SILLY POINT

The Official Newsletter of SBCI CC
End of Season Edition – November 2011

CLUB DEVELOPMENT

2011 will go down as a very good year for SBCI. Our first XI secured promotion (as champions) back to the Premier Division at the first time of asking and put up a stout defence of the Parish Cup losing their quarter final at Booth by a single run in slightly controversial circumstances. The second XI attained their highest league position of the modern era and the Sunday Section finished a creditable 5th in Division 2.

Our junior teams have all continued to perform well with the U17's, U15's and U11's winning their sections and the U13's improving week by week as the season progressed.

Off the wicket our winter working party completed the boundary flagging over the Nat West Cricket Force week end in April and the ground has probably never looked in better shape at the start of a season than it did this year. We have registered again with the Nat West for 2012 so please keep an eye out for details and support your club.

I am very pleased to report that our application for Clubmark re-accreditation in September was successful and our Development Plan for 2012 has been sent to the ECB. Whilst looking to maintain our high playing standards we continue to strive for improvements in all our facilities and have targeted a number of initiatives including re-roofing the tackle hut (we cannot have the Chair getting wet in his Private Box!) create more ground seating, acquire new wicket covers, purchase a net cage in an effort to get better use of the artificial wicket and improve the sightscreen.

As always I will finish by thanking all those people who keep the club running smoothly. Enjoy the winter break before nets start in the new year and please support our varied social functions if at all possible.

Jonathan Hyland
Club Development Manager



THE FIRST XI

Our primary objective for the 2011 season was to regain Premiership status for 2012. A defeat in our opening fixture at Southowram was a stark reminder that if we didn't already know it, our task wasn't by any means a foregone conclusion.

Full credit to the lads, from that point forward we worked hard and played with real conviction winning 16 games, losing just 5. I think everyone would agree that we made it far more interesting than it should have been to clinch the title, the league should have been sewn up with a couple of games to spare, but win it we did!

Special recognition should be given to our bowling attack; Olly Benson and Robin Hanson on their day were too good and ripped the heart out of the opposition's top order, leaving a very gettable total on the board. Ben Summerscales and vice skipper Jamie Sykes provided quality change bowling variations. Our four frontline bowlers took 169 wickets between them this season and hoping they take on board lessons learnt this year into 2012 they will continue to cause problems and take wickets in the Premier league.

In the batting department, whilst our top four batters all registered over 500 runs there is just one stand out performer for me – Charlie Hyland, our best batsman in 2011 by a country mile. Charlie displays all the key attributes of a good batsman – good temperament, elegance and finesse, power and timing. He consistently made runs where others struggled notching up 640 runs. Providing he doesn't listen to his dad too much he has a bright career ahead of him – only joking Jon! Congratulations Charlie and please remember me when your famous!

Well done chaps, you did me proud.

Jamie Summerscales
1st XI Skipper

THE SECOND XI

In stark contrast to 2010 when relegation had been a very real possibility up until the last month of the season, 2011 will go down as our most successful of the modern era. Thirteen victories, ten of which were 10 point wins coupled with eight defeats plus one draw (abandoned without a ball being bowled) was a very satisfactory return. Fourth place in the Premier Seconds League is our highest ever position.

The team developed a habit of being able to raise their game when faced with stronger opposition most notably in completing a league double over Sowerby Bridge and in sending Triangle away from the 'Stute with only a single point to their name. Unfortunately when they did suffer a defeat it was often by a significant margin with too many players having an off day together. One attribute however this side did possess was a fantastic fighting spirit which was never more evident in the home defeat of Jer Lane who thoroughly enjoyed the tea interval having dismissed SBCI for 96. It is fair to say their skipper wasn't quite so happy two hours later when they failed to reach their target.

The team's success was largely built around a youthful opening bowling attack of Matthew Scholefield and Jonny Whiteoak ably backed by leading wicket taker Ross Benson and veteran skipper Simon Scholefield who managed to win the league bowling prize with 26 wickets at an average of 13.50. James Pettinger and Will Thickett made their senior debuts and contributed significantly towards the latter part of the year. With the bat 'new signing' George Hampshire was superb. When he stops running himself and partners out there will be no stopping him! Lewis Firth and Simon were also always in the thick of the action. George took 26 catches behind the stumps which resulted in him winning the 2011 Premier Seconds league wicket keeping prize.

When you add three seasoned professionals with a combined age of (at least) around 150 to the experienced twenty somethings who have been hanging around the club for several years you have a potent combination who, if they believe in themselves, can really challenge for honours in 2012 as shown by their excellent form over the last six matches which nearly took them to the Clay Trophy.

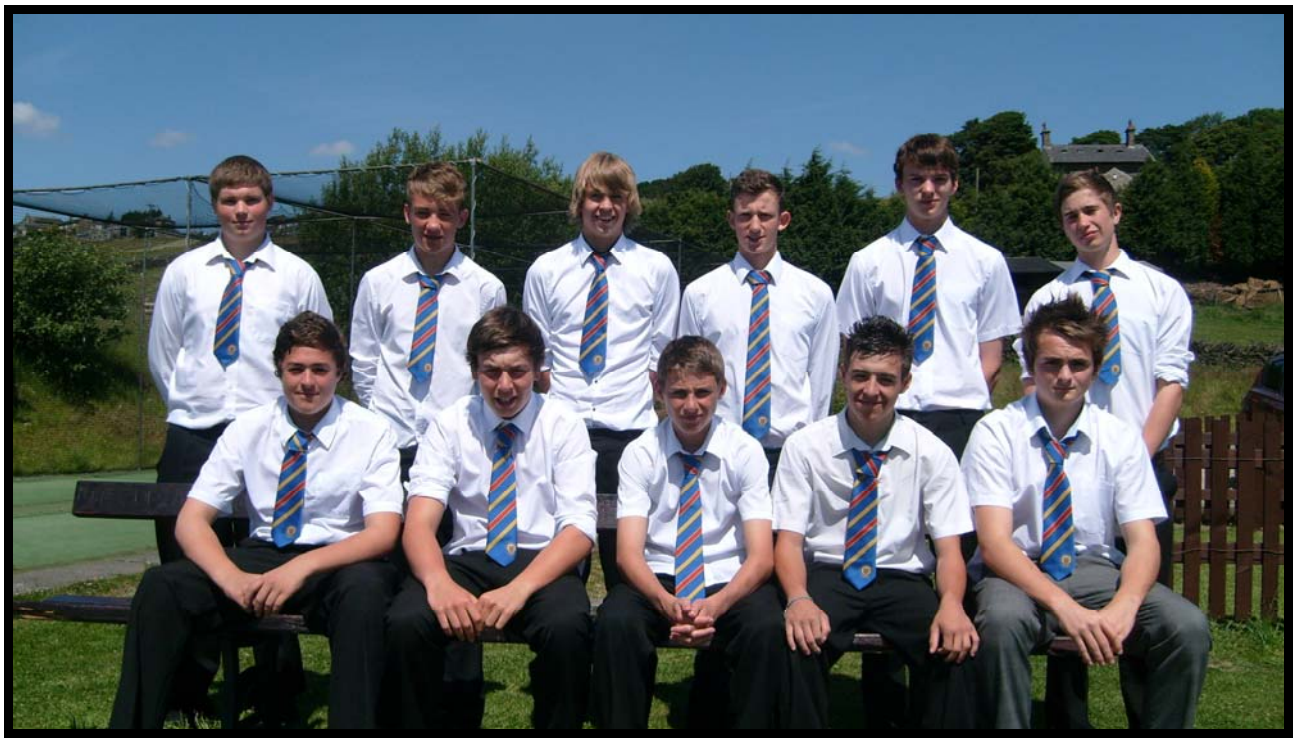
SUNDAY SECTION

Our goals for 2011 were to give our juniors exposure to senior cricket, maintain Division 2 status and ensure every playing member that wanted a game got one. On the whole I think this was achieved with no less than ten of the junior section representing the side this year with all making significant contributions over the season. A number of personal milestones were also passed with maiden centuries for Harry West and Matty Bamford and senior half centuries for Jonny Whiteoak and James Pettinger.

The season is best described as a game of three thirds! We started brightly winning our first three games and narrowly lost the fourth by nine runs. The next ten games resulted in six defeats and four games lost to bad weather which meant we failed to qualify for the latter stages of the Rod Warhurst cup and then found ourselves bottom of Division 2. If this was not bad enough Booey (Andrew Boocock) was dazzled by the sun playing Northowram HT and failed to see a beamer which unfortunately ended his season with a broken arm.

Five games to go and an uphill battle ahead. Despite only fielding nine men against Sowerby Bridge we won by 25 runs and a week later with a full team blew them away by ten wickets John Greenwood (71) and John Hampshire (69) seeing us home. The next two fixtures were against top of the table Bradshaw, the first of which was a thoroughly entertaining match which we won with 14 balls to spare having been set 211. A week later the return was considerably more one sided with an 180 third wicket partnership between George (Hampshire) and Matty seeing some extremely clean hitting and a concerned Allen Hampshire fearing for the safety of his car. With Matthew Scholefield clubbing a quick fire 42 not out we posted 305 a target Bradshaw never looked like getting near being rolled over for just 126.

With 76 points from a possible 80 Division 2 status was safe as we finished a comfortable 5th leaving our last game against local rivals Warley. Spoilt by the weather only our innings being completed before the heavens opened the game was notable for Callum Bowmer just falling short of a maiden senior 50 with 46 to his name and John Greenwood showing remarkable footballing skills in volleying the ball onto his stumps thus completing sufficient innings to qualify for the Sunday Section batting averages!



This year's Joe Lumb side pictured before we hosted the game against Wetherby in July included Skipper, Charles Hyland and Matthew Scholefield

UNDER 17s

It has been another successful year for our U17's who have won the league for the third year in a row however the cup continues to elude us losing out once again in the semi-finals. The side always went out to win and not merely turn up for a game and that's how our campaign started with an emphatic win away at Sowerby St Peters who would eventually be our closest rivals. The league form went from strength to strength as the team gathered momentum and we sat pretty on top of the table from the first to last week of the season, a noteable achievement in itself.

Probably one of the highest ever scores you are ever likely to see in 20 over junior cricket occurred at Booth when we hit 194 for the loss of one wicket. Charles Hyland's runs have proved invaluable not only for the first team but also the 17's when several times he gave us a match winning innings. Complimented by George Hampshire, Fraser Horsfal and Gareth Hall we had a formidable batting lineup which rarely failed.

Excellent bowling from Matthew Scholefield, Jonny Whiteoak, James Pettinger, with spin variety provided by Nat Skirrow and Will Thickett gave an attack few if any clubs could rival. If one was critical our fielding was not as good as it has been in recent years and this is an area for improvement next year.



Charles digging in against Southowram



Matthew pounds in at the 'Stute'

UNDER 11s

The under 11's have enjoyed a very successful season especially so when you consider the fact that they were all officially U10's! The majority of team members have been at the club a year or two now and we were confident before the season started that we would have a good one.

In the cup we qualified for the semi-finals by winning our group without losing a game, the highlight of which was a comprehensive win over a strong Luddendenfoot team. Our semi-final was an away fixture at Stones who unfortunately were too strong for us and we lost comfortably.

In the league we were certainly 'the team to beat' but managed to play through the entire campaign unbeaten and jointly won the competition with one of the two Stones teams, the Stones Roses! Henry Lamper has lead the team well making many on field decisions himself and all players have made meaningful contributions with bat or ball at some point during the season. Congratulations also go to Charlie Holt-Conway who represented the Halifax League team in the Lord Taverners fixtures.

John Greenwood
Coach

UNDER 15s

The majority of our U15's squad was made up of 2010's U13's double winning side and their success continued unabated in 2011. We had some great additions with Callum Bowmer joining from Warley and Fraser Horsfall and Jack Bates from Augustinians and playing 14 games in all competitions we remained unbeaten.

In the league local rivals Warley, Sowerby and Booth were highlighted as the 'big games'. Of the three Sowerby were first up and we managed a close 5 run victory following which Warley were restricted to 85 which we knocked off in 14 overs. Our first match v Booth was lost to the weather and the away fixture would determine the league winners. A game that promised much was virtually decided in the first over with Jonny Whiteoak dismissing their first and third batter (twice!) in the first three balls. Booth laboured to 58-8 and we only needed 9 overs to secure the title.

The cup draw was a tough one with both Copley and Low Moor in our group. Although Low Moor scored a formidable 112 in a rain reduced 16 overs we won the match scrambling a single off the last ball to set up a group decider with Copley. An excellent bowling and fielding display restricted Copley to 79 and with strength in our batting the target was reached in 17 overs.

Before commenting on the semi-final I must mention one of the most remarkable spells of bowling ever by an SBCI player. In our game v Thornton they were already struggling at 16-1 off 8 overs when we unleashed Fahd our secret weapon! In a four over spell he took 7 wickets for 7 runs including 5 in one over!

In the semi-final Northowram HT batted first and good opening spells kept the scoring rate down before Fraser clean bowled four batsmen in nine balls and with Azeem taking 2-6 we were left chasing 78. George (Hampshire) and James (Pettinger) obviously had somewhere to go to as they completed a 10 wicket victory in 14 overs.

The final at Sowerby against Barkisland was played out on a damp wicket and with George losing the toss for the fourth final on the trot we batted first. James (17) and George (34ret) batted patiently and when 80 was looking like a good score Jonny hit a swashbuckling 31 including two huge 6's in taking the total to 105.

Although Barkisland set off at a decent pace two early wickets from Jonny (2-23) and 2-8 from Fraser secured a comfortable 27 run winning margin and man of the match award for Jonny.

In addition to their own success seven of the team featured every week for the U17's who also won their league. Jonny, James, Nat and George all played for the Lords Taverners side and George won the league batting prize with James runner up in the bowling.

Simon Hampshire
Coach



U15's Collinson Cup Winners 2011

AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to Simon Scholefield and George Hampshire for winning the Premier Seconds League bowling and wicket keeping awards this year. Olly Benson and Charles Hyland were both runners–up in the First Division bowling and batting respectively and Simon Hampshire was just pipped to the Sunday Section Division 2 bowling prize.

UNDER 13s

When I took over looking after this team at the start of the year I didn't know too much about them and was unsure as to who could bat, bowl or just liked to mess about although fortunately there was little of that.

After our first match defeat to local rivals Warley I took the decision wherever possible to give everyone an equal opportunity to bowl two overs and rotate the batting. After scoring only 66 in game one we scored 83 runs in game two but lost both fixtures however victory at Sowerby Bridge followed a week later with Jack Farrell taking 2-12 and Brad Holt 25, Ellis 26 and Will 25 the main run getters. Just before breaking for the cup we scored 124 before dismissing Southowram for 83 with wicket keeper turned bowler Andrew Parker taking 3-4 at his first attempt with the ball.

In the cup we failed to progress from the group stages to the semi-finals losing heavily to Luddendenfoot and Illingworth but there was a sweet victory over Warley where we scored 100 with Brad scoring 25. More telling to me were the contributions from others namely Ellis 15, Andrew 12 and U11's Dan Hill 11 and Ted 15 not out. Warley could only manage 52 with Andrew taking 4-8, Sam Brock 2-9 and Ted 2-4.

Returning to the league we were unable to defend 120 against King Cross and a score of 58 in our next match at proved woefully inadequate. With the exception of a great win at Northowram which saw us score 95 from 16 overs (Charlie 26, Will 27) and restrict the home side to 88 the season petered out somewhat as holiday unavailability took its toll with only 9 players taking the field at Sowerby Bridge and one less in our last against Sowerby.

In conclusion very much a season of learning where we used 22 different players including several U11's plus Megan Hampshire. Seven lads will still be under thirteen in 2012 and maybe next year it will be their turn to pick up some silverware.

Mick Wood
Coach

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS - 1969

Having been relegated from Division 1 in 1968 the first team was never in with a chance of instant promotion but the seconds fared much better finishing runners up in their competition. But for the weather they would probably have been champions as they lost fewer matches than league winners Stainland (?) but suffered several postponements to rain.

Stephen Dalby emerged from the juniors winning the league second XI bowling prize and the club junior batting prize was won by none other than John Scholefield.

Off the field treasurer Allen Hampshire asked for greater effort with the summer draw to raise funds – some things never change!

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