



**OXFORDSHIRE  
CRICKET**

## **Performance Awards**

Sunday 17th September 2023

Wormsley Estate



OXFORDSHIRE  
CRICKET

# T20 FINALS DAY AND AWARDS

## WILF BENNETT FINAL

THAME TOWN CC  
V  
HENLEY CC

FROM 10.30AM

## HARTWELL CUP FINAL

OXFORD CC  
V  
HORSPATH CC

FROM 14.30PM

## GRASSROOTS AWARDS

GRASSROOTS  
CRICKET  
AWARDS

FROM 14:00PM

## PATHWAY AWARDS

PATHWAY  
AWARDS  
CEREMONY

FROM 12.30PM

## SUNDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER

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# Welcome



I have the privilege to welcome you all to the Pathway Awards Ceremony to celebrate and draw closure to the 2023 season. Occasions such as these allow the girls and boys from across the pathway to unite as one in recognising the individual achievement and team successes of their peers, alongside the chance to reflect upon the season complete. I hope that you are able to recount special moments from the season and that you have all enjoyed the game we love to the fullest, either as a player competing in an Oxfordshire shirt or as supporting parent, family member, coach or spectator from the boundary. I thank all of the players, their families, our employees and the wider cricketing community for their contribution to the season of 2023.

Two key dates in the calendar for Oxfordshire Cricket this season were our showcase fixtures for the county men and women's teams at magnificent Wormsley Estate. The first of two took place on Sunday 30th July 2023, with our men's team contesting the annual National Counties Cricket Association showcase fixture against our partnered First Class County, Sussex Cricket. Just a few weeks later on Tuesday 15th August 2023, our women's team would contest the Women's showcase fixture against the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), with the match itself part of the broader Women and Girls showcase event. The effectiveness of our partnership with Sussex Cricket would also provide a showcase event for the Boys Under 12, Under 13 and Under 14 age groups, who had the rare opportunity to play against Sussex at The 1st Central County Ground, Hove on Monday 7th August 2023. Each team contested a T20 fixture at the first class ground in what was a memorable and enjoyable experience for all. I shall allow this booklet to fulfil its role in capturing a story of the season from each of our pathway age groups and I hope that you have a chance to digest the series of reports at your leisure.

Producing repeated and long-term performance achievement is a sought outcome of the talent development system and in 2023, we would again congratulate individuals for their performance achievements and teams for their success on the field. Achievements on the pitch were not exclusive to a single area or stage of development, but a special mention must go out to the Girls Under 13 for their team success in winning the King's College Festival in Taunton. The talent development system seeks to sustain a talent pipeline that populates recreational and professional cricket within one of our priorities to produce Academy and Professional players. We give kudos to Dylan Driscoll and Abi Norgrove who retained on the Sussex Cricket and Southern Vipers Academy respectively, with Abi progressing to make her first team debut for the Southern Vipers within the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy. We also celebrate the achievement of Chloe Westbury, Katie Waugh and Amiee Diab also earned selection on the inaugural Southern Vipers Emerging Players programme and Arthur Hanson's who was selected to represent the South & West at ECB David English Bunbury Festival.

# Welcome

Via the ECB dual registration system Julian Laird, Luke Hayes, Jacob Townsend, Alfie Smethurst, Henry Welch, Tristan Rossouw, Arthur Hanson and Adrian Hector were all able to represent Sussex Cricket within County Age Group Cricket to further their progression and to support their aspiration in attaining selection onto the Sussex Cricket Academy for 2024. We will continue to work collaboratively with our first-class partners Sussex Cricket, and the Southern Vipers in order to provide a clear transition route into academy or professional cricket programmes for players from Oxfordshire.

The season of 2023 would give evidence of our ability to transition players in the county Women and Men's teams, with a host of current boys and girls making their full debuts during the year, or in continuing to retain a place within the teams earned in prior years throughout the season. For some their trajectory within the game extends beyond our women and men's teams and we give particular mention to a select number of pathway graduates for their excellence with the deliberate intention that it helps to inspire our current pathway players that it could one day be them achieving such success. Tom Price became the first cricketer to score a century and take a hat-trick on the same day and the 17th person in history to achieve this feat in a first-class game. Younger brother, Oliver Price would not be outdone, earning the PCA Player of the Month Award for August 2023 for his Metro bank 50 over performances, including 2 x 100s and 3 x 50s. Both brothers would also become prominent members of the Gloucestershire team in 2023. Zach Lion-Cachet became the first player from Oxfordshire to score a century in all three National Counties Cricket Association Men's competition formats, in total amassing four hundreds within a single season and propelling himself into the Sussex Cricket team for his List A debut against Worcestershire in August 2023. James Coles would perform well for the England Under 19s during the winter months and establish himself as first team regular at Sussex Cricket during the 2023 season. Luke Charlesworth would be the next in a long list of Oxfordshire players to make the progression into first class cricket making his debut for Gloucestershire at the back end of the season. Within the women's game, Fi Morris would become the first bowler in the Women's Hundred to record a five-wicket haul, conceding just seven runs in the process on her debut for Manchester Originals against the Birmingham Phoenix on the 7th Aug 2023.

Ensuring that the pathway continues to be accessible, inclusive and as affordable as possible is a priority for Oxfordshire Cricket and we remain committed to removing financial barriers for talent inclusion. We demonstrated the commitment to reduce the overall cost of pathway participation by offering a full reimbursement of the Phase 1 participation costs and partial reimbursement of the Phase 2 participation costs incurred to each participant during the 2022-23 programme cycle. The reimbursement process gave the option to donate the amount to either our Hardship Fund or State School Funds, which allow us to aid families where participation in the pathway may have otherwise been unaffordable via our player bursaries and to help bridge the opportunity gap between independent and state sectors by delivering programmes for state school players. We express our sincere gratitude to anyone who made a donation to either of the funds via the reimbursement process or via other methods throughout the year - your support has an impact and is highly appreciated. Alongside the financial support of phase 1 and 2, we also extended a number of interventions to tackle both affordability and accessibility. These included the increased awareness of our player bursaries online and within phase communication, the provision of free of charge Falcons and Bulls programmes for state school players and the continuation of free attendance to the pathway awards ceremony. Further, we would again subsidise all touring experiences where the actual cost exceeded £400, setting £400 as the maximum cost per player and providing the option to pay the full amount should an individual have wished to donate the difference to the hardship fund.

As we look ahead to 2024 and beyond, we are acutely aware of the impact that the Independent Commission for Equity in Cricket (ICEC) report will have on the future of the game. Whilst we await the ECB's response to the ICEC report, we have continued to fully digest the publication to better understand its findings, recommendations, the experiences that people have had and its impact. Our position remains that there is no place for discrimination in our game and the wider society, and we are fully committed to making cricket a game for everyone and the sport of choice in Oxfordshire. We hope that you enjoy the Pathway Awards Ceremony and that it will inspire everyone to achieve more success within the game during 2024.

Matthew Barnes

Performance Director



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# State School and Player Bursary Funds

## State School Fund

We would be very grateful to anyone who would like to make a financial donation towards our State School Fund which will enable us to deliver programmes to help bridge the opportunity gap between the independent and state sectors.

You can make a donation online by choosing an amount below, or if you would prefer, via BACS by contacting Performance Director, Matthew Barnes on [mbarnes@oxoncb.com](mailto:mbarnes@oxoncb.com)

Many thanks in anticipation of your kind generosity and support.



## Player Bursary Fund

Oxfordshire Cricket recognises that participation within our pathway incurs an associated financial outlay and that sacrifices are made to enable a player to participate. Through our Player Bursary Fund we aim to aid those families where cost is a barrier, by providing the opportunity to apply for financial assistance when participation may have otherwise been unaffordable.

We would be very grateful to anyone who would like to make a financial donation towards our Player Bursary Fund which will enable us to help support those who need financial assistance to participate within our pathway. You can make a donation online by choosing an amount below, or if you would prefer, via BACS by contacting Performance Director, Matthew Barnes on [mbarnes@oxoncb.com](mailto:mbarnes@oxoncb.com)

Many thanks in anticipation of your kind generosity and support.



# 2022/23 Season in Numbers



## Phase 1

394 players, 6 venues, 162 hours of coaching

## Phase 2

749 players, 8 venues, 456 hours of coaching

## Phase 3

590 players involved, 9 indoor venues, 23 outdoor venues

Phase 3A - 660 hours of coaching (indoors)

Phase 3B - 60 days of outdoor Cricket scheduled - 4 days cancelled with 123 games played and an additional 34.5 hours coaching delivered

## Phase 4

There were 293 players selected into the 12 age group squads.

Pathway Fixtures - 159 days of cricket scheduled - 197 games planned, 29 cancelled. There were 6 multi day fixtures for the older boys age groups

Tours - In addition there were 6 age groups that toured, involving 89 players, playing 30 games spread over 27 touring days, either in Suffolk, Taunton or Rugby

# Overview

We are very grateful to have such supportive clubs and schools in Oxfordshire and would like to extend out thanks to all the venues that have hosted us throughout this year, they are:

## Winter Training & Observations

Abingdon School, Abingdon Prep School, Charlbury Community Centre, Cranford House School, Magdalen College School, Radley College, St Edward's School, St Helen & St Katharine School, St Hugh's School, The Oxford Academy.

## Spring & Summer Outdoor Training & Fixtures

Abingdon School, Adlestrop CC, Aston Rowant CC, Bloxham School, Brize Norton, Broughton & North Newington CC, Bruern Abbey School, Charlbury CC, Cokethorpe School, Cothill House School, Cranford House School, Cropredy CC, Didcot CC, Exeter College, Faringdon CC, Great & Little Tew CC, Greys Green CC, Hertford College, Kingston Bagpuize CC, Moreton CC, Oriel College, Oxford Downs CC, Shipton-Under-Wychwood CC, Sibford School, St Hugh's School, Stanton St John, Sunningwell CC, Thame Town CC, Tiddington CC, Warborough & Shillingford CC

Alex Westbury, Performance Cricket Coordinator







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# Pathway Overview



Thank you for coming to join us at Wormsley for the 2023 Performance Awards ceremony, where we will celebrate the successes of the year.

For a player participating in a pathway, success can take many forms. Success can be obvious; 50s, 100s, 5fers, 4fers, winning the game for your team. Success may be individualised; your highest score, best bowling figures or taking a great catch. But more often than not, successes are hidden and hard to quantify as part of a long-term developmental journey. Today, we come together to recognise the individual and team successes from the 2023 season, but equally as important are the hidden successes we've shared throughout the year, both on and off the field, which provide the building blocks for years to come.

In October 2022, we welcomed 394 newly nominated players from the Under 10 to Under 18 age groups to Phase 1, held at venues across Oxfordshire. Players were then invited to join our previous years returning cohort for Phase 2, which started in November, where 749 players participated in a 6 week programme across 8 venues on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. At the same time, we were delighted to be able to grow the offering of our Bulls & Falcons programmes, which provides targeted support for players within our pathway, who attend state schools, with the introduction of training support pre-Christmas for the first time. As we entered 2023, Phase 3 commenced for players who had been selected to progress. It was fantastic to be able to support 590 players for a 10 week indoor programme, followed by an outdoor phase which allows us to transfer our learnings to the game, as well as confirm our talent selection decisions in a game based environment.

Phase 4 then began at various stages from late April to June, with those age groups participating in ECB Competitions taking the new ball. In spite of some challenging weather, we were fortunate to be able to run 130 Phase 4 fixtures, plus 6 tours and a handful of Bulls & Falcons fixtures. Although winning is not part of our approach to long-term talent development, it's fantastic to see the hard work of all those involved with our pathway programme rewarded with successful results across our age groups, in particular the Girls Under 13s who won their festival at King's College, Taunton.

As the 2022/23 season draws to a close, it's important to take a moment to capture the moments from this year which challenged us, and offered opportunities to grow. Over the coming months the 2023/24 season will begin and time can be dedicated to working on our development areas, and honing our super-strengths. At this point we also say goodbye and thank you to the players who have come to the end of their Under 18s activity - best of luck for your future and we hope to see you again.

Lastly, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of you who were involved in our Pathway Programme for the 2022/23 year. Cricket is a sport which requires a huge amount of unpaid support; ground preparation, officiating, scoring, not to mention the mileage count on your cars - thank you and we look forward to welcoming you back again next year.

**Sam Arthurs**

Pathway Manager



# Boys Under 10

Twelve months ago I wrote about a halcyon, endless summer, with matches only punctuated by water breaks and the lightest of glances speeding across sun-starched outfielders. Twelve months onwards, it has taken until September to record the hottest day of the summer, but the Under-10s have still enjoyed a season that has proven remarkably free of interruptions, and ultimately filled end-to-end with thrilling cricket.

The internal matches between the Panthers and Lynx squads have been hard-fought and closely-matched, whether playing T20 or having their first experience of the longer formats, including Win/Lose/Draw and declaration games. One stand-out quality throughout the season has been the boys' ability to apply themselves at the crease and bat for long periods of time, rising to the challenge of playing red-ball "test match" style cricket, building partnerships and innings with them.

Our squad of 30 boys rotated roles and selections through the inter-county fixtures, holding their own against competitive opposition, fighting hard against Gloucestershire and recording comprehensive victories over Northamptonshire and Worcestershire. Having proven far too strong for Dorset's "Shadow" squad, we finished the summer with a memorable victory over Wiltshire with an ice-cool run chase on a red-hot day, turning 29/5 into 104/7 with overs to spare. Individually, Mustafa Shah, Matthew Bollinghaus, James Acton and Charlie Lamb made contrasting fifties, with Matthew's accumulation against Northants and Charlie's blitzkrieg at Cothill occupying opposite ends of the batting spectrum.

With the ball, Acton's pace proved a constant threat, never more so than when taking 4/3 against Worcester, whilst Louis Harris-Bass provided a similar challenge with his left-arm angle. Freddie Fowler (6/15) and "super-sub" Kingsley McGeown (5/14) also returned memorable figures. There was little respite with pace off the ball, either, as our phalanx of spinners regularly created havoc. This was never more apparent than in the final internal game of the season, when Lamb's 5/15 set the standard, only for Harry Rowland-Clark to raise the bar even further, with figures of 6/10 including a hat-trick. With Anvay Chandrawale and Arthur Floyd proving a pair of off-spinners with angelic faces and devilish quicker balls, and Will Bedford providing the contrast of left-arm wrist-spin, trial by spin was a regular theme of the summer.

Our trip to the Minor Counties Festival at the Royal Hospital School proved a challenging week, taking on Under-11 opposition and bowling and fielding superbly throughout the week. The extra pace of the opposition bowling attacks made run-scoring a tough task, but Sonny McGeown in particular showed the value of a secure technique, a vertical bat and a mind full of concentration.

After defeats to Cleveland and East Wales, McGeown and Freddie Fowler came close to securing a valiant draw against the Netherlands from a position that had looked impossible. Their efforts inspired a whole-team effort against West Essex the following day, putting us in an exceptional position before the weather's most significant intervention of the summer robbed us of the chance to close out the victory.

# Boys Under 10

The tour ended against Invicta Kent, where Jack Wale's four-wicket haul and Arthur Stewart's candidate for catch of the season - alongside a typical flurry of direct-hit run outs - capped another fine bowling display, before the week's exertions took their toll on our batting efforts.

Behind the stumps, all of the wicketkeepers saw the rewards of their hard work throughout the winter, growing in confidence in their glovework and footwork. I'm still not sure that Northamptonshire believed us when we told them that Henry Bowers hadn't kept before this season.

The squad have worked together tremendously well throughout the summer, living up to our values of having fun and still learning something along the way. Come the end of the summer, the levels of independence and initiative that the boys have demonstrated on match days have been superb: a testament to the application they have shown throughout the year. They have been a pleasure to coach, and I look forward to following their achievements in the years to come. Unless I have to face James on a Saturday...

## Boys Under 10 Squad - 2023

*James Acton, William Bedford, William Binning, Matthew Bollinghaus, Henry Bowers, Anvay Chandrawale, Joseph Dineen, Huw Duncan, Charlie Eyles, Arthur Floyd, Freddie Fowler, Zach Green, Dev Gupta, Louis Harris-Bass, Barney Humphreys, Charlie Lamb, Zach Lewis, Henry Manwaring, Sonny McGeown, Albie Morant, Robbie Robinson, Banjo Rowan-Hull, Jacob Rowland, Harry Rowland-Clark, Mustafa Shah, Arthur Smee, Arthur Stewart, Jack Wale, Leo Ward, Jacob Webb*



# Boys Under 10



# Girls Under 11

The progress this group of girls has made since we all got together back in October last year has been quite amazing and has only been surpassed by the amount of fun we have all had. The girls worked really hard in the winter on their batting and bowling skills but also incredibly hard on their fielding skill and this combination of skill sets has proven to be massively beneficial as the season progressed.

We started with 2 x T20's against Berkshire, winning one game each as the girls started to bond together as a team. Another 2 x T20's against Gloucestershire at Charlbury saw the girls win both with Bebe Buckley-Sharp scoring 31 and Rosie Morgan taking 2 wickets for 4 runs in the first match and Rosie top scoring with 22 in the second. We next entertained Buckinghamshire at Greys Green and again ran out victors in both matches with Flora Alexander and Ruby Wilkie taking 2 wickets each and Ruby top scoring with 29 in the first match, Freya Monk scoring 21 and Abby Kirkman taking 2 wickets in the second match. Our away fixture with Gloucestershire was rained off so we next travelled to Oundle School to play Northamptonshire where we won one game each. The first was a real nail-biter which we won with 2 balls to spare and only 1 wicket left, Annabel Foster keeping her cool to hit the winning runs in a game which saw 7 different girls take wickets all clean bowled and Esme Bell with a great keeping catch for the other. The highlight of the second match was an unbeaten 49 from Poppy Wilson. Our home match against Wiltshire fell foul of the weather but a few days later in glorious sunshine we went on tour to Rugby School. 5 games in 3 days with victories against Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Staffordshire but what stood out, apart from a stunning one-handed catch from Bebe against Northamptonshire, was the amazing teamwork and camaraderie that developed over the 3 days. The weather was again not our friend with the match against Buckinghamshire called off due to torrential rain and so we finished off the season back at Greys Green with a match against Berkshire which the visitors won by 3 wickets, highlight of the match was Seren Quinn smashing four 6's over Cow Corner on her way to 47 not out.

We won an incredible 9 matches this season, which is a fantastic achievement, the manner of the victories however has been the most pleasing thing from a coaching point of view. The teamwork, girls supporting and encouraging each other, remembering to back up, walk in and all the numerous other skills in the field has been a joy to watch. The bowling this year has been on another level with so many girls standing up at different times and making significant contributions, the tour match against Staffordshire is one of my proudest moments, when the girls defended a score of 72 with the best display of controlled bowling and fielding I have seen in any of my seasons as the Under 11's coach. The batting has developed with the girls learning new shots, when to defend, when to attack, finding gaps in the field, and importantly to recognise match situations and how to close the game out with a victory, demonstrated with our win away to Northamptonshire, which in previous seasons we would probably have lost. This season has given us many special moments and the girls have grown and developed so much both as young people and as cricketers, it has been an absolute pleasure to coach them.

## Girls Under 11 Squad - 2023

*Akshara Akkiraju, Flora Alexander, Esme Bell, Priya Biant, Bebe Buckley-Sharp, Elise Day, Elizabeth Elliott, Audrey Feddersen, Annabel Foster, Éloïse Garrod, Nerys Garrod, Ishi Gummadell, Amelie Hopkinson, Coco Hoskin, Hebe Kingsbury, Abby Kirkman, Nancy Lord, Mariella Macdonald Smith, Bridget McGuirk, Freya Monk, Rosie Morgan, Flora Nicholson, Gabriella Owen, Seren Quinn, Piper Rey, Florrie Turner, Ruby van der Linden, Elizabeth Vellacott, Ruby Wilkie*



# Girls Under 11





# Boys Under 11

The Boys Under 11 age group began their season with a trip over to Stowe School to play Northamptonshire. Despite being 68-8 Northants managed to score 170 which was easily defended by 94 runs. Oxfordshire's spinners did most of the initial damage with Emmanuel Syddall being the pick of the bowlers with 3-26. This was followed by a 40 over fixture Vs Wiltshire where Jack Townsend, Kaian Eaton, David Powell-Jones and Lewis Yeung all contributed to a decent score of 186-7. This was defended in fine fashion as Jack Townsend led the charge with 4 wickets to bowl Wiltshire out for 81. After this the boys travelled down to Middlesex, where a drubbing was endured. A shout out to Will Logan for carrying his bat throughout the chaos. The rain won Vs Gloucestershire and a very close match Vs Berkshire went Berkshire's way by 8 runs. Thomas Kent lead the bowling unit with 3-11 and Jacob Kandola battled with the bat as an opener.

After this, 15 of the boys descended on Taunton for 5 days of 40 over cricket. They performed well, winning 4 out of 5 matches and losing the other one by 1 run. They fell foul of the bonus points system to come away having achieved second place. Highlights included Harry Sedgwick picking up 5-11 Vs Invicta Kent, a fluid 75 from Max Smith Vs Northants, Xander Smith completing a hatrick Vs Washington and Elis Healey hitting a battling 51 Vs Somerset. The most pleasing thing from a coaching perspective was how hard all the boys worked in the field and how they helped each other through difficult periods off of the field.

The season's penultimate fixtures were 2 X T20's Vs Middlesex at Didcot. With the previous outing Vs Middlesex it was brilliant to see how much of a fight the boys put up. Despite losing both contests they were in both games including 46 from Kaian Eaton, 38 from Harry Sedgwick and 2-5 from Siddhant Nirmal. The season concluded with 2 X T20's Vs Berkshire where the boys struggled and came up short twice. Will Foster and Elis Healey both made decent scores.

Overall a fantastic year and a thank you to all parents and guardians for their help and support throughout the year.

## Boys Under 11 Squad - 2023

*Otto Bisson, Ludo Covey, Alby Duncan, George Eaton, Kaian Eaton, Orlando Fitton  
Will Foster, Edward Frieda, Luca Gardner-Morrison, Tony Garner, Oliver Golding, Rowley Greaves  
Jed Hall, Elis Healey, Jacob Kandola, Thomas Kent, Alfie Lewis, Will Logan, Siddhant Nirmal  
Aaron Payten, David Powell-Jones, Zach Rayner, Harry Sedgwick, Max Smith, Alexander Smith,  
Emmanuel Syddall, Jack Townsend, Finn Whitaker, Harry Wood, Lewis Yeung*



# Boys Under 11





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# Boys Under 12

The season started at Stowe with the first external match against Northamptonshire. Batting first in challenging conditions, the innings got off to a steady start before a hatrick by leg spinner White set us back. Captain Galbraith battled hard in a captain's innings as he made 45, with Dineen and Ekelund both contributing with 19 to help set the hosts 130 to win. In response, and with the need to bowl the hosts out, we started to see some of the attacking field sets and plans that we saw take place indoors, and in the first few internal games come to fruition. There was a real buzz of energy and intensity, as opportunities began to come, and wickets started to fall. Northants in response began to counter, as they went on to win by 5 wickets.

Next up was a closely fought internal fixture at Exeter College, where the learnings from the first match were being developed in a good game which saw the Invincibles score 169-8 and the Lightning in response 121ao. This was followed by a defeat against a strong Buckinghamshire side in a rain affected close game that saw the team fall 63 runs short in the chase, the game saw a fantastic bowling display by the team to restrict Bucks to 159. Unfortunately the weather then saw the Gloucestershire away match at Lydney called off.

The MCCF Suffolk Festival tour soon followed in what turned out to be a memorable week. Day 1 saw us play Cleveland. Losing the toss and being put in to bat first, the boys started positively as we went on to 229-8 before declaring with Spicer (32), Bisson (28), Tappin (32), Humphreys (23), Galbraith (32) and Amies (26) all getting starts. With the weather shifting to being overcast with some slight drizzle around, the boys got off to a great start as they looked to take wickets with Raymond (2), Galbraith (3) and Oseman (2) sharing the wickets to guide us to a 144 run win. Day 2 saw a very close battle on Lords against Netherlands. Having won the toss and elected to bat, we lost early wickets and were 35-6. Needing to consume pressure and bat our overs - Green (62\*), Bisson (20\*) and Floyd (17) helped guide us to a respectable 139-7 off our 45 overs showing a great sense of resilience and determination under great pressure. In response Netherlands lost early wickets. Rowan-Hull (3), Tappin (2), Humphreys (2), Galbraith (2) and Bisson (1) all contributed with the ball to help guide us to a great and memorable win by 29 runs in the 42nd over, which saw the game shift back and forward with Netherlands going for the win and draw at different points. The team held their nerve, showing some great patience and creativity to create opportunities and take wickets. A superb diving catch by Theo late on off his bowling to get a crucial wicket, before Cosmo got the last wicket. Day 3 was rain affected which saw the day adapted to play one T20 against Norfolk which we lost by 8 wickets. Day 4, saw us bat first... again against Suffolk in a thrilling low scoring match. After being put into bat we were bowled out for 58 on a bowling friendly pitch, Charlie and Toby with hard fought innings. In response came a flawless bowling and fielding display, as Xandie (3) and Leo (2) ripped through Suffolks top order with them constantly beating the bat, and making it hard for them to play while attacking the stumps. This then followed with Galbraith (3) and Raymond (2) keeping the same discipline and momentum to bowl Suffolk out for 16, in an incredible fight back that will be remembered long into the future. The final day saw rain interrupt again, as our match was rained off at the back end of our innings (batting first again...) as we were 152-8 with Charlie (52) and Gus (30) in the runs.

The following week saw a trip to Sussex for a T20 match. Batting first we made a respectable 148-2 off our 20 overs with Gray (55) and Bisson (37). After a few early wickets in response from Hart (2), Burch (1) and Ferris (1), the hosts counter attacked with Hewitt scoring 68 not out to guide them to a 6 wicket win.

# Boys Under 12

This then followed with a trip to Reading Blue Coat which saw us bowl first against Berkshire. A great bowling display saw the hosts bowled out for 101 with Nair (2), Rooney (2), Ferris (3), and Craig, Oseman and Peacock with a wicket apiece. In response we started well, and then lost a few wickets after drinks but held our nerve to win by 4 wickets.

The weekend then saw Sussex travel to Didcot. After winning the toss, we batted first and scored a competitive 185-6, with Mayer (38), Gray (40), and Spicer (30) all getting starts. In response, Sussex looked to be in an attacking mood as Hockley (75) and Scorey (52) helped them to a 6 wicket win. With the ball, Cosmo (3) and Hugh (1) were in the wickets.

As we entered the back end of the season, the formats shifted to T20s as we played Berkshire in two T20s at Kingston Bagpuize which saw the visitors win both in two close games. We then played Wiltshire at Brize Norton, which saw us win one and lose one. This then followed with an internal week of T20s at Brize Norton with matches on Wednesday and Sunday. All four T20s went down to the wire, and were closely fought with some great displays with the bat, ball and in the field.

All in all, it is safe to say it has been a memorable season for all. The team have developed as cricketers and individuals, and they walk away as a tight group with memories and friendships that will take them well into the future. There have been many highlights throughout the season, and they should all be proud of themselves. It has been great to see different people scoring runs and taking wickets. They have really bought into playing some attacking cricket with the ball and in the field, always looking to take wickets which we have seen with some very attacking field sets across the formats. A special thanks to all the parents for all their support throughout the season.

## Boys Under 12 Squad - 2023

*Leo Amies, Theo Antoniou, Dara Bannerman, Freddie Bisson, Max Burch, Hugh Craig Patrick Dineen, Fredrik Ekelund, Ed Ferris, Gus Floyd, Jackson Galbraith, Srivats Goyal, Samarth Goyal, Hector Gray, Casper Green, James Hart, Theo Humphreys, Joshua Lamb, Oliver Mayer, Adittya Nair, Toby Oseman, Dylan Parkinson, Nathan Peacock, Joseph Raymond, Guy Rooney Cosmo Rowan-Hull, Adhiraj Sharma, Charlie Spicer, Alexander Stewart, Onslowe Tappin*



# Boys Under 12



# Girls Under 13

2023 was another fantastic year for the Under 13 girls with varying degrees of success which culminated in a fantastic triumph at the King's College Festival in July.

The season started with a high scoring loss at Wiltshire, as Oxfordshire scored an impressive 206 in response to Wiltshires 232. This was higher than any score we achieved in 2022. There were runs all down the order, but Eleanor Stone top scored with 37, Olive Harrison scored 26 and Aysha Monk 21. Then came back to back victories in the T20s against Bucks. The first game saw us pile up 131-6 off 20 overs with Issy Boulton-Jones top scoring with 24. We then restricted Bucks to 82-6 with everyone bowling well, but in particular Emma Higgins and Esme Leslie going at under 3 runs per over. Game 2 saw us bat first against and score 138/9 with Esme Leslie top scoring with 26. Bucks then scored 112-7 with Edith Fiddy taking 3-14. The following week we fell to a defeat against Bucks in the longer form game. Bucks scored 131 all out with Jemima Foster taking 5-13 off 4 overs. In reply we were cruising at 50-1 before we collapsed to 109 all out. Mary Harrington impressed with 30 off 24 balls.

Then it was off to Kings College, Taunton for the tour. It started with a very quick win against Cornwall as we bowled them out for 35 and won by 9 wickets. Emily Mayer took 4-8 and Bella Frieda took 3-9 to do most of the damage and bowl the Corns out in under 12 overs. Our response was even swifter as we knocked off the runs inside 9 overs with Hettie Banks scoring 21 before being the only wicket to fall with just one required to win. Day 2 saw us take on Kings College mixed team and we batted first and scored 273-9. Emily Mayer scored 72, Edith Fiddy 45 and Jemima Foster 30. In reply Kings reached 129-1 before Lizzie Seville took 2 quick wickets to spark a collapse. Kings finished all out for 183 with Seville (3-16) and Bella Frieda (3-21) sharing 6 wickets. Day 3 saw the first defeat when we lost by just 2 wickets against Cambridgeshire. Jemima Foster was once again in the runs with 44 but we were all out for 116. In reply Cams won with 2 wickets to spare. Edith Fiddy 3-17 and Aysha Monk 3-17 impressing with the ball. Day 4 saw us have another tight contest but we came out on top against previously unbeaten Bucks. Bucks were 130 all out with wickets shared around but 2 each for Hettie Banks, Edith Fiddy and Rabiya Dogar. In reply Niamh Rogan and Ellie Thresh put on 90 for the first wicket before Niamh was dismissed for 57 off 47 balls. Elliot Thresh made 27 and there were 13 vital runs each for Olivia Thresh and Rabiya Dogar which helped get us over the line. On the final day we found ourselves in a situation where we needed a maximum point win to end up as group winners. Gloucestershire were the final team standing in our way. We batted first and scored an impressive 232-5 off our 35 overs. It was a first century for Niamh Rogan who hit a fantastic 113 off 110 balls. Rabiya Dogar scored 29, Mary Harrington 12, Hettie Banks 17 and Jemima Foster 19 to help us to a large total. In reply Gloucestershire never really got going and Oxfordshire took wickets at regular intervals, culminating in being dismissed all out for 118. Hettie Banks took 4-12 and Rabiya Dogar took 2-5 as we won inside 28 overs and were crowned group winners.

## Girls Under 13 Squad - 2023

*Georgia Ainley, Milla Allison, Hettie Banks, Isabella Boulton-Jones, Edith Fiddy, Eloise Fitton, Jemima Foster, Bella Frieda, Bella Fussell, Mary Harrington, Olive Harrison, Emma Higgins, Xanthe James, Lilac Jewell, Anjali Kotnis, Esme Leslie, Emily Mayer, Aysha Monk, Ella Owens, Addie Richards, Ella Rooney, Agnes Roper, Lizzie Seville, Eleanor Stone, Olivia Thresh, Ellie Thresh, Imi Watts, Poppy Webb-Carter, Aneesa Zameel*

# Girls Under 13

The remaining fixtures of the regular season saw us lose against Northants, Georgia Ainley top scoring with 23 and Bella Frieda taking another 3 wickets. We then suffered 2 heavy defeats against Gloucestershire and a further 2 defeats to Berkshire in T20 games. In one of the games Emily Mayer made an impressive unbeaten 56 and put on a partnership with Milla Allison of 58. Milla finished with 22 but helped us recover from 15-5 to 126 all out. In the second game Jemima Foster was again in the runs with 39 as we scored 83 which was knocked off in 17 overs. Our final round of external matches was a T20 double header against Gloucestershire Development side. We won the first game as we chased down 87. Lilac Jewell (23) and Ella Owens (20) impressing with the bat. Game 2 saw us fail to defend 126 with the bulk of the runs coming from Jemima Foster (35), Olivia Thresh (22) and Eleanor Stone (17).

The progress this season was huge with lots of individual contributions making the team far more competitive. It's been great to see some of the players grow over the last 2 years and the crop coming into the squad this year also gives us a lot of hope that girls cricket remains strong in Oxfordshire. What a memorable summer!





# Girls Under 13



# Boys Under 13

Every season within a Player Pathway brings with it challenge, enjoyment and plenty of learning opportunities- this year was no exception, and hopefully a memorable part of everyone's journey.

Throughout the winter over 100 Under 13 Boys were able to access training opportunities at various time points. This allows us, as a Pathway, the chance to have a significant impact on cricket both in the short and long term, creating a strength in depth within the County. Following on from competitive Internal Festival Days held at Didcot Cricket Club, which saw 72 players competing against each other in fixtures which demonstrated the depth of skill within the age group, a final squad of 30 was selected to compete against teams representing other Counties at this age group.

Match-play, from June - September, offers players the opportunity to play cricket which represents, as closely as we can, the formats played in the professional game; 20 over "white ball" and 40 over "red ball". A blend of internal and external fixtures not only provide as many playing opportunities as possible to players within the squad, but also the ability to control the way the game looks to help players navigate what the game of the future may look like. Providing players with a variety of playing roles within multiple situations forms a strong foundation and understanding of the game and its nuances. At 13 years old, it's easy to overlook the game of the future, and your role within it, but as coaches we need to have a long-term perspective.

Although 'Summer' only lasted one week, we were still able to hold 10 match days within Phase 4, the majority of which took place toward the end of the Summer during August. The season was littered with memorable individual performances, Oliver Beard with 75\* in the opening game against Northamptonshire, Nico Hartley taking 5 for 23 against Gloucestershire and Sam Allen with 58\* against Worcestershire to name a few. Within our Internal competition, the Eagles and the Buzzards finished tied on two wins each, with the Buzzards dominating within the longer format fixtures but the Eagles holding on for Draws in both games. Nico Hartley with 74\* and Ben Wickens with a run a ball 61 in the first game, followed by 88 for Harry Bewes in the second long format game. Within the 20 over competition, Jim Lovell produced a match winning 65\* for the Buzzards whilst Arthur Maunder took 4-11 off 4 overs and Ed Turner took 5 for 39 for the Eagles. The final game of the season saw the Eagles dominate with 213 off their 20 overs, taking positive risks and putting their team first throughout.

This year's tour took us to King's College, Taunton; a school which used to house England Captain Jos Buttler. A competitive week saw us finish 2nd in the league, with wins against California, Norfolk and ASCE. It was great to see all individuals contribute on and off the field to an enjoyable week, with the highlights being Max Murphy's 62\* against Norfolk, Ciaran Lewis' 5-31 against Shropshire with Henry Saunders scoring 52 in the same game, Oliver Beard and Ben Wickens both scoring 50s in the final game and an impressive 109 for Hugo du Plessis against Gloucestershire. It's easy to forget that at 13 years old you are only at the start of your Cricketing journey, and that the future will bring with it many more joyous and challenging moments which will help you develop not just within Sport. Thank you to everyone for their support this year, and we look forward to following your journey's in the years to come.

## Boys Under 13 Squad - 2023

*Sam Allen, Oliver Beard, Harry Bewes, Evan Cowley, Hugo du Plessis, Sam Dunning  
Rowan Garfath-Nebbett, Sam Greenslade, Sebastian Grocutt, Nico Hartley, Tommy Hewlett  
George Jacot de Boinod, Ciaran Lewis, George Logan, Jim Lovell, Arthur Maunder, Max Murphy  
Archie Ricks, Henry Saunders, Jago Sidgwick, Vinupa Sirimanne, Zach Stanfield, Paddy Stocks  
Matthew Sykes, Daniel Tervet, Henry Thomas, Edward Turner, Billy Vallings, Jack Walsh, Ben  
Wickens*



# Boys Under 13



# Boys Under 14

This year's Boys Under 14s faced a challenging season, playing in the ECB competition against some very strong opposition in Warwickshire, Worcester, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

My initial thoughts on the squad was that they were a tight group of selfless lads that supported and worked hard for each other. These qualities were apparent during the season when their character and desire to learn and develop was evident, the opportunity to learn from both positive and negative experiences was always very obvious to me.

I believe positive outcomes are more about the smaller wins within the game rather than the end result, something that isn't always easy to convince competitive young players of. I've always been of the opinion that character and mindset make the difference when players are developing. This group displayed so much character not getting down when things got tough, never complaining or making excuses when things didn't go their way. These are the characteristics and qualities I believe will enable this team to carry on learning, developing and growing into an excellent team. "Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Character determines how well you do it."

A competition final table will never be able to identify growth & development only performance. This group really grew accepting and taking on all challenges, identified areas of improvement discussed in our pre match and after match discussions: Can we be more positive in the power play? Can we rotate in the middle overs? Are we able to rebuild when we lose a wicket? Can we maintain and hold an effective length? Can we be brave with our variation? Can we outfield the opposition? These are some of the positive outcomes experienced this season.

Some might say it was a tough season but I personally really enjoyed it because of the environment that was driven by their desire to develop and because this squad are an outstanding group lads.

## **Boys Under 14 Squad - 2023**

*Barney Bosley, Woody Covey, Henry Golding, Sam Hicks, Finley Hoy  
Sholto Hunt, Stanley Jackman, Kit Kingsbury, Freddie Mercer  
Ben Miller, Louis Nicholson, Olly Offwood, Joe Richards, George Roper  
Louis Schaay-Manning, Shivakumar Senthilkumar Sridevi, Tom Spokes, Freddie Webb*



# Boys Under 14



# Girls Under 15

The squad assembled in Gloucestershire in May, with high expectations, for our first T20 matches of the season. These hopes were certainly intact and actually enhanced after two good wins; forties for Alex & Georgia and a sublime 57\* for Rabiya being the batting highlights, whilst a brilliant 2 over spell from Nicole, taking 4 wickets for 1 run also indicated we had several potential match winners in the side. A 6 week break then followed before our next games and despite excellent batting from Niamh 36 & Sophia 59, we came away empty handed. The remaining 8 match days came thick & fast in a one month period from the end of July and sadly we only recorded two more victories in that time, with batting frailties, on generally bowler friendly wickets, being our main challenge.

Niamh was our most consistent bat and regularly scored 20s & 30s, showing both excellent technical skill, as well as good temperament for the job, which was highly impressive for a 13 year old. Rosie H produced an excellent 43 opening the batting against Berkshire and Katie W dropped back to her correct age group, to top score for us with 71\* in an excellent win over Bucks. Our bowlers fared rather better in August and Rosie H showed herself to be a top all rounder, with 4-23 against her favourite opponent, namely Berkshire.

All our bowlers took wickets which is gratifying, but notably Alice produced two excellent “3fers” against Berkshire & Wiltshire and Jemima Foster, playing up an age group, registered an impressive 3-9 on the last day of our season v Dorset. However the star turn from the bowler’s was without doubt Emma Park’s incredible match winning 6-23 on August 10th v Dorset.

Cricket captaincy is one of the toughest jobs in sport and whilst 6 different players took this role on at various points, most would agree that our “regular” Captain, Alex Knight, did an excellent job both tactically & emotionally throughout the season.

Finally, a big thank you to all the hugely supportive parents this Summer; this was a great group of players to work with and we wish those moving up an age group, all the very best for the future, whilst very much looking forward to more Under 15’s cricket, for those returning in 2024.

## Girls Under 15 Squad - 2023

*Charlotte Allen, Alice Banwell, Rosie Bartlett, Rabiya Dogar  
Sophia Hanson, Emilia Harding, Nicole Harper, Rosie Hewlett, Ella Hooper  
Martha Iles Pounds, Alex Knight, Bethan Lewis, Freya McNeill, Emma Park, Georgia Prestedge  
Felicity Rae-Welsh, Amelia Richardson, Niamh Rogan, Isla Scott-Dalgleish*



# Girls Under 15



# Boys Under 15

The 2023 season for the Boys Under 15s was largely a successful one. We won and lost about half each but every player I hope can say they got better, learnt and enjoyed themselves. Before the first game, the squad devised three non-negotiables for the season. Professional, positive energy and fighters.

Notable wins included a big away win in June at Somerset, bowling them out for 132 (Thomas Wyatt 4-9 off 2 overs), and chasing it in 20 overs largely thanks to Barney Villiers 84 not out off 73 balls. Another fantastic display was away to Bucks in a T20, scoring 163-1. Mainly due to an 114 run partnership between Barney Villiers 66 not out and Rudi Derbyshire 76 not out off 42 balls. Rudi's innings was pure clean hitting, he even hit one onto the pavilion, smashing a door window in the process!

Best individual bowling performance was Charlie Sutton spinning Wiltshire in a web, picking up 6 wickets for 8 runs off 5 overs at Sunningwell as we bowled them out for 71 and chased one wicket down. Our best individual batting performance came in mid August, a 2 day friendly against Oxfordshire Under 14s. We scored 373/7 dec off 57 overs, involving three fantastic knocks. Max Bolam 120 ret not out, Alex Tervet 54 (Max & Alex put on 140 for the opening stand). Then Rudi Derbyshire hit 70 off 29 balls (fives 4s and six 6s). We bowled the opposition out for 74 (Jack Watson 4-37 & Thomas Wyatt 3-4). In the second innings the opposition bowled well, however Logan Rainbow hit a very good 58 not out. Gabriel Green bowled 20 overs in a row in the second innings, figures of 4-28, however he did drop a dolly for his 5 fer!

Our toughest day came away at Gloucestershire, they scored 342/8, however plaudits go to Rudi Derbyshire's fighting and classy 50 not out in reply. Other individual standouts include:

George Beard 37 off 17 balls in Teddies 100 against Hampshire, I think he didn't face a dot ball. Benedict Robinson on a hat-trick twice in the season, he notched a 4-16 off 3 overs v Bucks. Max Bolam 36 not out off 15 balls in a powerful finishing knock as we beat Berkshire in a T20. Gabriel Green 4-9 at home to Gloucestershire in a T20 was very impressive.

Our last game was at home to Wiltshire. A very good performance overall, as we restricted them to 208/9. In the glorious sunshine we batted brilliantly, chasing only 4 wickets down in 38 overs. Barney Villiers (65) and Alex Tervet (60) put on 124 for the second wicket in a masterclass of rotation and boundaries.

They are a superb group of highly talented cricketers, humble and driven to succeed and improve. Thanks to everyone for their support, it's been brilliant!

## Boys Under 15 Squad - 2023

*Stanley Askew, George Beard, Max Bolam, Rudi Derbyshire, Gabriel Green, Samuel Grocott  
Finley Little, Kian Niyarepola, Logan Rainbow, Karthik Ramsundhar, Benedict Robinson  
Otto Rourke, Jonny Spencer, Charlie Sutton, Alex Tervet, Juan Toerien, Barney Villiers, Jack  
Watson, Thomas Wyatt*





# Boys Under 15



# Boys Under 16

The Boys Under 16's age group have had a very successful year in 2023, having achieved a respectable 4th placed finish in their ECB Competition group. Within this competition they had hard fought victories over Northamptonshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Buckinghamshire. They also pushed the eventual group winners (Leicestershire) and second placed team (Nottinghamshire) all the way and came out as narrow losers. The boys were also exposed to playing at different types of venues, one of which this year was Edgbaston cricket 2nd ground, though the majority would not have come away with fond memories from this game!

There were also very solid displays against Wales and Berkshire in friendly games, Berkshire being the first exposure to a multi-day format. The latter being a valuable insight for the boys as they head into the multi-day format they will encounter within the boys under 18s age group.

Throughout the 2022/2023 winter training and summer fixtures, the boys have shown dedication to their development and have been able to display this on multiple occasions. We were witnesses to some fantastic displays of talent throughout the year from all of the group and everyone involved contributed to the success we achieved this year. This is always a difficult year to manage for them as they have to juggle the demands and workloads of prepping for their GCSEs at the same time, and the boys have done an admirable job throughout the campaign to not allow this to be a disturbance or a factor.

The development of our spin bowlers was a particular highlight and evident this year, with spin accounting for the majority of the wickets taken (67 out of 91). Notable displays include Alfie Smethurst's 3/24 against Northants, Arthur Hanson's 4/28 against Leicestershire, Henry Welch's 4/26 against Bucks and Dexter Ainley's 4/21 against Shropshire. Dexter ended up as the counties leading wicket taker, returning with 17 wickets for the season. There were also valuable contributions from the seam unit in the games, not necessarily getting the rewards their graft and skill deserved. One standout from this year was Oli Veal's 3/26 against Worcestershire.

We have also been witness to some fantastic displays and batting craftsmanship over the course of the season, when batting hasn't always been easy with the amount of precipitation that has fallen this year. Despite the tricky conditions, we have seen three boys finish with 200+ runs for the year, a very notable achievement from the fixtures we faced. Leading the way has been Arthur Hanson's contribution of 218 runs @36 runs per innings. A particular highlight was the recovery we witnessed at Shropshire. Having been pinned back to 102-8, the lower middle order were able to rescue the innings for us to post 208 AO. Some creative batting from Dexter, Bertie and Jack at the end of the innings transported the game into our favour and was a crucial part of the team winning the game. The biggest contribution and highlight came in our final fixture this season as Ethan Barksfield was able to transfer the game in our favour by scoring a superlative 108\* against Berkshire. This was emphasised by him ramping the final ball for 4. The season has presented a lot of highs and lows from which the boys have learned from, adapted too and adopted new ways to overcome the challenges they will face in the future.

## Boys Under 16 Squad - 2023

*Dexter Ainley, Ethan Barksfield, Rayaan Dogar, Bertie Gowen, Arthur Hanson, Aston Hazell, Adrian Hector, Jake Jackson, Julian Laird, Conor Rogan, Daniel Shevket, Sam Siriwardene, Alfie Smethurst, Joseph Sparkes, Jack Sparrow, Jack Veal, Oliver Veal, Henry Welch, Archie Wild*



# Boys Under 16



# Girls Under 18

Oxfordshire Girls Under 18s finished 5th in the County one day group 7 league. In the county T20 group 4 league Oxfordshire finished in 7th. Despite the results the girls grew closer as a team than I've seen this age group before and clearly played for each other throughout the season. Yet again there were a lot of opportunities for Under 15 girls to play and not one looked out of place which shows that the future is bright for female cricket in Oxfordshire.

Key performances to note with the bat were, Zoe Soonawalla 66\* v St Edwards School, Aimee Diab 66 v Wiltshire & Izzy Kirby 58 v Hampshire special mention must go to Izzy and Chloe Westbury who consistently created an opening partnership that set the rest of the team up for success showing that their experience in the age group has grown throughout the years.

With the ball Zara Wyatt shined taking 4/20 v Wiltshire and behind the stumps Katie Waugh took a brilliant 5 catches and 3 stumpings.

I take the opportunity to thank the players for their effort and their families for the commitment and support shown in travelling around the south of the country enabling the girls to play.

## Girls Under 18 Squad - 2023

*Elodie Brown, Philippa Dellar, Aimee Diab, Lucy Johnson, Isobel Kirby, Honor Murray,  
Abi Norgrove, Daisy Romanek, Emily Shelley, Emma Sherwood, Ellie Simpson, Zoe Soonawalla,  
Kitty Spurgeon, Martha Stapley, Emma Trowbridge, Jessica Warren, Katie Waugh,  
Chloe Westbury, Zara Wyatt*



# Girls Under 18



# Boys Under 18

After the endless blue skies and sunny days of 2022, it was, I suppose, only to be expected that 2023 would not be so glorious.

The cold and wet spring meant that all but two of our T20 games to commence the season were completely washed out, meaning by the time we travelled to Staffordshire for the final two games, qualifying for the finals day was already out of the question. Despite that, we witnessed an outstanding innings from Tom Cunningham against Shropshire as he smashed 98 from just 62 balls in a thrilling tie – both teams finishing on 161. Tom went on to record a century in our first 50-over county cup game against Wiltshire, he scored 129 from 102 balls as Oxfordshire thrashed Wiltshire by 106 runs.

In the next round, Oxfordshire travelled to Somerset, who needed to play three overage players in order to get the game on. One overage player hit 80 and another 75 as the west country side racked up 332-8, only for Oxfordshire to be bowled out for 250 in a spirited run chase, Zain Ali hitting 79 and Arthur Hanson (Under 15) a superb 63.

Moving into the Plate competition, it was back to winning ways against the Isle of Wight as Zain hit 88 and Henry MacDonald an excellent 102 as Oxfordshire thumped their visitors by 139 runs in another rain-affected match. A five-wicket win in Herefordshire in the next round, Zain again starring with 80, Luke Hayes with 64 and returning skipper Tristan Rossouw with 58, saw Oxon drawn away to Hampshire in the quarter-final. Sadly, our run finished there against a side who fielded several Academy players, being dismissed for just 96 chasing Hampshire's 280-7.

The three-day championship was most badly affected by rain, with all four games impacted by the weather, meaning each match ended in a draw. That said, the first match, at home to Staffordshire, did produce an enthralling finish, with all four results possible going into the final over. Zain's 140 was the stand-out performance, although five wickets for Alfie Smethurst in Staffordshire's first innings saw the visitors dismissed for 235 chasing Oxfordshire's first-innings total of 396. But rain intervened, washing out much of day two and part of day three, with Oxfordshire just two runs short of victory in a truncated second innings. A total wash-out on day two in Devon rendered it impossible to force a result, although there was a first-ever five wicket haul for Matt Ford, with Henry Welch also taking five. The match in Berkshire also saw a full-day wash-out, on day one, but again, Oxfordshire had the best moments of the match, Tristan scoring a magnificent and near chanceless 158 in their first innings. But, with a day washed out, once again, only a draw was possible.

Sadly, the final match of the season summed up the weather, as once again there was more than a day's play washed out, meaning for the first time ever, each game ended in draw, meaning Oxfordshire could only finish in mid-table. The under 18 season marks the end of the pathway for a number of players, but they have been a talented bunch who have represented Oxfordshire Cricket well, both on and off the field of play. Darryl and I would like to thank all for their commitment to Oxfordshire Cricket, and pass on those thanks to all the parents who have supported the team, and us, so well over the last two to three years. Good luck to you all, wherever your cricketing journey heads towards.

## Boys Under 18 Squad - 2023

*Zain Ali, Callum Ardron, Oliver Armstrong, Chris Batten, Oliver Brooks, Tom Cunningham  
Edgar Easterbrook, Matthew Ford, Luke Hayes, Chris Hofen, Hamish Johnston, Will Marland  
Henry Macdonald, Rory Nicholson, Tristan Rossouw, Josh Towell, Jacob Townsend, Nico van de  
Merwe, Max Wyman*



# Boys Under 18



# Disability Cricket

Statistics show that Disability Cricket along with Women & Girls Cricket are the fastest growing areas of our great game and Oxfordshire Disability Cricket is certainly playing it's part in that growth. The 'new and improved' partnership between The Lords Taverners and The ECB has meant that more main stream schools and colleges, with SEND groups, will now have softball and table cricket sessions delivered regularly as part of their curriculum. This growth requirement has enabled Oxfordshire Cricket to employ an additional Community Cricket Coach whose main role will be to deliver fun sessions to the new SEND locations as well as supporting the existing disability programme. Exciting times but hard work ahead if we are to meet the KPI's of our programme funders. 2023 has, once again, shown how popular our Lords Taverners Super 1 groups are with the four Hubs running in Oxford, Bicester, Abingdon and Witney continuing to thrive throughout the year. Thanks go to Horspath, Abingdon Vale and Bicester & North Oxford Cricket Clubs for allowing us to use their excellent facilities throughout the summer and Abingdon & Witney College, The Park Sports Centre Wheatley, Bicester Leisure Centre and ICE Witney for making us so welcome during the winter period.

We took part in three Disability Festival, this year, with our friends from Gloucestershire and Hertfordshire. Each one of us hosting a round robin tournament and again many thanks to Abingdon Vale Cricket Club for hosting the Oxfordshire Festival. These events enable us all to mix and renew or begin friendships with parents, carers, coaches and the wider disability families in the three counties. It is so important for us all to gain support and strength from these get togethers and to show that we are not alone and can rely on our friends to help us through the difficult times that we all have. We also have a number of Inter Hub social get togethers, throughout the year, and we are so fortunate to have the support of one of our parents who turns her back 'lawn' into a decent wicket for these events. The refreshments are also fantastic and again allow us all to recharge our batteries by chatting to other families and carers. Many thanks to this so supportive family. You know who you are!

The Hubs are a very important but the schools and college delivery is a major part of the programme. Softball and Table Cricket sessions were delivered to eight Special Schools and College Pathway Groups, during the year. This enabled four hundred unique participants with learning and or physical disabilities to enjoy these fun sessions and take part in the National Lords Taverners Table Cricket Tournament culminating in the National Final at Lords, the home of cricket. For the second year running Abingdon & Witney College (Abingdon) won the Oxfordshire and London & Home Counties titles and took part in the Lords Final in June. A fantastic achievement.

The Lords Taverners have also begun a national programme of supplying Table Cricket Kits to Special Schools and Colleges. These are a new design and are enabling the recipients to practice this superb game throughout the year. We currently have six kits in locations throughout the county. Beware Abingdon competition could be coming your way! As already mentioned the SEND programme in Main Stream Schools will be expanded during the rest of 2023 and moving into 2024. We will also be identifying and training Young Volunteers who will assist in the organising and running of Softball and Table Cricket sessions and competitions.

Running alongside the Oxfordshire Disability Cricket Programme is the ECB Disability Cricket Champion Club initiative. This is a programme for clubs who wish to run their own Disability Section and is supported by Oxfordshire Cricket and The ECB . We currently have two clubs Minster Lovell and Oxford taking part in this great initiative and another club beginning the application process. Please contact me if your club is interested in becoming an ECB DCCC. Full support and training is available for coaches and volunteers on an ongoing basis if required. A busy year ahead but we can all be safe in the knowledge that children and young adults in Oxfordshire, with any kind of disability, have access to cricket sessions that are fun and will help them achieve their full potential going forward in life.





# Disability Cricket





OXFORDSHIRE  
CRICKET

