



SILLY POINT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
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End of Season Edition 2025



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How do you measure success at a club like ours and should it simply be judged by the number of trophies won or league position?

If we adopt this stance 2025 could be regarded as slightly disappointing as both the first and second teams slipped down their leagues although the firsts did enjoy a great run to the Parish Cup unfortunately falling short on the day when the 'rub of the green' didn't quite go their way.

It may surprise our Chair that it is ten years since what he refers to as the "editors rant on player availability" was published. The message was simple – consistency of selection is essential if you hope to achieve success on the field. A brief snapshot of that editorial included the following:

I think it is necessary to highlight the fact that signing for a team involves some degree of responsibility and commitment. Noticeably in this league there are teams with far fewer players to choose from than SBCI and who enjoy better playing records because they are able to turn out the same lads pretty much week after week.

It is interesting to note that both senior skippers (neither with us ten years ago) have picked up on this theme in their detailed season reports so maybe nothing changes? However let's look things another way.

The difficulties of player availability and what that means for Tuesday night selection meetings apart this year we have given close to 60 people the opportunity to play cricket with first class facilities, foster great team spirit and make friends for life. Our juniors are progressing well with several making their debuts in senior cricket and we are close to once again fielding teams at all age groups from 9's to 18's. At junior levels we give all children the chance to bat or bowl each game and the enjoyment they are getting is clear for all to see.

Our Saturday social events have been a great way to spend an evening being well attended with good food and different forms of entertainment so thanks to all concerned especially chief organiser Simon Hampshire.

Winning has always been more fun than losing and if you don't set out to win when you walk on to the field you are in the wrong place however our club's mission statement (for those who don't know it) is:

"To provide the highest quality cricket with a friendly environment to all members of Sowerby Bridge Church Institute Cricket Club and the local community".

Judged against this criteria I think we are one of the most successful clubs in the district and long may it continue.

Jonathan Hyland

First XI



Back Row L-R J Hyland, Arun CK, R Newman, D Evans, D Brock, J Greenwood, T Wood, S Wood, F Charnock

Front Row – L-R Gnanam Arjuna, T Illingworth, A Scholefield, L Firth, C Dalby

We started the season full of confidence and heading in with a strong team, although the loss of Adam Fawcett was a blow. First up saw us away at Thornton which was always going to be tough. We started well and restricted their best players along the way but some good hitting toward the end by their tail helped them to set 209 which is probably around 30 more than they maybe should have got. Wickets were shared around all four bowlers. A decent start saw us well on track but a couple of quick wickets in the middle order put us behind the rate which brought Yuvi in who got off to a solid start before attacking the bowling and ending with 38 off 34 balls. Following that we lost wickets quickly and finished 30 runs short, Jamie ending up with a well played 60 not out. Speaking with the Thornton lads, they were extremely pleased to get across the line as they thought we were ahead in the majority of the game and thought we would be challenging up at the top with them.

Bradshaw, one to forget! We dropped 5 catches that cost 176 runs in total which started to become a bit of a theme for the season. Bradshaw scored 280 which at SBCI was always going to be tough and we came up 30 short. Dollars 59 and Gnanam with a typical innings of 62 at a 200 strike rate taking us close.

Next up was the start of a good cup run away at Queensbury. We won the toss and decided to bat and made 411 for 3. The main contributors including a superb partnership were Rhys with 209 off 134 balls and Dollars with 103 off 77. The second innings was pretty cold with the most notable performance going to Finlay Charnock taking 2 for 10 on first team debut.

We then travelled to Copley who are always difficult to play against, especially at their place. We batted first and despite the top order not really firing Dylan came into bat with me and steadied the ship batting really well for 30. This gave us a bit of a catalyst and Gnanam again gave a bit of impetus with a quick 23 off 8 balls and Arun 45 as we set a respectable 188 on a track that was difficult to bat on. The second innings brought the best bowling performance of the season so far as we bowled them out for 144. Wickets shared about and a good win.

Upper Hopton were next fresh from promotion and with two overseas. They played the better cricket on the day with a good hundred scored from their number 4. I don't think we bowled particularly poorly but they managed to bat around him and score 236. In the chase again I don't think we batted particularly badly with everyone getting starts, but only Arun took it on with a great 57 off 40 balls and we were just short at the end. The most unfortunate thing however was that now injuries were starting to show with myself and Jamie suffering with issues, another common theme as the season went on.

Another cup match followed with a tricky looking tie away at Triangle. I won the toss and decided to bowl first so we had an idea what we were chasing. We bowled really well, every single bowler did their job restricting them to 237 on a good wicket with Lew being the pick with 2 for 10 off 8 overs! The most important thing then was to get off to a good start which Rhys and Tom did. After that we won at a canter 2 wickets down and 7 overs left, Rhys top scoring with 123 not out and Jamie coming in and getting a quick fire 50 to finish the match.

A trip away to Illingworth followed which are always close matches. We batted first and it's fair to say didn't have our best day collapsing to 97 all out, Rhys highest scorer with 32. We always knew that if we bowled and fielded well we had a chance. Lew removed Gary Fellows first ball and it was game on. We kept taking wickets at regular intervals but catching and fielding let us down again, putting a couple of catches down and leaking a few runs in the field. Illingworth knocked them off 7 down despite Lew returning a fine 5 for 23 but it was in vain. One to forget and move on.

Shelf Northawram were next up and we put them in on a deck that looked like it might do a bit. And it didn't disappoint. Again, we managed to drop their opener more than once who went on to get 57 but we still managed to bowl them out for a respectable 109. Facing a bowling attack with no pace proved tricky at first but we batted sensibly to

see us through, knocking the runs off 4 down in 24 overs. Dollars top scoring with 49 not out.

Oxenhope away was a wash out with them not putting any covers on their square, so we moved on to Booth at home. Another generally good bowling performance here, although my hamstring finally gave way and I had to leave the field. The lads kept going and had Booth strangled until the arrival of Paddy Thomas, who struck the ball well and finished on 126 off 82 balls leaving us chasing 226. Tom with 5 for 73 returning the best figures. Another solid start against a good bowling unit was needed and that's exactly what we got, Rhys and Tom both getting into the 30's and it was game on. Si Wood entered and built a solid partnership with Dollars with the latter getting a good 34 to set us up. We lost a couple of quick wickets and then the controversy started as I limped out to bat. After facing a couple of balls, I asked for a runner as I could hardly move, which was met by a number of what can only be described as angry exchanges with Booth players who wouldn't let me have a runner. *(Note from the Editor it's nothing to do with them it's the umpires who determine)* My vice captain entered the field telling the Booth lads to be quiet (that's all he said, honest governor!) but Woody and I decided to go on without one and finish the game which we did less than an over and a half later with Woody ending on a fine 82 not out and us inflicting Booth's first defeat of the season.

Triangle away next and we were in buoyant mood and bowling first. The mood got better as we reduced Triangle to 17-3 with Dylan and Lew off to a flyer. Following that though a good partnership of 176 saw us behind the eight ball. From there, Silky continued to bat well finding gaps on the small field to register a chanceless 197 off 114 balls and saw Triangle to 327 all out with wickets being shared. We lost Rhys early, but the Woods came together for a fine 128 run partnership to get us going again. Unfortunately, pressure from runs on the board eventually won out as we managed to get to 297-9 and lose by 30 runs.

After getting Triangle away in the last round we were hopeful of a better draw in the quarter final of the Parish Cup however we drew Booth away, who had only been beaten once all season (granted by us!) so it was going to be another tough day. Having won the toss and deciding to bowl, it was evident that the lads were on it from ball one. Wickets were shared but all stood out, Dylan and Lewis opening the bowling and not giving an inch, Arun CK coming on and continuing that and Tommy finishing the innings off restricted Booth to 135 all out. Another good start was needed and we got exactly that again with Tommy getting a quick fire 34 and Rhys a good steady 58 meaning we knocked it off 5 down which in all honesty sounds closer than it was! A superb performance and played 2 won 2 against Booth!

Warley and Elland next up at home. I put them in on a track that looked like it would do a bit but ended up being a pretty decent batting track. By this time, we were managing without Arun and Lew and an injury to Yuvi on top of our other injuries. We bowled well however restricting the visitors to 162 for 8 which was pleasing considering the good wicket. Dollars (or Jacques Kallis as he sometimes likes being called) being the pick of the bowling with 5 for 22 off his nine. Tom and Rhys started well and it was clear that Tom had somewhere to be as he set to the Warley bowlers and although we lost Rhys

and Simon along the way, Tom stayed to the end with a fine 106 not out off 90 balls. Ably supported by Jacques who also had 27 not out.

We saw ourselves at halfway with an away game to Clayton on what seemed to be an interesting deck. Again, won the toss and stick them in. We started well picking up a couple of wickets including the prized wicket of the opener Paynter however their middle order pulled together. Although it has to be said we let them off a little with dropped catches and poor fielding again and they managed to get to 259 which was always going to be a competitive score on that track. Arun the best bowler with 3 for 53. All thoughts of a solid start lasted 4 balls as Rhys was removed and only Tom Wood stood strong at 43 for 4 which meant digging in for a recovery which we did with Tom and I putting on 80 before I was given a(nother) dubious LBW but that only brought Gnanam and Yuvi in to support Tom by dispatching the Clayton attack to all areas of Clayton, scoring 72 between them in 42 balls. The latter scoring a superb 58 off 34 balls which wrestled the impetus back especially as Tom was still at the other end. From there it was about managing the game which we did and we knocked them off 9 down with an over to spare, Tom ending on a match winning unbeaten 98.

Onto the return fixtures with Thornton at home, missing Rhys this week. We batted first and got off to a quick start being 35 for 1 in no time. However, we never really got going after that with the Thornton bowling attack doing what they have done for a number of years now and strangling us a little. We managed to get ourselves to 172 though which we thought would be competitive, Tom top scoring with 49. A good opening stand of 104 for Thornton took that away from us however a brief moment of hope when we removed their number 3 for a duck but in truth we were outplayed and Thornton knocked them off in 37 overs for the loss of three. Arun returning 3 for 41 being the pick of the bowlers but Tom suffering a hamstring injury bringing our injury count to 4 (and that's not including Rhys who we found could cramp up in the Arctic!).

Bradshaw away started but was a wash out after 5 overs. A massive thank you to Mick Wood for standing in for me at extremely short notice in this game.

The return of Copley was next and we had Rhys, Tom and Arun missing for this one which was far from ideal. This was probably a game where we didn't bowl well and Copley seized on that to make a formidable 248 on a wicket that was doing a bit. It was tough going from the beginning with Oli Thorpe getting a good amount out of the wicket although Jamie was certainly enjoying the other end. We never really got going and got to 186 in the end. Joint top scores Jamie and Lew on 33 and another good cameo from Yuvi who had 32 off 27 balls.

Onto the cup semi final and again I managed to win the toss and throw Oxenhope in. Another solid all round bowling performance reducing Oxenhope to 159 on a good batting deck. We pressed well but still let them have a few more than they should have got in the field. Facing one of the league's best bowlers we again needed a good start, which was pegged back a little when we lost Rhys for 8. But that had soaked up some overs and set us up. From there, their best bowler by a country mile pulled up injured and it was never in doubt after that. We knocked the runs off 5 down in 32 overs with the picks being Tommy (32) and a quick fire 58 from Jamie. And onto the Parish Cup final!

A return trip to Upper Hopton next and this week's selection was tough, with a number of people not being able to play across the club. Another consistent theme. The match was one to forget. We started well by removing their top three for 16 which caused their opener to volley his helmet halfway up the steps (which anyone who has been to Upper Hopton will understand is no mean feat!). But a good fourth wicket partnership of 129 put them in control and enabled their lower order in and have licence later on setting 269. We got a decent start again finding ourselves 65 for 2 but on a very dry and deteriorating pitch they brought their overseas spinner on who ran through us leaving us all out for 141, Rhys the standout with 51.

Onto the Parish Cup final, which somehow our vice captain had managed to book a holiday for both the actual date and the reserve day 🙌 Anyway we arrived full of confidence. I win the toss put Illingworth in and we started well, removing the dangerous Gary Fellows early. Tight bowling followed removing the players that they rely on cheaply. At 156 for 6 with 6 and a half overs left it was all going to plan. Unfortunately however some big hitting (an innings of 48 off 18 was never expected from their number 8 who on a different day probs doesn't do that) took the score away a little from us to 236. However on a good wicket and a fairly small ground it was still very much game on. Another great start with Tommy 23 found us 66-1 in no time however they brought their 3 spinners into the attack who proved difficult to score off and we proceeded to lose 4 more wickets for 32 runs. What happened next however really did kill us, Gnanam given out LBW when it hit his glove (and if it didn't it would have probably hit him in the chest it was that high) really took the wind out of our sails. Some good hitting at the end by Ty (22 off 14) gave some respite but we lost by 76 runs. Rhys finishing on the match's highest score of 52.

A special thank you to Allen Hampshire and John Greenwood for being honorary members of our squad for the final. It meant a lot to the team that you got involved with. Another huge thank you to Tina and Pam for making breakfast also and to everyone who came to support on the day, it meant the world to us all to see you there.

The rest of the season was a bit of a wash out in more ways than one, nothing really to play for and a lot of injury and selection struggles across the club saw us lose a close one to Illingworth where our fielding probably let us down again. Arun the standout with the bat here with 56. A trip to Shelf Northawram saw us lose, Dan Keighley top scoring with 54 but a lovely moment seeing Dave and Matthew Grundy playing together on the first team for the first time!

We hammered Oxenhope by a whopping 112 runs at home with runs shared around with Tom, Dollars and Lew all scoring around 40 a piece and Lew and Dylan dismantling their batting with Lew taking 6 (including a hat trick!) and Dyl 3. Booth away was washed out with the home side getting 335 for none on a good surface and lightning fast outfield. We then hammered Triangle at home bowling them out for 178, Tom returning 4 for 33 off his 13.2 overs and then Rhys and Dollars absolutely smashing the Triangle attack to all parts of the ground knocking them off in 30.4 overs. Rhys finishing on 73

and Dollars on 82 (which included 6 maximums!). With the final two games falling foul of the weather away at Warley and home to Clayton.

On reflection of the season, we showed some real glimpses of what we are capable of as a team. We absolutely hammered Booth, Triangle and Oxenhope in the cup and are the only team to have been unbeaten against Booth across all competitions this year. When you throw in some of the hammerings we have given to other teams as well along the way it does make me wonder what if sometimes.

However, consistency has been a real factor this season; whether that is with fielding, bowling or selection we haven't really found it across the season as a whole. Fielding and bowling consistency will be a focus for next year and with selection we are already looking to strengthen the squad. We used more than 30 players this year in the first team alone which is just not feasible if you're looking to build a successful team. The most successful teams I have been part of or played against have always had small squads who know their roles. Indeed, Thornton had dominance with a squad of 13 and Booth this year with 14 so Dollars and I are looking at that currently.

Outside of that standout moments for me are that we've had 3 lads in Dylan, Rhys and Brocky that have played a major role in the team throughout the year and have come from our Junior set up. Lew bowled three overs at Booth that were genuinely unplayable. Rhys and Dollars partnership at Queensbury, Yuvi nearly getting us over the line at Thornton. Olivia Thomas defecting to Yorkshire and winning a major trophy in her first year! Half of the team have been prepared to play thorough pain for a good amount of the season also and the camaraderie in the dressing room has been solid. We have definitely got a lot to build on going into the 2026 season.

Final thank you's from me and the lads to everyone that has helped the first team by playing this year, we know it can be a decent step up for some so we can't tell you how appreciated it is! For everyone that has put on do's this year at the club (even Hampy with his dodgy higher or lower!) and the ladies that make the food for those week in and week out. Phil and Mick who do a fantastic job on the ground and to everyone else that makes this club run in the background. See you all in 2026!

Alex Scolefield

Second XI



Back Row L-R L Hampshire (scorer), D Keighley, M Veitch, R Larkin, J Hampshire, S Hampshire, J Fellows

Front Row L-R N Gould, M Keast, T Illingworth, D Brown, A Kirby

As I sit here reflecting on the 2025 season, finishing 8th and having to look over our shoulder for the last 3 or 4 weeks of the season was not a league position I had in mind when setting a target at the start of the year. Knowing our opposing teams (from previous seasons), and the calibre of players at the 2nd team's disposal, I genuinely believed that we should have been pushing for a top 4 finish, as well as having a good cup run in the Crossley Shield.

As an amateur cricket team, I've always believed that consistency is the key to having a successful team. Being able to select a relatively consistent eleven, week in week out, and those eleven players performing consistently will always bear its fruits. However, having used 21 different players by the end of the 4th weekend of the season, there was always battles to be had to gain that consistency.

Our start to the season couldn't have been scripted any better, with a comprehensive 9 wicket win at home to Blackley. All the bowlers chipped in with wickets and our chase of 193 to win was done with ease. Mark and Greeny eased themselves close to the target with an opening stand of 188, Mark being the only wicket to fall for a score of 110 and Greeny was left with 61 not out and 12 points secured. With that came a temporary stay at the top of the table for 1 week and 1 week only. As most of us know, in the following days came the news that Greeny was taking a temporary hiatus from cricket to undergo surgery. We're all thankful that the surgery was a success and is great to see Greeny on

the mend, but from a cricketing perspective, to lose your wicket keeper and one of your opening batsmen in one go, is always going to be a big miss for any team. As a team we adjusted and the way individuals such as Rohit who stepped in to double up most weekends to keep wicket (taking 15 or so victims in the process) and Jonathan who then opened the batting when available, scoring just short of 450 runs can only be applauded for their individual efforts.

Moving into May (and very quickly away again), saw us on the end of some very comprehensive defeats to Greetland, where we were all out chasing 230. Against Copley, again all out, this time for 137 chasing 258 and all out for 114 against Upper Hopton whilst setting a target.

We did however manage to get our Crossley Shield campaign off to a flying start with a resounding 9 wicket win over second division Outlane. A makeshift bowling attack all chipped in with wickets, bar me, to bowl Outlane out for 173. Mark and Jonathan set about the chase in an unusual aggressive fashion, racing to 162 before Mark lost his wicket for a run a ball 65. The target was chased down within 29.1 overs, Jonathan finishing not out on 85.

The last two league games saw us lose to Illingworth where we should have posted a more convincing target. Being all out for 159 was a disappointing total having been 134-3 at one stage. Tony held our innings together with a watchful 59 and myself and Brownny scored 38 and 35 runs respectively. We did have Illingworth 97-6 at one point in their chase, Hampy having taken 4-48, but ultimately, we were convincingly beaten by the team who would go on to win the league as we couldn't break their 7th wicket partnership.

The final game of May saw us win our first league game of the month against Great Horton Park Chapel, although we didn't make it easy for ourselves. Having been 7-2 and 69-5 at different stages of our innings, we managed to get to 176 all out. I scored 61 runs and Dan Keighley, Jonathan and Ikhi all had scores in the 20's. However, given the very green wicket we were playing on we were confident it was a winning total and so it proved to be. Veitchy was the pick of the bowlers taking 4-30, and was very unlucky not to claim a 5 wicket haul. With Rob and myself picking up 2 wickets each meant GHPC could only get to 152-9 at the end of their allotted overs. The GHPC opening batsman who scored 58 not out from 132 balls did well to aid our cause.

June was a more enjoyable month results wise starting with a victory against Mount at home. Keasty, in my absence, won the toss and stuck the visitors in, Hampy and Aqeel each bowled through their overs allocation for a combined 4-63, taking 2 wickets each. Mount finished on 193-8 with Ikhi and Naman also taking 4 wickets between them. With the target adjusted to 185 from 41 overs, the chase was timed to perfection with, skipper for the day, Matty 13* and Ikhi 20* seeing the chase home with an over to spare. Earlier, Mark had scored 93 and Brownny had 35 to contribute to the total chase.

The week after we visited Sowerby Bridge who were winless and were propping everyone else up in the table. We posted a total of 244 all out thanks to Dan's 94, who would have probably scored 100 had we not had slight delay for rain, and Jonathan who

scored 54. Rob also chipped in with a quickfire 23 and the extras of 36 also aided the total. We thought the game was over at half time whilst having tea. Ignorantly, I certainly did. However, all credit to Sowerby Bridge, who came out fighting and batted well as a team, with 6 batters getting mid 20's or higher. Thankfully for us, they didn't have that one batter who could push on and get a score of more than 50. Needing 10 runs off the last over, Hampy was given the responsibility with the ball and duly obliged with a wicket maiden, having Stan Robinson caught and then bowled three balls at Greg Boocock, who seemingly refused to swing his bat, leaving 2 balls down the leg side and blocking out the last. 2 league wins in 2 for June.

That was until we played Booth at home, and the less said about this game the better. We were all out for 90 having used half of the overs and Booth knocked it off losing only one wicket. Certainly, the first nil point game I remember the 2nd team having for a long time.

The day after was the least ideal time to be going into a Crossley Shield quarter final against Copley, who had resoundingly beaten us in the league 6 weeks prior. Fielding first, Hampy and Aqeel's opening bowling spells of conceding 16 runs apiece from their 9 overs left Copley at 40-1 after 18 overs which was the start you always love to have. After some "middle order bashing", we bowled Copley out for 229 with me taking 5-54. Probably a par score at just over 5 an over was easily chasable, as long as we applied ourselves as a team to the chase. The start of our innings was looking bleak as the rain came that meant a wet outfield would not aid the chase. However, we stuck to the task well and in the dark, wet and gloomy weather, we got to a winning 230-7 at about 8:45pm. Jonathan, Mark, myself, Ikhi and Veitchy all passed the 30 mark. At 132-5 in the 28th over, victory was on a knife edge but Veitchy joined Ikhi at the crease and between them they scored a run a ball 95 to all but see us to victory, with Ikhi being not out on 56 with Brownly hitting the winning run. Semi-final bound!

The final game in June saw us visit Triangle. Triangle were bowled out for 154 with Aqeel, Hampy, me, Rob and Veitchy chipping in with wickets, Veitchy taking 3-34. We cantered to victory by 8 wickets. Mark and I scored 47 and 31 respectively with Jonathan carrying his bat for 50 not out and Dan (19*) seeing us home for a maximum point victory.

July was a month containing a mixed bag of results. Starting at home to Warley and Elland, we scored 203/7 off our 45 overs. Mark scored 45 and Dan top scored with 54. Myself, Brownly and extras chipped in with scores in the 20's. We then blew the opposition away, bowling them out for 38 inside of 20 overs with myself taking 6-23 and a run out and Hampy taking the remaining 3 wickets for 13 runs.

The week after against Blackley away just showed what a funny old game cricket can be. We batted first and posted a more than competitive 230 all out with Mark, again top scoring with 75, 39 from Rob and scores in the 20's from Hampy, Brownly and extras. What happened in the 2nd innings was batting response we just didn't have an answer for. As a group, I think it was one of our poorest performances with the ball and in the field, as Blackley eased their way to the total with 3 wickets down and 8 overs left. Had

we not dropped the catches and took the chances that came our way, it could have potentially been a different result.

The week after saw the match abandoned after 21 overs. Greetland were 91-3 with Rob having taken 2 of the 3 wickets to fall.

The final weekend of July wasn't a great one. We visited Copley in the league and lost by 130 runs. Copley posted 273-3 having recorded an opening partnership of 260. 7 bowlers were used to try break the partnership, which finally came in the 43 over via a run out! In reply, we were never in the game. Regularly losing wickets and going from 80-3 to 84-6 was ever going to help. The only highlight was TK top scoring with 58.

The following day was the cup semi-final against Booth, being played on the reserve date following the preceding week's wash out. We were up against from the start with myself, Matty, Mark, Jonathan and Rob all unavailable due to the annual leave season being in full swing. The 11 that did play, made a total of 186-9 and if we took some early wickets would have been a competitive total. Brownly top scored with 45 and TK scored 43 with Hampy and Phil scoring in their 20's. We got the early wicket needed as Aqeel has their opener caught in the 5th over. However, no more wickets came our way as their remaining opening batter (who has since scored a ton and 2 50's in Booth's first team) scored an unbeaten century to see Booth to the target in the 33rd over. All in all a decent Crossley Shield run and credit to those who played in this game for giving Booth a good challenge, but had we had our strongest 11, who knows.

The mixed bag of results continued in August, again being comprehensively beaten by Upper Hopton at home. We were all out for 92 chasing 217. Hampy, Matty, Veitchy and young Lucas Veitch were in the wickets, Lucas taking his first 2nd team wicket on debut. The reply never got going. Only Jonathan passed 20 and with 7 scores in single figures, we were never going to get close.

The week after was just the opposite end of the spectrum. With me being required in the first team, Matty took over the captaincy responsibilities and he did what all good captains do. Lose the toss. Illingworth opted to bat and were blown apart by the economical bowling of Hampy, Aqeel, Rob and Matty. Hampy and Aqeel both had 2-45 of their 14 overs and Rob and Matty mopped up the tail, after Rob had removed the set batsman. Illingworth all out for 125. Having us at 4-1 and 27-2, Illingworth thought they had a chance. However, TK thought differently, with his mind on the task at hand and not even thinking about his pending nuptials in the coming week. He saw the game out finishing on 69 not out. Definitely up there with one of the best wins of the year and inflicting the first defeat of the season against the team that won the league by a considerable margin.

We then followed up with another victory over Gret Horton Park Chapel. They made quite a decent start getting to 131-4 but the introduction of the tail mopping duo of Rob and Matty for the 2nd week in a row, they fell to 146 all out. Mark fell for 16 in our reply but Jonathan and myself moved the score from 18-1 to 140-1 for one before I was out for 68 going for one shot too many. Jonathan carried his bat through the innings for a

second time in the season with 48 not out. The main highlight from this game was Noah Gould, another product from the u15's, taking 2 wickets with his off spin on debut.

At this point in the season, we thought we'd be safe from relegation, after 2 twelve-point wins on the bounce. However, Warley and Elland, and Triangle had the same results as us. What was a benefit for all 3 teams, was that us having beaten GHPC, also dragged them in the relegation drama, and this was the beginning of the end for their stay in the 2nd XI Premier Division as they eventually succumbed to relegation alongside Sowerby Bridge.

The final 2 games in August saw us collect an accumulative 7 points. The first game was away at Mount on a minefield of a track that had to be used due to a motorbike being ridden across the intended track to be used. Only at Mount!! Mark and Veitchy were the only batters to get to grips with the deck scoring 28 and 43 respectively. We fell from 60-2 to 123 all out with 4 ducks not helping the total. Mount knocked off the target 5 wickets down, halfway through their overs with Hampy, Veitchy, Rob and Noah in the wickets.

The last game in August against Sowerby Bridge was abandoned 2 overs into Sowerby Bridge's reply. We had been bowled out for 176 after being 94-6. Rohit saved the innings scoring 66. Earlier in the innings, me and Matty had also passed 20. Rain came at tea, we managed to get back out for 2 overs and had Sowerby Bridge 0-3 after 2 overs. I had taken a wicket on the first ball of their reply and Hampy just narrowly missed out on his hat trick ball the next over. The end of the over saw us taken off an after a continuous downpour, saw the end of the match.

September, the narrative was simple, gain as many points as possible and we'll survive any prospect of relegation. Starting with an away trip to Booth. When we saw their team, we noticed the lack of bowlers. The plan was to win the toss, get early wickets and put them under pressure to score a total. The game didn't get off to the best of starts. Hampy pulled up with calf problem in his 3rd over and left the field not to return. Rob then bowled a great spell bowling his 14 overs straight through to claim 5 wickets. Myself, Veitchy and Ikhi claimed the rest. Booth had posted 223 all out. We knew it was a score that could be easily chased, as long as we batted sensibly and didn't play any rash shots against their weakened bowling attack. Mark and Jonathan set out well in the chase putting 153 for the first wicket. Jonathan falling for diligent 37 in the 29th over. I made a quick fire 33 from 15 balls before being caught going for one shot too many. Again! Mark and Dan saw the game home with 8 overs left. Mark finishing not out on a season best 138.

Triangle visited the Astleys for our final home game of the season. Batting first we made 173 all out. Mark top scored with 52, Dan scored 29, extras were 27 and TK, Veitchy and Hampy chipped in with double figures. Play was abandoned after a deluge of rain, as forecast, without us taking to the field for the second innings. 5 valuable points and Great Horton Park Chapel getting beat by Illingworth saw our status of remaining in the top flight confirmed.

The scheduled last game of the season away to Warley and Elland was completely washed out having been called off before having to travel.

To summarise the season in one sentence. We've had very few close games and have either won convincingly or lost convincingly. Here's hoping to more convincing wins than losses in 2026.

As mentioned already, thank you to Rohit for doubling up most weekends and thank you and well done to Jonathan for opening the batting and coming close to 450 runs for the season. Well done to Mark for being the 2nd XI Premier Division leading run scorer with 754 runs at an average of 50.27 (3rd best in the league from qualifying averages) and for retaining the Alan Sutcliffe cup for the most runs in senior cricket for the club.

The final "well done's" are for Lucas and Noah, who have both made their debuts for the 2nd XI this year and both took at least one wicket on debut. Positive signs for the future!

Thank you to everyone who has helped with teas over the course of the season. Thank you to Lucy for scoring and others when Lucy has been unavailable. Thank you to Jonathan H for umpiring most of our home games. Thank you to Mick and everyone else that works on the ground and thank you to everyone and anyone that also volunteers behinds the scenes to make SBCI such a great club to play for.

Final thanks and the biggest thanks go to Matty and Hampy, who have kept me sane for the most part of the season and both have stepped up and taken over captains' responsibilities during my times of absence. As a wise vice-captain once said, "Not the best year on the cricket field but no one will ever beat us off it".

Hope everyone Winters well and here's to building on 2025 and improving our league position and hopefully going 2 steps further in the Crossley Shield in 2026.

Tyson Illingworth

Sunday XI



Back row- L-R L Grundy (scorer), N Sembi, S Sharma, W Keighley, A Kirby, R Hanson, A Dasari,
C Charles (umpire)
Front row- L-R L Fellows, J Fellows, P Collins (captain), D Brown & N Gould



L Fellows receives her senior cap

I'd like to start by thanking the team and the club for the opportunity to lead the Sunday Section as captain for the first time, it's been a great honour to captain a team for a club that I have played at for nearly 20 years.

When I took on this role at the start of the season, I knew it would be a personal challenge as a first-time captain, and it's been a journey we've all been on together, so thank you for your patience and on-going support, this is just the start! It certainly had its moments—some we'll never forget, and others we've probably already chosen to forget.

The SBCI Sunday XI enjoyed a season of growth and learning with a continued strong emphasis on providing opportunities for our junior players to gain valuable experience in senior cricket. Several young players making their debuts and showcasing their potential under the guidance and leadership of more seasoned senior players.

Despite the challenges of building a new team dynamic and developing young players, the team demonstrated significant improvement and commitment throughout 2025, as we looked to become more competitive following relegation to Division 3 in 2024. I think we certainly did this. I'm incredibly excited about what this group can achieve. We've laid the groundwork this season, and I'm confident that with the talent and character we have, we will come back next year ready to take the next step, and maybe push for promotion!

Squad rotation was a constant throughout as we welcomed a number of new players to the SBCI family and we used a rather impressive 31 different players across the season (9 making their debuts or return to the club) making selection on a Tuesday evening challenging every week, sometimes with enough players to field two team and sometimes challenges at the other end of the spectrum!

A win against Stones in August, combined with points gained from abandoned matches due to rain, ensured the Sunday side stayed clear of the relegation zone with a number of games still to play. We finished with a 30-point buffer over the drop zone.

The team experienced several notable individual and collective performances, including.

- Ajay winning the divisional batting prize with an impressive 6 50s and an average of 52.33
- Rohit winning the Halifax league divisional prizes keeping with a total of 17 victims.
- Hari's hatrick on debut against Thornton in 6 wicket haul.
- 12 Half centuries from 5 different players (Ajay, Robin, Rohit, Chris and Phil)
- Robin Hanson with his maiden century of 100* against Stones.
- First senior wickets for Ayaan Sheraz and Liam Parker

A heartfelt thank you to all the players for their dedication, hard work, and excellent spirit. Special appreciation goes to Ces Charles our umpire, and various scorers including three members of the Grundy family and Adrian Benson.

Paul Collins

T20 Review

The Astleys hosted a three team round robin set of Twenty/20 fixtures on 1st June, with SBCI beating Booth in the opening match and then avoiding the showers to progress to the semi-finals, despite a narrow loss to Oxenhope in the final game of the day.

First up, we secured a commanding 72-run victory over Booth in an all-round team performance. Batting first, we posted an imposing total, led by Arun CK's explosive 68* off 29 balls, Tom Wood's composed 55 from 37 deliveries, and an unbeaten half-century from Simon Wood from 46 deliveries. The innings was anchored by two significant partnerships—83 runs for the second wicket and an unbroken 97-run stand for the third which provided the foundation for a dominant total.

In reply, Booth struggled to build momentum against SBCI's disciplined bowling attack. Arun CK led the way with 3 wickets, while Mike and Aqeel each claimed two, ensuring wickets were shared across the team and pressure both with the ball and in the field was maintained throughout the innings, leaving Booth to limp to 126 all out well short of their victory target.

A Booth victory in the second match against Oxenhope left the path to the semi-final in our own hands, and with a superior net run rate, we knew that even a narrow defeat would still not deny us a place in the last four of the competition.

Oxenhope CC posted a competitive total of 184 runs from their 20 overs, built around a powerful middle-order performance. Arun was once again the standout bowler, claiming 2 wickets for just 25 runs in his 4 overs. Aqeel also picked up 2 wickets, whilst Tom bowled economically, conceding just 15 runs in 3 overs.

We got so close in our pursuit of 185, with several key contributions across the batting order. Gnanam led the early charge with 33 off 23 balls, including 3 sixes. Tom added a brisk 30 from 20 deliveries, while Simon Wood anchored the middle overs with a well-paced 44 off 32 balls. Late fireworks came from the skipper Firth, who struck 33 off just 18 balls, featuring 5 boundaries, but it wasn't enough and our guests for the day ran out winners by a solitary run. A quick dash for a calculator to work out our net run rate and we'd done enough to see us through to play Thornton on Friday 13th June- which turned out to be rather apt.

On a lovely midsummers evening at the club, Thornton reached their target of 108 inside 8 overs as Joshua Hutchinson had a Friday night out in Sowerby Bridge.

Despite winning the toss and electing to bat, we faced a challenging innings with wickets falling at regular intervals. Rhys Newman provided a solid start with 26 off 22 balls, while Arun added momentum in the middle order with a brisk 21 off 15, including two sixes. Lewis Firth contributed 14 off 12, and Yuvi chipped in with 11. Despite a few bright moments, we struggled to build a substantial partnership, not helped with four players being dismissed for ducks against a disciplined bowling attack. The regular clatter of wickets always meant that 107 all out looked to be a little on the low side.

And so, it proved to be. Joshua Hutchinson delivered a blistering innings, scoring an unbeaten 82 off just 27 balls, including 14 fours and 4 sixes at a strike rate of 303.70. He dominated the innings from start to finish. Tom and Aqeel were the only players to take wickets and there were some more than interesting bowling figures on our side as no one was immune from the Hutchinson onslaught.

Dave Brown

Appearances – 2025

	1XI	2XI	Sunday XI	Total
Rohit Singh	0	16	13	29
David Brown	1	20	7	28
Simon Wood	28	0	0	28
Alex Scholefield	27	0	0	27
Chris Dalby	27	0	0	27
Lewis Firth	27	0	0	27
Rhys Newman	25	0	0	25
Tom Wood	25	0	0	25
Simon Hampshire	0	24	0	24
Dylan Evans	23	0	0	23
Jamie Summerscales	23	0	0	23
Tony Kirby	0	22	1	23
Matthew Keast	0	22	0	22
Tyson Illingworth	3	19	0	22
Ajay Dasari	0	8	13	21
Jonathan Hampshire	0	21	0	21
Mark Fellows	0	20	1	21
Rob Larkin	2	18	0	20
Arun CK	19	0	0	19
Michael Veitch	3	16	0	19
Noah Gould	0	4	14	18
Robin Hanson	0	2	16	18
Finlay Charnock	8	2	7	17
Gnanam Arjuna	17	0	0	17
Naman Trakru	1	12	4	17
Dan Keighley	4	12	0	16
Jack Fellows	0	3	13	16
Paul Collins	2	0	14	16
Chris Parker	1	6	7	14
Dan Brock	13	0	0	13
Phil Earle	0	3	10	13
Sameer Saeed	1	1	11	13

Matthew Grundy	3	0	9	12
Aqeel Taj	2	8	0	10
Bill Keighley	0	3	7	10
Ikhlaq Ahmed	2	8	0	10
Yuvraj Kumar	10	0	0	10
Matt Rose	1	0	8	9
Dave Grundy	2	1	5	8
Lucas Veitch	0	3	5	8
Aswin Devasenan	0	0	5	5
Mark Pottinger	4	1	0	5
Saahil Mansha	0	4	1	5
Sameer Sharma	0	2	3	5
Boj Sembi	0	0	4	4
Liam Parker	0	0	4	4
Albie Earle	0	0	3	3
Michael Wood	3	0	0	3
Gagan Kumar Mogilneni	0	1	1	2
Hariprasath Sampathkumar	0	1	1	2
Nick Langhorn	0	0	2	2
Raihan Sheraz	0	0	2	2
Satyam Sadasivam	0	0	2	2
Ayaan Sheraz	0	0	1	1
John Greenwood	0	1	0	1
Lewis Wring	0	0	1	1
Mushtaq Alam	0	1	0	1

Appearances include where selected but game abandoned before play.



To be fair he top scored on the day with 45!

Club Prize Winners 2025

Senior Prize Winners

First Team

Batting – Rhys Newman 20 innings, 816 runs @ 54.40 (HS 209*)
Bowling – Tom Wood 192.1 overs, 23 maidens, 37 wickets, 1082 runs, av 24.03 BB 5/73
Fielding - Lewis Firth – 11 catches

Second team

Batting – Mark Fellows 18 innings, 864 runs @ 50.82 (HS 138*)
Bowling – Tyson Illingworth 129.3 overs, 19 maidens, 34 wickets. 512 runs,
av 15.06 BB 6/23
Fielding - Tyson Illingworth – 8 catches, 2 run outs

Sunday Team

Batting – Ajay Desari 11 innings, 471 runs @ 52.33 (HS77)
Bowling – Ajay Desari 80 overs, 10 maidens, 14 wickets, 306 runs, av 21.86 BB 4/23
Fielding - Ajay Desari, Robin Hanson, Paul Collins 5 catches each

Alan Sutcliffe Trophy (most senior runs league & cup only) Mark Fellows 864 @ 50.82

Campbell Cup (most senior wickets league & cup only) Lewis Firth 43 wickets @ 25.16

Halifax Cricket League Prize Winners

Premier First X1 Wicket keeping – Simon Wood

Sunday League Division 3 – Batting - Ajay Dasari
Wicket keeping – Rohit Singh

Other prizes

Lewis Firth hat-trick v Oxenhope

H Sampathkumar hat-trick v Thornton

Under 15's



Back row L-R A Sheraz, L Parker, N Gould, J Kola, I Frankland, R Gould (coach)

Front row L-R R Sheraz, L Fellows, M Grundy, L Veitch & S Arokiyaraj

As the sun sets on another thrilling season, we reflect on a journey packed with growth, grit, and unforgettable moments. With a newly structured Division B and a team hungry to improve on last year's record, our U15s rose to the challenge, and how.

Before we get into the detail however I'd like to share a little insight into the tactical genius of our team this year, specifically, our unique approach to fielding.

Now, I know the textbooks talk about traditional positions such as point, cover, square leg, mid-off, mid-on etc... but here at SBCI, we prefer a slightly more creative approach. So, without further ado, let me introduce you to...

Back Stop: A position the traditionalists among us would usually call Fine Leg. However, this person ends up not quite fine and not quite leg. In fact, they usually end up directly behind the wicketkeeper, they can't see a thing but are there just in case.

Deep Nowhere: Not a location per se, but more a mood. A vibe. A lifestyle. The ball's coming? Meh. Chase it! Meh. Dive!! Meh.

And then there's...

The Wanderer: Starts at third man, drifts to gully, then to point, suddenly finds himself at cover, ends up near the boundary but swears they were "just backing up"!

And then my personal favourite...

The Just stand there and try to look interested: Not an official position but let's be honest, most of the players fielded there at some stage this season.

But more importantly... we've worked really hard to master all the fielding techniques this year: the two-handed pick up and overarm throw, the one-handed pick up and underarm throw, the long barrier, the short barrier, and what seemed every player's favourite — the stick your foot out and stop it with your ankle barrier! This one far too many of our U15s perfected.

Onto the season.

We kicked off against Mytholmroyd, facing the eventual league winners in a tough opener. Despite a solid 24 from Jack, we were outplayed. Week 2 brought a close contest against Warley & Elland, where strong batting gave us hope, but a late cameo from their captain flipped the script.

Week 3 saw us awarded full points as King Cross conceded. Week 4 brought a dramatic loss to Stones despite tight bowling and a spirited batting recovery. In Week 5, we bounced back with a brilliant win over Outlane as clinical bowling and composed batting sealed the deal.

Week 6 was a tough outing against Haworth, but Jack, Raihan, and Libby shone. Week 7 against Low Moor Holy Trinity gave us comedy gold with Noah's dive and Libby's umpire diplomacy made it a game to remember even in defeat. Weeks 8 and 9 delivered back-to-back wins. A nail-biter against Stainland saw Ben's heroic finish, followed by a commanding victory over Queensbury with standout performances from Jack, Libby, and Lucas.

In our Collinson Cup finale against higher division opposition in Keighley, we showed heart and determination. Aayan, Noah, and Jack led the charge in a respectable chase, capping off the season with pride. It wasn't quite the fairytale ending, but it was a performance that showed just how far this team has come.

We finished 5th. Eight U15s have represented the 3 senior SBCI sides in 2025, with huge congratulations to Jack, Noah, Lucas, Matthew, Liam, Raihan, Aayan, and Libby. Every

player contributed, learned, and grew. We built partnerships under pressure, took crucial wickets, and played with infectious enthusiasm.

At some clubs winning trophies is all that matters. And I truly believe this year's league winners, only did so by virtue of the fact, that the same 5 players who bowled the majority of their overs every week, also batted in the top 5 every week and scored most of their runs, not giving the rest of the team much opportunity. So, whilst 5th might not get us a league medal, what the young men and lady have helped build at SBCI these last few years matters more.

The sense of being part of a team, where everyone gets an opportunity to play, to contribute, and to just simply enjoy playing a sport with their mates. To our parents and families: your support, patience, and sideline cheers mean the world. To our volunteers, scorers, coaches, and groundsman: you're the unsung heroes so thank you for everything. To our players; be proud. You've set the bar high and inspired the next generation.

For many, this was the final season in the U15s squad. Watching you evolve from nervous beginners to confident cricketers has been a privilege. You've left a legacy of teamwork, resilience, and joy.

Keep playing. Keep growing and never forget the magic of cricket with your friends and schoolmates.

Batting

7 innings, 2 not outs, high score of 38, a total of 158 runs at an average of 31.6 – Jack Fellows

Bowling

6 wickets at an average of 14.3 with best figures of 1 for 4 – Noah Gould

Fielding

Awarded to the fielder (excluding wicketkeeper) who has taken the most catches – Libby Fellows & Lucas Veitch.

Richard Gould

Under 13's



2025 squad -B Langhorn, S Uren, M Oughton, C Swift, I Uren, Pn Patel, Pv Patel, J Mutch, D Larkin, J Wright, M Veitch, L Stevenson, A Arun, T Elliott, R Goregay, Z Duke, Y Ahmed, A Adidev, Pt Patil.

Seventeen youngsters have represented our Under 13 side in 2025 and for the first time since I took on coaching junior sides at SBCI, all of our matches have reached conclusions without the intervention of the weather. Added to the fine weather we've had on a Friday night (in the main) and we've been able to have an uninterrupted run of training sessions.

An eighth placed finished in an eleven team league is a fair reflection on how we performed throughout the season and a first round cup exit against a higher division Lightcliffe side was to be expected, but what wasn't expected was the second hat-trick in as many years as Adidev Arun followed on from the exploits of Libby Fellows in 2024 by reducing Lightcliffe from 18 for 0 to 18 for 3 in the space of three deliveries. Well done, Adidev.

We played 11 fixtures in 2025, winning three league fixtures and despite losing seven, we were competitive and put in a good performance (either individually or collectively) in the games which we lost.

Our cricket club at a junior level is all about giving kids a fair crack at both batting and bowling when (sometimes) the easiest thing in the world would be to let the better batters bat high up every week, and the more skilled bowlers to bowl at the beginning of an innings. Additionally, and with great numbers in 2025, I've had to rotate our players on a weekly basis as 15/16 available players (unfortunately) doesn't go into 11. Holidays, illness, injury and general availability also hamper selection on a weekly basis, so some players haven't got to play as much cricket as they'd have liked.

Whilst that might have brought us a couple of extra wins, it wouldn't have done anything for the lads who might not have had a bat or a bowl. Some weeks I got it wrong, and I'll hold my hand up to those mistakes, but generally, everyone this year has either got a bat or a bowl, and in most instances, everyone got to do both. If someone didn't bat one week, then they'd generally get a go in the top four the following week. In a twenty over game, we ensured that the ten players not wearing the keeping gloves (thanks to Dylan and Rishab for doing a fine job over the season) got to bowl 2 overs each. To me and thankfully the majority of other team managers at this age group, this is the right way to do things and (hopefully) will keep these talented youngsters interested until such a time they are wanting to graduate to senior cricket.

Thank You's and a look forward to 2026.

Overall, a very satisfying season, all things considered and great to see everyone contributing in some shape or form. A big thank you to everyone who has helped out with coaching on a Friday night to umpiring and scoring on a match night. Simply put, this season wouldn't have happened without the goodwill and generous donation of their free time by many people from our cricket club, whether directly or indirectly connected to SBCI. 2026 will be a big year for the class of 2025 as some will be moving up to Under 15's cricket or they'll be the 'senior' players in the 2026 Under 13's side. Hopefully, we'll see a few also graduating to play senior cricket.

Already looking forward to seeing everyone Winter/ Early Spring 2026 for some indoor training.

Prizes

Batting

11 matches, 10 innings, 5 not outs, high score of 31 not out, retired at least four times during the season- a total of 141 runs at an average of 28 – Ben Langhorn

Bowling

7 wickets at an average of 7.00 with best figures of 3 for 4 – Jack Mutch

Fielding

Awarded to the fielder (excluding wicketkeeper) who has taken the most catches – Ben Langhorn (3 catches and 3 run outs)

Dave Brown

Under 11's



L-R Brooke, Millie, Achintya, Alfie, Jonah, Teddy, Seth & Reggie

Our Under 11s have had a season to be proud of. I've been really impressed by all of the enthusiasm and development from all the players in the squad this year. The final games of the season demonstrated those improvements in all departments and as a coach, that is really pleasing to see! Every player should take pride in how they have performed and here are some of my highlights for each one of them.

Reggie is somebody who always has a smile on his face when turning up for cricket and I think this has been a key factor in how much his cricket has come along. I have been most impressed with Reggie's bowling. In the final few games Reggie cracked the art and started adding some great power and pace.

Alfie has had a really good season, as a more experienced member of the team. I've seen real improvement in his bowling but want to mention in the last few games of the season, particularly in partnership with his good buddy Achintya, he's played some great cricket shots often resulting in boundaries.

Seth Fellows. Unfortunately, Seth's season was hampered after breaking his wrist, so the thing that's impressed me most from Seth was how he came back from injury threw himself back into it show some excellent batting in bowling skills.

Emelia Mutch has always shown up with great enthusiasm. Bowling has always been a particular strength and right from the start of winter training she showed a real strength and fielding too. I think the greatest thing I've seen from her this season though by way of development has been her batting. Well done Emelia.

Unfortunately, Zia Alam has not been available due to fitness for a lot a lot of the season but I'm looking forward to having him back in the squad a smiling face every single session and every game makes it all worthwhile. Hopefully, he will be able to play for a larger part of next season.

James Calvert is becoming a really good cricketer. He shows brilliant enthusiasm in the field so that nothing gets past him and I have to say one of the big observations of James this season is how he has really developed his batting technique. I am excited to see how that will continue to produce some really great results.

A big mention goes to Joe, Dougie and Hugo who all stepped up into the Under 11s from the Under 9's. They all looked more than at home stepping up and a special call out must go to Joe who got 5 wickets in a game for us!

Jonah has come to the club this season, new to cricket. I remember in the indoor nets how difficult he found bowling technique. This season has been about learning those basics and he has come on leaps and bounds, really challenging the bat in the final games. He has lots of potential combined with the frame for bowling, a top prospect for the future!

Zahra Ahmed stepped up to come to Under 11's training and although she didn't play any matches this season, she came to training with a great attitude. I'm sure she'll be ready for next season and play some matches for the Under 11s.

Sukruth Maram joined us a little bit later on in the season and showed some cracking development. He wasn't quite ready for playing matches this season, but I'm absolutely sure that he'll be there and ready and waiting in the new year following some practice that he's planning during the winter.

The award of most improved player of the season goes to someone who volunteered to take the wicket keeping gloves in his first game and never looked back! He threw himself to get in the way of anything going his way. We saw him be tremendously resilient on a couple of occasions where he got hit but would never let that stop him. Very well-deserved Teddy Forster.

Our player of the season was voted for by the players / parents in the team. The reasons ranged from a combination of the leadership she showed as a captain in most games, encouraging her teammates and also her brutal cricket shots when she held the bat. Well done Brooke Larkin!

Lastly, I'd like to say a fond farewell to Achintya who leaves us for London. He has been with the club since all stars, and we will miss him and his parents Anu and Satyam. Achintya has been a standout player ever since I took on a coaches role at SBCI, with his great enthusiasm for the game and skills with the bat on the ball. I hope your enthusiasm continues and cricket continues to bring you joy!

Thank you to all those who make this happen. Ben for scoring, my fellow coaches for helping cover where needed, the parents and most of all the players who make it a pleasure to coach this team.

Rob Larkin

Under 9's



R Hanson (coach), H Langhorn, T Wood, O Thomas (Yorkshire CCC), A Shahnaz, H Pitts, J Collins, D Semple, H Hanson, F Ingram, T Robinson, S Outhgton, R Sembi, J McDonnell, R Oliver, N Fellows, E Parker, T Murphy & P Collins (coach)

Good evening, everyone, and a huge welcome to our annual junior cricket presentation night. It's fantastic to see so many of you here tonight to celebrate what has been a brilliant season of junior cricket for our under 9s.

A big welcome to all our players, our dedicated coaches and managers, and our wonderful parents and supporters. Your presence here tonight and throughout the season shows the amazing club spirit that makes our cricket club so special, and the future certainly looks strong!

Thank you

We want to start with a few thank yous: This season and any season would not have been possible without the dedication of many people all of whom are volunteers.

* Parents/grandparents/ guardians, brothers and sisters, and to anyone one else who has come to support the under 9s this season both at matches and training, your cheering and positivity really makes a difference, and you have created a real buzz at our club.

* A huge thank you to our sponsors Fab Spider, and Martin who have generously provided our playing shirts for this season, and I think we can all agree how smart and professional they all look. So don't forget for all your businesses web design needs, head to Fab Spider!

* Gordon our official scorer, who is even now officially trained in how to use play cricket (which unfortunately for Gordon has meant he has also been called up to score for the senior team this season as well). Thank you so much for keeping track of our often-large scores and multiple wickets, even in sometimes challenging circumstances with other scorers who don't match your high standards! (Gift)

* Liz and Richmal, mine and Robin's better halves, thank you for your patience and understanding throughout the summer as you have often become cricket widows with a combination of senior and junior cricket. The good news is that it's nearly done, and you have our full attention all winter! Or at least until winter training starts!

*And finally, to all the players, to those who were at the club already thank you for representing us so well again and to all new players, thank you for choosing our cricket club to begin your cricketing journey. We hope you all had fun!

Celebrate the season

* What a season it has been! The focus is not always on wins and losses, but on the spirit of the game, and this growing bunch of budding cricketers have that in buckets! Turning up in numbers of up to 20 every week, it's been a delight to see the joy that cricket is bringing to these kids.

* Each player's improvement and growth in confidence have been a source of pride, and we have welcomed a number of new players to the group, some of whom had never played cricket before, and are now converts.

* Numerous brilliant moments occurred, from thrilling catches to determined batting. The laughter at training, the friendships made, and the team spirit on the field truly defined the season.

* Alongside that we have also had great success this season, with the team finishing an impressive second in the league, and progressing through to the quarter finals of the cup, compared to last year in which we managed a single win! Unbelievable progress by every single player.

Stats

* Across all competitions this year we played 13, won 9, and lost only 4 games. In the league this season we started off in a really positive fashion winning our first 4 league games on the bounce, June wasn't a great month as we lost 3 games (although these were still close matches), but the spirit of the team shone through as we finished the season as we started winning our last three league games, which put us in a good run of form winning two cups games to take us into the quarter final stages. For the stats amongst us that is a win percentage of just under 70%.

* A few more team stats to throw at you, as a team this season we scored an impressive 1028 runs, and took 61 wickets! We only lost 59 wickets which is less than 5 a game and has contributed massively to our success this year. The seasons highest score came against Southowram when we scored a massive 201 net for the loss of just one wicket! I could go on as there are so many more positives to pick from.

Those stats really help demonstrate how far we have come as a team and individually. Across batting, bowling and fielding every player has contributed whether that be scoring runs, or defending their wicket, taking wickets or catches. Well done all.

* Every single player is a champion. All players have shown up, put in the effort, and represented our club with pride. The true reward is in the effort each week and the lessons learned. Continue to dream big, practice hard, and most importantly, have fun. We are so proud of all of you.

Paul Collins

Junior Prize Winners



Joe Collins and Noah Gould were the recipients of the most promising junior and best junior for 2025. Olivia Thomas presented them with their prizes.

Under 9's

Player of the year - Dougie Semple

Most improved player - Daniel Aitchison

Under 11's

Player of the year – Brooke Larkin

Most improved player - Teddy Forster

Under 13's & 15's – see above reports

LEAGUE TABLES 2025

Premier First XI

Team	P	W12	W6	T3	LO	Aband	Batting	Bowling	Total
Booth	22	14	3	0	2	3	16	8	219
Thornton	22	11	2	0	5	4	15	15	186
Copley	22	9	3	1	6	3	24	22	184
Illingworth	22	8	4	0	6	4	24	20	176
Bradshaw	22	9	1	1	8	3	22	16	164
Oxenhope	22	7	2	0	9	4	24	23	155
Upper Hopton	22	8	1	0	10	3	22	17	150
Triangle	22	6	2	0	10	4	28	17	141
SBCI	22	4	3	0	10	5	31	25	137
Shelf Northowram HT	22	5	0	0	14	3	28	22	119
Clayton	22	4	0	0	14	4	19	21	100
Warley & Elland	22	3	0	0	15	4	23	21	92



Premier Second XI

Team	P	W12	W6	T3	LO	Aband	Batting	Bowling	Total
Illingworth	22	14	3	0	2	3	12	9	216
Mount	22	10	1	0	7	4	10	16	164
Blackley	22	6	5	0	7	4	29	20	163
Greetland	22	10	1	0	7	4	12	12	162
Upper Hopton	22	8	2	0	8	4	23	17	160
Booth	22	8	2	0	8	4	30	10	160
Copley	22	7	2	0	10	3	25	25	155
SBCI	22	6	3	0	9	4	21	13	136
Warley & Elland	22	6	2	0	9	4	12	17	131
Triangle	22	6	0	0	12	4	22	25	131
Great Horton PC	22	6	0	0	13	3	18	18	117
Sowerby Bridge	22	1	0	0	17	3	21	24	72

Warley & Sowerby Bridge one game cancelled for religious festival.

Sunday XI Division 3

Team	P	W20	WD7	LD1	L	Aban	WCN	LCN	Bt B	Bl B	Total
Greetland	18	11	1	0	3	3	0	0	8	10	269
Upper Hopton	18	7	4	1	3	2	1	0	26	25	256
Raistrick	18	8	3	1	3	3	0	0	19	32	253
Crossflatts	18	8	0	1	5	4	0	0	14	26	229
Oakworth	18	5	2	2	5	3	1	0	25	36	221
Lightcliffe 4 th	18	5	1	1	6	4	0	1	18	39	181
SBCI	18	3	2	3	6	4	0	0	33	37	175
Stones	18	3	0	5	6	2	1	1	28	32	153
Thornton	18	2	2	2	8	3	0	1	28	47	143
Barkisland	18	0	3	2	7	6	0	0	28	44	135

WD7 – Incomplete win

LD1 – Not all out

WCN – Opposition conceded (20)

LCN – Team conceded

Match Ball Sponsors 2025

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Thank you for your support and the Editor apologies for any omissions.

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Jonathan expressing surprise and delight in taking a catch at Booth!

This newsletter is produced by Jonathan Hyland

*Contributors: A Scholefield, T Illingworth, D Brown, R Larkin,
P Collins, & R Gould*

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