



ECB Yorkshire South Premier League

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HALL OF FAME



No 2

Steve Foster



Steve Foster has enjoyed a tremendous career, in which he started out at Treeton before embarking on spells during which he proved his ability in the Bradford League, the Yorkshire League and the Central Yorkshire League before returning to his roots. He has now completed 15 seasons with his home club.

Steve's dad, John, a Treeton stalwart, introduced him to the club, where he played for under-13s at nine and was in the first team at 15. At just 17, he moved to East Bierley in the Bradford League, and it was there that as a result of playing so much cricket so young he suffered two broken bones in his back. In a close-season operation he had two metal pins were inserted that are there to this day. The following season, he moved on to play in the Yorkshire League with Sheffield Collegiate. After a year at Abbeydale, he made the trip north to Barnsley, where he played for two seasons before returning to the Bradford League to play for Spen Victoria. In 1992, he moved on to Gomersal in the Central Yorkshire League, where he spent eight highly successful seasons. Then, in 2000, he returned to the Bradford League to play for Hanging Heaton.

By the time he returned to Treeton in 2003, Steve had won league titles and every major cup competition, including the Black Sheep Yorkshire Champions Trophy. He marked his return by taking 10-44 against Sheffield Collegiate II. Then, in 2006, he topped the league batting and bowling averages – only the second player ever to do so – in the process helping Treeton to win the SYSCL title for only the second time. In 2006 he recorded his highest score of 206 not out against Houghton Main and, in 2015, he helped Treeton to win a place in the newly-formed Yorkshire South Premier League. In all, since his return to Treeton, he has scored over 14,000 runs at an average of 56 and has taken 821 wickets at an average of just over 11.57.

In addition to his feats at club level, Steve played seven games for Yorkshire seconds between 1992 and 1993, scoring three half-centuries, as well as 151 against Kent. He played List A cricket for the Yorkshire Cricket Board, Northumberland and Cumberland, taking 25 wickets in his nine List A matches at an average of 10.24. He played 72 times for England Amateurs between 1995 and 2004, captaining the side from 1999 to 2004, during which time the team won back-to-back European championships in 2002 and 2004.

Now, approaching 50 years of age, he is in the latter stages of an outstanding career in which he can be considered one of the best players not to have played at first class level.

Steve Foster was inducted into the Yorkshire South Premier League Hall of Fame on 27th October 2017.