



BINFIELD CRICKET CLUB

CLUB NEWSLETTER

Hello and welcome to this, the first edition of the Binfield Cricket Club newsletter, bringing you up to date with all things BCC, both on and off the field.

As it's our first edition, here's what to expect from the newsletter moving forwards:

- On-Field updates during the season.
- Groundwork, both ongoing and planned throughout the season and in the off-season!
- Social & Events news
- General club updates

Enjoy the read!

Club Updates

AGM

We start this month with a brief roundup of the AGM, which took place on Sunday 10th January, via Zoom!

The meeting, as usual, saw reports made from each committee member regarding their relevant departments, and also saw the election, or re-election of officers for the coming season. The full minutes for the AGM, including the full reports from each member, and the committee members elected for 2021 can be found via the button below.

[view the minutes >](#)

Annual Subs

As we gear up for the coming season, can we please remind anyone who wishes to take the field and represent the club in 2021 that Annual Subs are now being taken for the season ahead, and at least one option must be paid for in order to be considered for selection for matches.

The options for membership are as follows:

- Gold – All matches paid for. (**£275, or £150 for concessions**)
- Silver – All League matches paid for, with friendly and midweek games still requiring the respective match fees. (**£200, or £100 for concessions**)
- Bronze – Standard Membership, with all games (except for Women's Softball matches) requiring additional match fees. (**£80, or £40 for concessions**)

To ensure that everything is in place for the season ahead, we ask that you all pay your match fees by April 30st to ensure that you can play from the season opening game. Both Gold and Silver memberships are only available until April 30th. Bronze Membership will rise to £100 (£50 for concessions) after that date.

Match fees this year will be the following:

Saturday matches and Sunday League fixtures - **£8/£4** for concessions.

Sunday matches - **£5/£3**

Midweek - **£2**

Softball - included in annual subs

NB: Should we be in the position to provide teas and choose to do so during the season, a £3 surcharge will apply for those games.

Annual Subs can be paid via Bank Transfer to the following details:

Sort Code: 40-13-10

Account Number: 41872230

Account Name: Binfield Cricket Club

Reference: your name SUBS

If you have any questions, please send us a message via the button below.

[contact us >](#)

On the Field

A look forward to the Season ahead

Last Month, the Thames Valley League (TVL) announced the finalised divisions & fixtures for the year ahead, and with COVID cases falling at present, we are hoping for a full season of cricket ahead for the league and friendly teams alike.

The 1st team gained promotion from Division 3a in the 2019 season, so will feature in Division 2b for the season ahead after having a taster of Division 2 cricket in the non-competitive 2020 season. The 2nd XI will line-up in Division 5 for the third season running, and will be looking at a push for promotion into Division 4 after a strong showing in the truncated 2020 season. The 3rd XI will line up in Division 7 and after a very competitive season in 2020, will also be pushing for promotion. The 4th XI have transferred across to the TVL from the Berkshire Cricket League for the 2021 season and will line-up in Division 10. [Full fixture details can be found on the club website.](#)

The Women's XI enter the 2021 season in Division 2 of the HCWCL and are going from strength to strength with some great performances and some great improvements over the past couple of years since their entry into the league.

In addition to the competitive side of the club, there are also plenty of opportunities to play more socially for this year, with plenty of Sunday Friendly fixtures in the diary, and also a re-introduction of the Midweek XI after the season was cancelled in 2020.

We look forwards to seeing plenty of success on the field throughout the 2021 season. There are already 212 fixtures in the diary at present, with a few more still to go, so fingers crossed COVID and the great British weather can stay at bay for us!

Colts News

We are really excited for the return of (hopefully) a full season of junior cricket. We have been busy organising fixtures for all of the age groups (U9s, U11s, U13s, U15 & U17) and these fixtures will be shared with all parents once the final few have been organised.

Junior subscriptions will be £60 for the season, with £10 off per sibling. This includes all training and fixtures, with outdoor training starting week commencing the 26th of April (weather dependent of course). The confirmed training dates for the rest of the season, as well as details of how to pay your son/daughter's subscriptions will be shared later this month.

To ensure you received this information, can we please ask all parents to ensure that they have signed up their son or daughter using [this quick Microsoft form](#) before the end of March so we have everybody's up-to-date contact information. If you have any questions in the meantime please feel free to contact Matt Humphrey (Boys) or Rob Carson (Girls).

Member Benefits

Through our memberships to both the Thames Valley League, the Women's Home Counties Premier League, we are able to offer our members discounts at Serious Cricket and Marrant Sports. These codes can be given out upon request, so please get in contact if you would like a code.

We are also in discussion with Payntr Cricket about being able to offer discount on their items with their range of cricket shoes proving very popular with those who have tried them. Not only that, but

once finalised, a percentage of any purchase made using our unique code will come back to us which can be used to help fund the general running of the cricket club.

Ground News

No rest for the wicket!

We've been busy at the ground since the last game of the 2020 season, and since the end of September we've done the following work on the ground...

- Annual End of Season Square Renovations.
- The outfield has been hollow-cored and 120 Tonnes of sand applied to help with soil structure and grass rooting.
- Collection of millions of leaves (luckily not by hand!)
- Multiple days of spiking the square and the outfield. Again this will improve grass growth and rooting.
- An extension to our fence on the Pavilion side to stop the horses breaking in to steal our grass and leaving hoof prints on the ground.



Pre-season work is now well underway to get the ground ready for the first game! Work happening over the next few weeks includes:

- Regular brushing, cutting, feeding and rolling of the square to ensure we maintain the high standard of the wicket that we've come to know and love.
- Outfield treatments to remove moss, fertilise the grass, and kill the weeds.
- Overseeding of the outfield.

There is plenty of work to be done and help is always appreciated, so if anyone fancies a bit of exercise and fresh air, please do give Reg a shout!

Cricket Force will take place on one of the first three weekends in April and will be confirmed shortly with COVID social distancing guidelines in mind. More to follow...

Social News

Easter Golf Extravaganza

As has become a tradition in recent years, and now that golf courses can re-open from the 29th March, we are looking at organising our Annual 9 Hole Par 3 competition at Billingbear Park Golf

Course. This event always has a great attendance from regular, social, and non-golfers alike, with prizes for all competitors.

We are looking at being able to organise this event sometime over the Easter Weekend, so if you are interested in playing, please contact Jack Collett via Whatsapp (07557997688).

In the Mix

In the current social climate, it has been difficult to organise anything on the social front, but we are always looking for new ideas to help bring the social side of the cricket club up to the usual standards.

One idea that we are looking closely at is a virtual cocktail evening, allowing members to socialise and learn how to make a variety of new and classic cocktails under the guidance of a professional cocktail waiter or waitress. (We have looked at the possibility of using our very own Barman Steve Collett, but decided that some of his mixtures may not be appropriate!)

Watch this space for more details.



BCC Annual Tour to Bournemouth

After a year off due to COVID, plans are already well underway for the Annual BCC Tour to Bournemouth, which will take place from Sunday 4th – Friday 9th July. We have either an afternoon or evening (20/20) game planned for almost every day on Tour, and with a lively Town centre, it's always a great week away!

If you're interested in attending, either for a large part of the week or just a night or two, please drop Reg a message to discuss options.

Dates for the diary

A busy year ahead!

The diary for the year ahead is already filling up fast, and in addition to the usual league and friendly fixtures, there are plenty of other key dates for the diary. These include; our Bi-Annual fixture vs The MCC, our annual Help for Heroes & Berkshire Stags (Visually Impaired) cricket club day, and our community events such as "The Pub Day" and Berkshire U19 T20 finals day which we have agreed to host for the third year running.

The full list of key dates is as follows:

Cricket Force – April (TBC)

Start of Preseason fixtures – 24th April

Start of Men's League season – 8th May

National Village Knockout Cup First Round – 9th May

Start of Women's Super-8's season – 23rd May

Women's Softball festival @ Binfield CC – 30th May

Keith Strong Memorial Game – 30th May

MCC fixture – 27th June

Start of Women's XI league season – 4th July

BCC Tour to Bournemouth – 4th-9th July

Help 4 Heroes Game – 1st August

Village 6-a-side cricket day – 29th August

U19 County T20 finals day @ Binfield CC – 30th August

End of League seasons – 4th September

Last game of the season – 26th September

Putting the ground to bed – 2nd October

Awards Evening – November (exact date TBC)

Dates highlighted are events for which we are likely to require additional volunteer help for. If you can lend your services, please contact Andy Bryant (Chairman) or Steve Collett (Bar Manager) to let them know. Any help is always greatly appreciated!

Please note that all dates are subject to change and will not necessarily be published on the main club website.

[contact us >](#)

We look forwards to seeing you all again soon for a great season of cricket!