



ESTABLISHED 1727

DARTFORD CRICKET CLUB

PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER - 2012

Welcome to the 2012 season, the newsletter has an updated format and we are kicking off with a bumper edition. Below is a complete events list – get these dates in your diaries and support the club! Please contact me with comments or articles: lee.crane@dartfordcc.co.uk

2012 Event	Date	Time
Real Ale Night	Fri 30 th March	7pm
NatWest Cricket Force weekend	Sat 31 st March and Sun 1 st April	9:30am
Redevelopment meeting with Jeremy Kite (DBC)	Sat 14 th April	10am
Membership day & interclub game	Sat 14 th April	11:30am
Pre-season friendlies	Sat 21 st & 28 th April	1pm
Conference Cup 1 st Round	Sun 6 th May	1pm
Race Night	TBA (May/June)	
Asda Kwik Cricket (Dartford Schools)	Thurs 31 st May	10am
Ian Rossiter Testimonial Match	Mon 4 th June	11am
MP Charity Cricket Festival	Sunday 1 st July	10am to 5pm
Lashings	Friday 6 th July	1pm
Academy Presentation Night	Sat 1 st September	7:30pm
Dinner and Dance	Sat 6 th October	7pm
Annual General Meeting (AGM)	Sun 9 th December	12pm
Christmas Party	Sat 15 December	7:30pm



 **orchard garage**
01322 271000



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PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER – 2012

CLUB CHAIRMAN – JIM LOWRIE

Hello everyone and welcome to a new season at Royal Hesketh.

2012 has the potential to be a very exciting year in the history of The Club. As I said at the AGM I have been working with Jeremy Kite and DBC over the last 12 months to try and get plans for a new pavilion off the ground. I'm therefore delighted to announce that we are now in a position to share plans and images of what our new facility will look like as well as potential timescales. We will be holding a meeting at 10am on Saturday 14th April for all members to come and hear, see and ask questions about the proposed build from myself, Jeremy and the architect. I am also hoping at that meeting senior members of KCB & ECB will also be in attendance to show their support and backing.

We obviously still face considerable challenges in making this become reality but talk is now about **when** this will happen rather than **if** it will happen. As I said at the AGM and in my post meeting email I need **every** member to show their commitment and support by attending. I have spent a lot of time telling the great and good at Dartford Council and elsewhere how ambitious we are so please help me demonstrate that ambition by coming along on the 14th. If there wasn't already incentive enough the date coincides with signing on day and the 1st pre season inter club match so please come and see our new home, I guarantee you will be impressed!

Another exciting development which will probably have taken place by the time you read this will be that the outfield at Hesketh Park will have undergone major development work to restore it to a condition befitting a club of our ambition. Add this to the quality of the square, the potential pavilion/indoor cricket facility and the development of the coaching across the whole club and the future for DCC looks very bright. This all comes at a cost though and I'm sure I'll be echoing others words by encouraging you to support the club in every and any way possible.

One such event that needs everyone's support is NatWest Cricket Force day on 31st March. More detail is to follow later on the website but I have asked Michelle Slater to coordinate our efforts here and she has spent lots of time and effort with others to make this a success so please come and get involved. Experience/skill is not necessary just enthusiasm and I'm hoping whilst we will be working hard we'll also be having fun with food and drink being provided as well. There's still a lot to do despite the potential for a new pavilion so please don't sit back and leave it to others!

Finally I wanted to follow up the article I did in conjunction with Rob at Nike at the end of last season. As I said then I acknowledge there were some initial issues but I've been talking to Rob throughout the winter to resolve these and an update follows later in this newsletter.

Let's all continue to play our part in making Dartford Cricket Club the envy of everyone by working hard, playing hard and in the right way. I'd like to close by thanking all those that give up their time to help make the club run smoothly and look forward to seeing you soon

COYD!

Jim Lowrie

PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER – 2012

CLUB PRESIDENT – MIKE CULLINGHAM

After all the hype and feelings of confidence leading up to the start of last season, it turned out to be something of a disappointment, with none of the four league teams challenging for promotion. However, on the plus side, none were relegated. In the 1st XI Garry Cook had a particularly fine season, winning the Kent League 2nd Division batting award. He is to be congratulated on his consistency and commitment, especially as he has re-taken over the reins of Chair of the Cricket Committee.

A particular concern last season was the fact that both the 1st XI Captain and the 2nd XI Captain resigned during the season, for a variety of reasons. This year we have four captains in place and I am sure they will take us right through the season so we don't have a repeat of last year. Captaining a cricket team is not easy and a captain needs and deserves the support of his team. Please make sure you give that support this season. I know some of the jobs are mundane, but remember it is for the good of the club. I am sure we all want the club to succeed, so dig deep and help out whenever and wherever you can and carry out any task you are asked to perform with good grace.

Finally, I wish all captains and their teams, a happy and successful 2012 season.

Mike Cullingham



*Garry Cook (2011 Player of the Year)
with Mike Cullingham*

Dartford CC 1st XI – 2011 Season



*Back row – Gavin Pointer (wkt), Randy Rampersad, Ross Allen, Ian Sels, Adam Clarke, Babar Khan
Front row – Ian Rossiter, Steve Silver, Jay Dassrath (capt), Garry Cook, Ron Turner*

PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER – 2012

CLUB CAPTAIN – ADAM CLARKE

The cricket season is nearly upon us and I am very much looking forward to leading Dartford CC in 2012. It's been great to see so many new/prospective playing members at junior and senior winter training sessions, and as club captain and head coach I'd like to welcome you to Hesketh Park. It shows that the club remains attractive and the hard work of certain figures at the club and the support we have all given them, is paying off, Long may it continue.

Throughout winter training I have stressed the importance of showing the right level of attitude and commitment to succeed on the field of play and these must also extend to matters off the field. Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. The club has outlined its ambition – a new state of the art pavilion and improved facilities and a larger Academy set up. There were a few new fundraising projects last year (Race Night, Junior Tuck Shop, Christmas Party) and it is important that we continue to support these events along with Quiz Nights, Real Ale Nights, etc. Continuous effort is the key and will allow Dartford CC to achieve its ambitions. Let's also be more forthcoming in offering assistance at these events and enjoy seeing the results of a collective effort for a good cause.

Back to the field of play – the goal for each player is to improve their skills and see a marked improvement in their performance from last year. As a team the goal is to win as many cricket matches as possible. I'm sure we will all agree that it's exciting being on a winning team, making effort and sacrifice worthwhile. The team captains will work hard to make this happen and I hope you all as club members will do so also.

Enjoy the 2012 season and I look forward to catching up with you all soon.

Thanks

Adam Clarke

ACADEMY DIRECTOR – ALEX FARMER

I welcome you all back to the club for a new season, the 285th of the club's existence.

The Junior Academy got off to a great start last year with two league trophies and very nearly a third to cap off a memorable hat-trick. But we play, win, and move on. We are only as good as our last game and we still have a lot to achieve.

Dartford Cricket Club holds an important place in the history of cricket – and that is why I demand high standards together with good conduct and discipline. We have an illustrious heritage and traditions we should all be proud of, and there are small improvements I will continue to make this season to help cement these once again. I will also be looking for our juniors to learn these as they move through the age groups - preparing them for adult cricket.

Winter indoor coaching has been taking place since November and it has been rewarding to see everyone's desire and natural enthusiasm for improving their skills.

A thank you to the continued hard work by Surinder Bodwal our fixture secretary who does a fantastic job behind the scenes. I am also delighted to welcome Chris Lawrence back who once again takes the reigns of the u11A's.

The growth we achieved in membership last year between the ages of 5-11 means for the first time in a while we are also able to field a u11B team. Our target over 5-10 years is to field A & B teams in each age group, potentially C teams.

But with extra juniors and teams comes extra roles and resources needed. Team managers, umpires, scorers. We cannot run without these so your parental support is vital. We also really need further sponsors to support the running of the club and provision of coaches, so any thoughts on getting involved please as always just come and chat to me.

Enjoy the season!

Alex Farmer

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FINANCE REPORT – LYNNE HILL (TREASURER)

The 2011-12 financial year is looking a lot like last year at the moment, challenging! As many of you know, the majority of our club income is derived from bar sales and so far this financial year they are 26% below last year. Bookings for the year are also much lower and July currently has no Saturday nights booked! So once again I would ask you to make the most of our clubs facilities, be sure to support the club events coming up this year, and why not recommend using the hall to your friends for functions. Feel free to suggest functions and fund raising event ideas you have for the club, even if you don't feel able to take them forward yourself, there may be other willing volunteers who are prepared to get things moving.

We have also decided to increase membership fees this year but, as in previous years, you can make a significant saving if you pay by 1st May. All paid up members will also receive a £10 discount on the cost of their annual dinner and dance ticket. So if you pay before 1st May and you attend the dinner, then your fee really hasn't risen at all. If you need to make alternative arrangements to pay your subs, e.g. spread payment over a period of time with post-dated cheques, standing order, etc, please contact me direct. We will agree what works best for both sides and once that agreement is paid, your sub will be considered paid-up, unless you break the deal. Those who do not pay before 1st May and do not agree an arrangement will see a substantial increase in the cost of their membership.

As a club, it is important that all our members respect our fee arrangements and pay on time, it isn't fun for anyone whether it be me, other committee members or team captains, to have to continually chase people for these. This applies to match fees as well as subscriptions, Below is a summary of the new fees.

Annual Subscriptions:

Adult Playing Member £130

(reduced to £100 if paid by 1st May)

Unemployed/Student £ 80

(reduced to £70 if paid by 1st May)

Academy Junior (u17 as of 31/08/11) £ 70

(reduced to £60 if paid by 1st May)

Academy Family Membership (more than 1 child) £100

(reduced to £90 if paid by 1st May)

Non-playing members £ 20

(minimum payment, but higher donations gladly received)

Adult Match Fees: *(unchanged from 2011)*

1st and 2nd XI Saturday

Adult £10

Unemployed/student/colt £ 8

3rd, 4th & 5th XI Saturday

Adult £ 8

Unemployed/student/colt £ 6

Sunday XI

Adult £ 6

Unemployed/student/colt £ 4

Finally, last year we had some great successes on the fund-raising side and we need to keep that going. This January saw the introduction of our 200 Club. One number costs you £5 per month and in the first two months of this year we've already awarded £225 worth of prizes. So if you're not in it, what are you waiting for? Volunteers with ideas for new activities or one off events are always more than welcome. Please don't keep those little gems to yourself, share and see what happens.

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CRICKET COMMITTEE – GARRY COOK (CHAIRMAN)

Dear All,

We have had 2 meetings of the Cricket Committee and overwhelmingly the feel is that this will be a positive year for the club. We are all working hard to ensure that success follows.

Before the season starts I just want to make one issue clear. This is the issue of annual subscriptions and match fees. This seems to roll from year to year and it is about time this ends. First of all the vast majority pay their subs and for that I am truly grateful and this note is for their benefit as well. In that I am saying that those that pay deserve to have this issue dealt with.



Subscriptions have to be paid whether in full upfront or with a structured payment via Lynne Hill. If anyone wishes to pay via a monthly plan then the time is to contact her now. Lets face it, it will work out about £10 a month if you start paying now and finish at the end of the season. If anyone has a dire financial situation and can not pay subs even via a structured plan then we as a club will look at ways to solve it. I appreciate times are hard but we can work out any situation, if you contact the club then we will work with you and any finance plans will NEVER be made public.

If a person has not paid their subscription by the end of May or not made a plan to pay then they **WILL NOT** be selected. I will be clear on this now. Prior to this you will get a call from Nosey or I to make you aware of the situation. It is simply not fair that people pay their subs and others are not.

The Club is working towards ensuring both the development of our younger players and ensuring that there is a clear, fair and consistent policy for all. With that in mind, please see the later article highlighting selection protocol at DCC.

Now on to match fees, Another no brainer every player knows that when they turn up they will have to pay a match fee. They should pay prior to play I am tired of people saying I'll have to go to the garage etc. Captains have enough to do without chasing you for money. Again if you do not pay you will not be selected until you have paid. Names will go up in the bar for those owing match fees and again they will receive contact explaining the situation.

No pay no play - Simple.

On a final note I would like to say that we as a committee are looking forward to the season and the anticipated success for all sides.

All the best
Garry
Chair of Cricket

PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER – 2012

DARTFORD CRICKET CLUB SELECTION PROTOCOL

1. A selection committee will take place once a week as arranged by the captains of each side (or their representative) and to include either the Chairman or Vice Chairman of cricket where possible. The club captain will chair the meeting. The continued success and development of the club and all of its players, at all levels, are the primary goals for the selection committee. That being said a club is defined by the success of its 1st XI and this must be a focus for selection. The committee will be open and honest with all members and strive to ensure they get opportunities to play for Dartford Cricket Club and enjoy that experience.
2. Each side will be subject to general debate and ratification of the committee as a whole.
3. The chairman or vice chairman has the power to veto any selection in exceptional circumstances where a general consensus cannot be met.
4. A player who has not paid his subscription, or not made an agreement to pay, will not be selected above a person who has. An individual who has not paid his subscription will not be picked in any case unless there is an exceptional circumstance to justify this.
5. A player dropped from an XI will play the following week in the team immediately below that from which he has been dropped, in normal circumstances.
6. Any player dropped will receive a phone call explaining the decision.
7. Young players of quality will be selected and their development considered in the confines of the committee to ensure they reach their potential.
8. The committee will be fair and show favourable regard to those who are consistently available and are committed to training. Players are to make their availability clear to the committee. They are also to make it clear when they have anticipated commitments, such as holidays, which will make them unavailable for selection.
9. In situations of exceptional availability the committee will attempt to arrange a 5th XI game. This is subject to an individual coming forward to take control of the side on the match day. Ideally someone will come forward to take up the post of de facto 5th XI captain when such situations arise. Those who are not selected to play on Saturday will be offered Sunday cricket when possible.
10. Players with grievances should initially debate these with their captains. If a player is not satisfied then they should refer their grievance to the Chairman/Vice Chairman of cricket or in exceptional circumstances the club chairman. Players should be mindful of the fact that the individuals on the selection committee have been elected by the club membership.
11. All players are to be open and honest in their declaration of availability and only miss games or drop out of games when it is truly unavoidable. It is not acceptable for a player to drop out at short notice for a trivial reason. Any player exhibiting such a tendency will have their future selection considered by the chairman of cricket.
12. Captains of each side will in normal circumstances let their players know which side they have been selected for on the Wednesday preceding a game via a phone call or face to face. A text message can be sent to clarify in writing the details of the game. Further, if a player is happy to be notified by text message then this method of notification is acceptable. The player is to confirm that they are available ASAP, ideally on the Wednesday that they are informed of their selection. It is anticipated that players will be informed face to face at adult training where the committee will meet.
13. All players have the right to raise grievances regarding selection but should be mindful of the appropriate formats for raising such thoughts and be mindful of not creating unnecessary division within the club.

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NATWEST CRICKET FORCE – 31ST MARCH & 1ST APRIL 2012

YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU ON THE WEEKEND OF SATURDAY 31ST MARCH AND SUNDAY 1ST APRIL!!

TEAS, COFFEE, BACON ROLLS FROM 9:30AM!!



Every year the season kick's off with NatWest Cricket Force – a fantastic event to get the club ready for the season and do all the DIY and improvement projects.

You may think there is a new pavilion on the way so why should I bother? Well the truth is that it will be at least a couple of seasons away – so there is plenty we need to do!!!

We need **EVERY MEMBER** to volunteer – not just the same few faces!!! Young, old, juniors, parents and friends – please come along. You may not be able to stay all day but please come along and roll your sleeves up for part of it! Those that come will be rewarded!!!

Our organiser this year is Academy parent Michelle Slater – please contact her to let her know you will be there! michelle.slater1@ntlworld.com

ACADEMY PARENTS – 5 THINGS YOU CAN DO THIS YEAR!

Calling all parents – there are a **minimum** of 5 things I would like you to do this year! Your child will have the benefit of fantastic facilities in the very near future – so it is now time for us to **all** become more active in the club!

1 – Support and attend club events; definitely the NatWest Cricket Force and the Re-development meeting /membership day!

2 – Use EasyFundraising online portal to do your online shopping at your favourite shops. Earns us cashback and it stays the same price!

3 – Buy your child the DCC club kit. Playing shirts will be heavily discounted this year!

4 – Join the 200 club. For just £5 each month you could walk away with a top prize of £250 once it is fully subscribed!

5 – Find us a sponsor. In your network of family and friends there will be someone who is keen to be involved!

There are more ways to help your club, more info to come next month! **Best wishes, Alex**

PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER – 2012

NIKE CLUB KIT UPDATE

As I mentioned in my opening note I have been working with Rob at Nike UK to resolve some of the initial issues you experienced last year.

Rob's team will be at the signing on day on the 14th April with samples of all playing kit across the range for people to see and try on and you will also be able to order items on the day and I'm assured that these orders will subsequently be prioritised.

There will also be an opportunity if you know your size to order playing kit in advance to be delivered at signing on day and save some of the normal postage costs (details to follow) Remember at this time of year there will be others ordering kit for the season so if you want to save a few quid put orders in together and share the postage cost.

Playing shirts and trousers remains exactly the same the range of training items has been updated to a new range so designs look different but will be available until 2014. We are just deciding which of these to make available for the coming season but there will be an opportunity to buy old stock at discounted prices subject to availability



<http://dartford.sportreach.co.uk/>



New caps and playing sweaters have been sourced and will hopefully be available to see for the 14th to resolve issues last year with poor stock availability.

What I have been assured of though is that the website will reflect those items and sizes that are available for order in real time so you are not waiting for delivery of something that may be out of stock.

Two additional sizes (XXXL (equivalent of UK XXL) & XXXXL (XXXL UK equivalent)) in the playing shirt have now been sourced from Nike India and will be available soon in addition to the existing sizes.

Academy playing shirts will also be heavily discounted this year so watch the website for details of the new pricing.

Jim



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DARTFORD CRICKET CLUB

SENIOR WINTER TRAINING 2012

The Senior training is now well underway at the NWK College. The facilities are fantastic and will be beneficial to all of our players. Training starts at 11.00 sharp so please try to turn up on time (last week Sunday 1st April).

A full training plan is in place this year, including focussed work with the bowling machine and even video analysis. The attendance has been great so far, however if you cant attend for any reason please let Alex Farmer know so we can amend the training plans for that week.

If there is anything you wish to work on directly with Clarke email him at apa_clarke@hotmail.com so he can arrange some time to work with you individually.

PRE SEASON FRIENDLIES

The friendly fixtures have now been arranged and all four games are against new opposition. The 1st XI find themselves away to Orpington and HSBC and the 2nd XI are at Home to Rayleigh and Sutton. If you are unavailable for these fixtures on the 21st and 28th April please make your captains aware.

EASY FUNDRAISING

Dartford Cricket now has its very own online fundraising shop. It's easy to use and every time you buy something through this site a donation is made to DCC. Your goods will cost you no more (in fact they often have better deals) it's the retailers that make the cash-back donation.

So when you want to purchase anything online go through our shop first to your usual shopping site and we will get a donation when you make a purchase.

They work with thousands of online retailers including Argos, Amazon and eBay.

Register today to start raising money for our club - www.easyfundraising.org.uk/dartfordcc

200 CLUB LOTTERY RESULTS

You will have seen early in the Circular that DCC has already awarded £225.00 in prizes from the 200 Club Lottery.

So it gives me great pleasure to announce the winners of the January and February 200 Club lottery draws are as follows:

**January - Bill Partridge £75.00
James Fitzgerald £25.00**
**February - Els Lowrie £100.00
Bill Partridge £25.00**

If you want to be included in the monthly lottery please complete the attached standing order form and send to Lynne Hill.
[200 Lottery Standing Order](#)

The DCC '200 Club' Lottery is open to all Dartford Cricket Club members, friends and family over the age of 18. Please support your club by subscribing to this competition. The cost is £5.00 per month and the more numbers we sell the bigger the prizes will be.

Thanks for your continued support.

MARCH NEWSLETTER – 2012

All,

Please see below a message below from one of my oldest friends who was a member of our club for many years and, rumour has it, will be coming out of retirement to wear the 'old man and his stick' on his shirt again this year. For those of you who don't know Ed, I have many stories that I can tell you as he is the proud 'donator' of my funniest ever DCC moment! He is also a member of the fairly exclusive group of Dartford players to also play 1st class cricket and claims Graeme Hick as 1 of his victims (not until he'd hit him out of Worcester into the neighbouring county a couple of times though!). Seriously this is a really worthy cause so if you have a few spare quid please consider making a donation

Jim
Chairman



"I am fortunate in that I will be running the London Marathon 2012. I am also very fortunate to be running on behalf of CHILDREN with CANCER UK. Why am I so fortunate?"

Well recently a friend of mine lost his son to cancer at the age of just 2 years old. It really hit home to me, and made me realise, how lucky I am to have healthy children. It was always something that in the past I took for granted. It has put life well and truly into perspective for me, and made me realise how fortunate I am, hence me running this year's London Marathon. It is safe to say, that I have never been so driven to make something a success, and I am very proud to be in a position to run for such a great cause.

Through Virgin Money Giving, you can sponsor me and donations will be quickly processed and passed to charities. Virgin Money Giving is a not for profit organisation and will claim gift aid on a charity's behalf where the donor is eligible for this. I really appreciate all your support and thank you for any donations".

Ed 'Oist' Stanford

<http://virginmoneygiving.com/EdStanford>



MARCH NEWSLETTER – 2012

WHO'S WHO

This Month's Who's Who is Pat Lippiatt. Pat gives up so much time for DCC she should probably have her own parking space at the Royal Hesketh, She organises and attends every meeting for the club and does a huge amount of work behind the scenes, if it wasn't for Pat the club would not be as well organised as it is. Unfortunately Pat was slightly reluctant to provide a picture for this article, but you should all know what she looks like by now.

For those of you who may not know me I am Secretary of the Club and also the Club Welfare Officer.

My background in cricket goes back 41 years, when I started scoring for Halls Cricket Club (J&E Halls), something I continue to do for the 1st XI. We merged with Dartford some 11 years ago and after the first year of merger I became Secretary, a role I held at Halls.

Amongst my other cricketing roles, I have been Secretary of the Gravesham and Dartford District (previously AKCC, now KCB) for the past 32 years. Back in the AKCC days Kent used to run an inter-District U17 and U19 competition and I managed the teams on behalf of the District for two or three years, plus I also managed the Kent aspect of the competition for two or three years – which involved organising the inter-District final at Canterbury.

When the KCB introduced the role of District Development Officer and District Development Groups, I became the Secretary of the Group, and in 2009 took over as District Development Officer.

Again, back in the AKCC days, I was Editor, compiler and producer of a quarterly newsletter until it was taken over by the County Club – it now no longer exists. I still produce a Kent Cricket Directory, taking it up to print stage – this lists all the Cricket Clubs in Kent and includes details of the officers of each club, how many teams they run, what leagues they play in, etc. When the AKCC was subsumed into the Kent Cricket Board, the Kent Recreational Cricket Welfare Trust was set up and I am a Trustee. I also sit on the Management Committee of the Clubs Committee of the KCB.

In my personal life, (when I have time to have one) I am married with two daughters and three granddaughters. I worked at a local Primary School for 11 and a half years as Secretary, Finance Officer, Relief Caretaker (unofficial) and retired three years ago. I hope I bring some of the cricketing knowledge I may have acquired over the past 41 years to Dartford Cricket Club and hope to continue for a good few years yet.