Sports Club AGM 2019 - Cricket report

The cricket section enjoyed a successful season. Our first team finished 3rd, narrowly missing promotion. They won 12 matches, a total that in most seasons would ensure promotion so we just missed our target - of promotion.

We hosted the finals day of the Hertfordshire wide T20 competition and were runners up losing the final in a tight contest. We hosted 2 home ties in the national 50 over cup, being knocked out by a very strong Kent premier league side in the 3rd round.

Our second 11 finished 4th which was above expectation and our target.

Our third 11 came second and achieved promotion, hitting our target.

Our U/11's were county champions.

The junior section continues to make a massive contribution to the Club, both financially and through player development. Thanks, as always to Paul Sargent and all the unpaid coaches and match managers for their support. We fielded 9 sides in the Hertfordshire junior leagues from Under 9’s through to Under 15’s.

We hosted NSW Combined School Boys for their bi-annual tour opener from which we have received glowing feedback and have been asked to be the permanent tour opening event for them on future tours.

We also hosted England over 50's and we are looking to develop our relationship with them with a view to hosting international matches at Broxbourne in the future.

We are also continuing to develop our relationship with Essex Cricket (at the time of writing Essex Cricket are on target to achieve honours in the 20/20 competition as well as the county championship) and this season we hosted two 50 over Essex second 11 matches against Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. We are in talks with Essex Cricket to host several matches next season including the possibility of Essex Women and a 3 Day Essex second 11 match.

We are also developing our relationship with Hertfordshire Cricket, hosting age group games from U/17 to over 60's and 70's! Their over 50’s has requested they play as many games as possible at Broxbourne next season.

So, all in all it was a pretty good season.

Moving into the off season and next summer we have several initiatives under way.

Our club coach Gagan Dissanayake had an impact on the quality of our junior coaching and on the performance of the adults. Gagan has been invited to sit for his ECB level 3 coaching qualification. He was one of 30 successful applicants to this year’s programme from an applicant field of 130. He was also the only applicant not from a county cricket organisation. We are very proud, and we are looking forward to the extra know how and kudos Gagan’s qualification will bring the club.

We are exploring an ambitious coaching programme in local schools with the goal of developing a pipeline of junior cricketers, boys and girls, to the club that due to changing social structures has dwindled in recent years.

We have been approached by an educational trust in East London enquiring about our hosting and delivering mid-week introduction to cricket programmes for inner city children who otherwise would not have the opportunity to play cricket.

We will once again be hosting Lashings World 11 again in July 2020.

We are also re-developing our historic relationship with Haileybury College (Broxbourne Cricket Clubs first ever match was against Haileybury in 1848). Discussing ground sharing and availability of Haileybury students to play club cricket for Broxbourne.

We have also further developed our relationship with Graces Cricket Club who will be our main tenant on Sundays on the first team pitch next summer. Next summer BSC members may notice more cricket being played at Broxbourne during the week.

Thanks go to Dave Gadsden and his team for all their hard work and support.

Off the field the social atmosphere was great. We enjoyed a successful race night and quiz evening and members of the Cricket section supported the Gin Festival in great numbers.

Chris Sargent has done a sterling job as our first communications officer and our great social media presence has been remarked upon by many people in the community.

Thanks to everyone who supported cricket throughout the season including the many local businesses who were match day sponsors as well as of course our main sponsors Skelton’s Wealth Management and Reynolds Salter.

Tim Pedlar – Chairman Broxbourne Cricket Club