



## Ashley Cricket Club

### Youth Cricket Section

#### Parents' and Young Cricketers' Handbook 2009



Ashley CC are proud to be Club Mark accredited proving the club has:

- Child Welfare policy
- Personnel trained in Child Welfare issues
- Comprehensive Insurance cover
- The capability to deal administer First Aid where needed
- A Constitution that allows any child to play and get involved

More importantly it proves that Ashley CC, Cheshire is a club that you can send your child safe in the knowledge they will be well looked after and enjoy their cricket.



## Junior Cricket Committee Line Up

Welfare Office	<a href="#">Dave Woods</a>	07855 447737
Assistant CWO	<a href="#">Dave Rice</a>	07715 972946
ACC Chairman	<a href="#">Dave Jackson</a>	07834 571749
ACC Treasurer	<a href="#">Brian Birtles</a>	07766 114447
ACC Secretary	<a href="#">Brian Birtles</a>	07766 114447
U18s Team Manager	<a href="#">Liam Cusack</a>	07828 817412
U17's Team Manager	<a href="#">Brian Birtles</a>	07766 114447
U15's Team Manager	<a href="#">Darren Hatchell</a>	07979 569065
U13s Team Manager	<a href="#">Stuart Oldbury</a>	07790 508435
U11's Team Manager	<a href="#">Sefton Kwasnik</a>	07836 630889
U9s Team Manager	<a href="#">Brian Birtles</a>	07766 114447

Please Note -

All coaching, management, committee staff, club captains and general committee members are CRB-checked in accordance with ECB Guidelines.

Parental involvement is not only encouraged, but is a vital part in the future and togetherness of the club, too. Be it getting directly involved with coaching – the Club and ECB pays for volunteers to take the and ECB Level One Cricket Coaching course – through to helping with registration, collecting subs or even helping with the refreshments in the clubhouse kitchen, any time you can spare is not only greatly appreciated but even fun!



**Welcome** everyone, to the 2009 cricket season. We hope that you have had a

pleasant winter and are ready for some good-quality cricket and lots of sunshine!?!

There have been a few changes down at Ashley over the winter - we have some new faces joining us on the committee, and down at the ground we have had been very busy following several successful grant applications. These improvements include:

New kitchen equipment

Lounge furniture and decoration

New easy clean hygienic rubber flooring in the dressing room area

3 new junior grass wickets have been re-laid

Improved drainage



**For** 2009 have again set ourselves some objectives this year in order that we continue to improve

the standards and quality of cricket at Ashley Cricket Club, and also to build on the enjoyment and development of the 2008 season.

Going forwards, our key objectives for the 2009 cricket season are –

- First and foremost to ensure that all children enjoy an inclusive culture throughout the Ashley junior section.
- Renew our [Club Mark](#) accreditation, in association with the Cheshire Cricket Board.
- Ensure that each and every child, who wishes to get involved in cricket, is accommodated, and that they are prepared properly and achieve a standard of cricket suited to their ability and age.
- Continue to provide high-quality coaching for all junior members and that targeted coaching is provided to improve skill levels.

We will hold our Pre-Season meeting on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April starting at 7pm** where we hope all parents will attend with their children to ensure all documentation giving permissions and essential medical conditions can be completed, and to meet the junior cricket team. We will also have a representative from Cooper Sports present with a range of cricket clothing and equipment available at discount. If you can't make it please contact the CWO Dave Woods and we can arrange for this essential admin task to be completed by post.

Pre-season we will also be hosting a couple of ground work parties to tackle some of the essential jobs to bring the club out of hibernation and spruce up for the coming season. If you feel that you have any skills that may be of use or can simply offer a bit of light labour; with a paint brush, or help to fill a skip or tea making skills then do please get involved as we seek to make Ashley an even better place to play cricket. Good Luck for 2008 - and enjoy yourselves!

## **Ethos**

At Ashley Cricket Club, everyone is welcome.

Cricket is a team game where youngsters of all ages develop not only their cricketing skills but also through interaction with their peers, develop a sense of fair play combined with courage and determination. Above all however, we are here to have great fun. Ashley CC Junior Cricket Section encourages children of all abilities from the age of seven years to get involved with junior cricket.

The club adopts all ECB policies around Junior Cricket, and works in partnership with the Cheshire Cricket Board. ACC are proud to have been Club Mark accredited for over 2 years.

The Club's Ethos is...

- Cricket will be inclusive and fun.
- Develop children's social skills, confidence and self-esteem as well as technical cricketing ability.
- Promote fair play.
- Provide quality equipment and coaching.
- Place children's safety and well-being above all else.

## **Match Days**

League matches are usually played on the days below. Weekday evening fixtures start at 6.00pm and week end morning games at 10.00am. It is important that they start promptly and that players arrive in good time. Cup matches often take place on different days. Your Team Manager will ensure that you are properly informed of meet times prior to any fixture.

- U18 - Tuesday
- U17 - To be arranged around the other teams
- U15 - Sunday
- U13 - Friday
- U11 - Sunday & mid week
- U9 - Sunday & mid week

For home matches please arrive at least 30 minutes before start time. For away matches the team manager will advise. We have always enjoyed excellent support from parents to watch matches and share transport where possible, and we hope that this spirit will continue and we thank all parents in advance for their support.

## **Winter Nets**

As ever, Ashley run winter nets with the juniors at Altrincham Boys School. Cost is just £1 per person. Dates are as follows:

Altrincham Grammar School For Boys, Marlborough Road, Altrincham, WA14 2RS

First Session: Monday 2nd February 6pm to 7.00 pm (£1 per person)

New players either give a team manager beforehand or simply come along to the nets and find us. This is a great way to introduce new players to the club.

Any older juniors are welcome to come along to the senior nets at the fantastic indoor facility at Old Trafford:

### **Seniors: Old Trafford Indoor Cricket Centre**

27th January 2009 to 24th Feb 2009, 8pm to 9pm

3rd March 2009 to 7th April 2009, 9pm to 10pm

## Outdoor Training Sessions

Junior nets take place throughout the season from 18:30 down at the club. We use a network of ECB qualified coaches, club overseas player and a number of senior Ashley CC senior players. All of whom have had Criminal Records Bureau checks or have signed self declaration forms to comply with the ECB Club Mark scheme to safeguard the welfare of young children in sport.

In the event of very rare inclement weather a message will be posted on the [Ashley CC message board](#) to advise if the training is cancelled. The team managers will also be able to offer guidance.



## Subscription

Membership subscription for the Junior Cricket Section are due before 31<sup>st</sup> May and can be settled at the 'sign-on' session or at any time up to May 31<sup>st</sup>.

This year, after a policy review and to contribute towards the increased cost of providing ECB qualified coaching we have been forced to seek contributions and therefore we intend to charge £1 per training session. This will ensure that we continue to offer the best coaching we can to structure training and develop skills. If on occasion a qualified ECB coach is not available then the fee is not payable.

£20 junior membership

£1 per training session

£1 per match

If a junior plays for a senior side over a weekend then a reduced match fee of £3 will apply in the senior match.

Please note that a player will only be covered under the Club's insurance policy once subscriptions are paid.

## **Team Selection**

It is the responsibility of the players and the parents to advise the Team Managers as soon as possible in the event of non-availability. Team Managers prior to the start of the season will distribute unavailability sheets. Obviously availability can change from week to week but it would be a big help to Team Managers if these are completed to give them some idea of availability long term.

It is important to note that Team Managers will rotate players to give as many players as possible the opportunity to play matches, and both bowling and batting positions will be rotated as much as possible to ensure every player gets the chance to participate, develop and contribute to the team performance.

It is important that you keep a record of your Team Manager's contact details.

## **Equipment**

Ashley had plenty of cricket equipment: bats, pads and helmets but players will need the following equipment -

Whites for matches

Ideally cricket boots for matches

Abdominal protector (**remember – boxer shorts will NOT retain an abdominal protector**)

Suitable loose clothing for training

## **Information Provision – Data Protection:**

Ashley Cricket Club membership requires the processing and storage of all personal data taken from the application and other documentation you supply for the purposes of running and administering the Club. Specifically emergency telephone numbers and any child medical conditions will be provided to the manager / coach in charge of every match and training session. The Club undertakes that the above information will be used solely for the purposes stated.

## **Ashley CC Equity Policy**

ACC Junior Section is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members. The Club requires all members and guests to the following general principles and guidelines.

Specifically discrimination is prohibited by:

1. Treating any individual on grounds of gender, colour, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability less favourably than others.
2. Expecting an individual, solely on the grounds stated above, to comply with requirement(s) for any reason whatsoever related to their membership, that are different from the requirements for others.
3. Imposing upon an individual, requirements that are in effect more onerous on that individual than they are on others. For example, this would include applying a condition that makes it more difficult for members of a particular race or sex to comply than others not of that race or sex.
4. Victimisation of an individual.
5. Harassment of an individual, by virtue of discrimination.
6. Any other act or omission of an act, which has as its effect the disadvantaging of a member against another, or others, purely on the above grounds. Thus, in all the clubs recruitment, selection, promotion and training processes, as well as disciplinary matters, it is essential that merit, experience, skills and temperament are considered as objectively as possible.

Ashley Cricket Club Junior Section commits itself to the immediate investigation of any claims of discrimination on the above grounds and where such is found to be the case, a requirement that the practice cease forthwith, restitution of damage or loss (if necessary) and to the investigation of any member accused of discrimination.

Any member found guilty of discrimination will be instructed to desist forthwith or requested to appear before the committee.

Since discrimination in its many forms is against Ashley Cricket Club's policy, any members offending will be dealt with under the disciplinary procedure.

The Cricket Club commits itself to the disabled person whenever possible and will treat such members, in aspects of their recruitment and membership, in exactly the same manner as other members. The difficulties of their disablement permitting assistance will be given, wherever possible to ensure that disabled members are helped in gaining access.

## Photography



'The Club' recognises the need to ensure the welfare and safety of all Young People in Cricket. The Club would like the opportunity to take photographs and video images of Young Players for the following purposes only:

- Coaching and individual feedback/ development purposes
- Club official photographs of each age group team / squad and action from matches.
- The promotion and celebration of the Club's cricketing activities.

The Club will follow the guidance issued by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) on the use of images of Young People which is available on <http://www.ecb.co.uk>. The Club will take steps to ensure that these images are used solely for the purpose for which they are intended, which is the promotion and celebration of the Club's cricketing activities. If you become aware that any such images are being used inappropriately you should inform the Club Welfare Officer should be informed immediately.

If photographs e.g. team or action shots, are submitted to the Press or published on the Club website individuals will not be identified. In circumstances where there is a need to identify an individual player in the Press parental permission will be sought beforehand.

Please note: 'The Club' understands that there are circumstances under which a parent would not wish their child to be photographed. Whilst 'The Club' will do all that it can to ensure the safety of children during games. It is the responsibility of the parent concerned to ensure that if necessary their child is not videoed or photographed. The club is unable to supervise individual children during cricket activities or competitions

If any person becomes aware that any of the above images are being used inappropriately, they should inform the Club Welfare Officer immediately.

## **Getting Involved**

The Ashley CC Junior cricket section has in recent years, benefited from a great level of participation from parents, grandparents and friends - that's just what we need right now - enthusiasm and support. Without it, running a junior cricket section would not be possible. There are many different activities that can be performed within junior cricket. Ashley CC junior cricket section is keen to utilise the talents and personalities of parents to organise those activities successfully.

Some of the activities that may interest you are detailed in the next few sections.

## **Good Deeds**

Coaches welcome adult help with coaching sessions. Even if you can only help out once in the season - that's enough!

If everyone helped just once - to run the tuck shop or score a cricket match, or help with coaching - it would be just fantastic.

## **Grows on Trees**



Do you have any ideas for raising the profile of Ashley CC, and in the process raising some funds?

If we want to continue with the improvement programme, then we need to raise funding for facilities and equipment. If you have the drive or just an idea that we either raise funds or create 'footfall'

over the threshold, then let us know - or just bring some friends down to ACC for a drink-or-two...

## **What Kind of Smartie?**



Have you any IT skills (website)? Can you bake (cricketing teas)? Do you have the skills to communicate effectively with the local press, or a creative mind? If you are willing to help, please don't hesitate to get involved.

## **Hospitality for our Guests**



WELCOME

We want Ashley CC and it's members to develop its reputation as a welcoming ground, where fair-play is an integral part of our game-plan. We need junior parents, grandparents and friends to volunteer to do little jobs on match nights. This might include providing a 'tuck shop' facility for all junior home matches, or doing an hour on the bar - or even baking a cake! Talk to us if you are willing to spare a little time during the season.

## Child Welfare



As an organisation involved with children, it is sensible for us to have a Child Protection Policy. The ECB has formulated the 'Safe Hands' Policy, which Ashley Cricket Club has adopted. It is important that you are aware of the key recommendations:

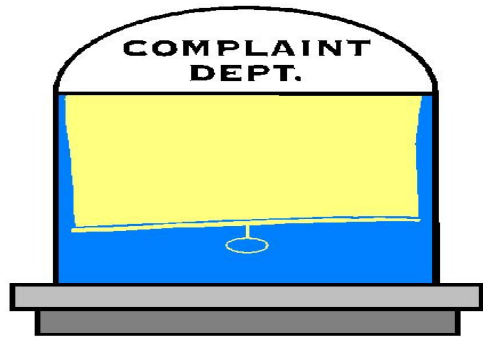
- Children should not assist with the carriage of heavy equipment.
- In extremes of hot or cold temperatures then the coaches will cancel training / matches.
- Children must always provide their own personal protective equipment. (abdominal protector)
- Permission must be obtained from the Club via the membership application process, before taking photographs or video at training / matches.
- The Club has adopted the ECB guidelines for seeking written permission from all junior parents and guardians regarding their child playing in a senior match.
- The Club has a changing room policy for junior players, playing in senior teams.
- Juniors must not shower or change at the same time as senior players.
- The Club has a Welfare Officer whose primary responsibility is child protection.

Any incidents of suspected mental or physical abuse should be reported to a club official immediately, where it will be referred the appropriate body, under the strictest confidence. The club does not wish to alarm anybody with this statement and has no cause to expect that any such abuse has or is likely to occur, but in the current climate we must ensure that both players and managers/coaches are protected from any harm.

A full copy of the child protection policy will be held on site in the club house at all times. In addition an electronic version of the policy can be viewed on the club website.

Please contact Dave Woods for further information on 07855 447737

## Complaints Procedure



In the event that any member feels that he or she has suffered discrimination in any way or that the Club policies, rules or Code of Conduct have been broken, then they should report the matter to the Club Welfare Officer – Dave Woods. Your report should include:

1. Details of what, when and where the occurrence took place.
2. Any witness statements and names.
3. Names of any others who may have been treated in a similar way.
4. Details of any former complaints made about the incident, date, when and to whom made.
5. A preference for a solution to the incident.

The Club's Management Committee will sit for any hearings that are requested; at which Parents have the right to attend. The Club's Management Committee will have the power to warn as to future conduct, suspend or remove from membership, any person found to have broken the Club's policies or Codes of Conduct

## Ashley CC Junior Cricket Agreement



Ashley Cricket Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well being of all its members. The Club believes that it is important that Members, Coaches, Managers, Captains, Administrators and Parents associated with the Club should at all times, show respect, encourage honesty and to share any concerns or complaints that they may have about any aspect of the Club with the Child Welfare Officer, Coach or Team Manager.

### **Junior Players should:**

1. Play because they want to do so, not to please coaches or parents.
2. Demonstrate "Fair Play" at all times and respect the umpires decisions at all times.
3. Pay full attention to safety - both on and off the field.
4. Always listen carefully to what your team manager is asking you to do, particularly when talking about safety.
5. Always respect opponents, and applaud good performance whether by your opponents or by the opposition.
6. Never use bad language whilst training or playing in matches.
7. Control their emotions. Verbal or physical abuse of team mates, opponents, coaches, match officials or spectators is not acceptable.
8. Treat all players, as they would like to be treated themselves. Do not bully or take advantage of any player.
9. Be respectful of facilities (e.g. the club house), equipment (e.g. kit bags) and others (e.g. players, parents etc
10. Always tell your coach or team manager if you are feeling unwell or have an injury.
11. If you have to leave a match or training session early, make sure you tell your coach or team manager.
12. Be dropped-off and collected from the Club by parents/ guardians or other adult only by arrangement with express permission.
13. If selected for games, must confirm to the relevant Coach or Manager if they are unable to play at the earliest possible time.
14. If anything happens that you are concerned about, whether it relates to you or to someone else in the club, make sure you tell your Coach, Team Manager or Child Welfare Officer, or another adult.
15. Youth members ARE NOT ALLOWED to smoke, consume alcohol or drugs of any kind on the club premises or whilst representing the club.
16. To avoid any misunderstandings we ask that camera phones are not taken into the changing rooms it would be preferable to leave them at home along with any other valuables.

## Parents should:

1. Remember that players play cricket for their own enjoyment not that of their parents.
2. Encourage players to play - do not force them.
3. Focus on the players' efforts, rather than winning or losing. Praise fair play and good behaviour.
4. Be realistic about the players' abilities; do not push them towards a level that they are not capable of achieving.
5. Provide positive verbal feedback both in training and during the game.
6. Not to shout instructions to players, the Coaches will provide this information (too much confuses players and can spoil their enjoyment). If you would like to help the team on a regular basis, please approach the coaches.
7. Remember that persistent, negative messages will adversely affect the players' and referee's performance and attitude.
8. Always support the club in their efforts to eradicate loud, coarse and abusive behaviour from the game.
9. Remember young players learn much by example.
10. Always show appreciation of good play by all players both from their own club and the opposition.
11. Display patience – children are not mini adults therefore please do not expect too much either physically or mentally.
12. Respect decisions made by the match officials, even if they appear to make a mistake, and encourage the players to do likewise.
13. Not use cricket as a childcare facility.



## Coaches and Team Managers should:

- (a) Recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment when coaching players. Most learning is achieved through doing.
- (b) Appreciate the needs of the players before the needs of the sport.
- (c) Be a positive role model - think what this implies.
- (d) Keep winning and losing in perspective - encourage players to behave with dignity in all circumstances.
- (e) Respect all referees and the decisions they make, even if they appear to make a mistake, (remember it could be you refereeing next week) and ensure that the players recognise that they must do the same.
- (f) Provide positive verbal feedback in a constructive and encouraging manner to all players, both during coaching sessions and matches.



## Coaches must:

- 1. Provide cricket experiences which are matched to the players' ages and abilities, as well as their physical and behavioral development.
- 2. Ensure all players are coached in a safe environment, with adequate first aid readily to hand.
- 3. Avoid the overplaying of the best players by using a squad system which gives everybody a satisfactory amount of playing time.
- 4. Never allow a player to train or play when injured.
- 5. Ensure good supervision of players, both on and off the field.
- 6. Recognise that players should never be exposed to extremes of heat, cold or unacceptable risk of injury.
- 7. Recognise that it is illegal for players under 18 to drink alcohol and those under 16 to smoke.

## Coaching sessions ensure:

- a. Activity – all players involved at all times
- b. Purposed – ensure there is a clear objective
- c. Enjoyment – make the session varied and fun
- d. Safety – make sure the activities and playing areas are appropriate

## **CLUB CHANGING POLICY**

U15 – U17 Youth Members Playing with Senior Sides: We hope that many of our older and more able youth members will have the opportunity to play in a senior team during the course of a season. Again since most cricket pavilions/club houses only have two changing rooms this means that youth players will share changing facilities with the senior adult cricketers. If you have any concerns about this issue please contact your CWO: Dave Woods on 07855 447737.

## **FIRST AID**

Many of our coaches have current first aid qualifications; the current level 1 cricket coaching course includes a first aid unit. At training and home matches a first aid kit and instant cold packs are available in the club house. At away fixtures team managers will be provided with a first aid kit and instant cold packs.

## **Insurance**

Ashley Cricket Club has Public Liability insurance up to the value of £5 million, and employers liability for £10 million. The ECB strongly recommends that all those involved with young players ensure they have appropriate insurance cover. Please note we do not have personal accident insurance cover. It is for the above reasons that the General Committee strongly recommends that parents consider taking out their own insurance for their children, should they consider these levels inadequate. If you have doubts on any aspect of insurance cover, these should be put in writing to the Club Secretary.

## **Responsibility**

If your child is injured during a match please do not enter the field of play unless invited to do so – leave the initial first aid assessment to one of the match officials or coaches. Healthcare professionals excepted.

Should you be unable to transport your child to either a home or away fixture, then you should arrange for your child to be transported by a responsible adult / parent. Arrangements of this nature fall outside of the responsibility of ACC, and the arrangement is between the parents / adults involved. Team managers may be able to assist in some instances by prior arrangement but please don't rely on this option.

## **Code of Conduct for Parents / Spectators**

Following the below guidelines would allow the environment to be enjoyable for all:

- Encourage children to learn the rules and play within them.
- Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.
- Help children to recognise good performance, not just results.
- Never force a child to take part in sport.
- Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.
- Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.

- Publicly accept officials' judgements.
- Support children's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.
- Use correct and proper language at all times.
- Encourage the opposition team as well as your own team.

## **ECB Policies:**

### **[The wearing of Helmets during matches and Training](#)**

### **[Juniors Playing Adult Matches](#)**

### **[ECB Fast Bowling Directive](#)**

## **Communication with Junior Players:**

All communication with junior players must be through the parents. We do not feel it is appropriate for junior players to be calling, texting or emailing Team Managers, or Coaches as it can put them at serious risk. We appreciate that on occasion this may cause inconvenience but we genuinely believe it is in the best interests of every parent, child and volunteer. Your co-operation in this matter is greatly appreciated.