

The 3rd XI started the season with a slight sense of apprehension, having been promoted to division 5 due to a re-organisation of the league structure. However, with good availability across the club, the team made a solid start and at the halfway point of the season were sitting in 4th place, not too far off second.

Unfortunately, reduced availability during the last few weeks of the season resulted in the team only winning one of their last 8 matches (although two were lost to the weather). The team still picked up plenty of points from these matches and with 3 games left were guaranteed to be safe from relegation.

The 3rd XI finished the season in a very commendable 6th place, a fantastic result for the first season in division 5.

One of the most satisfying aspects of the season was the development of several junior players. Jernimain Barry, Michael Barry and Josh Gould all cemented their places based on their performances. It was very rewarding to see their progress and for them to be genuinely selected on merit and contributing to the teams results.

The unquestionable highlight of the season was Michael Barry's brilliant 100 not out against Puddletown in the last match of the season. An innings that would surely have been worth 130 on any other outfield. A truly amazing performance for someone who had just turned 13!

The other highlights of the season were:

- Having a genuinely quick opening bowler who could get the team off to a good start in the field – Jernimain Barry.
- Michael Barry, 6 wickets in an innings **including a hat-trick** against Wimborne
- Jernimain Barry, first 50 for a senior team
- Josh Gould, 4 wkts against Puddletown at home.

The 3rd XI saw debuts for several of the women and girls players including Faye Stacey, Jo Roberts-Miller and Safia Nadaf, and for a number of junior players including Michael Barry, Josh Gould, Alex Alcock, Arun Orgee and Bradley Bulpitt.

For those interested in the stats:

Batting		
Name	Total runs	Average
David Alcock	301	75.25
Michael Barry	279	27.90
Simon Goldsack	166	55.33
Jernimain Barry	149	29.80
Gary Marsh	144	16.00

Bowling		
Bowling	Wickets	Average
Mike Gould	16	15.50
Jernimain Barry	14	19.21
Michael Barry	13	21.23
Andrew Hancock	12	21.25
Alan Marks	11	16.82

Overall, it was a successful season for the 3rd XI, built on the back of a team where everyone supported each other and celebrated each other's achievements. Hopefully, everyone enjoyed their cricket and is looking forward to next year.