



PCC NEWS



Paignton Cricket Club Chairman's Report 2021

April 2021

Chairman's 2020 Review and 2021 Outlook



A Year Like No Other!

In such unprecedented times, with so many challenges, last 'season' only highlighted how we are stronger together "unity is strength, when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved"

Cricket

Senior Cricket was restricted to 6 matches. Each of the teams were put into pools where they played 6 matches. The winner of each pool would then go forward into the semi-finals. The first team pool was Plymouth, Plympton and Cornwood. Both Plympton games were washed out. We lost to Plymouth and we won one game against Cornwood. The players' availability was erratic, however it gave a great opportunity for our band of talented youngsters to experience premierships cricket. The second team fared better coming second in their pool and winning a play-off match against Upottery. The Third team won half of their matches and a lot of our youngsters gained valuable senior cricket experience. We were due to launch our 4th team but Covid restrictions sadly made this impossible, fingers crossed for this year. We lost most of our midweek fixtures due to Covid, however we did manage to play our long standing comrades – The Staffordshire Pirates. Please make an important note in your diary for this coming year as it is Staffordshire Pirates 70th year of touring which will be marked with a huge special occasion at Queens Park, watch out for more details to follow!!

Thank you to all our Club Captains George Benton, Tom Blundell and Matthew Williams. Thank you to Harry Ward, who managed and organised midweek games and also to Richard Hussey, Paul Worth, Mike Whiteside and Brian Stubbington for umpiring also Terry Farkins, Brian Dore and Phil Knight for scoring. The Devon Women's Ladies League 2 was cancelled, however regular net sessions ran throughout and were well attended. We entered the Super 8s 16-over competition, winning 2 of our 6 games. With no large group cricket/Friday night Wine and Wickets, there was no softball training last summer. We did, however, manage a couple of friendlies participated in a festival at Ivybridge.

With only 6 weeks of the season available it was testament to the club how many junior games and training sessions were achieved. The girls had a difficult season due to lack of opponents. Along with Ipplepen and Exeter, we were 1 of only 3 clubs in the whole of Devon to field teams at u15, u13 and u11. All our teams were competitive and they won over half of their games. It was also great to see our u13s win their Devon Super 8s festival.

There was a fear that our junior numbers would decrease because of the late start to the season, however we actually gained a considerable amount of players. This is a testament of the clubs commitment to our youth and demonstrates our ethos of ensuring that every child is given an opportunity to express their cricketing talent irrelevant of experience. I have always stated, that one of the most important elements of our club is our youth, which we have ensured is built on strong foundations.

It gives me great pride that this coming season we have u10-u15, U19 boys' cricket which equates to Paignton Cricket Club putting 7 teams out. Our younger children will be participating in 'All Stars' and 'Dynamo Cricket' sessions and also launching a new initiative 'Walking Cricket' and as usual we will be continuing our soft ball sessions. Our ladies section has gone from strength to strength and is the envy of the Bay. This year we will be entering U11, U13, U15, a soft ball ladies team and a senior ladies team with wine and wickets continuing to run on a Friday.



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This is an immense achievement and is only possible with the incredible band of volunteers and supporters we have at Paignton Cricket Club, who manage and coach, giving up their time to support and encourage the development of every player. Without these people the junior section would not exist, and I am pleased to say we continue to grow and expand our coaches and managers team.

I would like to express a personal gratitude for all of the following for your continued hard work and dedication. U10/11 Tony Milton and Colin Knight, U12 Tim Barber, U13 Lisa Hemus and Jack Smith, U14/U15 Nick Glanfield, U19 Tony Medlock. The women's section includes Nick Harman, Nev Brown, Stephen George, Trevor Massey, Liam Talbot, Jack Harman, Katie Harman, Lloyd Blackler, Charlotte Massey and Tracey Knight for her safeguarding role.

The Ground

We saw a changing of the guard at QP. Thanks to Dave Chandler's hard work over many years and handing the baton over to Sam Simcox who was ably assisted by Ollie Woodcock and managed by Terry Farkins. The grounds team did an incredible job in producing top quality wickets for all ages. I am pleased to announce that Sam and Ollie have agreed to continue. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment.

The Clubhouse

Due to the shortened season and particular Covid difficulties we made the decision to run this in-house. It was an incredible effort from a relatively small band of people who between them rotated shifts to ensure our bar and facilities operated effectively. From the ordering to taking in deliveries, maintaining regular enhanced cleaning, updating procedures and processes to comply with Covid, managing social distancing, serving and also closing up, this band of troops' efforts were nothing short of stirring. A shout out to the fabulous Mark Crang, Tony and Lynne Milton, Colin and Tracey Knight, Nigel George and my long suffering cricket widow wife Sam!! Others also popped in to undertake a stint in busier times and extended thanks to you all. An extended thank you also goes to Jason and Tracey Woodcock for continuing to ensure our planters looked good and were well watered and for treating the pavilion seating.

Simon Wright is standing down from the committee and I would like to thank him on behalf of the Club for his hard work and commitment over many years. Simon has also helped out on many occasions with the scoring and transportation. Simon has always maintained professionalism and his excellent organisation skills will be missed. I am so pleased he continues to be a valuable club member and hopefully we can share a few drinks and enjoy watching some cricket socially soon.

Finally a heartfelt thanks to the committee who are the engine of the club, their hard work and support is unwavering and without these people the club doesn't move forward and grow effectively. As a club we have some very clear goals. We aspire to offer high class cricket with the best facilities whilst at the same time ensuring cricket is accessible to all levels and abilities across all ages. We strive to be a fulcrum of the community where people can enjoy the game of cricket in a pleasant and welcoming environment.

Tim Ward
Chairman