



JUNIOR SECTION

2020 SEASON SUMMARY





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Also a special thank you to **Nigel Heap** for his continuing support and sponsorship of the Junior Section's annual **NORMAN HEAP TROPHY**.

“The Junior Section thank you ALL for your ongoing support”



Mission Statement

“To give every child the opportunity to learn and play cricket in a safe and friendly environment”



Chairman's Report

As chairman of Greenfield Cricket Club Junior Section, I would like to give a big thank you to everyone involved in helping us get through this difficult season and for helping the junior section be the success it is.

May I say a special thank you to our coaches and managers who have given their free time, commitment and enthusiasm. Can I also thank the parents who have been in attendance at each training session and at matches both home and away, we couldn't manage without you!

This year there will be no presentation evening where we usually get together and inform everyone how our junior section has performed during this short season; so I have asked the coach of each age group, to give a brief summary of how their team has performed.

As for the future, we are looking at having winter training/nets at Saddleworth school, which usually starts in November. I am in contact with the school and will keep you all informed of ongoing developments.

I'm hopeful things will improve in the New Year and we can finally get our new playing kit (a decision was taken to suspend it for this year); we have a number of local businesses sponsoring our kit.

We also have a number of local companies sponsoring the junior section and their logos appear on the two site screens situated on the field, if any company is interested in supporting our juniors, then please do get in touch with me on 01457 511320 or fredbottom@hotmail.co.uk.

Take Care and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Regards, Fred.



Girl's Cricket Summary

A short but very good season this year! Well done girls!!

We've had 7 U9s this summer and 4 U11's who have played mixed cricket and we look forward to seeing them progress further next year.

The U13s team welcomed Amelia from the U11's, Amber from Friezland and Lily from Halifax. They only had 3 fixtures this summer due to lack of other teams but only lost 1 match coming together to play some truly enjoyable cricket towards the end of the season. A longer summer and more matches...well, who knows? A formidable force for next year!

U15s – had 6 matches, won 2, lost 3, 1 unplayed. Again some very good cricket including a win at home against an Urmston team - a real nail biter!!

Some of our girls have had opportunities for regular slots and success in the club's mixed U13s, U15s and U17s teams and places on the newly formed senior 4th team. A thank you to the coaches for the recognition and inclusion of these girls and hope there will be more opportunities next year.

Also, special recognition to Hannah who also made appearances for our senior 3rd team, taking 4 wickets in one match! A fantastic achievement and very well deserved!



Girl's Cricket Summary Continued

There were 12 nominations for Lancashire Girls development squad submitted across U11-U17's age groups including 4 current Lancashire players. Unfortunately, these were cancelled due to Covid – to be rearranged for a later date. Good luck to those girls when they happen!

And finally a big thank you to the coaches, Craig and Adrian, for their commitment and generosity of time; to Fred, Chair of Junior Cricket; the club for overcoming the challenges to allow cricket to be played this year, and members for its continuing support of girls cricket; and to the parents who get up on a Sunday morning, or overcome the logistics of a midweek game, to get our girls to the far flung places they have to play.

And then of course a huge thank you to all our players!! Here's to a longer, more normal and successful season next year!

Heather



Under 9's Summary

In July and under Government and ECB guidelines, we started our delayed season by undertaking one-to-one coaching, where we had 12 young players involved.

Over the weeks, restrictions were gradually lifted and we were eventually allowed to get back to our normal Saturday morning training sessions, where the numbers increased to 22 registered players (boys and girls).

We then started, what we call “practice games” where we can coach players during games. We enjoyed games against Ashton, Dukinfield, Saddleworth, Micklehurst and Uppermill.

Over this time, as coaches we think we have given the children a ‘love for the game’, improved their skills and seen them make good progress.

It has been a pleasure to coach all the young players this season and we look forward to next season. For those who will be moving to the under 11's next year, we wish them all well.

Charissa, Fred and Adrian



Under 11's Summary

The 2020 U11 squad (despite the obvious challenges) we faced this season, performed brilliantly throughout the season. We were proud to be the first junior 'section' to start training 'out of nets' following strict Government and ECB guidelines, ensuring more juniors could train safely, more often. This was made possible as a result of Cameron Sturge and Charissa Cooke assisting with coaching on a weekly basis to ensure safe Covid-19 cricket practice could be undertaken. There are many highlights of the season, but I think one of the positives of our season was the enthusiasm shown by all our young cricketers throughout the short season despite numerous setbacks and disappointments. Major disappointments including the 'collapse' of 'District Cricket due to 'Lockdown' which denied Jake Wilde, Ben Alcock and Billy Dodd the opportunity to represent Oldham, and the numerous games we had cancelled as a result of ECB directions. Despite this effort, enthusiasm and enjoyment of cricket continued which was a credit to the whole group. What is also a testament to the junior set up and the quality of our cricket provision was the high number of students attending cricket practice in the evenings and then later, during our Saturday morning sessions. We had a fabulous squad to coach and we are proud of the fact that in the 5 matches we played 17 different young cricketers represented Greenfield CC at U11 Level including 5 girls.



Under 11's Summary continued

We are also proud of the fact that we were unbeaten over the season, beating Milnrow (twice), Friamere A, Shaw and Uppermill. In fact we were so dominant with our bowling, no team that we faced recorded a positive score (due to wickets lost), ensuring when it was our turn to bat we could bat with freedom and expression. There were a number of outstanding individual performances over the 5 matches but our excellent performances showed we were blessed with cricketers who could perform well with bat as well as ball throughout the whole squad. There are too many individual performances to name (as we would be unable to record them all), but we have a solid foundation of young cricketers that developed well over the short season, were an absolute pleasure to coach and all have an exciting future with us next year. Massive thanks for the support and dedication of the coaches, in particular Cameron and Charissa and also for the support we had over the season from parents who had to contend with bad weather, last minute fixture cancellations and difficult circumstances throughout the year whilst we ensured everyone remained safe whilst playing cricket. Keep smiling, keep enjoying playing cricket, it has been an absolute pleasure coaching you all over the season and hopefully the 2021 U11 season will be our best season ever.



Under 13's Summary

In a truncated season it was good to get some junior cricket played, which at one point looked unlikely.

Big thanks must go to the GMCL administrators for the work they have done behind the scenes to enable this.

The matches we have played have been competitive and enjoyable. Some excellent wins came against Saddleworth and Glodwick which put us top of the table from the outset and we never looked back.

Key contributions with bat and ball have come throughout the squad. Improvements have also been made in the fielding and wicketkeeping department which is great to see.

Game awareness has improved markedly throughout the team, and those that have been asked to captain the side have done so largely without input from the coach.

I've no doubt this squad will go onto achieve great things next summer if they all continue to work as hard at their game in training as they have this year.

Great effort everyone!

Adam



Under 15's Summary

Our under 15s were always going to be a force to be reckoned with this season, having won league and cup double last time the players were together at U13. Whilst it was disappointing not to have a full season, it has been a blessing that we did get to play some competitive cricket.

Before the competitive games even began, the squad took the opportunity to practice in much restricted sessions due to the global Covid pandemic. A few weeks of 1 to 1 nets was extremely well supported by the entire squad.

Our first match on 3rd August resulted in a comfortable home win against Saddleworth, Kartik retiring 40 not out off only 23 balls, and strong contributions from Joe and Ollie the foundation of 122/7 off 20 overs which our opponents never looked like chasing down, eventually finishing on 84/5.

The following week saw an even more impressive win at Milnrow, against batting first, Joe retiring 41 not out off 26 balls, plus quick-fire scores of over 30 each for Ollie and Kartik and a good 20 contribution from Fin enabling Greenfield to reach 149/4 off 20 overs and saw us win by 60 runs.

On 17th August we entertained a strong Royton team at home, Lucy and Hannah were pick of the bowlers with 2 wickets apiece, restricting Royton to 65/7. A fine 39 from Harley saw us home for the loss of only 2 wickets with 5 overs to spare.

The following week saw our closest game of the season. With some of our stronger players unavailable, Glodwick bowling first on their own ground restricted us to only 58 /9 off 19 overs. But our bowling attack of Joe, Fin, Ethan, Will and Harrison coupled with some excellent fielding ensured Glodwick fell short of the target. Fin bowled exceptional only conceding 1 run off 4 overs, and a stunning catch by Zoe dismissing our opponents' star batter.



Under 15's Summary Continued

Our final game of the season was at Austerlands. The game was all but finished after 30 balls. Austerlands were reduced to 16/4 with all their strongest batters all “back in the hutch”, Ollie bowling 3 overs without conceding any runs and taking 2 wickets. 2 wickets apiece for Jim and Fin saw Austerlands finish 8 down for only 30; which we easily knocked off for the loss of 1 wicket with Sam finishing 15 not out.

So a comprehensive a comfortable league win for our under 15s. We will never know what we might have achieved if we had played a full season. Hopefully when they are all together again at under 17 they will bring more silverware back to the club. However, our junior section is about developing players and our u15s have certainly done that in 2020. All our girls and boys have developed this year. Overall 18 players represented GCC at under 15 level this year, 10 of which also represented the club at senior level. Joe and Kartik are established first team players, whilst Ollie and Fin finished the season as opening bowlers of the seconds. Will, at 12 years old, has gained valuable experience in the third team and our girls, Megan, Lucy, Hannah and Zoe, have all done exceptionally well. Jim, also at 12, retained his place on the National Fast Bowling Academy programme. Special mention to Sam, who stood up to keep wicket this season when it was not clear how we were going to fill this essential role, and has progressed not only behind the stumps but also with his batting.

Finally special thanks to all parents and grandparents for all your support and efforts. This is much appreciated. Congratulations and thanks to all who have played this season. Looking forward to next season already. Chris



Under 17's Summary

The U17's finished the season having played 3 fixtures and winning all 3.

The first was a pre season friendly v's Glodwick which the team won comprehensively.

In the league they were only able to play 2 fixtures beating Royton at home by 19 runs and Glodwick away by 9 wickets.

The leading batsmen were :-

- * Tom White 40 runs
- * Joe Aston 27 runs
- * Jack Livesey 18 runs

The leading bowlers were :-

- * Kartik Joshi 3 wickets @ 3.25 average
- * Daniel White 2 wickets @ 4.00 average
- * Joe Aston 3 wickets @ 5.00 average

Also to note is Robert Williams with 2 stumping in 2 games.



Under 17's Summary Continued

Of more significance was the development and inclusion of U17 team members at Senior Level. All the players who represented the club in the u17's also played Cricket for one of our 4 senior teams.

This includes Joe Aston, Tom White and Kartik Joshi who were all regular members of the first team with Joe in particular opening the batting in the 1sts with at least 4 different opening partners. Tom Mayor and Jack Livesey also experienced the 1st team bubble with Jack making his debut this season and taking wickets in the final game against Shaw.

Other highlights included (but are not limited to) the performances of Oliver Sleight with bat and ball in the 2nd team and Will Jackson breaking through and opening the batting regularly in the 3rd team.

John