



# **SILLY POINT**

## **THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF SBCI CC**

### **End of Season Edition 2022**



## **Editorial Licence**

In writing this year's editorial I looked at the club's mission statement which has formed part of our ECB Clubmark submission since 2008. For those of you who are not aware it is "To provide the highest quality cricket with a friendly environment to all members of SBCI CC and the local community". I think we do an excellent job of meeting the second part with the facilities our pavilion and ground offers for players and visitors alike but where does this leave us in regard to the highest quality of cricket part of the statement?

After the highlight of the double success ten years ago and subsequent wobble of immediate relegation followed by promotion we have been a permanent fixture in the premier league but let's be honest the club has been at greater risk of relegation than challenging for honours. Despite all the great things we can offer off the field we fail to attract new talent of first team standard. Contributing factors seem to be a large playing area, a perception that's its always cold and that the parental responsibilities of a number of current first eleven players make it difficult for them to socialise long into the evening. The latter appearing to be being very important to younger players.

To be successful we must therefore retain the talent we have and for them to be available to play on a regular basis. As ever this was an issue in 2022. Despite seven first eleven players turning out for at least 21 matches (maximum possible 24) a total of 27 different players were used. There has always been players who have served the firsts well and who want to finish their playing days in the two's however if we strive to offer the highest quality cricket we need to turn out our strongest first eleven based on playing ability not player availability. It's been a problem this year which at times led to some ill will which was not befitting of what this club stands for. Hopefully this will not raise it's ugly head again in 2023.

On the field the first X1's statistics do not lie. Never at risk of relegation they finished 8th of 12 yet in 14 fixtures against the teams who finished above them they won only once. They won 7 against those finishing below them – enough said.

What of the second X1. To go from having to win the last game of 2021 to stay in their premier division to be within one win of becoming champions in 2022 is a remarkable turnaround. The result on the last day narrowly went against them and they had to settle for runners up spot. Yes they should have been more than capable of knocking off 156 on a Blackley road but arguably the title was not lost in that game but in at least one or two other fixtures where level heads would have brought 12 point returns as against 4 or 5. Issues outside our control also had an effect such as clubs supplying their own umpires, walkouts and stupid batting line ups on the last day of the season not in the spirit of the game which impacted on the integrity of the league. A great effort but an opportunity missed.

A major success this year was sending out a Sunday team week in week out. Lots of new very enthusiastic players on show whilst retaining the opportunity to blood youngsters. You only have to look at the relegation from Premier firsts of our near neighbours to remind you of the need to nurture junior talent.

Our greatest loss this year was off the field with the untimely passing of Andy 'crazy legs' Boocock. A nicer bloke you could not wish to meet. Competitive on the field, sociable off it, a great club man and brilliant at bringing juniors forward into open age cricket. RIP Boocock.

There are too many people to thank individually for keeping this club running smoothly so it's a simple thanks to everyone who does anything to help – we couldn't do without you! Have a great break and look forward to winter nets.

**Jonathan Hyland**

## First XI



Back Row L-R A Benson (scorer) A Fawcett, Arun, A Scholefield, D Sykes, T Wood, I Ahmed,  
Front Row L-R D Brown, O Benson, S Wood (Cptn), S Hinchcliffe, L Firth

Well it's been another rollercoaster of a season for the 1st XI. Premier division status was secured for another year which to me given the current climate marks a significant achievement and one of which I'm very proud of. We of course want to be up there challenging for trophies but until we are consistently putting our best XI players on the field I think we need to be realistic about what a good season looks like. And to back that point up, as a first team we've used a total of 27 players in 2022 and 10 of those have played 3 games or less. We ended up in 8th place with 151 points which was only 6 points worse off than last year's total when we finished 5th. And bizarrely which I think was a first in all the time I've been playing we didn't lose a single over of cricket to the weather.

Onto the season and we started April with a win and two narrow defeats. The win against Ludd Foot meant we avoided the potential banana skin start especially given it was Easter weekend and we had a number of players missing. Highlights of the month were Tom's back to back centuries on the first 2 weekends and Alex's 6 for 16 on the opening day. Both defeats were narrow and we had the opposition 7 down in reply in both games but unfortunately we were a few runs and a little bit of luck short.

May was a busy month, we started with an excellent win against Bridgeholme away in the first round of the Parish Cup and ended the month with a narrow 5 run defeat away to local rivals Warley in the 2nd Round. The latter game included a hat-trick from Lewis and an excellent 58 from Alex. In the league we tied with Booth and secured 9 points, in all honesty it felt like a win given that when Olly started that last over the scores were level and Booth still had 2 wickets remaining. I was chuffed for OB as he showed great character coming back after his first 3 overs had gone for 34 at the start of the game.

A week later we had a less than impressive batting display against Triangle being 42/5 at one stage and we were grateful to Arun (46) Dylan, Ikhlaiq and Rishav who pushed the score up to 119 albeit it didn't look like it would be enough. OB again had other ideas, taking 5 for 29 and supported by Alex he had Triangle on the ropes at 35/7 and they never really recovered, we eventually bowled them out for 75 securing a brilliant win. The last league game of May saw us make the short trip to Warley a day before the Parish Cup game. Unfortunately it was a bad day at the office for us and despite Adam's excellent 79 we fell around 100 runs short of Warley's 266/8.

Into June and our up and down form continued as we won two and lost two, the two defeats were failures again with the bat as we were unable to chase two relatively low scores. The first defeat against Sowerby Bridge stung a bit as I feel we were on the wrong end of some poor umpiring decisions. 4 LBW's in the space of 8 balls never felt right to me however Tom was adamant mine was definitely out!! The week after we were able to make amends when we blew Mytholmroyd away at The Astleys. 4 wickets apiece for Scoffer and OB and a couple of run outs saw us dismiss 'Royd for 55 in 20.3 overs. There was the usual wobble with the bat when we found ourselves 21 for 3 however Sam and Arun steadied the ship and got us over the line. We made it back to back league wins for the first time with a strong performance at Great Horton Park Chapel on a sad weekend for the club given the news of friend and club-mate Booeys passing the previous day. We were set a tricky target of 186 for victory however Alex and Adam made light work of it with a pretty much chanceless run chase, Alex scoring 109\* and Adam 66\*.

The final match of June saw us narrowly lose to Thornton at home. Set 156 for victory, runs up front from Alex (42) and myself (42) kept us in the hunt however the loss of regular wickets meant we were always chasing the game. Useful lower order runs from Rishav (17) and Dan Sykes (29\*) nearly saw us over the line however unfortunately we fell an agonising 7 runs short with 16 balls still left in the game.

A very poor run of form in July saw us win only 1 of our 5 games and pick up 24 out of a possible 60 points so the less said the better! There were a couple of notable performances with the bat, Alex with 52 against Ludd Foot in our only win, CK with 64 against Bradshaw and Tom's 74 against Booth. There were strong performances with the ball from Alex (10 wickets), OB (13 wickets) and Lewis (8 wickets) in the month but yet again our batting had let us down.

August saw us return to our up and down form, with 2 wins and 2 losses however importantly we won the first two games of the month against Triangle and at the 3rd time of asking Warley, meaning we'd beaten the 2 teams below us with any chance of catching us. We then

slipped to 2 defeats, first against Sowerby Bridge, where we were poor in both departments. Wayward bowling was punished with Bridge scoring 216/9 and despite Adam's valiant effort with the bat (including a blow to the head) we ended up losing by 95 runs. We then ended the month with an 118 run defeat down at Mytholmroyd. It's fair to say that we didn't have a lot of luck early in their innings with edges and mis-hits finding plenty of boundaries giving them the perfect start to the game and despite Dan and Tom's efforts to try and pull things back they ended up with a more than useful 255. At 47/5 in reply it was a familiar tale for us I'm afraid and only Rob Larkin with 44 off 41 balls offered any kind of positivity with bat in hand.

The final month of the season saw us beat Great Horton Park Chapel for the 2nd time and secure our status in the top division for an 8th consecutive season. Batting first we made an impressive 254/5 with contributions from Sam (77), Alex (63), myself (42) and Tom (36). Tom and Dan were the pick of the bowlers in ensuring that Great Horton didn't leave the Astleys with a win under their belts. The week after Alex scored 102 out of our more than respectable 212 for 7. We were ultimately out done by one man, Josh Hutchinson who scored an unbelievable 154 off only 63 balls.

The final game of the season saw us lose out to Illingworth who were trying their best to put the pressure on Copley in the hope there was a final day slip up. We were respectful to the integrity of league using all our regular bowlers and fighting any temptation to mix up the batting order. In the face of some accurate bowling, runs were hard to come by and 3 ducks out of the first 5 batters certainly didn't help the situation. A more than useful 61 from CK meant we managed to scramble to 147-9 however it never felt like it would be enough especially given Illingworth had the league's leading run scorer in their line up. His patient 44 at the top of their reply got them off to the perfect start and despite a spirited fight back with wickets from Alex (3/46) and another 4 wicket haul from Lewis, Illingworth managed to overhaul our target with 3 wickets and 11 overs to spare.

Finally some thank you's to finish;

Firstly to OB, by the time everyone reads this Chelsea, him and the kids will be a few weeks into their new life down under and it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the contribution that this lad has made on and off the field over his time at the club. Over the last 10 plus years he's been an ever-present (barring a couple of injuries) in the first team and one of the leading bowlers in the Halifax league. More latterly he's been my vice captain and someone I've been able to confide in and rely on massively over my time in charge. Not the most vocal on the field, he's been a huge support in the background and so dependable in terms of number of games played and performances with ball in hand. He rarely has a bad game and has left some big shoes as we look forward to the 2023 season.

Secondly to Adrian, who once again never let us down, scoring almost every game (I think the only one he missed was due to illness). With the departure of OB to Australia Adrian has indicated his intention to take a step back from first team scoring duties so leaves massive shoes for us to fill. He'll be very difficult to replace after so many years of dedicated and loyal service. So once again, thank you so much for being a person we can rely on week in week out, it's very much appreciated.

Thanks once again to my dad for preparing the wicket each week and for everyone involved in making the ground and surroundings look as good as they do. Despite our challenges with the dry weather dad has yet again produced consistently good 'decks' throughout the season.

Thanks to everyone who's part of the "Monday Club' that keeps the club clean and tidy and working as it should do.

Congratulations to all the prize winners and finally thanks for everyone's continued support, I hope you all have a great winter and see you again in 2023.

**Simon Wood**

## **Second XI**



Back Row L-R L Hampshire (scorer) Abeel, D Evans, T Illingworth, R Larkin, J Hampshire, S Hampshire, C Dalby, J Hyland (Umpire)

Front Row L-R M Mahmood, J Greenwood, B Holt (Captn), M Keast, M Fellows, T Kirby

The second team had a bad day at the office against Bradshaw on week 2 of the new season, but aside from that they enjoyed 2 maximum point victories in April. Mark Fellows was the star of the show with 161 runs in the first three matches with Simon Hampshire and Brad in the wickets on week one in a narrow victory at home to Bridgeholme. Brad was again in the wickets with 4 for 24 as we beat Sowerby St Peters with 15 overs to spare. A run out each from Rob Larkin and Mike Veitch and 66 from Tony Kirby more than helped us along.

A disappointing narrow Crossley Shield defeat to first division Copley started off May for the 2nd Team, despite 4 for 31 from Albie Earle and 73 and 35 from Mark Fellows and Mike Veitch respectively. 28 runs from Simon Hampshire sadly couldn't see us reach the Copley target and we bowed out at the first hurdle for the first time in many a year. Such a shame as some big names from the Premier Division also fell by the wayside.... There's always next year!!!

The league form had been more encouraging sitting in second place at the end of May - just two points off the top of the table, with just the one point 'dropped' that month.

12 points at home to Booth was excellent despite having been bowled out for 131. Tyson and Brad led the way with the bat with 44 and 36 respectively, before Brad, Tyson and Mike took three wickets a piece to see us home by 14 runs.

Chris Dalby was an obvious man of the match the following week away at Warley. Taking a good sprawling catch in the gully which gave him his first fielding mark in "absolutely years" was then backed up with 93\* to see us home by 2 wickets. He was more than ably supported by Abeel as they put on 71 for the 7th wicket after we'd been reduced to 78-6. Earlier on in the day Mike and Matty Keast had both taken two wickets to restrict Warley to a below par 178/7.

In the final match of the month a weakened side took to the field against Triangle but we still came home with the 12 points. After restricting our visitors to 117 all out – Rob Larkin 5 for 23 and Tyson 4 for 35, we knocked the required runs off with more than 16 overs and nine wickets in hand. Tony Kirby who had, earlier kept wicket for the first time for the club (with two catches thrown into the mix) with 39\* and Chris Dalby scoring at more than a run a ball with 61\* to see us comfortably over the winning line.

It was three wins out of four in June (all with maximum points) as we hit the top of the league table. We can't really publish what we think of the reverse at home to Mytholmroyd, so we'll leave that parked right there, for now at least.

Shelf/ Northowram HT were blown away by Simon Hampshire who took 8 for 28 in the first match of the month. Greeny and Keasty then scored 18 and 26 not out respectively to secure victory after we'd lost four early wickets in pursuit of 84.

A week later, different opposition same result - 12 points. This time it was our batters who did the hard work, chasing down 176 for the loss of just the one wicket. Dylan and Tony with unbeaten half-centuries (74 and 63) saw us cruise to victory with 6 overs and 9 wickets left. Tyson had been the pick of the bowlers when Sowerby Bridge batted with 2 for 16 and Hampy went at a miserly 2.29 runs an over in his 14 over spell.

Mytholmroyd - we lost, but lets say we might, just MIGHT have been on the end of one or two dodgy and incorrect umpiring decisions. Despite Brad 4 for 52 and Hampy 3 for 52 we went down by 19 runs, Mark Fellows anchoring our reply with 74, with Dylan and Abeel also scoring 20's. This was the first game after the passing of Booe, so whilst disappointing not to have picked up the win, we knew there were a lot more important things going on than a game of cricket.

In the final match of the month we lost our first overs of the 2022 season to the weather. It was only three overs and it didn't alter the way our match against Great Horton was going. We looked to be in a bit of bother at 40-4. Brad started the turn-around with 48 off 38 balls and then, despite two wickets in as many balls to reduce us to 110-7, Rob Larkin hit his second 50 for the club off 35 balls as he and Veitchy put on 84 for the 8th wicket, to take us to a more than respectable 195 all out. In reply, Hampy's 6 for 22 ripped 6 of their top seven out, Abeel had a fantastic run out from mid-wicket with Brad cleaning up their last man to seal a comfortable 64 run win and another 12 points.

Blackley were rolled out for just 71 in the first game of July with Hampy taking 4 for 30, ably backed up by Keasty and Sudanshu (two wicket a piece). In reply, Tony forgot to put his box on but we don't think he'll ever forget again having taken a painful delivery as we romped home by nine wickets with 28 overs to spare.

A six hit by Jonathan Hampshire with four balls remaining of the match against Bridgeholme saw the 2's take 11 points from a thrilling match. Brad and Hampy took five wickets between them in the Bridgeholme innings with the home side recovering from 54-5 to post 242 following a 160 run partnership for the 6th wicket. We were cruising to victory at 215 for 4 after all of our top five had made good scores with Chris, Tyson and Brad leading the way with 77, 46 and 42. Two wickets fell with the score on 217 and then another five runs later to leave us on 222 for 7 before Jonathan came up with the heroics in the final over of the game. If the Bridgeholme game was a nail-biter then the game away at Bradshaw was a walk in the park. Hampy 4 for 23 and Tyson 3 for 37 saw our hosts for the day bowled out for 107. TK (fully kitted out this week) was the only wicket to fall as an unbeaten half-century from Mark, 28 from Tony and 20\* from Chris saw us win comfortably.

And so onto the two defeats of the month. Sowerby St P comfortably chased down our 167 all out, despite us having them 33 for 5 (Hampy 4 for 60). Mark top scored with 51 with useful contributions from Tony (22) and Jonathan (30\*), but it wasn't to be enough as Sowerby ran out winners by four wickets with 12 overs left.

An agonising 9 run defeat away at Booth saw us finish the month on a disappointing note. Booth were 18 for 3 at one stage, but a 211 4th wicket partnership saw them recover to make a probable par score of 238 – Hampy and Brad taking two wickets each. Our reply got off to a flyer with Gnanam scoring 95 off 43 balls with 88 of those coming in boundaries (including 10 sixes). Despite 33 from John, and 27 and 23 from Chris and Brad respectively, 155-2 turned into 218 for 8 and despite yet another red inker from Jonathan- 20\*- our last wicket partnership fell nine runs short.

There was still plenty of time to get the title hunt back on track- especially knowing that league leaders Mytholmroyd would be deducted 12 points at the end of August due to their not supplying an umpire to the league and fulfilling a dozen appointments. There is no doubt that the second team were hit by absences because of holidaying players, but they remained in touch at the top of the table.

The first game in August saw a tie with our nearest and dearest, Warley, in a low scoring game up at the Stute. Batting first, we were all out for 156, with the mainstay being 61 from



John Greenwood, who had hit a rich vein of form for the 2's just at the right time. 26 and 17 from Brad and Tyson respectively helped us to our final total, but we failed to use our full 45 overs. Brad and Tyson were at it again when we took to the field with 6 wickets between them, but a 49 run 9th wicket partnership saw Warley requiring 2 off the last ball to seal an unlikely win. Thankfully, just a single was taken and we had our second senior match ending in a tie this season following the first team away at Booth in May.

Normal service resumed seven days later with a dominant display away at Triangle. Chris Dalby the pick of the bowlers as he cleaned up the 'Angle tail with 3 for 22. Tyson also had three wickets and Matty 2 for 16 as we restricted our hosts to a well below par 166 all out. Greeny made 72 not out and both Mark and Dollars chipped in with 34 a piece to take us to victory by eight wickets with 7.3 overs left.

A much depleted side (holidays!!) made the trip up to Shelf/ Northowram the following week and were well beaten by 135 runs. Skipper Keast, Chris, Robin and Greg were all in the wickets. In reply, another unbeaten half-century from John (75) was the mainstay of our batting display with able support from Chris (38) and the evergreen Mr Grundy (12 not out) being the only other two batters to make it to double figures as we reached 158-5 chasing 294.

The biggest disappointment of August was the reverse at home to Sowerby Bridge, despite being able to field a much stronger side. Sowerby Bridge made 188 for 6 with Tyson taking three wickets and Phil Earle, on second team debut taking a couple as well. We ended up 24 runs short of our target despite 69 not out from Tony, 27 from Dylan and 28 from Matty.

With three games to go we sat five points behind Mytholmroyd with 36 points at stake. All to play for lads!

The month started well with a thumping win away at (then) title contenders Mytholmroyd. Simply put we were ruthless with bat, ball and in the field to blow the opposition away. Chris and Tyson batted us back into contention after we had been 55 for 3 and then Jonathan and Brad went at better than a run a ball scoring 43 and 21 to give us some real momentum as our innings came to a close. We ended up on 242 for 9 and as it turned out that was more than enough as 5 for 48 from Brad and 4 for 29 from Simon ensured the 'Royd reply never got going and we cantered home by 135 runs.

It was a bit more nervy the week after at home to Great Horton. We bowled our guests out for 91 with Matty mopping up their middle and lower order with 4 for 29 after Brad had taken 3 for 30 off his 14 overs. Tyson chipped in with 2 wickets as well and only went for 7 runs from his seven overs. Greeny anchored our innings home with a watchful 29, with Chris, Tony and Tyson also contributing double figure scores. It was left to Rob and Dylan to hit the winning runs as we won by four wickets with only 4.5 overs remaining.

A case of so near, yet so far for our second XI. 24 points in two weeks at the beginning of September left us needing a win away at Blackley on the final day to lift the Premier Division second XI title. Agonisingly, we came up short by 7 runs, despite 73 from Chris, 30 from Tyson and double figure scores from John, Rob and Brad as we so very nearly chased down 156. Earlier in the day, Matty, Tyson and Brad had each taken three wickets to restrict

Blackley to a below par score after they'd got off to a good start. Spirits were dampened, but not extinguished as the end of season do at the club showed that evening and the 2's will look to bring home the title in 2023. Given that in 2021, they had to win their final match of the season to secure their top-flight status, 2022 can be a season to look back on with enormous pride, regardless of the ultimate outcome - well done everyone.

**Dave Brown & Lewis Firth**

## Sunday Section



Back Row L-R: N Nordeen, A Dasari, S sadasivam, D Grundy, M Shaffiq, N Longhorn  
Front Row L-R: T Smith, S Sharma, G Boocock (captain), M Mohamood, A Earle

I'll start here and circle back, the Sunday team is in a much stronger position at end of the season than it was at the start. Lots of conversations were had over the winter about the viability of the Sunday team. A loan system was arranged with our friends at Sowerby Bridge CC but we have not needed to lean on this quite as heavily as we thought we might. We welcomed a group of new players to the club several of whom have played competitive cricket for the first time in a few years - and offer another good reason for having a junior programme - as they initially came as parents of kids in the juniors. We keep the team rolling so that these juniors and our current youngsters have a pathway into adult cricket.

Our first game of the season started with a win again Low Moor at home, lead by a good opening partnership from Dylan E (59) and Adam F (26) both playing their only Sunday game this season and 2 wickets each for Phil and Albie Earle and skipper Greg Boocock.

This proved to be a little bit of a false dawn as it was followed by heavy defeats at Almondbury despite 3 wickets for Greg and 28 with the bat from Robin H to end April, then our worst game of the season at Mount at the beginning of May. Bowling them out for 170 with 3 from Greg and 2 for Rich C looked OK despite A LOT of dropped catches but the batting...well it's bringing me out in a cold sweat as I type...let's just say we were not close. Stones the week after wasn't much better despite Bash S and Aditya S both making 20s and Navaz N 16, Stones won the game for the loss of 1 wicket. Stones are the model we wish to follow with a few old heads supporting a group of good young players. One of whom opened for them making a composed 34 despite Arun CK's figures of 9-5-6-0. Their team complimented us on the encouragement and support he got whilst batting from us rather than any 'chirping'.

This led to a more determined effort at Low Moor in the first Rob Warhurst Cup match. An opening 100 partnership from Robin H and Dave G (if made a little slllloooowwlllyyy....) with Robin falling one short of his 50 and a quick 25 from Abeel M made a competitive score but despite Aditya S taking a couple of wickets this wasn't enough. The game at Illingworth could have been a major cup upset, our score didn't look enough but Greg took 4 – 20 in their reply and they had a serious wobble before winning with 3 wickets to spare.

The final cup game vs Buttershaw saw 3 wickets each for Ajay D and Aditya S. Phil E's 19 and an all-rounder performance from Ash M with a wicket and 22 runs wasn't enough for the win.

We only had one game in June, but what a game! Eventual league winners Sowerby Bridge regretted making us bat first and Sud S's 88 opening the batting supported with 23 from Ken M got us to 181. Sud wasn't done though, taking 4 – 17 and with another 3 from Greg B we earned a great win bowling them out for 134.

July saw the hottest game of the year at Low Moor with Paul C taking 3 wickets in their opening innings. Dave G's 32 (including a rare 6) top scored in a reply which fell short. Almost inevitably the week after, having Almondbury six down for not very many and in real trouble, the heavens opened and the game was abandoned. The next game vs Mount will be remembered for the hat trick from Muteeb M, with many in the club following the last two balls of the hat trick 'live' on the What's App group.

August saw another low score at Stones, this time due to some very accurate bowling from their young opening pair and despite an excellent 31 from Charlie W which they easily knocked off. Our home fixture with Sowerby Bridge saw a run chase including 55 from the 'lesser spotted' Danny K in sharing a 100 partnership with brother Matty K - 66 which wasn't quite enough.

In the last game of the month Buttershaw probably thought they had plenty with their 206 batting first and at 84 - 8 in our reply even more so. However, they had not counted on our

youngsters Albie E and Stan Robinson. Supported by Stan's 29 Albie made a season high for the Sundays of 93 getting us much closer than they expected.

Our final game of the season ended in what we thought was a defeat which would have meant relegation; however, Fields had played an illegible player which meant we were awarded the points and stayed up. He and they should have known the fates were against them when he was bowled Bash S, stumped Dave G...

A number of the 'Sunday regulars' have been able to help out the 2nds this season when needed, with Pedro even getting a promotion into the 1sts...

There are many people who played a great part in this season who have not got a mention above, Satyam S, Nick L and others from SBCI and Haris, Rik and Robbo as loans from SB on the playing side as well as all those who have scored, umpired, made the teas and prepared the ground. Special thanks should go to the Dalby family for all their support throughout the season.

So back to where we started, we've played the game the right way, we have stuck to the rules, we've really improved from that 'cold sweat' moment at Mount at the beginning of May, we have encouraged each other and most importantly had some fun. We are keen to come back and know we'll be more competitive from this development season, hopefully aiding some more youngsters playing senior cricket for the first time.

The only question left to ask is why I didn't ask Phil Earle to write this, it would have been a far more engaging read!

**Dave Grundy**

## **T20 Review**

Our T20 campaign was over before it got going this season thanks in no small part to some miscommunication from the league (we'll leave it at that), added to other issues leaving us with probably more than 20 players unavailable on the day.

Nevertheless, this was not the fault of hosts Mytholmroyd and other group rival Illingworth and so we set out to fulfil our fixtures. Though we lost both games there were encouraging performances in both from a group made up of 1st XI, 2nd XI, and Sunday players, which stuck together throughout.

We lost to eventual winners Mytholmroyd by 108 runs and to Illingworth by 9 wickets. The stand out performance of our day was Arun CK's brilliant 55 in the second game, but we never really threatened to trouble two full-strength Premier Division sides. Thanks to Lauren Grundy for scoring, Martyn Summerscales for umpiring and all those who were able to make themselves available for the club.

**Lewis Firth**

## Appearances – 2022

	1st XI	2nd XI	Sunday side	Total
M Mahmood	0	14	12	26
O Benson	24	0	0	24
S Wood	24	0	0	24
M Keast	0	20	3	23
T Wood	23	0	0	23
G Boocock	0	10	12	22
A CK	21	0	1	22
C Dalby	4	18	0	22
D Evans	9	12	1	22
I Ahmed	21	0	0	21
D Brown	17	3	1	21
L Firth	21	0	0	21
A Scholefield	21	0	0	21
S Hampshire	0	20	0	20
A Kirby	0	19	1	20
A Fawcett	18	0	1	19
M Fellows	1	18	0	19
J Greenwood	0	18	0	18
B Holt	0	17	1	18
R Larkin	3	12	0	15
S Sharma	1	7	7	15
A Dasari	0	4	10	14
S Sadasivam	0	2	12	14
D Sykes	14	0	0	14
R Hanson	1	9	3	13
T Illingworth	0	12	1	13
M Shaffiq	0	0	13	13
J Hampshire	2	10	0	12

A	Muhmaad	2	9	1	12
M	Veitch	6	6	0	12
D	Grundy	0	1	10	11
S	Hinchliffe	11	0	0	11
C	Wesencraft	0	0	11	11
N	Nordeen	0	0	9	9
A	Earle	0	3	5	8
R	Tandon	7	0	0	7
S	Bragg	1	0	5	6
P	Collins	1	0	5	6
A	Mahmood	0	0	6	6
P	Earle	0	1	4	5
A	Ramapuram	4	1	0	5
A	Singh	0	0	5	5
H	West	5	0	0	5
R	Conway	0	1	2	3
N	Langhorn	0	0	3	3
K	Major	0	0	3	3
N	Skirrow	1	2	0	3
T	Smith	0	1	1	2
D	Wilkinson	0	0	2	2
C	Hyland	1	0	0	1
D	Keast	0	0	1	1
J	Thomas	0	1	0	1

## Prize Winners 2022

### Senior Prize Winners

#### First Team

Batting – Tom Wood 23 innings, 1 no, 893 runs @ 40.59 (HS 149)

Bowling – Alex Scholefield 254 overs, 60 maidens, 62 wickets, 855 runs @ 13.79

Fielding – Adam Fawcett – 5.5 marks

Special award – Lewis Firth Hat-trick v Warley (away)

#### Second team

Batting – Chris Dalby 17 innings, 4 not out, 557 runs @ 42.85 (HS 92\*)

Bowling – Tyson Illingworth 97 overs, 16 maidens, 28 wickets, 376 runs @ 13.43

Fielding – T Kirby/Muteeb Mahmood - 4 marks each

#### Sunday Team

Batting – Dave Grundy 8 innings, 0 no, 158 runs @ 19.88 (HS 41)

Bowling – Greg Boocock 83.1 overs, 12 maidens, 23 wickets, 320 runs @ 13.91

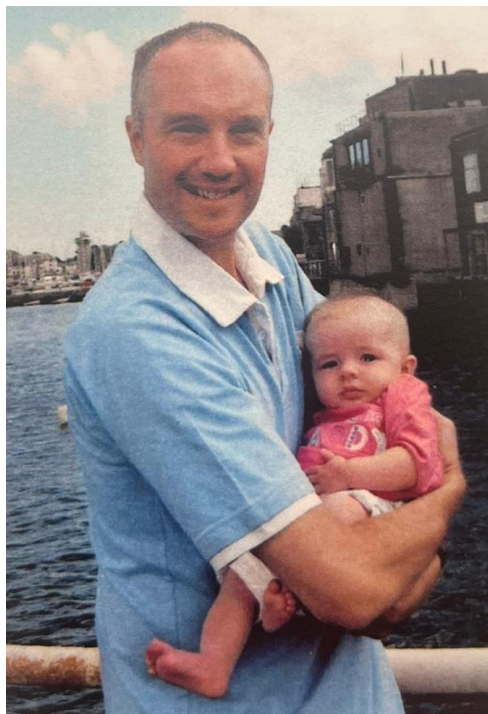
Fielding – Albie Earle/Charlie Wesencraft – 4 marks each

Special award – Muteeb Mahmood Hat-trick v Mount (home)

**Alan Sutcliffe Trophy** (most senior runs league & cup only) Tom Wood 893 @ 40.59

**Campbell Cup** (most senior wickets league & cup only) Alex Scholefield 62 wickets @ 13.79

## Andrew Boocock



Friday 17th June saw the untimely passing of one of our longest continuous serving players, Andrew Boocock, following a period of illness.

We were fully aware that Booeey, Crazy legs (or a whole manner of other nicknames) had been into hospital for a serious operation in April and had spent the time since recuperating (for a short while) at home, even making it up to the club in mid-May to watch the first XI play against Triangle. Unfortunately, Andrew was re-admitted to hospital the following week. He sadly passed away on Friday 17th June, and despite the knowledge that he had been ill, it's fair to say that when the news was broken to us on the Friday night, it was a devastating shock to everyone, not only at the club but also to the wider Halifax Cricket League, which he had played in for 34 years.

We held a minute's silence before our games against Great Horton Park Chapel and Mytholmroyd on the following day and it's correct to assume that at both venues and despite a win for the first XI, it was a day where cricket wasn't at the forefront of our minds.

Booeey joined the club, along with his Dad from Mytholmroyd Methodist's in 1987/88 and had been with us ever since, starting his career with our very own Jonathan Hampshire in our junior sides at the same time. In fact, Alex Scholefield told me that Booeey was at the



club when Alex left SBCI at 16 and he was still at the club he Alex returned to SBCI, some 25 years later.

An opening / first change bowler, mainly for our second and Sunday sides, Booeey bowled medium paced outswing bowling that (especially on a Sunday) was far too accurate and 'cute' for many an opposition batter. Both Simon Wood and John Greenwood have both told me in the past week or so, that he was an absolute dream to keep to and that he'd land the ball on a sixpence, and it would then drift and seam away. I'm not overly certain he knew how he got the ball to swing away, and never had the ability to get one to go the other way, but in the 12 seasons, I've been with the club, he must have picked up the Sunday section bowling award on at least seven occasions. Even as recently as the "Covid" season of 2020, Andrew finished 5th in the league averages for bowling for the 2nd team – taking 13 wickets at an average of 10.23. It's also fair to say, that had the Sunday team held onto the 100% of the many chances that Andrew created whilst bowling, you could have added at least another 20/30 wickets per season.

Andrew was a great team mate to everyone he played with and never complained when the inevitable catch went down off his bowling (the worst you would have got would have been the occasional double "teapot"). He was especially helpful to young players who were coming into the senior game, assisting with advice where required. He ultimately, always played the game with a smile on his face (even on the very rare occasions) where he went for a few runs.

Off the field, Booeey was your archetypal club man. He served on the Committee, supported all club events and was responsible for putting in the new kitchen when the club received a grant in 2019. He was also the architect of installing multiple new fence panels up at the club when the Winter weather had taken its toll on the existing and battered panels.

On a personal level, Booeey was the first person I really attached myself to when I joined the club in 2010. He was always willing to give me a lift to/from Sunday matches, despite his daughter being a baby at the time when it might have been easier to have said no, spend more valuable time with Sophie, rather than going out of his way to come and collect me. I sat next to him for the duration of the 2010 Parish Cup final at Blackley and he shed tears of joy when the final Mytholmroyd wicket was taken to give us our first victory in that competition for 46 years.

He was a great friend away from the cricket field as well and helped me out on more than a few occasions with a few bits of DIY that needed more than one pair of hands, and in spite of his illness. At no point did he ever ask for or accepted any money when I'd taken 2 hours of one of his Wednesday evenings.

On a lighter note, and as is tradition after the last-match of the season, the whole club tends to come together to celebrate success/drown our sorrows with more than a few beers. Booeey was a keen partaker in this tradition, following the conclusion of the first and second team campaigns, BUT usually had a Sunday game to play in the day after. As a committed club man, on any other game day, he'd be the first person to arrive, would put the boundary markers out, set the scoreboard up and put the stumps in the ground. Safe to

say this didn't happen on the last match of the season. He'd arrive at 1:15 for a 1:30 start not looking his best, shall we say after a night on the beer.

Invariably, we'd end up fielding and he would stand in the slips for 20 overs moaning about his banging headache, before eventually feeling sufficiently well to be able to bowl. His first over would usually go for 10/15 – very un-Andrew like, but as you can imagine the next eight overs were on the button and he'd generally go and take out the opposition tailenders and end up with a five fer.

He's going to be a huge miss, not only at the club, but throughout the Halifax cricket league as well. Some of the tributes we've read on social media, not only from our own club members, but from further afield jut go to show how much he was respected as a cricketer, but more importantly, how a lot of people saw him as a man. Out thoughts, prayers and best-wishes are with his family at this sad time.

Go well pal.

**Dave Brown**

## **Under 13's**

A highly satisfying 5th placed (out of eight teams) finish for our Under 13 side in 2022. Even better when you consider that with the exception of two players, all of our Under 13's side were experiencing hard ball cricket for the first time. Better still was that we had four lads; Freddie, Dylan, Sol and Ben step up from the Under 11's team to more than make their mark this year, and in the case of Samuel Scholefield, he stepped up from the Under 9 side to more than play his part in the second half of the season. All this against a backdrop of having gone from having 16 Under 13 players at the beginning of March, to just nine when the first match of the season started (including losing one to another club whilst I was driving to our first match of the season!!!) The weather also behaved itself and we only had the one match rained off because of the inclement weather.

I'm sure that we'll be pushing for a top three place in 2023 if we can keep this group of players together.

As you well know, our cricket club at a junior level is all about giving kids a fair crack at cricket and this extends to match days as well. The easiest thing in the world would be to let the better batters bat every week, and the stronger, quicker bowlers to bowl at the beginning of an innings. Whilst that might have brought us a couple of extra wins, it wouldn't have done anything for the lads and lasses 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 Matthew, Lucas, Fin and Dylan 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 thing way to do things and (hopefully) will keeping these talented youngsters interested

until such a time they are wanting to graduate to senior cricket. I certainly hope that by the time I write the 2023 end of season report, I'll be able to record that we've had some of this side make their senior debut for the club.

We started off the season with back-to-back wins. Lucas, Jack, Libby and Noah all taking wickets on their Under 13 debut, before Sonny made 26 not out to see us reach our victory target with ease. A week later and Sonny was at it again with 28, ably accompanied by Jack who also made 28. Jack then followed this up with 4 wickets as we beat Queensbury by 18 runs in a low-scoring game.

A narrow defeat away at Clayton followed seven days later despite 19 from Fin, 15 from Libby and 18 not out from Matthew, with wickets for Dylan and Isaac when Clayton had a bat. A big loss to Blackley the following week gave us a set-back, but we fared much better away at Low Moor in the next game with Sonny and Noah top scoring and Fin, Jack and Sonny taking wickets.

The highlights of the game against Stainland were Libby taking the only opposition wicket to fall, Jack scoring 20 after we'd been 1 for 3 and Lucas bravely facing 55 balls against a high quality opposition bowling attack. Liam Parker took his first Under 13 wicket of the season against Elland, with Sonny chipping in with 2 for 5 and Libby being the only player to make double figures with the bat.

We returned to winning ways in our final league game of the season against Clayton at the end of June. Sammy took his first Under 13 wicket and Isaac had two wickets for two runs as we restricted our hosts to 58 in a 16 over match. Sonny and Jack with 19 and 21 not out saw us over the line with two overs left.

Our round robin cup campaign saw us well beaten in all four games, but it gave Ben the chance to open the batting against Queensbury. Isaac took two wickets against Sowerby Bridge, with Jack top-scoring with the bat. Sonny scored 30 the week after against Low Moor, with Sammy and Liam once again in the wickets. Our season finished with yet another away game at Clayton, where despite coming out second best, both Libby and Matthew took two wickets each with Fin, Libby and Noah the only players to make double figure scores with the bat.

As you can see, everyone has contributed throughout the season with bat or ball or in the field. Unfortunately, a scorecard doesn't show how many runs were saved by a piece of excellent fielding but Freddie, in every match he played must have saved at least a dozen runs in the field, as well as taking a couple of unbelievable catches. To all those who have kept wicket in 2022- you've done the role admirably throughout the season. It is never the easiest job in the world, but everyone has done their duty, when required- without complaint. Overall, a great season, all things considered.

A big thank you to everyone who has helped out with coaching on a Friday night (or running the bar), to umpiring and scoring on a match night. A special mention to both Mark and Kim Fellows taxi service (who offer very good rates!!!) who've given lifts when needed to otherwise stranded players. 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.

## Dave Brown



Back Row L-R Noah, Liam, Jack, Finlay, Sonny  
Front Row L-R Isaac, Matthew, Lucas, Libby, Sam

## Under 11's

U11's is all about giving kids the chance to play the game and have a go with the bat, ball and field, including rotating the person wearing the wicket keeping gloves and we make sure they all get the chance to do this, mixing batting and bowling orders for each game. The improvements made by these young players throughout the season is obvious. We've played the game the right way, supported each other and, most importantly, they've enjoyed ourselves.

This is the first year for most of them playing wearing pads, gloves and helmets - playing with an 'incrediball' which isn't a full hard ball but a step up from the softer ball used in the U9's. Running in pads isn't easy the first few times, never mind helmets... We had a number of

young people play this season who will be able to play at this age group again next year. Several have also stepped up and played hard ball cricket for first time in the U13's as well. The results at this age group are not that important, at least not at SBCI and many other clubs, however we have only lost to one other team this season, just a few times...but if we are going to lose, I'm happier doing this to Low Moor who are another club who run their junior set up with the right values, well done to them.

Nor is this review about naming names or specific performances and there have been many. I'm thinking particularly of one of the best shots I have seen all season, at all levels, played by one, very, young man at King Cross and the huge improvement in pace and accuracy of the bowling of another (you both know who you are...) but we rightly congratulate Libby Fellows who has represented Yorkshire at this age group during the season.

Thanks to all the parents for helping out during the year with lifts to games and/or training and those coaches who have made Friday evenings run so well. Having said I'm not naming names...thanks go to Dave Brown for all his efforts, often unseen in the background and to Lauren for scoring almost all of the games this season. Scoring U11's games on the app is a lot harder than coaching/umpiring, believe me!

### **Dave Grundy**



Back Row L-R Dave Grundy (coach), Jaden, Sachin, Rajab, Charlie,  
Sammy, Freddie, Lauren (scorer)  
Front Row L-R Zia, Dylan, Libby, Monty

## Under 9's

2022 has been another great year for the U9s with 17 different children playing for the team this season. It has been the youngest group since I have been looking after the 9s sprinkled with a little experience.

It has been really pleasing to see how all the kids have developed and how the older ones have shown great leadership to help the younger kids!

Results are never the focus for us at this level, enjoying and learning the game come first. In line with our ethos at SBCI we have looked to get everyone a game that can play each week and you can see how their confidence has grown throughout the season!

A big thanks go to the people who help games happen: OB for scoring, Mike Veitch, Mushtaq Alam for numerous things like looking after games and umpiring at times, those who have helped with the bar and Dave Brown for his organisation.

I am losing the help of some of these folks, so I'll be needing some help next year, with scoring being the main gap.

Also a big thanks to all of the Friday night coaches: OB, Pedro, Mark Fellows, David Grundy, David Brown, Richard Gould, Jamie Summerscales and others.

Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and others who have brought the kids along to training and matches.

And finally, and most importantly thanks to the kids who make it all worthwhile, in no particular order: Seth Fellows, Monty Veitch, James Calvert, Kuba Kegal, Yusuf Ahmed, Kacie Howlett, Zia Alam, Achintya Iyer, Sam Schofield, Brooke Larkin, Harry Round, Reggie Hall, Teddy Benson, Idris Umen, Charlie Swift, Millie Gould, George Taylor.

Good luck to those moving on to the U11s (albeit most have already played at that level). Good luck to Teddy and the Benson family who have flown out for a new chapter in Australia! I look forward to welcoming back all the rest for another season next year!

**Rob Larkin**





Back Row L-R Rob Larkin (coach), Harry, Reggie, James, Monty, Millie  
Front Row L-R Achintya, Zia, Someones sibling!, Teddy, Seth, Brooke

## Under 18's

The club has just the three juniors at this age group, and as a result we utilised our strong links with Sowerby Bridge Cricket Club to allow Albie, Charlie and Harry to be able to continue to play junior cricket by playing at Walton Street. With the Under 17's competition now having been changed to an Under 18 competition, the three lads will have another two years playing junior cricket.

Fair to say that studying for GCSE's prevented our lads from playing too much junior cricket in 2022, but all three have made more than their fair contribution both at a junior level and for their respective senior sides and we hope to see this continue and develop over the next couple of years.

**Dave Brown**





## Under 15's & All Stars

We don't currently have an Under 15 side, so unfortunately there is nothing to write about them.

This year's All Stars was a great success once again as we saw new and returning faces every Sunday morning. The children progressed throughout the sessions and could be seen making new friends as well as gaining new skills. A big thank you to all of the volunteers who helped out this year and filled in when needed, the sessions would not have happened without you.

It was also great to see some of our All Stars make it to Friday night junior training and some of the parents progress to representing the club on a Saturday and Sunday throughout the 2022 season.

We are excited to see you all grow as players and participate in games in the next few years. We can't wait to see you again next year!

## Junior Prize Winners

### Under 13's

Batting – Sonny Keast 11 innings, 3 no, 141 runs @ 17.63

Bowling – Libby Fellows – 20 overs, 3 maidens, 10 wickets, 80 runs @ 8.00

Fielding – Jack Fellows & Freddie Dickson

Bill Jordan Memorial Shield (most promising junior) – Jack Fellows

Young Player of the Year – Albie Earle

## Club Development

The principal developments this year have been the new and extended practice nets and the sand slitting at the top of the outfield in an attempt to rectify the long term water retention and drainage problems. Given the very dry weather enjoyed this summer this work is slightly ironic but will stand us in good stead going forward and significantly reduces the likelihood of some fixtures being called off.

Additional seating and a wind break have also been constructed down towards the 'nine hole'. Clubmark has finally moved to a computer based system this year and we successfully achieved re-accreditation. It would appear that accreditation is now going to be an annual process and not three yearly. How detailed this will be remains to be seen.



*Photo By Joe Begnar.*



## LEAGUE TABLES 2022

### Premier First XI

Team	P	W12	W6	T3	LO	Batting	Bowling	Total
Copley	22	10	9	0	3	33	23	230
Illingworth	22	14	4	0	4	19	15	226
Bradshaw	22	9	4	0	9	29	22	183
Booth	22	9	3	1	9	27	17	173
Thornton CC	22	7	5	0	10	29	30	173
Sowerby Bridge	22	7	4	1	10	30	28	169
Mytholmroyd	22	11	1	0	10	23	17	166
SBCI	22	7	1	1	13	27	31	151
Luddendenfoot	22	8	1	0	13	24	23	149
Triangle	22	4	3	0	15	34	28	128
Warley	22	4	2	0	16	42	24	126
Great Horton PC	22	2	1	1	18	34	27	104

## Premier Second XI

Team	P	W12	W6	T3	LO	Batting	Bowling	Total
Sowerby St Peters	22	13	2	0	6	14	15	200
SBCI	22	12	2	1	7	22	17	198
Mytholmroyd	22	10	6	0	5	28	24	195
Blackley	22	9	5	0	8	27	23	188
Bridgeholme	22	10	2	0	10	31	18	181
Booth	22	10	1	0	11	30	23	179
Great Horton PC	22	11	1	0	10	13	19	170
Sowerby Bridge	22	5	5	0	12	38	29	157
Bradshaw	22	7	1	0	14	29	18	137
Warley	22	5	1	1	15	29	27	125
Shelf Northowram HT	22	4	3	0	15	33	28	123
Triangle	22	5	0	0	17	23	28	111

## Sunday Section Division 2

Team	P	W20	WD7	LD1	L	NR	WCN	LCN	Bt B	Bl B	Total
Sowerby Bridge	14	7	1	0	2	1	3	0	9	15	239
Mount	14	5	4	0	2	1	2	0	19	18	213
Stones	14	7	2	1	3	1	0	0	13	16	185
Almondbury	14	4	1	3	3	2	0	1	21	19	146
Low Moor	14	4	1	4	4	1	0	0	15	22	136
SBCI	14	2	1	3	7	1	0	0	19	32	104
Northowram Fields	14	2	2	3	3	2	2	0	18	13	82
Buttershaw St P	14	1	0	0	9	2	1	1	20	24	60

WD7 – Incomplete win      WCN – Opposition conceded (20)  
LD1 – Not all out



## Notes from Halifax League AGM

- ◆ All Saturday fixtures to commence at 1pm
- ◆ Batting Bonus point changes
  - 100 - 149 runs - 1 point
  - 150 - 199 runs - 2 points
  - 200 plus – 3 points
- ◆ Providing teas remains mandatory
- ◆ Tea interval remains at 30 minutes
- ◆ Calling wides still at the discretion of the umpires

## **Match Ball Sponsors 2022**

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

## Principal Sponsors 2022







**Greeny takes one for the team - Tony please note he was wearing a box!**

***This newsletter is produced by Jonathan Hyland***

***Contributors: S Wood, D Brown, L Firth, D Grundy, R Larkin, J Bognar***

**Please note that any views or opinions expressed within *Silly Point* are those of the individuals and not necessarily those of SBCI CC.**