



STAFFORDSHIRE  
CRICKET

# “KNOT-OUT”

The Staffordshire Cricket Newsletter  
[www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk](http://www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk)  
February 2010



STAFFORDSHIRE  
CRICKET

## Threat To Investment In Cricket in Staffordshire: Cricket Needs Your Support

Staffordshire Cricket and Staffordshire County Cricket Club have written to local MPs to express the joint concern at the threat to the continued investment in cricket within Staffordshire. A consultation currently being held by the secretary of state for culture, media and sport into sporting events which should be listed could mean an income loss to cricket in England and Wales of at least £100m during a four year period. With losses of this magnitude the impact would be felt at all levels of the game.

Increased investment at all levels of cricket has generated impressive results with year on year increases in participation, focus clubs, volunteers and coaches in Staffordshire. Added to this at a national level the Men's, women's and Disability teams have won their respective Ashes and last year the England Women's team won the ICC Women's World Cup and the ICC Women's World Twenty20.

Staffordshire Cricket's ability to make significant investments in grassroots and community cricket in the county and establish a successful performance pathway from schools and clubs through to county teams and on to the England set up has been in large part due to the fact that ECB has been able to negotiate a fair market price for cricket with a broadcaster who have demonstrated a desire and commitment to our sport. Accepting recommendations by the Davies review to list the home Ashes Test Series and the subsequent loss of income to the ECB and ourselves would have a disastrous impact on our ability to support and develop cricket in Staffordshire.



Gerald Williams, Chair of Staffordshire Cricket Board commented "During the 12 months to September 2008, Staffordshire cricket saw continued increases in key areas of improvement for it's 55 focus clubs, participation in the game of cricket increased by 5%, the number of clubs achieving Clubmark accreditation increased by 8%, club membership went up by 13% and volunteer roles increased by 19%.

Mr Williams continued "The period from October 2008 to September 2009 saw that growth consolidated with a 30% increase in participation to over 14,500 participants. A 37% increase in Clubmarked clubs, a 17% increase in club membership with nearly 7,000 members of focus clubs, 30% and 28% increases in coaching and volunteer roles respectively. We are very concerned that the Davies report proposal could seriously affect the grassroots and recreational game within our county and undo the good work that cricket has been working hard to sustain."

Staffordshire Cricket has already committed to short term improvement targets in 2010 including increasing the number of Clubmark accredited clubs from 51 to 55, running a total of 13 Chance 2 Shine programmes within over 120 schools and increasing the number of school teams taking part in cricket competitions to well over 300.

Jason Britton, Cricket Development Manager for the county said "Staffordshire Cricket runs 15 youth cricket teams for both boys and girls for the county and district levels at age ranges from under 9 to under 17 catering for over 620 junior cricketers at representative level as well as a senior Women's team. In addition Staffordshire County Cricket Club has a long established reputation as one of the premier non-first class county teams." Britton continued "In the last six years Staffordshire Cricket has seen 20 of it's young cricketers progress to first class county academies and contracts. With no less than four of our ranks representing England during the last two seasons. We continue to support a sustainable cricket workforce with a comprehensive Coach Education Programme. The last three years has seen over 500 coaches educated to ECB levels I, II and III with a coach tutor workforce of 14 upskilled to support the safe and structured delivery of cricket in the county. The Davies proposal seriously jeopardises all elements of grassroots cricket provision and ongoing development of our recreational game."

Over the coming months Staffordshire Cricket will be working to protect the game within this county. Hoping that the government return to allowing broadcasting under current agreements.. Please go to [www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk](http://www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk) for template letters and contact details for MPs that can be used to help champion the cause of cricket within Staffordshire and help us all. The closing date for review is March 5th 2010.

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## Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall Get Ready For Big Weekend

Registrations are well above 50 in the county as Staffordshire gears up for another assault on NatWest CricketForce at the end of March.

The Staffordshire programme will be started by Staffordshire Showcase club Old Wulfrunians Tettenhall who have just launched their club project on their third team ground at Danescourt Road. The work will finish on the clubs' CricketForce weekend March 20th / 21st.

Old Wulfs from the Wolverhampton area have already started ripping out changing rooms from their old pavilion as the project led by Dave Unitt takes shape. The pavilion will be completely re-built as the club try to emulate the sterling work done at Cheadle in 2009.

The Cheadle club officials won not only the Staffordshire CricketForce OSCA but were also in the final three for the national award given at Lords.

The National NatWest CricketForce weekend takes place the following weekend 27th and 28th March. Staffordshire Cricket expect in excess of 70 clubs to take part in the superb weekend as clubs look forward to the season in earnest.

Help has never been better as ECB club programmes manager Dave Leighton has arranged some superb deals to aid clubs nationwide. Dave and club programmes administrator Hannah Vaughan are always at hand if clubs have any issues. Please register your club on your play-cricket site and take advantage of all the special offers currently on the ECB site <http://www.ecb.co.uk/development/natwest-cricketforce/>



Each registered club receives a discount card for Wolseley (Build Centre), as well as a variety of offers from other companies such as Durant Cricket for Scoreboards, Sight-screens, Netting and Covers.

Any Company or individual who can assist in the project at Old Wulfrunians is asked to contact the project manager Dave Unitt on 07979 576022 or contact Andy Grice of Staffordshire Cricket [andy.grice@ecb.co.uk](mailto:andy.grice@ecb.co.uk)

Snow hampers pavilion work



## East Staffordshire Clubs Show The Way With Clubmark

East Staffordshire clubs have been working hard to achieve Clubmark status over the last year.

At **Rolleston Cricket Club** former Staffordshire player Bob James has worked hard to improve the structure of the club alongside the main committee and has been a key driver in the club's accreditation.

**Dunstall Cricket Club** have been aided by some sterling work by Andrew Mandleberg as the club achieved clubmark during the late summer while over at **Trentside Cricket Club** the club are indebted to the work carried out by Gary Collins. Gary has recently had to offer his resignation to the club due to ill health.



Visit The **DURANT Cricket Website** [www.durantcricket.co.uk](http://www.durantcricket.co.uk)



**DURANT CRICKET**  
SPECIALIST CRICKET EQUIPMENT

Durant Cricket providing quality  
cricket ground equipment at great prices

## Fearnley Cricket Offer Huge Discounts To Clubs

Fearnley Cricket the Official Clothing Supplier to Staffordshire Cricket currently has a fantastic Pre-Season Teamwear promotion on for all Clubs in the County offering huge savings with over 50% off RRP on selected lines.

Fearnley Cricket offer a full and comprehensive range of Club clothing from match shirts in 10 colour options to tracksuits, training shirts, shorts and much, much more plus you can be assured that they hold back-up stocks for repeat orders at short notice. Fearnley Cricket also have their own in-house embroidery & print facilities so can handle all of that for you at extremely competitive prices.

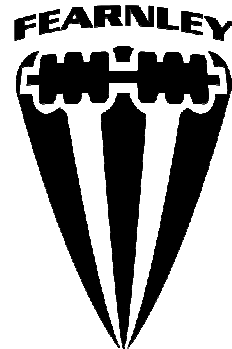
We strongly recommend that you give them a call to get a quote and save your club £££'s or visit their Factory Shop in Worcester. For full details contact Brian Lewis or Alison Cripps direct on 01905 743380 or email them at either [brian@fearnleycricket.co.uk](mailto:brian@fearnleycricket.co.uk) or [alison@fearnleycricket.co.uk](mailto:alison@fearnleycricket.co.uk). Both Brian and Alison will be pleased to discuss your needs

Please also remember that Fearnley Cricket offer a 20% discount off all of their Fearnley branded equipment so if you're thinking of renewing your kit why not visit their factory shop in Worcester where you'll have a choice of over 500 bats plus everything else you can think about in cricket. It is well worth the visit. If you can't make it in person give them a call on 01905 743380 and state you are a representative of Staffordshire Cricket and they will apply your discount or finally why not order online at [fearnleycricket.co.uk](http://fearnleycricket.co.uk) and enter your Staffordshire Discount Code STC0020 when checking out and your discount will be applied.

Remember the more we can support Fearnley Cricket the more they will support Staffordshire Cricket and thus the more we will then be able to support you.



**Knot Out Competition**  
**Win a Set Of 12 Shirts For Your Club / School**  
**Fully Embroidered With Your Logo**  
**Courtesy Of Fearnley Cricket**  
**Question : Where is the scorers course on April 7th ?**  
**Answers to [andy.grice@ecb.co.uk](mailto:andy.grice@ecb.co.uk)**  
**Answer is in this newsletter closing date March 19th**



[fearnleycricket.co.uk](http://fearnleycricket.co.uk)

### Staffordshire Association Of Groundsmen (STAG)

#### The Practical and Science Of Pitch Rolling Workshop

More than twenty members attended the Rolling Workshop at Stafford CC at the end of January given by Martin Ford IOG/ECB Consultant and former Glamorgan County Groundsman Len Smith.

Members were given an in depth look at the research into the effects of rolling carried, out at Cranfield College, and shown how they could put the results into practice.

After the presentation on rolling members were given the opportunity to increase their general groundsmanship knowledge through a question and answer session

The next meeting of STAG is at Stafford CC on March 10th commencing at 7.00pm and is a presentation by Lee Paulley on the PQS pitch marking system

#### IOG Groundsman Course

A reminder that STAG on behalf of Staffordshire Cricket have organised the IOG Foundation A – Spring/Summer Preparation and Maintenance is being held on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2010 at Lichfield Cricket Club. The course will run from 9.15am-4.30pm and includes lunch and tea/coffee throughout the day.

Providing your club is affiliated to Staffordshire Cricket and a member of STAG then your course fee is reduced from £140 to **£70**. If your Club or Grounds person is not a Member of STAG then please contact Jerry Young via email [jerry\\_young43@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jerry_young43@yahoo.co.uk) to arrange your membership for £10 per year per club.

You can book onto the course by contacting the Institute of Groundsman (IOG) on 01908 312511 or visit their website [www.iog.org](http://www.iog.org)



## Staffordshire Cricket Offer Easter Coaching Courses

Staffordshire Cricket Holiday Courses April 6th to 9th  
Fully Endorsed Coaching For Young Players  
All Courses Led By ECB Qualified Coaches (CRB Reg'd)  
Softball and Hardball Bronze Courses  
Maximum 24 Players Each Course  
(Silver and Gold Courses to follow in summer)



### Softball (6-11 years old)

- Introduction/Development Of Cricket Skills
- Knowledge Of Rules
- Batting, Bowling, Fielding And Games
- Fun Environment To Learn

### Hardball 8-12 years old)

- Ongoing Development Of Skills
- Hardball Practice And Games
- Rules And Tactical Awareness
- Batting, Bowling, Fielding And Games

## All Attendees Receive A Certificate and Gift On Each Course

### Stafford Grammar School

Softball 9am - 12noon April 6th to 9th (£45)

Hardball 1pm - 4pm April 6th To 9th (£49)

### Clayton Sports Centre

#### (Newcastle Under Lyme)

Softball 9am -12noon April 6th to 9th (£45)

Hardball 1pm -4pm April 6th To 9th (£49)

### How To Book These Courses

Please complete a booking form and send to Staffordshire Cricket 11 Gower Road, Stone, Staffs, ST15 8 NZ or by e mail [coachingcourses@staffordshirecricket.co.uk](mailto:coachingcourses@staffordshirecricket.co.uk) tel : 07929 744597 please check our other courses at [www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk](http://www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk) and look for holiday courses





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## Staffordshire OSCAs Now Open For Nominations

The Staffordshire Cricket Outstanding Services to Cricket Awards (OSCAs) are now open as clubs and organisations are able to nominate those fantastic volunteers that make up our wonderful game.

2010 sees a slightly different format for the Staffordshire awards that will be held at Knypersley Cricket Club on Sunday 6th June during the lunch interval of the minor counties fixture against Cumberland.

This year sees a change of emphasis with the ‘Outside the Scorebox’ category replaced with ‘Officiating - Umpires and Scorers’,

There will be six other categories

Behind the Scenes, Building Partnerships, Leagues and Boards, Lifetime Achiever, Young Volunteer and NatWest CricketForce.

The winners of the Staffordshire awards will be given an award at Knypersley along with an invitation to the national awards at Lords in October.

Nominations for the awards have been sent out via cricket development groups in February with a date of Sunday May 2nd for all final nominations. All nominations will be sent to the board executive committee and nominees invited to the lunch at Knypersley in due course.

Judging Criteria (essential reading for all applications) and nomination forms can be downloaded from the news section of the website



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## Lords Taverners Forms For Funding And Cricket Bags

New Application Forms Are now available from the Lords Taverners for funding applications for non-turf pitches as well as applications for cricket bags either for schools or clubs in Staffordshire.

Both of these forms are available now for for download at [www.lordstaverners.org](http://www.lordstaverners.org) under the ‘charity’ - ‘Youth Cricket’ section.

Hopefully this will eradicate the various old forms that are out there and get a more uniformed approach to applications.

For More Details and any enquiries please feel free to contact

Janine Holt, Facilities Administrator, ECB by e mail [Janine.holt@ecb.co.uk](mailto:Janine.holt@ecb.co.uk)



**THE LORD'S TAVERNERS**  
Diamond Jubilee  
1950-2010

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### Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC)

**Has your club considered becoming a Community Amateur Sports Club ?**

**Are you aware of the benefits this will give in financial terms to your club?**

**Staffordshire Cricket will be putting a CASC tab on our website in March 2010.**

**For any Further information please contact Andy Grice 07831 158552 [andy.grice@ecb.co.uk](mailto:andy.grice@ecb.co.uk)**



[www.knightsmini.com](http://www.knightsmini.com)  
01782 572111





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## Staffordshire Coaches Look For Nominations

As part of the Staffordshire Cricket Workforce Development Strategic Plan, (a key element of the ECB Improvement Planning Process (IPP)), the role of the Staffordshire Coaches Associations was identified as an area in need of review.

The activity of the Coaches Association across Staffordshire has not been consistent for a number of years. Three branches operated across Staffordshire to varying degrees of activity. Following analysis and consultation (by the way of responses to a questionnaire sent to the Coaches on our database) a decision has been made to merge the three branches under one banner of the Staffordshire Coaches Association. The key benefit of this is that the resources available across the branches will enable a much improved way of using resources to benefit all ECBCA members across the County rather than the current differing levels of uncoordinated activity.



**Staffordshire Coaches Association (SCA) Future Role. :** The key role of the SCA will be to support Staffordshire Cricket in the successful delivery of the following aspects of the ECB IPP:

**Quantitative:** Achieve the agreed Completion rate targets for ECB Level 1 & Level 2 Coach Education Courses ; Year on Year Increase the numbers of ECBCA Membership

**Qualitative:** Development of effective Communications with qualified Coaches ; To manage and run the affairs of the Staffordshire Coaches Association in an effective and transparent manner ; To widen the services of the Staffordshire Coaches Association to the County's hard to reach groups.

Mission Statement of Staffordshire Coaches Association:

**“To raise the profile of Qualified Coaches and to support development of our Coaches to raise the quality of Coaching within Clubs and Schools”**

To support the mission statement the proposed Staffordshire Coaches Association will via a newly formed SCA Executive produce a development plan to support the needs of our Coaches across the County by the way of providing:

**Coach Professional Development** ECB Qualifications ; Workshops ; Coach Mentoring

**Actively promote ECBCA Membership to increase the number of members**

**Improved Communications:** Two Way communication between ECB, County Board, Cricket Development Groups & the Coaching Community

**Coaching Services ;** Organising Quality Coaching Courses for Youngsters ; Supporting Clubs by providing Coaches (CPD & Coach Support) ; Coaching In Schools

**SCA Executive Committee ;** Ghazi Zaki has, for a number of years, Chaired the Coaches Excellence Forum and the Board have asked Ghazi to take on the interim role of Chairman of the SCA to manage a smooth transition to the new Executive committee. Leigh Rees who is Staffordshire Lead Field based Trainer and Internal Verifier has been asked by the Board to represent the Coach Education elements. To complete the Executive Committee we are looking for 5 volunteers to become involved on the SCA Executive Committee to help shape the future development and support of our ECB CA Qualified Coaches. There are four roles named District Coaches Representatives and we are looking for 4 Coaches to represent each of the Districts to match the Player Pathway North, Central, East and South Districts and one role the Coaches Representative Equity to represent Women & Girls, Black & Ethnic minorities and Disability areas. If you are interested in supporting your fellow Coaches in any of these roles please contact Bob Askey ([bob.askey@ecb.co.uk](mailto:bob.askey@ecb.co.uk)) to register your interest.



## Staffordshire Cricket Look For Shirt Sponsor

Staffordshire Cricket is looking for a shirt sponsor for all the county age group sides in boys and girls cricket as well as the women's county team.

The new venture will include numerous marketing and advertising opportunities with the county development structure, website and newsletter.

For more information on the opportunities available, please contact Andy Grice 07831 158522. Alternatively you can contact Andy by e mail [andy.grice@ecb.co.uk](mailto:andy.grice@ecb.co.uk)



### Scorers Course—Wednesbury

Wednesday 7th April 7pm at Wednesbury C.C. For 4 to 5 weeks

Contact Jon Rushton 01902 847535 for further details



### Women's County T20 Draw For 2010

Staffordshire have been drawn in division 2 of the women's T20 county championship. All games will be played over 2 days on a group basis. Opponents will be Scotland, Worcestershire and Lancashire with the top two in the group meeting in a final game. The winners will be promoted to Division 1 while the team that finishes last will be relegated to division 3

### Fundrazor

Fundrazor have now joined forces with ECB to try to raise significant funds for cricket clubs throughout the country. Please check out the news section of the Staffordshire Cricket website for more details.



### 'Knot Out' Competition

#### Winner Of Two Sets of Flexi Stumps for their Club

Courtesy of ClubTurf

Answer : Tamworth..... Sutton Coldfield also accepted

Winner : George Tomlinson

Club : Dunstall C.C.(East Staffs CDG)



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ECB Approved  
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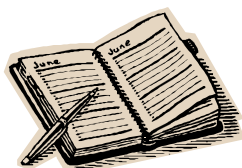
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## Team Contacts

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Bob Askey—Cricket Development Officer, Clubs & Performance 07939 716884 bob.askey@ecb.co.uk  
Andy Grice—Funding & Marketing Officer 07831 158522 andy.grice@ecb.co.uk  
Steve Walker—Cricket Support Officer 01902 897659 Stephen.walker@ecb.co.uk  
Alan Hill—Head Coach, Emerging Player Programme 07816 966939 a.hill@staffordshirecricket.co.uk

## March Diary Dates



If you have any dates of interest in the upcoming months—e.g. fund raising events, beer festivals, club anniversaries, charity games etc. please contact any member of the team and we’ll try to include them in the newsletter. For details of any of the events listed checkout the calendar section of the website or contact any member of the team.

- 4th March Time To Listen Course at Stafford C.C. 6.30pm to 9.30pm
- 10th March SYC Managers and Coaches Meeting at Stafford Grammar School. 7.15pm
- 10th March STAG Meeting at Stafford Cricket Club 7.00pm
- 15th March SCB Junior Leagues Annual General Meeting at Stafford Borough council 7.00pm
- 18th March Time To Listen Course at Himley C.C. 6.30pm to 9.30pm
- 20th / 21st March Staffordshire CricketForce Showcase Club at Old Wulfunians Tettenhall, Danescourt Road 10.00am
- 23rd March Staffordshire Cricket Board Management Meeting at Stafford Borough Council 7.15pm
- 27th/28th March NatWest CricketForce weekend over 60 participating clubs in Staffordshire
- 28th March IOG Foundation ‘A’ Course at Lichfield C.C.

Please Go to [www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk](http://www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk) and choose the calendar tab for a full update on all events during the month and onward.

**You’re the Umpire Answer :** Not out. Using his cap in this manner is illegal fielding. So call and signal dead ball, award five penalty runs to the batting side and report the fielder to the authorities.

Staffordshire Cricket is striving to provide all of the county’s cricket playing public with as much relevant and up-to-date cricket related information as possible. We rely on you to help to provide that information. If you think your particular area of interest in the game or even your area of the county is under-represented, then why not submit an article? We’ll be more than happy to try and include it.



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