

Ashley Cricket Club Newsletter – August 2009

Firstly everyone at Ashley would like to congratulate Craig and Phillipa Knight on the safe arrival of their twins, yet to be named, on Wednesday 22nd July at 12:34pm and 12:35pm, weighing in at 5lb 14 ounces and 4lb 14 ounces.

JUNIORS

Secondly here is an update from Darren Hatchell, one of Ashley CC's hard working junior managers on the progress made so far by all our junior sides and reports from the games played at the end of their respective seasons:

UNDER 9s

I recently attended Grappenhall Cricket Club as a proud parent and watched with pride and admiration as both Ashley's U9 teams recorded wins under the guidance of Brian and Liam.

We seem to be blessed with some very talented young players in that particular age group and some very active and enthusiastic parents and carers. Bodes well.

UNDER 11s

Sefton's U11's had a rain affected fixture at Warrington with two under 9's making up the team and were beaten but all the lads enjoyed it thoroughly and the two U9 debutants really impressed. It looks like we may have two teams from this age group next year; again there are some very talented players. There are regularly 20 to 30 under 11's at junior nets each Monday.

6 players from Ashley have made the South Trafford district team and 3 of them played their first game at Brooklands on Monday 20th July, with further games to follow throughout July and August.

UNDER 13s

The 13's have had a torrid time this year. We have a group of lads who have played very little cricket before, however, to their extreme credit and with dedicated coaching from loads of Ashley players (many thanks Ricey, Woodsy, Steve, John, Stuart, Rish, Hatch junior, sorry if I have missed anybody out) the team is starting to improve.

Three weeks ago they posted their highest score of 26, a week after they nearly doubled it at 42, the Lindow game saw them post 98 for 4, an incredible transformation. There were some lovely highlights in that game:

Harry B top scoring with 28, with shots played both on the on and off side

Sam's face lighting up when he hit his first ever four, followed immediately with his second ever four. "That was my first ever four" was his remark "I know" was my reply. Being around when a child achieves such a landmark is a truly delightful experience.

Kuran's two wickets were very impressive, the second, caught behind the stumps, a rare form of dismissal for our bowlers, brought a look of astonishment to his face. More impressive still was his third ball of his third over where he 'steamed' through with his delivery.

Chris also started to deliver the ball with much more venom

Probably the highlight of the night was Joe asking me whether he should start sloggong, when I told that he should just play straight, his reply was 'What, like Ricey showed us' next ball was driven straight past the bowler.

UNDER 15s

A despondent U15's team turned up at their quarter-final cup game at Urmston; knowing that two 'no shows' meant they were playing with only 9 players. Things went from bad to worse losing the toss and bowling first on a wet track and outfield. Urmston flayed Ashley all over the place and at one stage looked well placed to post over two hundred. However, fair play to the boys they kept at it and started to take wickets notably from Blain and Hatchell who don't usually bowl, Urmston's innings closing on 156.

Ashley's reply saw the loss of three quick wickets, 21 for 3 off six overs wasn't much of a launch pad. However, Messer's Joe S, Toby, Hatch, Ben Mc and Rob O would have none of it and so began a fight back. The gang smashed boundaries galore all-round the ground and gradually Ashley found themselves back in the game.

Highlights were a brutal 74 of 38 balls from Harry, Ben's cool calculated innings (36 no) guiding us home and Rob smashing the 4 runs needed with 5 balls to spare. The boys lost their semi-final last Sunday at home to Lindow.

UNDER 18s

Rish's U18's have now finished but by the end of the season they were able to get more players out (exams have finished) and were putting in some good performances. He has a cracking group of lads assembled now and I am guessing he will be looking around for friendlies as we speak. Rish's meticulous planning of an after match BBQ last Tuesday was the prompt for thunderstorms that unfortunately saw the abandonment of their last fixture

We now have a Sunday friendly XI and this side is made up of a few senior players and lots of junior players, thanks to Martin Howe for agreeing to run this side for the next few weeks.

COACHING COURSES

The dates for coaching courses held this winter have been released; if you are interested in attending one, at the clubs expenses, please get in touch asap

Venue	Commencing	Duration	Time
Queens Park HS Chester 09UKCC2QO	Sunday 25 th Oct – 22 nd Nov 09 (Assessment 21 st March 10)	5 weeks	9am - 3.30pm
Wilmslow HS 09UKCC2WN	Saturday 21 st Nov – 19 th Dec 09 (Assessment 27 th March 10)	5 weeks	9am - 3.30pm
Wilmslow HS 10UKCC2WJ	Saturday 9 th Jan – 6 th Feb 10 (Assessment 10 th April 10)	5 weeks	9am - 3.30pm
Queens Park HS Chester 10UKCC2QJ	Sunday 31 st Jan – 28 th Feb 10 (Assessment 18 th Apr 10)	5 weeks	9am - 3.30pm

Birkenhead School 10UKCC2BF	Wednesday 3rd Feb – 7th Apr 10 (Assessment Mon 10th May 10)	10 weeks	7pm - 10pm
Wilmslow HS 10UKC2WF	Saturday 6th Feb – 6th Mar 10 (assessment 17th Apr 10)	5 weeks	9am - 3.30pm

MESSAGING SERVICE

Here is an update on the new messaging service we are running; if the weather is likely to affect games or practice sessions then please follow the instructions below.

FOR CLUB MEMBERS/PARENTS USING THE SERVICE:

1. Call the Message Hotline on 08447 70 75 76
2. Enter the Club ID 75880
3. The message will then be played*

* Callers can select option 3 if they still have queries and wish to speak to the Manager/Coach on their landline.

YOUNG LEADERS AWARD

We would like to let our younger players know about the ECB Cricket Young Leaders Award.

This gives young people aged between 14 and 18 years the chance to develop their volunteering skills and to identify potential pathways in cricket. The course is run over 6 hours and involves:

Inspiring Young Leaders to get actively involved with cricket
 Raising the cricket profile within a Young Leadership role
 Help provide additional support for KWIK cricket tournaments
 To help develop generic leadership skills in a cricket context

To identify potential pathways for Young Leaders in cricket; this may include attendance on a Level 1 or Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Cricket course
 Helping to organise and run Kwik cricket competitions at your local school or involvement at a local cricket club

All candidates that have attended the course will be presented with a certificate of attendance.

A further certificate can be awarded if the Young Leader completes 10 hrs of voluntary work e.g. assists at a Kwik cricket tournament or gets involved in a local club (scoring, umpiring, ground maintenance, coaching, fund raising, website design).

The voluntary hours certificate can then be used for evidence in logging volunteer hours for a range of volunteer and sports leadership awards.

For more information please contact the Cheshire Cricket office or ask at your school.

RACE NIGHT

A reminder that our main fundraiser is on Friday 7th August, starting at 7:15pm at the club.

Many thanks to all of you for sponsoring races and buying horses and jockeys.

Please email our Chairman Dave Jackson if you would like to contribute.

FANTASY CRICKET

From Rish and Josh:

After a long period of exams, hard-drive failures and drunkenness, the second league table of points from the start of the season to now is finally here, well the top 5 anyway.

Team Name	Points
Ev's All Stars (Paul Hanrahan)	4093
Nick's Thunder Bolts (Nick Holt)	4019
Legends XI (R Agrawal Snr)	3948
The Power of Now (John Brownhill)	3922
He has only got one shot ! (Darren Hatchell)	3855

We promise to keep this updated now and have made 6 copies to stop what happened last time.

We have also made a few changes:

1. Due to the bowlers ending up on a lot more points than the batsman (*Ed. probably because not many batsmen are scoring any runs*) each run is now worth 1.5 points instead of 1 point

2. A new transfers system:

Over the last few weeks we have been getting requests from everyone asking for the same transfers so from now on, you can't transfer out any of the five worst performing players from the season and you can't transfer in any of the five best performing players.

You are allowed 3 transfers this week, then 1 a fortnight.

Top 5 players	Points	Teams that have selected this player
Ian Barber	900	6
Chris Pendlebury	827	7
Matt Wardle	598	6
Paul Hanrahan	597	9
John Brownhill	587	7

I will not release the 5 worst performers but will reject any requests to transfer them out as they come.

Next week I will release the team of the season so far.

CHARITY EVENT

After the success of the run that raised over £1,200 for the club and the Royal Marsden Hospital comes this venture launched last week on the club message board by 1st XI keeper and vice captain Matt Wilson

Good morning all,

As you will all be aware the month of August is being renamed "Mo-gust". Up and down the country cricketers are embracing the itchy thrill that is the Mo.

It's moustache growing season folks, and in an impromptu meeting at the club last night, (by the way, if ever there was a reason to attend nets it's this...you could have prevented it!!), it was decided we would take up the challenge.

The rules are simple:

On Saturday 1st Mogust you turn up for the game clean shaven, (photos of participants will be taken to ensure no one gets off to a flyer). Then, nature takes it's course and on the 29th Mogust remember to bring your shaving kit.

You will have an opportunity to shape your beard into it's final glorious style before winners are judged, prizes are given out, and the Mo's are shown off on a night out, (Hale, Manchester, who know's??).

For those who are in customer facing jobs and don't think they can get away with the hirsute look, I think we should be doing this for charity. I'd suggest a five pound entry fee, and if anyone has a charity they'd like to suggest please let me know.

They'll be prizes for the best Mo, and humiliations for the worst, (but there won't be a worst, cos all Mo's are awesome).

So, if you don't like the idea don't come on here and whinge, just don't participate. But, you will be missing out. I mean, who doesn't want to see Barbs with a handlebar Mo?

Cheers, Matty

FREE TICKETS - LANCASHIRE v YORKSIRE

We have been given six free tickets for the County Championship Match at Old Trafford starting at 11.00am on Friday 31st July – First come first served to Brian on bdbitles@hotmail.com

KIT

We have 10 new Ashley caps (£10) in stock and 2 small sized and 1 medium sized Twenty20 shirts (£20), if you want to buy one please contact Brian

AND

Finally.....A Kite Flyer

We are considering changing how we structure Junior Cricket subscriptions to maximise our status as a Community Amateur Sports Club.

The idea would be as follows;

Winter Nets – Payment on attendance as usual.

Summer Nets and Matches

Payment of an annual subscription of £20 (exact figure to be agreed at the AGM)
Plus 'Donation' made via the secure www.justgiving.co.uk website of £25 (again exact figure to be agreed at the AGM) thus enabling the club to claim approx 22% gift aid on this portion.

Under this scenario there would be no need to pay the £1 fee for nets and matches.

We would welcome your feedback to this idea via this email address.