

# Wisborough Green Cricket Club

## Colts report AGM 2021

Sunday 23rd January at 10:30am (held virtually via Zoom)

Many thanks to the efforts of all the Colts coaches and assistants who worked hard to ensure that despite Covid restrictions hanging over us we were able to kick the season off with a very busy first Friday April 16<sup>th</sup>.

Many thanks also to those who helped with the pre-season marketing campaign that led to a record 150+ registrations and Friday night turnouts of 100-120 boys and girls.

Further appreciation must go to the extended and less visible team of helpers, often coach's other halves, who help ensure everything runs smoothly on Friday nights and at matches - from taking registration to assisting with the warm-ups or scoring and even umpiring!

It was wonderful to see all corners of the green so packed and active every Friday. Weather permitting, which was most Fridays, the mobile net was moved to the square for batting practice with one of our two bowling machines, both of which can now be powered by a battery pack which proved to be a very worthwhile investment. On a few Fridays Peter Klein organised for a player from our 1<sup>st</sup> team to come along and help with coaching, providing both some welcome coaching capacity and inspiration for our young colts.

The Monday night coaching sessions for our Sussex Pathway and promising players for the future were again a regular fixture and were very well attended throughout the summer. Thanks go to Peter Klein for leading these sessions and to Ben Reed and Tom Dawson for regularly assisting.

For the second year running we continued Friday night coaching into the summer holidays for U8s and above. Whilst numbers were lower than during term time there is clearly an appetite for cricket not to stop when school finishes. Thank you to all our coaches and assistants for extending their commitment to the club and our colts deep into August.

Our Sussex League results were as follows with congratulations to our very strong U14s squad:

U14s: 1st

U12s: 3<sup>rd</sup>

U10s: 3<sup>rd</sup>

In the build-up to the Sussex Junior Cricket Festival Peter laid on additional coaching sessions on Wednesdays for the U11s, which included U9 and U10 players. These sessions affirmed that we have several cricketers with lots of potential in these younger age groups which as a club we must continue to nurture.

We entered 3 mixed age group teams into the Sussex Junior Cricket Festival (SJCF):

U11 Shield: Finished 20<sup>th</sup> out of 25 with a losing draw, a conceded win and two losses

U12 Shield: Finished 7<sup>th</sup> out of 24 with two wins, a conceded win and a loss

U14 Bowl: Finished 8<sup>th</sup> out of 20 with 2 wins and 2 losses

The last fixture of the season was a friendly One Hundred match for our mixed U12s against strong side Steyning which WGCC won convincingly. It was a thoroughly entertaining format for players, umpires, scorers and spectators and I'm sure we will look to organise more of these games across the age groups this season.

Once again we saw a number of our colts playing regularly for our senior sides and we look forward to more colts making their senior debuts in 2022.

At the WGCC Cricket Club dinner, we were delighted to celebrate the following awards:

Stuart Karn-Smith Award: Harry Hunter

U14s Sussex Junior Cricket Festival Bowling Award: Will Dixon

### **Girls Cricket in Wisborough Green 2021**

2021 has been another great year for establishing girls cricket at Wisborough Green and a year of firsts. We now have a U15, U13 and U11's girls' side who played their first matches in 2021.

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July a mixed team of U15's and U13's stepped out for the very first time to play Horsham and won. This was followed in quick succession by the first ever U11's girls cricket match against Chiddingfold on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> August. Chiddingfold were great sports and stepped in at the last minute to replace Storrington who had to pull out due to a covid outbreak. The final score of 388 to 231 to Wisbrough Green.

So 2021 was a year of firsts and first places for girls cricket and I hope you agree this has been a great start with even more planned for 2022. More matches, more training and even two girls cricket academy sessions are planned for next year in association with Sussex cricket. We also plan to sprinkle in some fun with an end of year COLTS BALL and social events including watching the T20 matches.

We look forward to even more girls joining us in 2022 and hopefully even more firsts!

Jon Finn & Sarah Meurer