



BCB News

Latest information from the Bucks Cricket Board

Issue Issue 3 - Jan 2013

Welcome to 2013



Unfortunately the timing of our Newsletters means that we couldn't wish you a Merry Christmas but at least it's not quite too late to say 'Happy New Year'. We all hope and trust that 2013 won't be as bad weather-wise as its predecessor and that we'll be able to enjoy some cricket in warmth and without ankle-deep mud and water!

Cliff Pocock - currently in more exotic climes - has asked me to fill this 'editorial' slot and I hope that it won't stop the favourable comments we've had about our first two editions.

We've tried - and are still trying - to improve our communication with clubs and all those involved in cricket in this lovely county. There's still a lot to do, however, and I'd like to enlist your support. While there's usually not much room for contributions

from you - and we can't include a correspondence column while keeping to a maximum of 4 pages - we **would** like to hear from you. After all communication is a two-way thing.

We welcome comments and contributions but we aim to keep the newsletter brief and to concentrate on news and topical matters; so we reserve the right to omit or defer publication or shorten items. In particular we try not to repeat in full matters which are available elsewhere on the Internet - instead we put in a brief reference with a link.

As always the editorial decision is final though I'll try to use it wisely.

John Bushby
email [click here](#)



BCB Appoints New Head Coach

We're delighted that we've secured the services of **Richard (Rich) Hudson** as Head Coach. He started on 3 December after two years at Northants Cricket where he has coached right across their Player Pathway in Schools and from Development and County age groups through to their Academy and Emerging Players Programme.



Rich is an ECB Level 3 Coach and is completing a MSc degree in Sports Psychology.

He currently plays for Old Northamptonians in the Northants Premier League, having previously represented Cirencester in Gloucestershire and Mentone in Melbourne, Australia.

Rich will be working to provide the best possible opportunities for young cricketers in Bucks to reach their potential and you can see the first signs of this in his notes on page 4; Rich plans to:

- Introduce a structured, comprehensive, winter programme
- Use video analysis for players across the pathway to improve them technically
- Provide psychology sessions to help players perform under pressure.
- Re-establish our EPP and
- Coordinate coach development meetings and workshops.

We've not forgotten women's cricket either! **Sam Moss** has been appointed to head coaching for Bucks Women - please see article on page 2.

BCB AGM

Bucks Cricket Board Ltd's AGM will be held at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, Guttman Road, Aylesbury, HP21 9PP at 20:00 on Monday 4 March 2013. Do please try to attend..

At the close of formal business we intend to hold a Q&A session and in particular the Board will outline its vision for the years 2014-17 which will be subject to both ECB and Sport England approval and hence determine future funding.

All comers will be welcome, although votes can only be exercised by a member club's nominated representative, unless a valid proxy is lodged with the company in advance of the meeting.

Because any formal notice will be sent to the nominated person it is vital that we are notified about any change as soon as it occurs.

Support Bucks Youth Cricket

Make a charitable donation or raise funds for Bucks Youth Cricket Trust - go to www.byct.org.uk or click on the VMG icon



Club Officers

BCB website: It's important that all member clubs keep details of their officers and, particularly, their 'official' representative up to date.

Your club's authorised user(s) can update details of Officers etc on the BCB website - Login (at top of menu bar) and click on 'My Club' and then 'Edit Club Directory'. We particularly need to have current information for the club's Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Junior Organiser and Welfare Officer as well as your website.

Groundsmen's Association: You can now add contact details for club groundsmen to our database - please see Adrian Saunders's request on a later page and let him know how we can get in touch with whoever is responsible for your ground..

The annual affiliation fee becomes due at the end of the month - please make sure that it's paid promptly.



BCB News

Sam Moss - New Women's Coach

BCB has done the double by appointing **Sam Moss** to head coaching for Bucks Women to follow our successful recruitment of an outstanding new Head Coach.

Sam achieved the ECB Level 3 Coaching Award in August 2012 and has wide playing experience to back it up.

After representing Essex Schools at U15, U17 and U19 levels he played in the Essex Premier League before representing both the RAF and Combined Services, and holds the record for the RAF team's highest opening stand (an unbeaten 248 against Bedfordshire).

Since 2011 Sam has coached the RAF 1st XI which won the Inter Service T20 at Lords in 2011 and 2012.

Boys' Age Group Cricket

Our new Development Squad system is now well under way - coaches have been very busy over the last couple of months and saw 445 young players in over 100 hours of trials.

Of these 203 were selected for either County or Development squads.

Not surprisingly nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of those who came through were associated with just a dozen of the top clubs in the county and about 70% of these were based in the south of the county

This is an accurate reflection of the geographical spread of clubs and cricket in the county, and something for BCB and clubs in the north to work on in the future.

The extension of the Chance to Shine programme to cover secondary schools as well as those for younger children provides an ideal opportunity for this.

Bucks Cup

Following the response to our survey of Clubs, we have changed the format of the Bucks Cup this year.

Clubs entering either the Cup or the Challenge Cup will be playing in mini League groupings at the beginning of the season in April to knock the winter cobwebs away.

The winners of each mini League enter a knock out stage after League cricket finishes in September.

Details of the draw will appear on the Board website.

One interesting feature this year will be to see how Stony Stratford - a Bucks Club playing in the Northamptonshire Premier League - fares against the likes of High Wycombe or Burnham from the Home Counties Premier League - all is to play for!

Funding News

The Lord's Taverners Non-Turf Pitch Scheme

The scheme has now re-opened for applications which **must** be submitted to the County Board for approval.

In brief:

- The scheme is aimed at providing facilities for junior cricket
- It is open **only** to schools or clubs with a genuine junior section
- The Taverners will fund no more than 50% of the cost and work must not start until any grant has been approved.
- The categories covered by this scheme are Non-Turf Pitches (match or practice), Batting Ends, and Net Cage and / or Replacement Netting
- BCB and the Taverners will need to be satisfied that any project is viable with all funding secured before an application is put forward.

You can obtain more detailed information in the Guidance Notes on the [Lord's Taverners' website](#) which you should download and read.

Please email [John Bushby](#) with details of your plans at an early stage and in any event **before** completing and submitting the [application form to him](#) so that we can discuss the best way to progress your project.

Current Projects

Although funding is very tight money has been secured from ECB for a couple of major projects which are currently under way.

- Chesham CC has at last got the go-ahead and has started rebuilding its pavilion to replace the one destroyed by fire just before the start of the 2011 season.
- High Wycombe CC has support for the installation of new non-turf practice nets at its London Road ground

Both these clubs have to fulfil criteria set by the ECB and Sport England to boost provision for, respectively, women's and girls' cricket, and disability cricket.

Small Grants Scheme etc

Although we have not heard yet how much money might be allocated to Bucks in the coming year we understand that there will be a round of funding under this scheme in 2013.

Full details of a variety of sources of funding can be found on the [ECB website](#).



BCB News

Calling All Groundsmen - email addresses

We have some (but not many) contact details for club groundsmen and would like to be able to pass on any information directly. If you're a groundsman or Club official reading this please make sure your club details are brought up to date and also let [Adrian Saunders](#) have the relevant email address(es) - do please say which club you're from.



Many thanks.

Emails from BCB

To avoid important messages being treated as Spam please ensure that you add support@bucksclub.org and the domain bucksclub.org to your email whitelist.

You should always check for missing email in the Spam/Junk folder or both...

Indoor Cricket Developments

There are two significant projects which may help alleviate the shortage of good quality indoor facilities in the southern parts of the county.

High Wycombe Sports Centre

Wycombe District Council's proposed redevelopment has advanced further and there's a meeting for representatives of sports clubs on 21 January (see p.4) - sorry for the short notice but we only heard about this just before we went to press. BCB has been actively involved in pressing for provision for cricket in the new centre.

Princes Risborough Community Sports Centre

PR School is pressing ahead with proposals for a community sports centre which should be large enough to cater for indoor nets and match play.

We'll try to keep you informed about progress - do please advise [John Bushby](#) if you hear of other developments in your locality.

All Coaches - Bucks ECB CA Membership



All qualified coaches should be members of the ECB CA to ensure that you are covered by ECB's insurance and to be eligible for other privileges.

2013 Renewals

Memberships are due for renewal shortly and you **must** have a current ECB DBS (*formerly CRB*) disclosure in place; you should also have attended the Safeguarding & Protecting Children course and a First Aid course within the last 3 years.

If you need more information about the Bucks ECB Coaches Association or disclosures please email [Clifton Simms](#) or [Colin Kightley](#).

You can also contact Clifton at the Bucks Cricket Development Office on 07791 197187.

Grass Roots

A Groundsman's Tale from [Adrian Saunders](#)

Well - the end of season renovation came and went but in my case not without incident. The actual renovation went as planned and finished about 48 hours before the promised rainfall.

Unfortunately what the Met Office didn't say was that it would lash down all day and reduce the square (and most of the outfield too) to a lake.

After a day or so of dry warm weather, I ventured out to the middle to be greeted by rows of scarifier ruts where the loam and seed had been washed away. Elsewhere there were what looked like the trademarks of several hundred dogs - in fact large dried rolls of loam with seed in them!



To add to my troubles high winds had blown a small marquee over the square and gouged out large ruts which had to be repaired

After that it rained so much that getting a spiker onto the square was nearly impossible until December - and now the spiker is knackered. Ho hum.

The other problem is that grass growth is a bit sparse and although we have put fertiliser down, there is not much going on (not surprising this time of year). So the moss is spreading quickly and I have had to put soluble iron on twice already.

Am I alone or has anyone else got this problem?



BCB News

Changes to Vetting Checks

All coaches, umpires, scorers and other club officials will be aware that regular vetting checks are needed. New application forms are being introduced - as well as changes to terminology - in advance of further changes the Government has said will happen in 'Spring 2013'!

The vetting scheme will now be run by the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) which replaces the CRB and the ISA. The current CRB application form will be replaced with a new 'DBS' application form and those who hold stocks of these forms should return them to the ECB Safeguarding Team at Lords, for the attention of Alison Faiers.

- Although the form has changed, all key processes and information required to complete the application form remain unchanged.
- From 1 February 2013 only DBS application forms should be used
- Any 'old style' CRB application forms received by TMG CRB (who process the ECB's applications) after 1 February 2013 will be invalid
- DBS application forms are available NOW and you can order them using this link:
www.tmgcrb.co.uk/default.asp?id=354

Courses & Coming Events

21 January 6:15 pm Consultation meeting for **representatives from sports clubs** to view plans for the design of the **new Wycombe Sports and Leisure Centre** before they are submitted for detailed planning permission WDC Offices Queen Victoria Road, High Wycombe (Committee Room 1)

28 February - Aylesbury Rugby Club (7:00 pm)
Colts' Fixture meeting

12 February - Burnham CC (6:30 - 9:30 pm)
Safeguarding & Protecting Children Course
(£30) [Click here to book](#)

4 March Stoke Mandeville Stadium (8:00 pm)
Bucks Cricket Board AGM

In addition:

- BCB is looking to organise an ECB CDW 2.5 **Coaching Develop Workshop** for qualified Level 2 coaches who wish to take the next step up the coaching ladder. **Expressions of interest and requests for more information** should be emailed to [Colin Kightley](#)
- A series of **First Aid** and **Safeguarding & Protecting Children** courses is currently being arranged by [Clifton Simms](#) - details will be published on the [BCB website](#) as soon as possible. All coaches are reminded that they need to attend these every three years as a condition of retaining your ECB qualification and ECBCA membership and be properly insured - see above

Christmas Coaching Review

On 3rd and 4th January, a total of 46 Buckinghamshire boys from the winter's U10-U13 County and Development squads trained with Head Coach, **Richard Hudson**, and U17 Coach, **Andy Ward**, at Sir Herbert Leon Academy, Bletchley.

It provided an invaluable opportunity for these young players to develop their skills before beginning their squad training programmes.

We will be looking to run more school holiday coaching days to help our players progress in the future – more information will be on the website once details are confirmed.

Bucks Cricket Emerging Players Programme

2012/13 EPP: The Boys' EPP, re-established this year, is up and running, with 9 boys selected; 7 girls will join this year's Girls Programme.

We aim to help some of our best players make significant improvement in their technique, mental approach, tactical game plans and fitness.

Some players not included - and their parents - may be disappointed, but there will be a route for players to progress onto the full programme. High performing players outside the EPP will be invited to attend the Skill Sets, and this could become their pathway to the EPP.

Skill Sets: Running alongside the EPP this winter will be Skill Sets, with players nominated by their coaches to receive additional coaching with specific focus such as batting against spin. Between the EPP and Skill Set programmes, we will be able to deliver high quality, individualised coaching to many of our young cricketers on top of the squad sessions.

We are fortunate to have players who are also involved in some winter training with First-Class Counties (Middx, Northants, Gloucs). We will be working closely with the coaches at those clubs to ensure we are doing the utmost to help these players - whether part of our EPP or not - to improve.

2013/14: The process for selection onto the EPP will improve, become formalised, and will be communicated in time for next year's intake.

[Richard Hudson](#) (Head Coach)

Players selected onto the EPP programmes:

Boys: Adam King (U13), Nouman Aslam (U13), Will Fisher (U14), Brandon Lee (U14), Jordan Helps (U15), Ben Lane (U15), Asad Rehman (U16), Lee Tyrell (U16), Mark Eteen (U16).

Girls: Tilly Mason (U13), Jenny Hughes (U13), Felicity Gates (U15), Martha Manktelow (U15), Emma Measey (U15), Laura Sandy (U17), Chloe Hill (U17).