd Team

Sat May 26
Almondbury Wes (H)

Sat Jun 02
Upperthong (A)

Sat Jun 09
Leymoor (H)

Sat Jun 16
Hoylandswaine (A)

Sat Jun 23
Green Moor (H)

Sat Jun 30
Calder Grove (A)

Websites

CLUB SITE
www.thurstonlandcc.com

LEAGUE SITE
www.hccl.org.uk

JUNIOR LEAGUE SITE
www.hjcl.org.uk

HERITAGE SITE
www.ckcricketheritage.org.uk

Forthcoming Events

June 5th - TCC Schools Under 9s Festival

June 20th - Longwood Harriers Joe Percy Memorial 10k Race

July 7th - Village Gala

July 19th - TCC Golf Day

If you have any articles or ideas you would like to see in this newsletter, please let me know using one of the following methods. These can be related to the cricket club or the village in general.

Lee Booth - 31 Town Moor Lane, Thurstonland - 662348 - leebooth@walla.com

Westborough saw a 5 run defeat when chasing 158. Two early run outs were not helpful and at 121/9 all seemed set for a tame finish. Tom Sykes (28*) and Greg Holmes (15) had other ideas and added 32 for the last wicket before Greg was bowled when it seemed victory against the odds was within reach. Dan Peace took his 300th first team wicket in the game.

A win at Holmbridge was then followed by a 7 run victory over Woolley in a high scoring match. Consistent scoring down the order saw us get 214/8 but an opening stand of 98 got Woolley off to a good start and victory was only achieved in the last over when Tom Sykes took a running catch from behind the wicket to leave the visitors 207 all out.

Ashley Haywood was the bowler and it is good to be able to officially welcome him to the club after playing for the last couple of seasons at Birchencliffe. He already has a fifty to his name at Holmbridge and has taken six wickets and three catches.

The second team got their first win at the fourth attempt at home to Crossbank Meths with Dan Peace, Jordan Thackray and Ashley Armitage sharing the wickets and Martin Oldham (82) and Neil Booth (50) being the leading run scorers.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Grace Rishton's offer to provide home made pie and peas after the May 5th games was readily accepted and everyone was grateful for the excellent extra sustenance, even after the usual substantial tea provided between the innings.

Longwood Harriers are staging their annual Joe Percy 10k Memorial race starting from the club at about 6.30 on Wednesday June 20th. Runners from clubs throughout West and South Yorkshire will be taking part.

The Village Gala will be held on the field on Saturday July 7th with the second team game scheduled for that day now taking place the day after.

UNDER 13s

Two games have been played so far. Both games, now 20 overs per side with batsmen retiring at 25 and dismissed as in conventional cricket, have been well contested in an excellent atmosphere. The first saw a good win over Upperrthong in the Preliminary Round of the cup. Oliver Futrell and Cameron Firth both retired at the scoring limit with Oliver repeating this in the section game against Scholes. Henry Philpott achieved this landmark in the latter game whilst Isaac Kaye scored 19 in the cup.

All players except the wicket keeper have to bowl one over but not more than three and there have been some good efforts so far. Isaac, Oliver and Cameron have also done well in this department with Jack Neagle and Luke Brooker also having good spells against Scholes in a game where we stuck to the task determinedly against opponents who proved just a little too strong in the end. There is plenty to look forward to from this enthusiastic and spirited team.

UNDER 11s

It's been a challenging start to our first season of competitive Under 11 cricket, with games against 2 of the stronger sides in Huddersfield, namely Broad Oak and Meltham, being a tough introduction for the team. The effort, commitment and enthusiasm of the boys has been superb, and at no stage have they become downhearted or dispirited. The absence of 2 or 3 players who have been playing in the Under 13s has given us the opportunity to involve as many players as possible in the competitive games so far. This will continue to be the case with the emphasis being on involvement and enjoyment, rather than just winning. The young age of the team is also an encouraging sign as they will all undoubtedly improve over the forthcoming weeks, months and years, with the bowling of Steve Asquith and Jack Chesswas, plus the fielding of Max Dearnley being of a very high standard, more so for they are all still Under 9.

UNDER 9s

We entered our first Under 9 team in a tournament held at Scholes in May. The team performed very well, beating Golcar, and losing in 2 close games to Scholes and Rastrick. The whole team performed really well, with several stand out performances in each game. The highlight was some lusty hitting from Steve Asquith in the game versus Golcar, including a couple of big 6's. We have entered 4 more Under 9 tournaments over the summer, the next one being at Rastrick on Saturday 16th June, so there will be plenty of opportunities for our growing numbers at this age group to be involved.

U11 Fixtures

Sun May 27
Meltham A (H)

Sun Jun 03
Thongsbridge (H)

Sun Jun 10
Armitage Bridge (A)

Sun Jun 17
Scholes (H)

U13 Fixtures

Sun May 27
Broad Oak (A)

Sun Jun 03
Kirkburton (A)

Sun Jun 10
Thongsbridge (H)

Sun Jun 17
Armitage Bridge (A)

U15 Fixtures

Mon May 29
Cumberworth (H)

Mon Jun 04
Clayton West (A)

Mon Jun 11
Hoylandswaine (H)

Mon Jun 18
Kexborough (A)

U17 Fixtures

Fri May 25
Crigglistone (Cup Rnd 1) (H)

Wed May 30
Slaithwaite (A)

Wed Jun 06
Thongsbridge (A)

Wed Jun 13
Broad Oak (H)