Broxbourne Cricket Club AGM 2020– Chairman’s Report

Given the Covid 19 pandemic and subsequent restrictions cut our preseason training in half and then resulted in almost exactly half the cricket we would have expected in a full season, we were lucky to get the cricket we did. Many clubs were severely disrupted due to player and umpire availability and disruptions to pitch preparation, facilities, and transport.

In early July, the league decided to play exactly half the league season with modified starting times, length of games and several Covid 19 measures, namely 6 over breaks for sanitization of the ball and players hands.

Our 1st team finished 4th, 6 points off finishing 2nd.

The 2nd team finished 3rd, 8 points off 1st

Our 3rd team finished 3rd, losing 3 matches to bad weather.

Despite most of the juniors regular season being cancelled due to Covid 19 , once the lockdown was lifted and the ECB and government started allowing Cricket to be played we had a very well attended late summer of junior cricket which included our junior festival and 2 summer camps as well as our usual Sunday morning juniors coaching sessions. We also had 9 junior cricketers play or make themselves available to play adult cricketthis season. A great feat given the country wide decline in junior cricketers transitioning and in our own poor numbers in recent seasons. A testament to the delivery of our coaching and development plans.

The following Broxbourne junior cricketers achieved representative honors this season; -

Blake Milne - Hertfordshire north area (and Herts under 13 county trials)

Joss Rodman - Essex under 13

Luke Fishburn - Hertfordshire county under 13

Dilon stark - Hertfordshire county under 13

Albert hicks - Hertfordshire north area under 12

Lewie Higgs - Hertfordshire north area under 12

Connor duke - Hertfordshire county under 14

Rudy rodman - Hertfordshire north area under 10

Samuel stark - Hertfordshire north area under 11

Noah Rollason - Hertfordshire north area under 11

Elliot Francis - Hertfordshire north area under 11

James Urwin - Hertfordshire north area under 11

Arav Patel - Hertfordshire north area under 11

All cup competitions were cancelled by the league, as were Essex Cricket fixtures and the one representative game, England over 50’s verses County Champions, Essex over 50’s, was washed out.

Our planned festival that included hosting a Lashings 11 was postponed until next year. We are pleased to report that the 16th of July 2021 is the date this we will be hosting Lashings next season.

Our plans to provide coaching with schools was impacted by Covid 19 but we are beginning talks for next season at the time of writing.

Our club coach Gagan Dissanayake has completed and been awarded his ECB level 3 coaching qualification (he was the only participant who was not part of a County Cricket Club). Gagan has had a huge impact on the quality of our junior coaching, the number of juniors transitioning into adult cricket and on the performance of the adult members. Gagan has been appointed as the clubs first ever Director of Cricket where he will continue his role with some added responsibilities one of which is the development of women’s cricket at Broxbourne.

We have further developed our relationships with Graces Cricket Club who are not only now our main partner in terms of Sunday cricket at Broxbourne but their members will also be joining as affiliate Broxbourne members for next season (the details of which are being agreed at the time of writing but will be a modified membership).

We have been successful in obtaining a £2850.00 “return to cricket” grant from the ECB. A big thanks to Richard Grove and Phil Burrows for making this happen.

We also made over £400 in raffles and so coupled with revenue from our junior events and sponsors we were able to minimize the financial impact of losing half the season.

Thanks go to Dave Gadsden and his team for all their hard work and support in getting the cricket facilities up and running at short notice and maintaining them for a hectic 2nd half of the season.

So, to a big thanks to Gary, Jill and all the bar staff for the work in modifying the bar and staying open.

Off the field the social atmosphere was great, but it was a shame that Covid restrictions put an end to our end of season events.

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 who were particularly generous given the season was halved.

Tim Pedlar – Chairman Broxbourne Cricket Club