



BCB News

Latest information from the Bucks Cricket Board

Issue 9 - March 2014

Water Water Everywhere!

To adapt the saying about the Lord Mayor's Show ... after the deluge come the pumps, buckets, mops ... and worried groundsmen. This edition was delayed, not because of the foul weather, but to bring news of the ECB Small Grants Scheme.

Small Grants - Big Changes

The emphasis on self-help and refurbishing of pavilions is more than timely; furthermore the scheme is now open to **ALL** affiliated clubs - see the notes on page 4.

Sport England now has a £5m fund which will be available to sporting bodies which have suffered **Flooding and Storm Damage** - see below.

We've also managed a few notes in **Groundsman's Corner** about management of sodden squares and outfielders - sent by Adrian Saunders from the safety of the Antipodes.

If you don't believe wheelchair cricket is possible see our piece on **Disability Cricket**.

... and don't forget ... the **2014 AGM** will be held on 19 March - details below.

John Bushby
email [click here](#)



2014 AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Bucks Cricket Board Ltd will be held at **8.00 pm on Wednesday 19 March** at **Stoke Mandeville Stadium**.

Formal notices will be sent out shortly. All are welcome to attend, but only the nominated representatives of affiliated clubs are entitled to vote. If your club cannot attend please ensure that a proxy form is completed and sent to the Secretary.

Clubs are reminded that **2014 affiliation fees are now due** and that membership for any club whose 2013 fee remains unpaid will now have lapsed. This also applies where any sum due to BCB remains unpaid for more than 6 months.

The Lord's Taverners Cricket Equipment Scheme

Clubs and Schools are reminded that the LTs provide kitbags for junior teams at modest cost (soft ball kits are free!).

Recent awards have been:

December: Chiltern Hills Academy (U13) & North Crawley CC (U11); **November:** John Hampden Grammar School (U13); **September:** Great Marlow School (Youth Bag)

Applications are easy to make and a decision is made at the end of each month. More details and application forms are available on their website www.lordstaverners.org/.

Once completed forms should be sent to **John Bushby** who is the BCB contact.

Don't forget - the Non-Turf Pitch Scheme is open - more details in the previous issue.



Flooding and Storm Damage

We are all aware of the flooding in many parts of the country this winter and, while Bucks has not had problems as widespread as in Somerset, there certainly have been some

disastrous problems, for example Marlow Park CC (pictured). We know too that Chalfont St Peter CC are struggling to restore their pavilion after the roof was removed in the gales at the end of December.

Bucks Cricket Board itself doesn't have funds, nor manpower, at its disposal to provide assistance directly but we have been in touch with ECB and will do our best to help with constructive advice. We'd like to hear if your club has suffered serious damage - [email John Bushby](#).

Sport England flood relief fund: £5 million of National Lottery funding will be made available to sports clubs, local authorities and other community organisations for emergency repairs to

facilities such as ...cricket pitches ... pavilions, changing rooms etc damaged by the recent floods and storms.

Up to £2,000 of emergency funding could be awarded within three weeks if you need to have funds to clean up and get up and running quickly. Those with more extensive damage which will take longer to repair will be invited to apply to the fund when it opens on 24 March.

Sport England's first priority is to assess the full extent of the damage and consult with the worst affected areas and sports to set the priorities for the new Fund.

Please register interest by contacting Sport England at www.sportengland.org/floodfund. Organisations that do not qualify for the Flood Relief Fund will be given advice about other sources of funding that could help. If you do contact Sport England about this **please do keep me informed**

[John Bushby](#)



BCB News

Umpiring News

Umpires will be aware that new and revised laws were introduced on 1st October 2013.

BACO will be holding 3 training sessions to discuss these changes, as well as a refresher on the existing laws, and all members (especially those who will be umpiring in 2014) are urged to attend one of these sessions.

BACO will not be able to appoint any umpire who has not attended one of these training sessions (or an equivalent course elsewhere) in 2014.

The venues & dates for the 3 sessions are:

Burnham Cricket Club: Tuesday 8 April 7.30 pm

Long Marston Cricket Club: Saturday 12 April 10.00 am

Great Brickhill Cricket Club: Tuesday 15 April 2014 7.30 pm



Calling all Club Welfare Officers

CWOs need to attend a **SAFE HANDS WORKSHOP** every 3 years.

If you need to renew or you are just in post, BCB is running a course at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on 11 March from 6.30 pm to 10.00 pm - there are still several places remaining.

To book your course go to <http://www.buckscb.org/courses.aspx> - you need to log in - and you'll need to register if you haven't already done so - there are links on the page.

Bucks Cricket Youth Leagues

Details of the 2014 divisions and fixtures are now on the BCB website (www.buckscb.org - click on *Competitions* then select the age group). If your club missed the fixtures evening on 27 February or has yet to settle some of the dates you should contact the opposition NOW.

The cup draws have now been made and details have been circulated to clubs. At the time of writing the website details haven't yet been updated - but this will be done shortly.

Any queries or problems - please [email Richard Burden](mailto:richard.burden@buckscb.org) as soon as possible.

CricketForce & Supplier News

† **Stuart Canvas** has been awarded the ECB Non Turf Accreditation for the SCP Deluxe System which they had been working towards for over a year. They have a special offer for installations in the 2014 cricket season; orders must be made before 1st September 2014. [More details](#)

They are also offering discounts off their range of cricket covers and boundary rope [More details](#)

† **Business Energy Direct** are ECB-approved independent energy consultants and have saved clubs more than £725,000 in the past few years. If yours isn't one of them then you could be missing out

† **Bowcom** is offering a 15 per cent discount off the list price of its Bowdry ground drying machine to registered clubs. [More details](#)

† **Durant Cricket** offer all registered clubs significant discounts on a wide range of cricket ground equipment. [More details](#)

† indicates Official Supporters of NatWest CricketForce. There are other Official Suppliers of similar items, rollers, scoreboards etc- full details at

<http://www.ecb.co.uk/development/facilities-funding/self-build-and-self-help/natwest-cricketforce/official-supporters-of-ecb-cricketforce-2010,1940,BP.html>



Jewson Privilege Account Scheme

ECB has announced that the scheme will run once again in 2014 and is open to clubs registered for NatWest CricketForce 2014 regardless of whether you've successfully applied in the past.

Changes to the scheme in 2014 include clubs only needing to pay £50 up front with ECB adding £350 thus giving you a total of £400 to spend. Furthermore, the spending deadline will be extended to the end of November giving you more time to spend your money!

The ECB Small Grants Scheme will favour projects to improve water and energy saving, as well as flood-protection - an ideal

Players & Umpires from Abroad

Clubs are reminded that there are difficult issues with work permits etc for people coming from abroad.

For players the government's Points Based Managed Migration system means that cricket clubs need to obtain a sponsor licence from the UK Borders Agency in order to bring cricketers and coaches from outside the EU into the country.

As part of this process, clubs must obtain from the ECB a Governing Body Endorsement for both their sponsor licence and for individual players and coaches

Umpires: Recently we have heard of approaches being made by people wishing to be engaged as umpires, including at least one who claimed to have been referred to a club by ECBACO. This was quite untrue - ECB have said they will never do this.

It's not clear whether an umpire would ever qualify under the immigration rules. If you need advice we suggest that ECB should be your first port of call.

More details are on the ECB website at:

<http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/directives-guidelines/sponsor-license,1664,BP.html>

way to take advantage of this in conjunction with CricketForce over the weekend of 5th and 6th April.

Register your club now at:

www.ecb.co.uk/development/facilities-funding/self-build-and-self-help/natwest-cricketforce/

If you are looking for replacement matting for practice nets we are looking to see if we can obtain a good deal for affiliated clubs - please contact John Bushby for more details



BCB News

Although the draw for the 2014 Junior Cups has been sent out to clubs it hasn't appeared on the website yet so we thought it would be helpful to let you see it here

2014 BUCKS CUP JUNIOR KNOCKOUT DRAWS - First Round

	UNDER 11	UNDER 13	UNDER 15
1	Bledlow Ridge v Stokenchurch	Wooburn Narkovians v Burnham	Burnham (Bye)
2	Marlow (Bye)	Hawridge & Cholesbury v Ley Hill	Chenies & Latimer (Bye)
3	Great Kingshill v Penn & Tylers Green	Marlow v Farnham Royal	Wooburn Narkovians (Bye)
4	Chesham Girls v Chalfont St Giles	Ballinger Waggoners v Chesham	Chalfont St Peter (Bye)
5	Winchmore Hill v Beaconsfield	Ley Hill v Great Kingshill	Gerrards Cross v Holmer Green
6	Gerrards Cross v Farnham Royal	Chalfont St Giles v Chalfont St Peter	Beaconsfield v Penn & Tylers Green
7	High Wycombe v Burnham	High Wycombe v Penn & Tylers Green	Chesham (Bye)
8	Chalfont St Peter v Wendover	Amersham v Winchmore Hill	Farnham Royal v Marlow
9	Amersham v Ley Hill	Gerrards Cross v The Lee	Chalfont St Giles v Amersham
10	Chenies v Chesham	Wendover v Beaconsfield	Winchmore Hill v Ley Hill
11	Hawridge & Cholesbury v Ballinger Waggoners	Stokenchurch v Dinton	Great Kingshill v The Lee
12	Buckingham Town (Bye)	Cublington v Twyford	Dinton v Stokenchurch
13	Bletchley (Bye)	Bletchley Town (Bye)	Winslow Town (Bye)
14	Cublington (Bye)	Buckingham Town (Bye)	High Wycombe (Bye)
15	Great Brickhill (Bye)	Stewkley Vicarage (Bye)	Great Brickhill (Bye)
16	Stewkley Vicarage (Bye)	Olney Town (Bye)	Olney Town (Bye)

Matches to be played by the following dates:

Round 1: 11th May; Round 2: 25th May; Quarter Final: 8th June; Semi -Finals: 22nd June; Final: 6th July

Venues for subsequent rounds: ROUND 2: 1st Named Team Away. QUARTER FINAL: 1st Named Team Away.

SEMIFINAL: 1st Named Team at Home. FINAL: On Toss of Coin.

Facilities Notes

Capital Spending Survey: many thanks to the club officials who completed the survey in December. This has been used to inform ECB about the need for funding in the county.

- There was nearly a 40% response (which is very high)
- The information we received shows that, taken with other projects we know about, there is potentially a need to spend over £2m in the next few years
- That figure is largely based on clubs' cost estimates; these are often much lower than the going rate
- In particular the cost of new or refurbishing non-turf nets is more than people realise. Even so this made up 22% of the total
- Pavilion improvements accounted for 23% of the estimates.
- Another 20% or so represented estimated costs of acquiring grounds or executing major groundwork.
- Many clubs need to replace machinery (5%); unfortunately there is usually no funding readily available for this, apart from the EWCT loan scheme.

Facilities Strategies: District councils have a duty to put various strategies in place. Currently some are drawing up playing pitch strategies and, in conjunction with ECB and BCB have asked clubs to provide information about their grounds. Please don't ignore these requests. These projects are intended to highlight deficiencies in the sporting facilities available and can determine where funding is directed.

Charlotte Edwards Brings the Ashes to Bucks

Unfortunately copy for Charlotte's visit on 25/26 February has been delayed and we hope it will appear in the next Newsletter.



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For more information contact
steve@lastmanstands.co.uk
or ring 07979 907022



BCB News

Small Grants - Big Changes

The EWCT Small Grants Scheme for 2014 opens on Monday 3 March. Buckinghamshire has been allocated a budget which, although larger than last year, is still rather small.

The closing date for applications is 19 May 2014 - this will NOT be extended.

Key elements of the scheme and changes from 2013 are:

- The Scheme aims to create a sustainable future for affiliated cricket clubs, specifically to improve environmental sustainability and reduce operating costs
- It is open to all affiliated cricket clubs - ECB Clubmark Registration or Accreditation is **not** a requirement, but **clubs who received an award from the 2013 Small Grant Scheme are not eligible to reapply in 2014**
- Minimum award is now £1,000 and the maximum is £4,000. Partnership funding minimum is now reduced to 10%
- Specific timescales have been set to allow your County Board to promote and manage the Scheme locally
- A specific period has been set to allow BCB to make decisions on which applications they wish to support and forward to the EWCT for final approval - County Boards cannot set their own deadlines for this process.

While there is no substitute for reading the guidance notes the main categories of expenditure which qualify are:

- Energy consumption / energy saving devices or systems,
- Water consumption / water saving devices or systems
- Mobile Covers / Flat Sheet Covers / Water removal equipment
- Flood defence measures

The application must be for a **single project** only - though a number of related items needed as part of one project can qualify.

Ineligible Projects

The Scheme is not intended to support larger scale capital projects or 'ancillary' products: ground equipment and particu-

Groundsman's Corner

Adrian Saunders writes from Australia:

It's been very hot over here but cooled down now. I do know that Marlow is under water but there is something we can say as far as grounds are concerned.



The first thing is not to panic. we have to accept that there has been a lot of rain but these things have a habit of evening out before the season starts. I can remember one year where we couldn't get on to the square until April and everything started OK.

As soon as the weather abates a bit, groundsman should look at their square - if it looks really yellow then it should have some. fertiliser

Importantly, groundsman should look for disease in this mild and wet weather. Fusarium has a habit of coming through this time of year in mild weather. If there is any sign it should be treated.

If you have a doubt you can [email Adrian](#) who will get someone to have a look at it or discuss it with you.

Disability Cricket ... is flourishing around the world and particularly in this country. We like to think that Buckinghamshire is one of the UK's leading counties in this respect.



Bucks Cricket Board and ECB are continually seeking ways to develop and promote participation in disability cricket and support the philosophy of having fun and building togetherness as a community. We are very happy to assist the initiatives being taken in Aylesbury this year.

These started with a fun day at Stoke

Mandeville Stadium on 22 February and there's another on 9 April.

- If you don't believe wheelchair cricket is possible come along and see!

BCB and its counterparts in Berkshire and Oxfordshire hope to set up a BOBI League for cricket in the coming year. This is a pan-disability league operating across the three counties and we hope it will have divisions for adult males, adult females, and youth age-groups, as well as a division for individuals with mental health and social issues.

More info from Keith Dale (Aylesbury Town CC) 01296 821501 / 07956 513529 or [by email](#)

larily not Scoreboards/Boxes, Sightscreens or Ball-Stop Netting (this is a change from last year)

Other Points to Note

- The Scheme will **not** fund projects / purchases where expenditure has already been incurred.
- Successful clubs will be expected to complete their project / purchase within four months of the date of the Offer and should not apply until they have sufficient partnership funding
- Partnership funding may also be provided by way of a loan from the EWCT Interest Free Loan Scheme
- To assist with the planning of your project, it is recommended that you read the ECB Guidance on Project Development at www.ecb.co.uk/clubsupport under the 'Facilities' section.

The full Guidance Note and Application Form can be found on the website's Newsletters pages at:

www.bucksbc.org/newsletters.aspx

How To Apply

We would like all applications to be sent to us electronically.

- You can complete the PDF application form by adding text and a 'signature' (choose 'Sign' from the toolbar).
- The PDF form and a PDF copy of the quotation should be saved and then sent by email to John Bushby, using the email link below.
- Requests for further information and other enquiries should be sent to [John Bushby](#) .

After You've Applied

- BCB will decide on applications shortly after the closing date of 19 May and will advise clubs whether or not their applications have been supported
- Even if BCB supports your application EWCT reserves the right to alter the amount of grant.
- Clubs will be expected to complete their project / purchase within four months of the date of the Offer Letter from EWCT