



Brentwood Colts

Welcome to 2009—what you need to know!

Welcome back! Lets hope we see more sun and less rain in 2009—actually that is exactly the words I used last year so after two pretty poor summers let's hope we are due a better one this year.

After our most successful summer season ever last year—our U13s winning the District Cup, Peter Coe cup and joint top in the league we have a lot to beat. We have had a good winter though—U11s and U13s finished 3rd in their leagues narrowly missing the final but our U15s came second which has earned them a place in the final to be played on March 29th at 4pm— supporters welcome! Winter training is drawing to a close—around 80 Colts took part this year—less than last year but we found the Sundays were not popular so we will work to get our Tuesday sessions back if we can get a hall. So, to summer, our membership remained fairly steady last year as we felt that we could not grow any more. We have decided this year that we will split our training over two evenings in order to provide more space and more coaches. Girls

cricket training as well as U14—U16 training will take place on Thursday evenings from 6pm to 8pm with all other age groups remaining on Fridays.

We will continue to restrict numbers within age groups according to our coaching availability. **As an existing member your are asked to register by post in advance of the registration evening.** Please return all of the relevant forms and payment as quickly as possible (you will probably need a large stamp as the weight will be fairly high). Non members and those of you who have not registered by post will be able to register on **registration evening which is from 6pm on 24th April.**

Training begins on Thursday 30th April for U14—U16s and on Friday 1st May for all other age groups. U9 and younger will finish training at 7:30—all other age groups will end at 8pm
2009 membership unchanged from last year—U11 and under—£60, U12—U15—£65 and U16 —£70. Our motto is Community Cricket for All and we do not want cost to be a bar to anyone with a desire to play sport from joining. If you need to discuss, in confidence, please do not hesitate

to contact Dave, Julie or Jan. Included in the cost of subs is a Brentwood cricket club cap. I also have some of the burgundy training shirts available for sale at £10 each if you would like one. We hope you agree that subs represent good value - the money is invested back into facilities and coaching. Our planned expenditure for 2009 shows continued focus on coaching and coaching education. Finally some admin details. **Parking on Fridays is on the back pitch only.** Should poor weather result in the need to cancel training the message board on our web **www.brentwoodcc.co.uk will be updated.** New for this year there are plans to run a yoga class rom 6:30 to 7:30 in the hall which parents are invited to join. Details will be on the website. The bar will be open every week and I believe we may have enough support this year to run a BBQ each week—please let me know if you can help.

DIARY DATES

- Sunday 29th March**
U15 Indoor Final
 - Friday 24th April**
Registration Evening
 - Thursday 30th April**
First training—U14—U16 and Girls
 - Friday 1st May**
First Training—all other age groups.
 - 22nd-25th May**
Victorians 20 year celebrations
 - 26th-28th May**
Whitsun Coaching Clinic
 - Friday 19th June**
Quiz Night
 - Saturday 18th July**
Race Night
 - Friday 14th August**
Bingo Night
 - Monday 31st August**
6-a-side tournament
 - 25th-28th August**
Summer Coaching Clinic
 - Friday 11th Sept**
Colts presentations
 - Saturday 12th Sept**
Annual Awards Dinner & Dance
 - Friday 16th October**
Annual Awards Dinner & Dance
- www.brentwoodcc.co.uk

Funding and Project Update

You will remember that last season was the first year using our new nets purchased courtesy of The Youth Opportunities Fund, the Youth Capital Fund and the Jack Petchey Foundation. Many of you made use of the facility and I am sure this will continue. There is a net policy though which can be found on the website. The combination for the padlocks on the nets is changed each year to ensure that only registered members can gain access. The combination will not be sent out in email—and you are instructed not to pass the combination to anyone in email either. You also must not give the combination to your child as nets can only be used under adult supervision. Any abuse of this will facility may result in membership being withdrawn. The nets cost almost £30,000 and we do need to ensure that they are maintained in a good state for the future.

At the end of last summer YOF awarded us the funds to lay new strips on the main square. This is in addition to the two Colts length strips laid a year ago. These strips will not be playable this year—there is a lot more preparation to take place. The strips should be playable in the 2010 season. Our Colts strips should be in better shape this year to enable us to hold U11 matches at the same time on the front pitch. We also received a grant from YOF/YCF in December to help us fund our girls cricket plans—although we were unable to attract numbers to hold winter training. We will be holding girls training sessions on Thursday evenings this year and hope to build up a strong and successful girls section.

At the beginning of the 2008 season we were awarded Lottery funding through Awards for All. This enabled us to engage more coaches and to put lots of club members through coach education.

The indications are that we will find it much harder to get grant income

this year as the credit crunch has already bitten. Our income from Jack Petchey will be less than 50% than we enjoyed last year even though we remain as gold members—this is a direct result of the financial downturn.

We need to become more self sufficient in our coaching if we are to be able to continue offering your children a good quality of coaching. There are a few of us who coach as volunteers (with the payback that we do not pay for the registration of our child) but we are still having to rely on too many coaches that need paying at market rates. Without our grant income this is not sustainable. We therefore need more parents to



help coach on Friday evenings. We are prepared to pay for the costs of getting the qualification so long as you commit to helping coach during the summer. We are not scaremongering here—ECB rules are very clear about coach to child ratios and if we do not have either a) more grant or sponsorship income—you can all help us to identify possible sources of income or b) more volunteers for next season we may well have to reduce our numbers significantly in 2010.

The Coaching Clinics continue to provide a valuable contribution to the funds and we are grateful to the coaches for their support in putting on such successful training weeks and to you for supporting them so well—we look forward to you attending again this year!

The big grant activity that will kick off soon is to redevelop the pavilion. It is beginning to fall into disrepair. This project will require a joint approach by the County Ground, The Tennis Club, The Hockey Club and us. This is going to cost a huge amount of money—expect to hear more about fund raising for this activity. There are a number of social events organised over the course of the year and support from Colts parents is needed to ensure that they are successful. There are generally two quiz/curry nights, one race night and a mid year disco as well as a bank holiday 6 a side tournament. Support in person would be great for any of these events. In the case of the race night the purchase of jockeys and horses in advance of the event would be great—if there is anyone who would like to organise a couple of Colts events please let me know.

Another way you can help is to join the 50/50 club. You can enter for £1, £2, or £3 per month (paid annually). There is a winner each month receiving 50% of the total entered—the other 50% helps the club to meet club running costs. The more people that enter the bigger the prize is so join today!

Either complete the form enclosed with the start of season pack or create an internet standing order using the account number and sort code provided—please help us and enter

The club continues to have ambitious plans for the future and our Colts are a driving force behind this. We are committed to delivering the best facilities we can and allowing each and every Colt reach their full potential - thus maintaining our core principle—**Community Cricket For All.**

THANK YOU YOF/YCF

Team plans for this year

As last year we have entered 3 U11 sides into the league - the U11A squad (manager - Jan West) will be formed by the strongest players in the age groups up to U11 (School year 6 and younger) with the strongest 12 available players being picked for each match. The A squad are entered into the league cup competition. The B and C teams are our development teams helping us build for strength in our future U11A sides. The B team (Julie Welham) will be generally aimed at the older end of the age group—i.e. age 10 and 11 while the C team (Kevin Brailey, Mickey Payne and Steve Bull) will provide another excellent opportunity for our younger players to experience competitive cricket. We have entered a team to play in the Mini-Matchplay tournament at the end of the season. We have entered two U13 sides. Again the A squad (Ian Coleman) will be formed by the strongest players in the U12 and U13 age groups with the strongest 11 available players

being picked for each match. The A squad is entered into the cup competition. The U13B side (Ian Moore) is our development team ensuring that all players in the two years within the U13 age group have plenty of opportunity to play competitive cricket. We have entered our U13s into the Peter Coe tournament.

We do have more numbers moving into our older age groups but we do not yet believe that we have enough to be able to consistently play 2 U15 matches in the league so we have at this point entered just the one team at U15 (TBA). We will organise plenty of U15 friendly matches this year to ensure that everyone gets plenty of games—but we will need parents to be there on the day to run the matches. We anticipate the numbers increasing slightly more next year which will allow us to enter 2 U15 teams into the league. This will only be possible though if we get volunteer managers for the team. At present we do not have a manager for

the U15 league side so please let us know if you can help. Enough players to make an U15B team viable but numbers permitting we will look at this for next year. We have entered our U16s (club overseas player) into the Matchplay Competition but our numbers at U16 are very low—the stronger U15s will be offered the opportunity to play in the Matchplay competition.

Jan will also carry on her hard work organising as many friendlies as possible for all age groups as well as some mini-tournaments for the U8s and U9s.

We will create girls teams based on the numbers we have enroll. More on this as the season progresses.

Please help in any way you can to support our matches—umpiring, scoring, phoning round, setting up the pitch, making refreshments etc. etc.—you all need to pitch in to make this a success for your children—we cannot do this alone.

Jack Petchey Foundation

I am pleased that Jack Petchey have confirmed that we remain as Gold members within the Jack Petchey Foundation. We have a new JPF co-ordinator this year—thank you to Steve Beckett for stepping forward to do this.

The scheme is slightly different now—we will award 9 winners during the year, each being given £200 to spend for the club. All award winners are listed on the web site under the Jack Petchey link.

So far the Petchey money has helped to buydo many different things—including a catching cradle, boundary rope and trolleys, shed and general

coaching equipment, bowling machine, super soaker (totally necessary given our wet summers!).

If you feel that there is equipment we should purchase please let us

know so that we can put it on the shopping list for award winners to choose from. Also please nominate Colts you see that deserve recognition by informing Julie, Jan or Dave.

We look forward to a continuing relationship with the

Petchey Foundation and are grateful for all the help we receive from them.

Web site address
www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk



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