The Morley Cricket Club Newsletter

June 2011

SENIOR UPDATE

The First XI has had its most successful start for many a season. The club made some big decisions over the winter to make some cut backs and release players to try and improve the overall quality of the team. Despite a couple of recent slip ups the team has performed well, even though being hit by the long term injury to last seasons leading run scorer, Adam Larkin. In addition, we had a great Heavy Woollen Cup run, defeating 2 heavily fancied Huddersfield league sides before going down to a narrow defeat to neighbours Hanging Heaton in the quarter final.

The new recruits have fitted in well and made a big impression. Our overseas recruit, Kashif Naveed has been in tremendous form and even though we haven't reached the end of June he has over 500 runs and 50 wickets to his name. His contribution shows the value of recruiting 1st class overseas players but we can only do that with the support of our players and members in their sponsorship and fundraising efforts. Another new recruit in sparkling form has been Matt Baxter. Matt joined from Townville in the Central Yorkshire league and has been a revelation in the middle order with just over 500 runs to date. Behind the stumps Chris Dyer has impressed everyone and his neat glove work week in week out has been a big boost.

Unfortunately the loss of key batsmen in the 1sts, through injury and unavailability (see article on James McNichol) has meant it has been a difficult season at times for the 2nds with up to 4 guys some weeks stepping up to 1st team level. However, a couple of good victories in the last 2 weeks have seen them move up to 8th place, 39 points clear of the relegation zone and only 25 points off the top of the table. With the majority of the team being 21 and under it augers well for the future although these players need to find consistency with their performances.

'Chez' making an impression on the Academy stage

Morley CC's own born and bred young star, James McNichol has continued his progress through the representative ranks this season.

He now has dual registration that allows him to play for both the Yorkshire Academy and Morley. This may mean we don't get to see him performing for us as much as we'd like but it is fantastic that the 16 year old is continuing to develop at this higher level.

James represented the North of England last season and this season has played on the hallowed Headingley turf for the Academy.

We of course continue to wish him all the best.

Summer Raffle

Raffle tickets will be distributed to seniors and juniors in the next week as we try to raise club funds. Please do your bit by trying to sell your tickets. The draw will take place at the end of August.

JUNIOR UPDATE

It has been a very pleasing season for our junior sections. If we start with the oldest age group, our Under 17s, they currently lie in 2nd place with 3 games to go and look set for an end of season play off berth. They are also still in the cup and for a team of Under 16s this is a great effort.

The 15s have also performed well and have had a very good run of results in recent weeks that has also catapulted them into 2nd position. Again, looking good for an end of season semi final spot and again they are still in the cup, where they face Altofts next week.

The 14s are playing in the Under 15 Leeds League this season and the gulf in age groups has been difficult. Never the less, there has been some very encouraging performances and with an easier run in will be looking to get a couple more wins on the books.

The 13s have surprised everybody this season with a number of spirited performances, starting the season with 4 wins on the bounce. After a couple of defeats they have bounced back well with victory over Whitkirk this week.

The 11s didn't win a game last season, but this season have really developed with notable wins against Whitkirk and Wakefield Thornes. They are looking for a strong finish to secure a mid table finish.

Last, but not least, our Under 9s have a couple of festivals and friendlies coming up and will be looking to build on an encouraging performance at the Gildersome festival in June, when Harvey Winn won a special merit award for his performances on the day. Everyone of the squad is an actual Under 8 and under the coaching of Richard Jubb this year has developed well.

Easy fundraising!!

The Morley website now has a link to the Easyfundraising service but we need to get more people using the service. Please take a few minutes to have a look and see how you can help raise valuable funds for the club.

It doesn't cost a penny extra to shop and you will be raising funds for Morley Cricket Club every time you use this site.

Is your house, car or travel insurance up for renewal?
If so, use ***www.easyfundraising.org.uk*** to search for some of the most popular insurers out there and you may even save yourself some money. One member recently saved over £100 on his house insurance renewal and at the same time raised £45 for the club.

Are you planning your summer holidays or a weekend break?
If so, use ***www.easyfundraising.org.uk*** to book your holidays on line and donate between 1 and 2% of the cost of your holiday to Morley CC.

Please remember us each time you plan to shop online and let's see if we can't raise some valuable funds for the club at no extra cost to you. We are targeting £200 this year so please do your bit to help.

Some of the many retailers are shown below.

For more details, speak to Joanne Jenkinson or Simon Barraclough or see the poster up in the club.

Racenight 23rd July

DJ Ollie returns for a 3rd year with his highly entertaining racenight. If you haven't been before get your name down at the club.

Tickets are only £2 and it really is a terrific night, Juniors, Seniors, Members, Friends, Family are all welcome to attend. In advance, we are looking for race sponsors (£25) and horse sponsors (£3), so give us your support and let us make it a big success once again.

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Sponsorship 2011

It has been quite a pleasing response this season on the Commercial Sponsorship front. In difficult times, we have been able to secure our existing loyal supporters as well as being able to attract new local businesses through our programme sponsorship packages. Hopefully for a modest outlay, some of these businesses will reap some rewards via extra customers etc. In addition, we have worked with our existing senior shirt supplier, Kasa Rosa restaurant to introduce an innovative voucher scheme where both parties should hopefully benefit. Each member of the senior team has also done their bit by attracting player sponsorship deals and this is much appreciated.

The only constant struggle is match ball sponsors. We get there eventually but it is always the same half a dozen people putting their hands in their pockets and it would be good to find some new people to help us out. Match ball cost us over £800 each year. We provide new balls for all teams but whether we can continue to do that for all senior teams is dependant on player and member support.

Please let the club know if you can help out!

Looking forward, ***the club is starting to search for shirt sponsors for the 2012 season with both junior and senior shirts up for replacement***. The seniors have now gone 4 years without replacement kit. If you know local firms who would like to discuss options with us, then please contact as.

3rd Team update

The 3rd team this season has been re-vitalised and is currently unbeaten in the newly re-structured 3 division Sunday league competition. Managed by Andy Jenkinson and captained by Andy Dykes, the team continues to be a balance of youth and experience with 5 or 6 Under 17s being selected each and every week.

Only last week they chased down 272 in 40 overs against a strong Glasshoughton, with maiden senior half centuries for 17 year old Matthew Fox and 16 year old Ben Payne.

Ripon Races Trip – 24th September

The club has also organised an end of season trip to Ripon Races.

With only 49 places available get your name down on the list now to be assured of your place. It really should be a great way to finish off the season.

The cost, including return coach and entry to the Paddock and Parade ring area is £20. Tickets available from Simon