

## **Review of Junior Cricket 2010**

We enjoyed great success in 2010, culminating in 3 of our teams winning county trophies. We have established a good process for managing our Colts membership which seems to work well and our membership increased for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Key to this success is running a programme of winter coaching for all age groups and then reinforcing those skills in the summer alongside playing competitive games in the Herts Junior League. We must extend a big thank you to all our Age group managers, who organise and run the games in the evenings after work, without these volunteers we could not run as many teams as we do. I would also like to thank Ian Putnam who prepares all the wickets for the countless junior matches – his work is greatly appreciated by all of us. And finally Simon Roberts our CWO who provides invaluable support to the coaches and managers the whole year round.

## **2010 Highlights**

- We provided cricket facilities to over 250 boys and girls.
- We ran 5 cricket weeks in Easter, May Half Term and Summer holidays
- We ran 14 junior teams – 3 of which went onto win the County Finals in July.
- Our under 9s had an undefeated season, winning all 12 matches they played in including the County Final.
- Our U16s won the county title for the third year in a row.
- Our U14B team won the first ever County title at this level.
- 25 of our boys and girls are representing Hertfordshire at Area or full County Level.
- We hosted the U14 County Final and several inter-county matches.
- We had 4 visits from international cricketers - Saqlain Mushtaq attended the bowlathon, Niall O'Brien held a wicketkeeping masterclass, Anya Shrubsole coached our girls and Iain O'Brien handed out the colts awards.
- We started the process of sending our U16s/17s through Level 1 coaching courses and our U15s through a Young Leaders Course.

## **Our 4 key objectives for 2011:-**

We didn't get everything right in 2010. We lost the interest of some girl members through poor coaching and a lack of competitive matches – we aim to put that right this year. We also want to provide better coaching to our players as they develop – so that when they step into adult cricket they are prepared for the experience.

So, our key objectives are:-

1. To run our first girls team in a boys' league – we have entered an U10 girls team and our U13 girls will play in the inaugural Herts girls league.
2. To seek to improve the quality of coaching and facilities for all children and provide a safe and happy environment in which they can thrive.
3. To compete to win leagues and cups at all age levels but always within the Spirit of Cricket. This year we will be running a record 16 teams in the junior leagues.
4. To provide a platform into senior cricket and coaching opportunities for junior players from U14 upwards.

Mark Lewarne  
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