

## **Cleeve CC 2012 AGM Chairman's Report – 22nd January 2012**

Our objective for the 2011 season was for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> teams to push hard for promotion.

During the early part of the season the 1<sup>st</sup> team showed good signs of competing for promotion back into the Senior division. We could not keep up the required performance levels, which was exacerbated by the early return of Anup Kolambkar to India. Unfortunately this resulted in relegation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> division, which was a huge disappointment to the club as a whole.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> team were able to maintain their 2<sup>nd</sup> division status.

Anup will return to the club for the 2012 season. We must strive to achieve promotion of both teams back to the 1<sup>st</sup> division.

The club continues to suffer from reducing player membership, and it is essential that we recruit new players to strengthen our squad. We must all make a concerted effort to secure new players, so please let myself or any of the Committee know of potential new players that would be interested in joining us.

We again relied heavily on our young players in the senior sides and they all performed well, for which I thank them. Their experience and knowledge of the game is increasing greatly, and are the foundation of the future of our club.

The Sunday Team again had a successful and enjoyable season under the leadership of Mike Smith, culminating in an end of season tour which was enjoyed by all involved. It is hoped that this will become a regular event.

The Mid-Week League side, under the captaincy of Tim Birt, also enjoyed their season.

My thanks go to all those that undertook the role of 1<sup>st</sup> team Captain during the season, and also John Hance, Mike Smith and Tim Birt for their hard work and commitment, as 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sunday and Mid-week team Captains, respectively.

Our youth teams had a good season and continue to develop and improve at all age groups:-

- The U17s actually won their league outright, but had the title taken away from them as a result of a minor infringement of fixture rules.
- U15 – won league, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in play offs
- U13 Comets – 2<sup>nd</sup> in league – runners up in cup
- U13 Crusaders – 5<sup>th</sup> in league
- U11 – 3<sup>rd</sup> in league

We continue to follow the progress of our former youth player, Chris Dent of Gloucestershire County Cricket Club. He has again performed well and reached the milestone of scoring his maiden century.

His is a magnificent achievement and a well deserved reward for all of his hard work. We are extremely proud of him and pleased that Cleeve Cricket Club has had a part to play in his success.

Thank you to Ben Taylor and Conner Hance for running the Kwik Cricket evenings, and also to all those who helped. Kwik Cricket is essential to our club as this introduces youngsters to the game of cricket and is instrumental to them embarking on youth cricket through to senior level. Thank you to all of the volunteers for making the Friday night club social events such a success.

The Youth Presentation evening was as usual a great success and very well attended.

Our Child Welfare Officer, Sarah Taylor, has again worked very hard in ensuring that the required policies and procedures are kept up to date and has provided us with the necessary guidance and advice.

Our annual Clubmark self assessment was completed during 2011, by our Club President, Martin Taylor, which has been approved by Somerset CCC.

Martin is also pursuing the opportunity for Cleeve CC to become a Focus Club on the recommendation, and with the assistance of Somerset CCC.

I would like to thank all of the youth team managers, coaches and helpers, for their continued dedication and hard work. In particular I thank John Hance for leading and co-ordinating all youth team activities.

Again we were privileged to have hosted many prestigious games at the club, which is testament to the quality of the ground and facilities that we have.

These were:-

- 3 Somerset youth games
- B&D League XI against the Shropshire County League XI
- B&D Plate Final
- B&D Knock Out Cup Final

Enormous credit must go to John Parsons, Ed Clode and Tony Carpenter for the high standard of the square and outfield.

We will again be hosting the B&D Plate Trophy and Knock Out Cup Finals in August this season, at least one B&D League XI cup game, and 2 Somerset Youth games.

We continue to be a Somerset Ground Partner Club, and again have had many glowing accolades from Somerset and other counties that have played here, for the standard of the playing surfaces, the facilities and services provided, and particularly the manner in which we welcome and host our visitors, many of whom specifically request to return each season. Thank you to all those that provided valuable assistance on these days.

Regrettably it was not possible to play the Chairman's game in 2011, due to the weather. Hopefully we will have better luck this year.

The Annual Dinner and Award Presentation evening was held at the club again, was well supported and thoroughly enjoyed by those attending.

The Pub Sixes competition was again held in 2011 which was very successful and generated good bar and Bar B Q income. Thanks to Farrell Bassindale for again organising and running this, which is now a very important annual event.

In order to achieve our planned development objectives, it is essential that we significantly increase our income. We therefore all need to explore and participate in fund raising and sponsorship opportunities and initiatives. A fundraising team has been established, comprising Rob Cave, Jayne Ball, Chris Cole and Martin Want. Please speak to them if you have any ideas or contacts that we can pursue.

In this respect I would like to remind all members about the Bonus Ball competition that has been running for some time. There are still a few numbers available, so if you able to take one up, or get a relative or friend to sign on, please contact Sarah or Martin Taylor.

My thanks are again given to Rob Cave, Bill Mather and Glenn Barr for their hard work and dedication in updating and maintaining our website.

Again we are most grateful for the financial assistance provided to us by our sponsors. Please use their services wherever possible.

My thanks again go to our Youth Team Managers and helpers, senior team Captains, groundsmen, John Parsons and Ed Clode, Bar Manager, Tony Carpenter, tea ladies, and the Committee for all their hard work and support.

Let's have a successful 2012 season.

Allan W Burn