

Juniors Newsletter 2023



Another Season Looms

It's that time again to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope that all is well with your families. After a particularly cold spell the air is warming and we can start thinking about the coming cricket season.

I would first like to point out that the term 'Colts' has been jettisoned by the cricket authorities and from now on it will be replaced by 'Juniors'.

2022 was another mixed season for us, with our young U11 team having the best season, narrowly coming second in their league, 2 points behind the winners. The U15 team had a very disappointing season, only managing to win one of their matches in a league that I thought they might win, or at least challenge for the top spot. The U13 team finished 4th in a strong league of 6 which was a good result for our players.

A big improvement in availability over the 2021 season with only one U13 match having to be conceded due to lack of players. Looking at the squads for next season we have a bare minimum of players for the U13 squad so if you know of anyone looking for somewhere for their 12year-olds to play cricket then please encourage them to join our club. That of course goes for all age groups but is particularly relevant this season for the U13 squad.

All being well, our opening matches are; U11 - Friday, April 28th ; U13 - Thursday, April 27th and U15 - Wednesday, April 26th.

Winter Training

We have booked Ashmole Academy in Southgate for Winter training starting on Sunday, February 26th from 11.00 - 13.00 and running for 5 weeks. Ashmole Academy is at Cecil Road, Southgate, N14 5RJ.

The Team

As I write this we have 3 club members taking a Level 2 coaching course; Ben and Matt upgrading from their current Level 1 certification and Shankar Mehra, new to coaching. Shankar has 2 sons at the club and has shown a great interest in learning more about coaching young cricketers so that after attending a Foundation coaching course before Christmas, asked if he could go on the Level 2 course. Our club is always keen to support parents who want to become more involved and it will be great to welcome Shankar to the coaching team this season. This will bring the number of Level 2 coaches at the club up to 7 and should enable us to give more attention to smaller groups of players.

This season Garry Durston, and Matt Barrett will continue to manage the U11 and U 13 teams and Alex Molloy will be less involved owing to needing to spend more time on his his degree course, so Ben Shearly will manage the U15 team.

Several of our older Colts played for our adult teams at the weekends last season, with congratulations going to Rayan Raza who made his maiden century in a Saturday League match. Well done Rayan, let's hope it is the first of many and an encouragement to other youngsters to start playing in adult cricket.

Summer Training

Summer training will be on **Monday nights** from **6 to 8pm**, and we would like to start on Monday, 17th April, weather permitting.

New members

[As always, we need and welcome new players to keep the club moving forward so please try and encourage school friends and neighbours to come along and join in the fun. We would also like to see some more girls playing cricket for us so please encourage your daughters to join us.](#)

Socials

We will hopefully be organising more social events this Summer and by supporting these events at the clubhouse you will enable us to continue to be the most affordable cricket club in our catchment area, and you will have a great time.

Also, please remember that if you are looking for somewhere to hold an event for family or friends, then our clubhouse is available – for further information please contact Graham Driffill, club secretary at gray2804@aol.com .

Enrolment

I am pleased to say that colts' fees will remain at £70 this year, which includes the Winter indoor training, Monday night sessions and colts' league matches. To enrol you will need to complete a membership form and I will be sending one to everyone shortly before the first indoor session; just bring it along, to the first week of training you attend. If you can't make the Winter training then bring it to your first Summer training session.

Clubmark



I am pleased to report that we have had our Clubmark accreditation confirmed again, proving ourselves across four themes:

- Duty of Care and Safeguarding Children
- The Cricket Programme
- Knowing your Club and its Community – One Game
- Club Management.

This shows the club's commitment to provide a safe environment for our colts to develop.

Finally...

We are aware that our web-site has not been updated as regularly as we would like but hopefully we have taken steps to improve the situation. So please take a regular look at the club's web-site www.southgatecompton.com for news. The full fixture list will be posted soon so you'll be able to update your calendars so we can get maximum participation for the season.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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