

Colts Newsletter June 2008.

Bournemouth CC.

Dear Parents

In this newsletter you will find: -

- How we are doing on the pitch?
- Standards & behaviour.
- Clubmark
- The World Cup
- Supporting your Manager
- New Club Kit

### **How are we doing?**

The Club is running 15 sides over a week at Colts level, plus the Colts are supporting 8 adults' sides, which is testament to how valuable all Colts are to the running & success of Bournemouth CC.

The increasing of training nights has also borne fruit and spread our resources, to provide a less rushed approach to training nights to the benefit of all children. Having the Bowling machine available is a wonderful thing to see. (I want to play!)

With the Senior sides generally in the top half of each of their respective leagues (my team are 5<sup>th</sup>) and with over 12 Boy's playing in Senior Cricket at any one time on a Saturday alone, the Colts are doing a grand job in supporting the Senior Section. Many of these colts also play on a Sunday, and will be gaining invaluable experience towards their own development, as young cricketers.

At Colts level we are challenging top spots in most age groups, with at least one team near the top of the league in each age group, and in some leagues we are flying high. Please see attachment regarding league positions.

### **Standards & Behaviour.**

For the majority of the time the Colts behave on and off the pitch extremely well. We have as a club agreed to the East Dorset code of conduct which includes giving respect to Umpires and players. This should also be extended to Managers please. There are times where we need to be careful though e.g. giving other teams players respect, not messing about and taking time between overs & presenting appropriately at matches. I have seen a number of examples of sledging and other behaviours that have no place in Club Cricket. I have seen boys in groups after a wicket has fallen with the new batsman on the way to the wicket, not in position to be ready for the next ball. Psychologically it's far better as a fielding side to be ready for the batsman,

as the batsman will then feel under pressure knowing that you are wishing to send him back immediately. Getting round between overs is a good practice, good teams don't amble between overs, walk & chat to their mates, hands in pockets. They put the pressure on the batting side by getting around quickly.

Comments to players, there is nothing worse than a comment that criticises you. If you have dropped a catch or played a stupid shot, you know that, don't extend the anxiety to the player by belittling or making an example of the player. Please support your captain's, they are young and are under pressure to get things correct. A good team supports with comments like "great bowling", "well bowled". An organised team will watch their teammates batting. They will support their team whilst batting and not go off and mess about off the pitch. I have heard amusingly many times, "what's the bowler doing?" If you had been watching the game you might have had a better idea!

One bugbear that is common amongst most sides in Dorset, is the wearing of Cricket shirts outside your trousers. It presents poorly personally, and I feel gives an air of I don't care. Please Parents instil a bit of pride in appearance. Next time you watch a test match game, see how many International, County or even good Club sides present this way?

I also need to point out to all parents and Colts that training sessions are between set times. Once the session has finished your children, including mine need to be away from training areas. We have concerns following risk assessments that an injury is not far away, generally not through deliberacy, but by being in the wrong place at the wrong time with cricket balls and bats being used unsupervised. (this includes going in the nets before practice without protective equipment!). One major concern is the catching cradle. It's great to practice, but in training time. I will not be allowing the use of this facility or the spring catching nets, outside training time.

### **Clubmark**

Clubmark is an ECB award for maintaining high standards in administration ,coaching ,health & Safety etc to name a few. Please see attachments .As club members, parents & players you must be aware of codes of conduct.

### **The World Cup.**

Yes it's here again.

For new players & new parents to the club , quite simply it's an inter club competition played up to age group 12 .

Expect to receive an email within the week, with details of which team your child's has been allocated to. I will be looking for scorers, umpires and team Managers. Please help if you can.

The competitions will be broken down this way.

1. Under 9's softball competition. For children who have not played before or play for the under 9's softball side. These games will be six a side games.
2. Under 10's competition for all children under 10 plus the under 9's hardball side. This will also be six a side competition.
3. Under 11's & 12's. This will be 10/11 a side competition based on four teams. The teams will be drawn randomly.

Rules will follow with the next email. Any volunteers to support the competitions would be welcomed. Without Volunteers the event wont run!

### **Supporting your Manager?**

I have not been able to see as many games as I would have liked, but hear weekly from the Managers on the team and individual performances. These have been very positive, with many Colts stating to show ability & performances and good attitude to working together for the "team" and Captain. I have also picked up some keen new Managers to complement our hard working team of Manager's and welcome them to the club, with thanks. **Their support to their teams must not be taken for granted.** Please note they are all volunteers with your children's best interest in hand. They often need help and regularly get this, but never assume Managers don't need support. The simple task of collecting "Match Fee's, to marking out the boundary are all time consuming jobs. Warming up the team, getting chairs out. Moving the score table to the boundary, all need to be completed. Please help if you can see us struggling.

### **New Club clothing, including tracksuits and jumpers & caps.**

Jill has recently received a new supply of Club clothing. From feedback, the quality of Clothing has been seen as very positive. If you are looking to replace old kit or need to update your child's clothing, then please talk to Jill Coombs. Our kit is very competitively priced.

Thanks for taking time out to read this newsletter. It may sound a bit grumpy, but it needs to be revisited. Overall I am really pleased with the progression of all teams We have started the first half of the season extremely well, and need to push on and play positively in a supporting environment , and who knows ,many of you will be celebrating on the field successes?

Best wishes go to the Under 13's & 15's in their Regional finals of the National Knockout on Tuesday Night.

**Stop press both 13's & 15's are through to the next round. Well done to all players.**

Best wishes

Neil Pack,

Colts Chairman.