



**STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET**

“KNOT-OUT”

The Staffordshire Cricket Newsletter
www.staffordshirecricket.co.uk
January 2010



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CRICKET**

Staffordshire OSCAs Nominations Open Soon. Knypersley To Lords

The Staffordshire Cricket OSCAs will be open in February as clubs and organisations will be asked 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 will be 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. All enquiries regarding the Staffordshire OSCAs should be sent to Andy Grice 07831 158522 or andy.grice@ecb.co.uk



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NatWest CricketForce - Old Wulfs Go Forward

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 20/21.

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 (pictured below with Alistair Cook) 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 Wolsley (Build Centre), as well as a variety of offers from other companies such as Durant Cricket for Scoreboards, Sight-screens, Netting and Covers.



England Double For Staffordshire Players

Staffordshire pair Jack Manuel and Danielle Wyatt have made significant strides within their careers during the early weeks of the new year.

Jack, who is in New Zealand with the England under 19 squad made his world cup debut during the tournament. The game against India which England won to progress to a quarter final clash against the West Indies saw Manuel make an impact batting at number four. With both openers removed quickly, Manuel and star player Jamie Vince from Hampshire put together close to a half century stand as England repaired the early damage. The pair set the innings up for a brutal assault by Ben Stokes of Durham who scored 100 off 88 balls. England finally finishing winners by 31 runs.

England though were disappointing in the quarter finals losing to West Indies by 18 runs in a game they should have won and then were beaten by India by 7 wickets in a 5th to 8th place play off.

Jack then top scored in the 7/8th play off loss to New Zealand, scoring a classy 43 but England again lost out this time by two wickets.



Danielle Wyatt flies off to India on February 13th as she makes her first tour as a full England squad member.

The tour will see the England squad play a warm up game and five one day internationals in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Vizag with three T20 matches in Mumbai.

Danielle will be hoping to establish herself in the squad with a view to playing in the T20 world cup squad for the West Indies in April. With Holly Colvin unavailable for this tour due to academic reasons, Danielle will be competing with Danielle Hazell and Laura Marsh for a third spinners position for the World Cup.

Fresh from the first century of her career in Sydney before Christmas, Danielle is confident of success but aware of the hard work ahead. Upon her return from the tour, Danielle has a busy summer ahead with a MCC young cricketers contract and Staffordshire commitments to fit in.

Southern Stormers Announce Under 10 and 11 Squads

With District trials in the county now finished and squad sessions starting we will be focusing on who is in the squads. A coaches perspective is outlined by Central Tornadoes under 10 coach Jimmy Dawson on page 3 of this months 'Knot Out'.

The district process sees each squad play six games in total, home and away against each district (East, Central, South and North).

The first squads to be highlighted are the Southern Stormers under 10 squad managed by Moss Patel and the Southern Stormers under 11 squad managed by Jay Patel.

Southern Stormers Under 10

Jaden Patel, Robert Steadman (both Aldridge), Matthew Betty, Sahdev Patel (both Walsall), Amir Ali, Jeevan Klair, Priyan Patel (all West Bromwich Dartmouth), Matthew Wilcox (Whitwick and Finchfield), Aman Jassel, Brendan Fraser, Daniel Newman, Jack Fogglin, Nikhil Patel, Oisin Singh (all Wolverhampton).

Southern Stormers Under 11

Ben Gainham, Dylan Patel, George Hobbs, Jacob Smith, Joel Crainer, Jordan Acton Brown, Joseph Daniel Cox, Kieron Patel, Matthew Boden, Sachin Patel, Sam Mills, Shyam Pirekh, Zyagyam Abbas.

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Central Tornadoes Coach Jimmy Dawson Looks To The Season

District Cricket is a large part of the Staffordshire Young Cricketers programme with competitions at Under 10, 11 and 12 levels. This month county employee and Central Tornadoes under 10 coach Jimmy Dawson (pictured right) and fellow coach Brian Sims give their views on how his squad is taking shape.

After a cold and gruelling winter things are certainly starting to look positive and truly enthralling. We held a very successful trial at Stafford Grammar School in late December where the lads worked extremely hard and their professional approach was a credit to each individual. This highlights the good work clubs are doing with their youngsters in developing them in to talented cricketers.

We put the 20 boys who attended the trial through a tough 4 hours which was made up with a prolonged fielding session, general cricket specific fitness drills and we finished the trial with a substantial net session. When planning the trial, myself and Brian felt the importance and value of extending the fielding and fitness sessions. We chose to do this because cricket involves more than just batting and bowling, but it was also a fantastic opportunity to allow us to view other good traits required such as hard working, enthusiastic and being a team player. We were more than pleased with the content of the trial as well as the performance of the players, this allowed us to pick a final 14 man squad to represent the Central District U10's in 2010. The players who were unsuccessful in gaining a place in the final 14 were given structured feedback in specific areas that we felt they needed to work on.

We've just recently had our first squad session and yet again the standard and effort put in by the players was at the highest level. We aimed the session around looking at and developing the key fielding skills, so that by the end all the players had developed a good strong technique that would be beneficial to them. Huge improvements were made by all throughout the session, and we certainly feel that we have selected a good squad that it's a pleasure to work with.

Looking forward we still have 5 indoor sessions to develop the squad members skills and positive ethics. Following on from this we hope to arrange some squad sessions outdoors to allow the players to experience the different conditions as well as carrying on their development as a squad. A handful of friendly matches would be an ideal experience for the players before their district fixtures, but due to the district fixtures being completed by late May this makes it difficult as we don't have a lot of free time before these fixtures. Needless to say we will still be looking in to the possibility of these, just to give the squad some beneficial 'real match' experience.

We are more than pleased with how the district programme is taking shape and truly excited to be working with such a keen and talented squad. Let's all look forward to a dry and sunny summer to allow all the players involved in the district setup the chance to display their true skills and abilities.

Central Tornadoes Under 10's District Full Squad

Joseph Potts, Oliver Tinsley, Dylan Walters (all Aston), James Taylor (Barlaston), Greg Clark, James Clark (both Hawkins), Callum Leese, Edmund Gaffney (Little Stoke), Oliver Edwards (Meir Heath), Harry Bedford, James Davis, Sam Eley (all Milford Hall), Jake Powell, Josh Williams (both Stone SP).



Central Tornadoes Under 12 Squad Selected

The Central Tornadoes Under 12 squad coached by Andy Grice and Joe Askey is as follows :

Jordan Bulpitt, Josh Nunan, Aiden Hennessy (all Milford Hall), Elliott Colclough, Jamie Sherratt, Harry Smith (all Aston), Ally Carey, Ben Walton (both Brewood), Joe Donnelly (Eccleshall), Alex Gittins (Barlaston), Scott Winnington, Jack Leese (both Little Stoke), Chris Guest, Cameron Hill (both Church Eaton), James Hopwood (Moddershall).



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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. The project that will include the womens 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



Staffordshire Umpires Association have held their AGM with new officers appointed. More news in the next edition of 'Knot Out'. Keith Healey is running a level 2 umpiring course at Stafford Grammar School in February and March.

Opportunity To Walk With Beefy



This year Sir Ian Botham walks again for Leukaemia Research. It is the 25th anniversary since his first walk, and Leukaemia Research 50th anniversary, so a special year. He will walk through 10 towns in 10 days and each day he can be joined in a park walk by the general public.

Organiser David Blandford wants as many people, cricket clubs and schools to "Walk with Beefy" as possible. Each day will be split into 2 parts, the first half of the day Sir Ian will walk from a local M&S store around the streets collecting money, and arrive at a park where he will collect all the members of public who have signed up at www.beefy25.com, he will walk a further 4 miles, and the members of public can follow him around the park

David said "essentially what we need is for each player/person to register individually at a cost of £10. You will receive a t shirt and a medal to remember the day by".

Thanks for your help, lets make this a special year and raise lots of money to stop this terrible disease

If anyone has any questions they can contact David Blandford - Beefy's Great Forget me not walk - fundraising coordinator dblandford@lrf.org.uk or telephone David on 0207 685 5143

For more information about the walks go to www.beefy25.com

‘Knot Out’ Competition

Win Two Sets of Flexi Stumps For Your Club

Courtesy of ClubTurf

Question : What is Jack Manuel's Home town club in Staffordshire ?

Answers by e mail to andy.grice@ecb.co.uk stating your name, club and phone number

Closing Date for Entries Friday 12th February 2010



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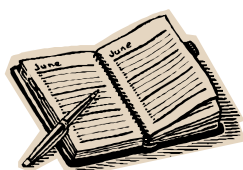
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February Diary Dates



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.

- 3rd February East Staffordshire Cricket Development Group Meeting at Yoxall C.C. 7.15pm
- 8th February South Staffordshire Cricket Development Group Meeting 7.15pm
- 9th February Chairman of Cricket Development Groups Meeting at Stafford Borough Council 7.15pm
- 11th February Lady Taverners Under 13 Final Wolverhampton Girls School V Blythe High School at Wolverhampton Girls 3.00pm
- 11th February Time to Listen Course at Hem Heath C.C. 6.30pm to 9.30pm
- 16th February Staffordshire Cricket Executive Board Meeting at Himley C.C. 10.00am
- 17th February Tamworth and Lichfield Cricket Development Group Meeting at Tamworth C.C. 7.30pm
- 17th February Cannock and Rugeley Cricket Development Group Meeting at Cannock C.C. 7.30pm

Please Go to 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 :

Out on appeal. The ball hitting the bat and knocking it out of the batsmans hand is totally inconsequential. Unless the fielding captain is particularly generous this is out.

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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