



www.greenmountcricketclub.com

April 2021 Newsletter – The cricket season begins

As I noted in last week's newsletter, this week I concentrate on the formal start of the cricket season although I do also touch on outdoor hospitality again as the two have become linked due to the vagaries of some of the Covid-19 regulations. You will also see some recurring messages throughout this and I'm guessing my next few newsletters, they are :-

- **The rule of 6 applies**
- **As does social distancing in general**
- **Only drink when sitting down**
- **To be served you will need to show your new 2021 members card**

I'm beginning to bore myself with these, but they are important and if everyone can be mindful of these then we will all be okay and hopefully back to normal just as soon as possible.

More on that later, we'll start off with news about the first Junior Practice night, then get onto our first ever matches in the JW Lees Lancashire Cricket League and finish with a date for your diary!

Junior Practice starts again – Friday 16th April

Junior practice starts again on Friday 16th April. **For the first couple of weeks whilst the light is still slightly against us, we'll be tweaking our practice times slightly** so that we can start to gauge the numbers likely to attend the various age groups and ensure that this can be done in a covid safe way.

To that end we will run the following sessions :-

- **Under 9s – 6.00-6.45pm**
- **Under 11s – 6.00-6.45pm**
- **Under 13s – 6.45-7.30pm**
- **Under 15s - 6.45-7.30pm**

The staggered start times gives us plenty of space around the outfield which helps with social distancing issues. I thank Leigh Dickinson and his Junior Cricket Committee for getting us in the position we are in today and hope they and all our junior members enjoy the season ahead of us.

There will be a **membership desk** somewhere around the veranda taking membership applications for those who haven't already renewed or become members for the first time. We'll try to set this up somewhere where there is a bit of space so please look out for it, and please queue in a socially distanced manner if possible whilst you wait.

Full membership details can be found at the following link :-

[Membership – Greenmount Cricket Club](#)



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For those of you who might fancy a drink whilst your children are attending the practice, **please note that we are currently only able to serve members so please ensure that you have this year's new membership card with you.** Covid regulations also require us to provide a waiting on service and that **people have to be sat down when ordering & drinking, all whilst adhering to the rule of 6 and general social distancing rules as well!**

All of these factors significantly reduce our capacity and may also increase waiting times, **it would be very much appreciated if you could please bear with us as we get used to the new processes, we will be trying our best to get to you as soon as we possibly can.** Your patience and support in this would be very much appreciated.

To help with capacity, members can bring their own chairs, but please remember the rule of 6 and social distancing principles when you set your chairs up.

The only toilet facilities open will be those in the Function Room, please remember to wear a mask when in the clubhouse and please queue in a socially distanced way.

Unfortunately, there will be no catering available on Friday night as the covid rules require this to also be served by waiting on staff and we simply don't have the resource at the moment to do this. Once we get this weekend out of the way and understand what did / didn't work, we will look to introduce catering hopefully from Friday 23rd April – more on this in due course.

Senior teams start their league programme this weekend

Saturday 17th April sees our 3rd XI play the club's first ever league game in the Lancashire League. They travel to Church in a match which starts at 1pm. Meanwhile a joint 1st & 2nd XI travel to Lowerhouse to take on the counterparts there in their last preseason friendly. This match is also scheduled to start at 1pm.

Sunday 18th April then sees both the 1st & 2nd XIs make their bows in the Lancashire League, as the 1st XI travel to Accrington and the 2nd XI entertain Accrington 2nd XI at the Log Cabin. Both matches start at 1pm.

We wish all our senior teams all the very best of luck for the season and hope that they really enjoy travelling to grounds steeped in tradition. I also thank Ryan Senior, Alex Bullen and Mark Crowther for stepping up as captains of the 3 teams and the whole cricket committee for getting us to this position.

Covid regulations currently prohibit spectators from attending recreational sport until 17th May at the earliest. However, it is still possible to watch cricket so long as you partaking in hospitality! For us this means purchasing drinks from our waiting on staff as we have decided not to undertake any catering until Friday 23rd April at the earliest. **My understanding is that this could be as little as a soft drink, but the important thing is that you will need to remain seated and abiding by the rule of 6 / general social distancing principles and have your 2021 members card with you. Members from our opposition will also be able to partake in hospitality on production of their own members card.**



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Anyone wishing to travel to any of these games need to be aware that all clubs will be following similar practices as we are, so please make sure that you have your members card with you and be prepared to buy some drinks / food at these clubs.

A date for your diary as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of “Doing the Treble”

Whilst this year is all about celebrating our first season in the Lancashire League, one of the most celebrated and historic leagues in the country, we will also be celebrating the 10th anniversary of our 1st XI doing the treble.

In 2011 we won the Bolton League, the Hamer Cup and the Lancs Knock Out to become League and Cup holders and also the champions of Lancashire! To celebrate this, this year’s 1st XI will be playing a T20 against the 2011 team on Friday 30th July, wickets pitched at 6pm. Full arrangements are still to be confirmed, but please make note of the date as it will be fantastic to welcome back the 2011 team to the Log Cabin.

It will inevitably take a few days or even weeks for us all to fully understand what works best, so your support and patience over the coming weeks will be very much appreciated. It is all completely new to us and the waiting on obligations in particular mean that we potentially have a significant area to serve so please bear with us.

I think that is about it for now, I’ll look to keep you updated through these regular newsletters, but also please keep monitoring our website at

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and also twitter at [@greenmountcc](https://twitter.com/greenmountcc) for any further news. Our Facebook site is work in development and something that I haven’t thus far been able to keep regularly updated, I’ll certainly let you know when I’ve done this.

I hope the update is useful and I do hope to see you down at the Log Cabin over the coming weeks. Take care.

Rob Kilvington

GCC Club Chairman