

Junior Report 2024

Sadly, the weather had a big impact on the junior season with numerous matches and training sessions cancelled. Despite that there were many successes and with the establishing of the Saturday 4ths and a Women's 2nds huge opportunities for juniors to step up into adult cricket. This has continued into the winter league with lots of juniors taking part for the first time.

Friday night training is now well established and is popular with the parents – who as always are happy to help with training, running the bar etc. The season had better fixture organisation for the older teams so from U11s upwards we had more games weather permitting. This was not true of the U9s who hardly played with the weather and scratched matches. A format of 6 a side and 12 overs is I'm sure a huge factor in this.

We ran teams from U9s who played softball right up to the U19s team and hope to run a girls' team next year.

The juniors continue providing players across the adult teams and with the additional teams the pathway within the club is now well established and clearly laid out. Our years of building really meaning that at present each year there are new players coming into adult cricket. There are so many players in prominent places in the teams and making great contributions. There were lots of first 50s and even 100s and numerous wickets taken. The 3s continued to welcome new junior players to the side as those who started in the 3s increasingly playing for the 1s and 2s. The juniors did make up the bulk of the new 4s along with our Women players as hoped. They also were prominent in the Women's 2nds. The awards night was filled with juniors taking the accolades for best batter, bowler and fielder across the teams.

As always, a huge thanks to the numerous people who helped throughout the winter and summer – nothing would happen without your support. The junior section runs 7 days a week and so many people help in so many ways. We are still increasing our number of coaches and continue to invest in the future of the club with more people taking coaching courses this winter.