



West Region Newsletter, 76, March 2018

Inspiring Scotland to Choose Cricket

All Stars Cricket:

All Stars Cricket has now gone 'live' for 2018, with young people able to sign up to any centres which have been approved to run the programme.

So far, Ayr CC, Clydesdale CC, Dumfries CC, East Kilbride CC, East Renfrewshire CC, Galloway CC, Hillhead CC and Uddingston CC have some early sign-ups for their respective 2018 programmes.

Furthermore, the programme of All Stars Cricket school assembly presentations has only just begun – and, therefore, we hope this will lead to an increase in the number of sign-ups over the coming weeks.



Club Focus – Cricket Scotland #muchmorethancricket Club Conference:

The latest feature is one for all clubs. The focus, available at the end of this Newsletter, is on the Cricket Scotland #muchmorethancricket Club Conference, which takes place on Saturday 24th March.

Coaching News:



The Cricket Scotland 'Coaches Forum 2018' forum will be taking place on Sunday 25th March – and the event is all about how we can continue to develop and experiment with our coaching. It is not just about the 'technical' skills, but about the whole athlete – and how coaching can help cricket clubs become a 'hub' for their local community.

Workshops are being delivered by experts in their fields who will share their knowledge, ideas and practical examples to help you develop as a coach. More information, including the booking link, is available here: <http://www.cricketscotland.com/cricket-scotland-coaches-forum/>.

There is another opportunity for aspiring coaches during early April too. A Coach Support Worker course is scheduled to take place at Eastwood High School (East Renfrewshire), from 10am – 4pm, on Saturday 7th April. Candidates wishing to book on to this course can do so through the following link: <http://www.cricketscotland.com/get-involved/get-involved-coaches/coaching-course/coach-support-worker-course-2/>.

Community Engagement Update:

Cricket Scotland's Tapeball League concluded its first year with a hotly contested Finals' Day at Holyrood Leisure Centre, on Sunday 18th March. For more information about the league, and the progress Ammar Ashraf has been making in his Community Engagement Coordinator role, please contact Ammar directly: ammarashraf@cricketscotland.com.



CricketForce, 2018

The **CricketForce** Scheme will be running again this year. It is a club-based initiative aimed at rejuvenating Scotland's cricketing facilities by encouraging cricket supporters, local communities, and their friends and families, to volunteer to undertake renovations at their local cricket club in the lead up to the season. While these club events can take place at any time, Cricket Scotland has announced the weekend of **April 7th and 8th** will be the official **CricketForce** weekend, in Scotland.



There will be three 'Focus Projects' selected from clubs who register for the weekend – and these clubs will receive support from our Men's and Women's national team players for the day!

Focus clubs will also be supported to create as much publicity from the weekend as possible – to showcase what each club has to offer.

To sign up for **CricketForce** 2018, and to be in with a chance of having Scotland Internationalists help at your event, please follow this link: [Register Here](#).

Cricket Scotland News:

The Men's National Team have one very important match still to play (against the West Indies) in the Super Sixes stage of the Cricket World Cup Qualifier, in Zimbabwe – with the squad still aiming to become one of the two teams to qualify for the Cricket World Cup. Wednesday's match will be live on Sky Sports, from 7.30am.



For more information about all the recent activities in and around Cricket Scotland please visit the website: <http://www.cricketscotland.com/>.

Cricket Society of Scotland:

The Cricket Society of Scotland (west region) ran a hugely successful, and entertaining, Annual Dinner, at Titwood (Clydesdale CC), on Monday 12th March 2018. The 44 attendees enjoyed a fine meal and a superb speech from the iconic former cricketer and now after dinner speaker Derek Randall.



The final event in the 2017 – 2018 winter calendar is the Annual General Meeting (AGM). This year sees the turn of the west region to host – with the meeting taking place at Titwood, on Monday 23rd April. However, the meeting will have a slightly earlier start time than usual winter events – at 7pm.



For further information about the west branch, please contact either of the Joint Secretaries Graham Hollier (graham_hollier@sky.com) or Ewen McConville (ejrmcc@gmail.com).

Indoor Kwik Cricket:



Another block of indoor Kwik Cricket has been running during February and March, at Hillpark Secondary School (Glasgow). Four clubs (Clydesdale CC, East Kilbride CC, Irvine CC and Uddingston CC) have been participating in this block of festivals.



Safeguarding and Child Protection Update:



Nineteen candidates attended a 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children' workshop, on Tuesday 13th March. The workshop was hosted at Titwood (Clydesdale CC) and was delivered by Cricket Scotland's Child Protection Officer Colin McDougall.

This workshop came just two days after Colin had also delivered an 'In Safe Hands' workshop, on a National basis, to club Child Protection Officers.

School Cricket News:

There is a range of different school cricket competitions being run by Cricket Scotland during 2018. There are three girls' only tournaments which are running in the format of a one-day National event and three other competitions running via a series of regional qualifying tournaments:

- National Primary Schools Girls' Tournament
 - Monday 18th June
 - Softball, Kwik Cricket format
- CityLets National Secondary School Girls' Cup (S1-3)
 - Monday 18th June
 - Softball, modified format
- CityLets National Secondary School Girls' Cup (S4-6)
 - Monday 18th June
 - Softball, modified format
- CityLets National Secondary Schools' Cup (S1-3)
 - West Regional Qualifying Section
 - Hardball, T20, knockout format
- ScotRail National Primary Schools' Cup (P6 and below)
 - A series of West Regional Qualifying Festivals
 - Softball, Kwik Cricket format
- Cricket Factory BIG Blast!
 - West Regional Qualifying Tournament
 - Softball, modified pairs' format



The first 'closing date' for entries is in the CityLets National Secondary Schools' Cup. This date is Friday 23rd March. Anyone wishing more information about, or application forms for, any of the competitions should contact me (timhart@cricketScotland.com) directly.

WDCU / Senior Cricket News:



There have been a few changes to the WDCU Midweek fixtures – and it is likely that there will be a change to the Saturday Fourth Division fixtures during the coming weeks.

Anyone wishing further information about anything related to the WDCU should contact Iain Murdoch, the WDCU Administrator, by e-mail: admin@wdcu.co.uk.

Western District Junior Cricket Union / Junior Cricket News:



The WDJCU Youth fixtures, for the U11, U12, U14 and U16 leagues have now been released. They were e-mailed out to Club Junior Convenors, along with the rules of the competitions and details of the U16 Frank Smith Trophy tournament.

A copy of these important documents is also available on the West Junior Cricket website (www.westjuniorcricket.com), along with all the other key information relating to youth cricket in the west of Scotland.

Women's and Girls' Cricket News:

Unfortunately, the Wee Bash which was planned to take place at the Ally McCoist Complex (East Kilbride) on Sunday 4th March had to be cancelled due to the snow which affected large numbers of people from all around the country! There is still one more Wee Bash remaining in this winter's programme – at the National Cricket Academy, in Edinburgh, on Sunday 22nd April.



The West Region Women's and Girls' Club Forum was another event which had to be cancelled due to the snow. However, the West Girls' U16 Squad has been continuing to train on a fortnightly basis – with plans now being put in place for a summer fixture programme.

For more information about Women's and Girls' cricket in the west of Scotland, please contact Rosy Ryan: rosyryan@cricketscotland.com.

Other News:

April will see two very important workshops delivered in the west of Scotland. There will be an All Stars Activator workshop (to help to support both new and returning 'Activators') and there will be a Junior Formats workshop (to help all club Coaches and Junior Convenors become more familiar with the exciting changes to the formats being played within youth cricket in 2018). Full details will be made available through each club's lead All Stars Cricket contact and through each club's Junior Convenor.



The next newsletter will be published during April 2018. If you think that you may have something of interest that could be included in this newsletter, please get in contact with me.

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Club Focus – Club Conference

*This month's club focus is different in nature – it is something directly aimed at **all** clubs!*

Saturday 24th March will see Cricket Scotland host its #muchmorethancricket Club Conference.

The conference will focus on how cricket and cricket clubs can grow in Scotland – and how clubs can play a bigger role in people's lives and become 'hubs' for their local communities.

It will focus on best practice, will be thought-provoking and will provide clubs with some tools to utilise, as well as helping to create a small list of 'to-dos'.



More information, including the booking link, is available here: <http://www.cricketScotland.com/cricket-scotland-club-conference-muchmorethancricket/>.