

Ellerslie Cricket Club - Junior Report 2010

Despite entering the same competitions as last year, the restructuring of the Nottingham Youth League resulted in some 20 less matches across all age groups.

Results were generally poor, with our U13 and U14 failing to win a single game in the Nottingham League despite some strong individual performances. We also have a severe lack of players for next year's U14s and have decided not to field a side at this age group in the Nottingham League next season. The remaining U14s will join the U15s and will play in the Newark league.

Our younger teams performed better and some of our players are showing great promise. Hopefully we will have five boys training with the County teams during the winter.

A summary of results and individual team reports are attached.

This time last year I raised two concerns:

1. The lack of opportunity for our junior members to play Saturday league cricket.
2. The lack of people prepared to commit to helping with coaching.

I am delighted that the club has decided to enter a 4th XI in the South Nott's League next season and whilst it will inevitably throw up some challenges it will, without doubt, provide a clear pathway for our older and better juniors to move into senior cricket. I am confident that this decision will reap rewards in the years to come.

I remain concerned however that about the lack of coaches prepared to commit to regular coaching. At this point in time, we have three of our age groups without a coach for next season. Additionally, there were occasions last season when we were in breach of the minimum coach/player ratios required under our Clubmark accreditation.

It is pleasing that we have a number of members attending coaching courses this winter but it is essential that these, and others, are able commit on a regular basis. We are beginning to see a greater number of senior members starting to help and I would like to thank those that have done so. Hopefully, this trend will continue and we will see more of our senior members helping out even if only on an occasional basis.

I would like to thank all of those who have helped in any way during the season, particularly those parents who have given up their time to manager teams, score, umpire, support or help out in any way. Without their support it would not be possible to achieve as much as we do.

Finally, I would like to thank Martin and Shirley for all of their hard work on Friday evenings and at other times throughout the season.

Phil Davey

Kwik Cricket

The Friday night training sessions continue to be popular with good numbers of children (boys and girls) attending regularly. Given this fact it is perhaps strange that we did sometimes struggle to maintain two teams at the Sunday morning tournaments.

However on the playing side both our teams did fantastically well.



Ellerslie Eagles

This year's Eagles were this season's Tournament champions! They won 11 out of 13 matches – with their highest score 101-0 after 8 overs.

Their performances brought compliments from opposing coaches not just for the results but for the way they played and conducted themselves.

The team included about a dozen boys ranging from Year 3 to Year 5 over the weeks, which gives great promise for the performances in the younger Ellerslie hardball teams next season.

Little Bounders

This team contained some of the youngest children in the tournament but they deserve enormous credit as they remained competitive in most of their matches.

They specialised in nail biting finishes - they never knew they were beaten – and their results included a very exciting tie.

They ended the season in mid table. Given the age and experience of some of the players they should all be very proud of their performances

Under 10s

This year's youngest hardball squad contained a mixture of Under 10s and some of the under 9s who had showed their strength in last year's Kwik Cricket.

It was certainly an interesting first hardball season for them. We finished 4th out of 7 in our league.

The boys were faced with a difficult start to the season with our first two completed matches against the two strongest sides in the league. It is fair to say we struggled with coming to terms in the difference in batting in hardball versus Kwik Cricket. However the undoubted strength of our bowlers meant we were competitive in both matches. In fact all bar the most fervent Plumtree supporters would have to admit we deserved a point for a tie in the first match. The boys only failed to achieve that result after our bowler being called for a front foot 'no-ball' on the very final ball of the match! The 3rd match was touch and go and again the result went against us in controversial circumstances.

Thankfully however our performances in the remaining matches meant we didn't need to rely on good fortune. The batting was improving and with our continuing ability to take wickets we beat West Bridgford and overwhelmed Kinoulton. We also beat a Hucknall side in a friendly match.

We had more than a dozen boys play in the side over the course of the summer and it was encouraging to see the improvement in all aspects of their game over this time. The boys who came in later in the season fitted in straight away and contributed well to the improving results with bat, ball and in the field.

The challenge's for the Under 11's next year is the loss of the younger players who will move into their own Under 10s team. They made an excellent contribution to the team.

However the squad will be able to continue to play matches together next season. As well as entering teams in the Under 10s and Under 11 Nottingham League it is the intention to enter a mixed Under 10s and Under 11's team into the Under 11s Newark League.

We are also entering two teams in the 6 a-side Bingham Under 11s Indoor League after Christmas. This will also include boys from both age groups.

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped with umpiring, scoring and supporting the boys over the season.

Elaine

Under 11 Report for the summer of 2011

On the back of a number of good performances in the Bingham Indoor League ,narrowly missing out on a place in the top four on run rate, hopes were high for the season. The squad was weakened slightly by the departure of 3 more experienced hard ball players however this gave opportunities to a squad of 21 boys.

Having entered both the Newark and Notts leagues there were around 20 league and cup games throughout the season, giving everyone an opportunity to play.

The most exciting finish to a match came early in the season at Burton Joyce when needing 16 from the last 4 overs we lost a wicket in the 14th over, and needed cool heads to take the winning single from the last ball of the match.

We also made a great start to the Newark League fixtures winning our first two games against Bottesford and Burton Joyce by 32 runs and 83 runs respectively before exciting matches and narrow defeats to Bingham and Thurgarton, both matches being decided in the final two overs.

There was never any doubt about the team spirit within the squad and they always played the game in the right way, despite some heavy defeats in the Notts league fixtures where the only real difference was hard ball experience .Having said that there the progress of the squad was demonstrated by the match at Plumtree. They needed to win to beat Notts and Arnold to the league title. There was a worried look on the manager's face as we took 8 wickets and fielded like salmon. The highlight being Josh Newnham's first stumping. We also secured a win against West Bridgford as the season closer.

As well as the individual award winners there were strong all round performances during the season from Charlie Bravery, Aryan Soni and Ed McLaren.

I would like to express my thanks to all the parents for their support and assistance throughout the season in setting up, scoring and umpiring. Particular thanks must go to James Newnham for his unstinting enthusiasm in the middle.

Thanks also to the coaches who took the squad through their paces on a Friday night .

I hope to see everyone next season and its great to see so many boys at the winter net sessions.

Award Winners

Batting –Sacheth Menon

Bowling –Carter Benson

Fielding- Josh Newnham

Manager's Award – Josh Allen

Ellerslie Cricket Club

U12 Report 2011 Season

Once again we had a large number of players (27) in this age group and for the second season running the U12 team played in both the Nottingham and Newark Leagues. With the Nottingham league being eleven a-side and the Newark league being eight a-side pairs, this provided a good balance of matches and provided opportunities for all of our players.

We started the season well with a great team performance and victory over Kimberley and it looked like the promise the side shown in 2010 was going to deliver a great season. Unfortunately, despite some really good performances luck was not on our side and we failed to secure another win in the Nottingham League and only managed one win in the Newark league. Results were better in the cup competition where we reached the semi finals following wins over Wollaton and Attenborough.

The strength of the team has always been in the bowling department but during the season six boys had innings of 20 or more which is encouraging for next year.

Three boys, Nick Hobbs, Tom Davey and Hamzah Asif played for the Sub County side and all performed well.

As ever, I would like to thank all of the parents for their help with scoring, manning the bar, helping out, ferrying the boys around and for the friendly and supportive atmosphere throughout the season.

In 2012 we will once again be playing in both the Nottingham and Newark Leagues thanks to a number of parents who have offered to help me in managing the team.

Phil Davey

Ellerslie Cricket Club – U13's Review 2011

It was a disappointing season and we were defeated in every match. In my personal opinion, there were several contributing factors. The main one was that the whole team lacked in confidence and had low self esteem. It was not helped by the fact that we only had 8 registered players in the age group. This immediately created a negative impact. Because each individual assumed they would be playing anyway, they never fought for their place in the team, thus resulting in them attending less training sessions. The rest of the team was made up by regular U12's playing.

Training sessions on Fridays were not well attended and were quite hit and miss for some players. The lack of practice then showed in the individual performances in the matches. Despite this, I organised extra training with Ramps on Monday evenings which too was not attended by many U13's due to other commitments, but certainly benefited those few U13's and U12's who did attend.

Another factor for our losses was the attitude/conduct of some players on the field. Body language became negative and this was noticeable. They found it difficult to remain positive until the end, which I appreciate was hard, but it felt like they had given up too soon.

Notable performances included Hamzah Asif, U12, scored 136 runs in 10 matches and Nick Hobbs, U12 who scored 105 runs in 6 matches. Suraj Nijjar, U13, who joined Ellerslie this season was the leading wicket taker and took 6 wickets. Tom Davey and Kamran UI-Haq remained consistent bowlers throughout the season and took 5 and 4 wickets each, respectively. George Davis improved his wicket keeping as the season went on. Fielding was a big let down in every game. This showed in the closest match of the season, away at Gedling. Nevertheless, Kamran UI-Haq and Alex Olds remained active.

Despite this, I enjoyed my role and tried my best to make everyone feel included. I remained aware of everyone's strength's and weakness's and used this as a base for selecting the team.

Thanks to Phil Davey for lending me his U12's!, thanks to Ramps for providing the extra training, and also thanks to the parents who got the children to the matches on time and to those parents who helped out with the umpiring.

Ruby UI-Haq
November 2011.

U14s 2011 season's review

From a results point of view it is undeniable that this has been a disappointing season as all games were lost. In truth it was evident that this was likely to be a difficult season once we knew that we were going to lose Ollie Taylor and Max Brown, and also wicket-keeper Jack Fisher (although pleasingly Jack returned before season's end), who were very much our match winners. Having said that, the numbers in this age group increased from the previous year and morale held up despite the results. All the lad should take credit for that, but, in particular, this is very much the case for our new captain Sam Jones who did a sterling job.

The lack of confidence was particularly evident in our batting right from the outset and indeed in our first five league and cup games we did not get beyond 65, which meant that in all but one game we were never in the running. However, thereafter as a number of the players settled into their roles and realised that they had ability and to some extent needed to accept some responsibility, three times we got beyond 100 and twice scored 116, albeit chasing imposing targets.

I appreciate that statistics are a little misleading in 20 over per side games, but on the run-scoring side of things it was pleasing that Ryan Duggan scored 166 runs and Sam J continued the promise of the previous season with the bat scoring 106 runs. As will be seen below, in the second half of the season the high points were on the batting side, and we found it difficult to take wickets. However, as in 2010, Majid Awan, when his rhythm was right, was quite a handful and well deserved his 10 victims with a best of 3-19. The next top wicket taker was Samir Khan with 4 wickets and that shows how difficult we found it to put pressure on the opposition batting.

The best individual batting effort certainly came from Ryan D with his 52 retired at Gedling. Throughout the season he showed a growing appreciation of the need to develop an innings and not "throw it away". Arguably the most entertaining partnership was the one between Sam J (40) and Joe Tansey (22) when they set about N&A with some gusto, although from a technical point of view the display by Pierce Bennett (43) and Ryan D (32) against the eventual champions Kimberly was the most satisfying. There should be an honourable mention for Majid's 41 against Attenborough which was full of big hitting. Also in that innings it was good to see George Davies (Under 13) chip in with 23 well constructed runs.

It should also be noted that a number of the lads also put in good performances for the Under 15 Newark league team where they also experienced some victories.

It is clear that 2012 is likely to be another difficult season in terms of getting wins under the belt but within this age group there are some talented youngsters who are starting to develop and I feel that a combination of good competitive cricket at Under 15s and also the opportunity to possibly play in the new Saturday 4th XI will, I hope, enable them to improve.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah Davey for her brilliant work in getting the teams out, all our super scorers and for the enduring parental support.

Charles George
21/11/11

Ellerslie U15s

2011

This season proved to be a much better season than last, we had the benefit of a core number of players who always made themselves available. However, as we had over twenty players I always looked to give everybody at least a couple of games.

The high point of the season was the win over West Bridgfordians and competing well in the Newark league, which was a combination of the U14s and U15s, winning two matches and drawing two matches.

Overall the lads performed to the best of their ability, resulting in some close matches, I hope to see some of the lads progress into the adult teams.

Thanks should be given Steve Wharmby for umpiring and the support given to myself in managing the team and for coaching the lads through each game.

Mark Glossop