

# **Performance Awards**

Sunday 28th September 2025 St Edward's School

# Welcome



It's my pleasure to welcome you all to the 2025 Pathway Awards ceremony, being held at St Edward's School. Occasions such as these allow the girls and boys from across our pathway the opportunity to come together to recognise the individual achievement and team successes of their peers. Thank you to all players, their families, our employees and the wider cricketing community for their contribution to the season of 2025.

Success can take many forms. It can be obvious; 50s, 100s, 5fers, 4fers, key catches behind the stumps or a match winning contribution for the team. It may be individualised; your highest score or your best bowling figures. But they can also be hard to quantify as part of a long-term developmental journey. Today, we come together to recognise the individual and team successes from the 2025 season, but equally as important are the ongoing developments made to skill and character which we continue to build year on year. I encourage all of the players to reflect upon their own journey during 2024/25, and capture the important building blocks which contribute to their enjoyment, development and success in the game.

We continue work to enhance our pathway programme and were delighted to once again deliver Phase 1 free of charge to remove the financial barrier to entry, whilst offering bursary support to those who require it across Phases 2 and 3. Ensuring that our pathway is accessible regardless of circumstance remains of the utmost importance as we continue to work toward a more inclusive game within Oxfordshire and the Country.

We were delighted to be able to once again offer targeted support for state educated players involved in various phases of our pathway, providing levelling up opportunities for players who otherwise may not receive them. Our Oxfordshire Bulls & Falcons programmes continued to excel as we delivered 90 hours of coaching and 15 match days to players involved in various phases of our pathway. Alongside this we were delighted to take management of the Oxford MCC Foundation Hubs running within the County, which also provides free-to-access opportunities for players within state education. Commencing in January 2025, we ran a Girls MCCF Hub from St Helen & St Katharine School and a Boys MCCF Hub from Magdalen College School.

# Welcome

Across the programme 79 players engaged within 60 hours of coaching followed by 7 fixture days across the cricket season. We hope that the experiences and contact time provided will continue to bridge the gap between the experience of players from within the state and independent sectors.

Looking ahead to next year we welcome the national roll-out of the Early Engagement Programme, a re-design of the shape of pathways across all counties for 9 to 12 year olds. We have been proactive in moving toward a broader player base at these age groups over the previous two years and the benefits are already clear with greater diversity and the overall quality of players rising. That being said, supporting our players of highest potential remains a priority and we are looking forward to introducing enhancements to our County Age Groups (Under 13 to Under 18) with a significant increase in contact time for selected players at these age groups, continuing our work to produce players capable of thriving within the Professional game.

Lastly, I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of you who were involved in our Pathway Programme for the 2024/25 year. Cricket is a sport which requires a huge amount of support; ground preparation, officiating, scoring, expert coaching not to mention the mileage count on your cars - thank you and we look forward to continuing to work with you over the years to come.

### Sam Arthurs

Pathway Manager





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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

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

Many thanks in anticipation of your kind generosity and support.



# 2024/25 Season in Numbers OXFORDSHIRE CRICKET OXFORDSHIRE OXFORDSHIRE CRICKET

### Phase 1

Saw 863 players, each taking part in either 8 hours (Under 11, 12, 13 & 14) or 6 hours (Under 15, 16 & 18) of FREE coaching, 346 hours of sessions were run at 7 venues across Oxfordshire Alongside this we ran 40 hours of FREE coaching for State School Girls & Boys in the Under 14 & 15 age groups as part of our Bulls & Falcons programme, coaching 63 players.

### Phase 2

426 players took part in Phase 2, with each player receiving 20 hours of indoor coaching spread over 10 weeks, totalling 400 hours coaching. The CAG age groups (Under 13s through to Under 18) then had two outdoor/indoor fixtures at 6 venues to finalise selections. CAG Selection Fixtures – 16 days of cricket scheduled – 34 separate fixtures Alongside this we ran.

80 hours of coaching for a Post Pathway Programme to BU11, 12 & 13 who had not been selected to continue into Phase 2, engaging with 68 players.

50 hours of FREE coaching to State School Boys & Girls in the Under 12 & 13 age groups as part of our Bulls & Falcons programmes, engaging with 96 players.

60 hours of FREE coaching as part of the MCCF Hubs, for Girls & Boys in the Under 14 & 16 age groups, engaging with a total of 79 players

### Phase 3

The Foundation age groups (Under 11 & 12s) ran from 4th May to 1st September and involved 180 players selected into 3 age group squads, these were then sub-divided into 4 intra-teams within each age group.

# **Overview**

The Talent age groups ran from 18th May to 31st August and involved 197 players selected into 9 age group squads, the Boys & Girls Under 13s squads were then sub-divided into three teams, a CAG group and 2 development sides

### Pathway Fixtures

149 days of cricket scheduled - 235 separate fixtures scheduled.

There were 5 multi-day fixtures for the older boys age groups.

Thankfully the weather has been very kind to us this year and we have only lost 4 full days to rain. Alongside the pathway fixtures we also ran activity for the Bulls, Falcons & MCCF Hubs, there was NO COST to the players for any of this activity:

State School Fixtures (Bulls & Falcons)
15 days of cricket scheduled – 18 separate fixtures

MCCF Fixtures

Hub Competitions - 4 days of cricket scheduled - 9 separate fixtures Friendlies - 3 days of cricket scheduled - 6 separate fixtures

In addition our Boys Under 14s and Girls Under 15s played fixtures against the Regional MCCF Hub sides

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

Indoor Venues - 8 in total

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

Outdoor Venues - 31 in total

Abingdon Vale CC, Ardington & Lockinge Sports Club, Aston Rowant CC, Bicester & North Oxford CC, Bloxham School, Challow & Childrey CC, Chandlings School, Charlbury CC, Cokethorpe School, Cropredy CC, Cumnor CC, Deddington CC, Didcot CC, Banbury CC, Faringdon CC, Freeland CC, Greys Green CC, Hook Norton CC, Long Hanborough CC, Marsh Gibbon CC, Oxford CC, Oxford Downs CC, Sandford St Martin CC, Shrivenham CC, Stonor CC, Sunningwell CC, Swinbrook CC, Thame Town CC, Tiddington CC, Warborough & Shillingford CC, Witney Mills CC

Alex Westbury,

Performance Cricket Coordinator

Something about this summer feels like it's the end of a cricketing era. It's the season that marks the departure from Somerset of players who've made the Cidermen into the foremost white-ball force in the domestic game, the year that's seen Rohit and Virat hand over the baton in the Indian Test side to Shubman and Rishabh, and the summer where I had to use the "4" key to begin typing my age for the first time. It's also the final chapter in a story arc at Under-10 and Under-11 level that seems to have stretched back to the days of face masks, social distancing and lateral flow tests.

Yet, as much as things change, others stay the same, and this year's pathway programme saw the Under-11 squad split into four cohorts: the Hornets, Jaguars, Scorpions and Tigers, for a series of long-format and short-format fixtures, leading up to a final day of the season where any of three teams could have won the title (had the September weather not pulled the plug on the drama).

### Long Format

The ball dominated the bat in the 40-over fixtures this summer, with early-season pitches, muggy overhead conditions and inconsistent bounce making it difficult for players to get set, and harder still to arrest the momentum once wickets began to fall. Honours were even across all four sides, with a win apiece, and there were defiant partnerships across the burning decks, amidst the havoc wrought by a phalanx of spinners.

Three slow bowlers, Albie de Winton (5/16), Ahmad Mukhtar (5/19) and Charlie Lamb (5/25), all picked up five-wicket hauls, whilst Max Basset (4/25) and Noah Avery (4/15) had the best returns of the medium-pacers. With the bat, Arthur Floyd (37), Fenwick Partridge-Brown (35\*) and Leo Franklin (35) scored runs that were worth far more than they appear in the scorebook. I've not been able to confirm or deny the rumour that Rob Key wants us to introduce the Kookaburra ball for next season.

### Short Format

As the focus moved towards T20 and 100-ball games, the weather deigned to allow some more traditionally cricketing weather, and with outfields and pitches becoming all the quicker, the batters were able to get their own back. At the half-term festival at Chandlings School, Partridge-Brown (52\*), Xander Mudd (58\*) and Harry Rowland-Clark (60\*) all crossed fifty for the Hornets, Jaguars and Tigers respectively, whilst Marvin Patel (61\*) went one better later in the summer, leaving Tigers teammate HRC slightly conflicted...

There were also plenty of match-changing innings that didn't lead to landmarks: Bertie Holt's 46\* was perhaps the outstanding knock, turning a precarious 25/5 into a successful run chase at Witney Mills. Barney Humphreys matched the feat at Freeland, in what proved to be a crucial win for the eventual champions, the Scorpions, whilst Arthur Good's 41\* helped the Jaguars inflict a rare heavy defeat on the overall winners. Freedie Postlethwaite (4/4) ran through the Scorpions' lower order in that famous win, and Frank Irvine's 4/11 had restricted the Tigers' batting to ensure that Holt's heroics were enough for the Hornets to chase their target.

### Charging Bulls

The Oxfordshire Bulls enjoyed three excellent days of cricket across the season, starting with a tense chase in the Tiddington gloom, with Avery (29\*) batting through the innings after an excellent all-round effort from Alex Tofts. On a rather warmer day at Cothill School, John Santer and Felix Mazdon nearly pulled off an equally remarkable chase, only to fall seven runs short with Santer stranded on 49\*.

In the Wynyard-Gibb Cup at St Edward's, a scarcely believable spell of 7/3 from Kingsley McGeown - including a hat trick - dismissed the Prep Schools XI for just 61 and set up a winner-takesall clash against a strong Hampshire RPC Select XI. Hampshire got off to a flying start in reply, and whilst the Bulls were able to slow the run rate in the death overs, the visitors' final score of 163/5 was an imposing one, but one that took the shackles off the batting order: we would be getting the runs, or going down fighting. Patel and Mukhtar started strongly, and cameos through the middle order left Anvay Chandrawale to play the Lewis Gregory role, with two to win from a final ball which was carved to the point boundary to prompt a joyous pitch invasion. I think Somerset must have been taking notes.

Storm Chasing - The summer holidays saw a new innovation for the season, with the Eagles, Falcons, Thunder and Lightning taking one another on, giving players more opportunities to be challenged and to develop at a competitive level. Whilst the Falcons triumphed 4-1 over the Eagles, all of the games were tightly fought with batters, bowlers and captains under pressure - right up to the final delivery in one last-ball win. Once again it was Patel (59) and Partridge-Brown (53\*) who lifted their bats, whilst Beau Richards (4/20) and Harnoor Singh (4/23) made key contributions with the ball.

The Lightning prevailed 5-1 in their series against the Thunder where ball dominated bat, although Thunder's 125/2 proved the only time either side posted three figures, thanks to runs from Arthur Fraser (34\*) and Yusuf Islam (27\*), before Aryan Gupta made the most of the scoreboard pressure to take 4/2 and short-circuit the Lightning's batting. Otherwise, the Under-10 trio of Irvine, Caleb Gregory and Aadi Kulkarni all took four-wicket hauls for the Lightning, and Jamie Elliott's 45\* rounded off the final game. The most remarkable match of the summer came at Bloxham School, when four different bowlers - two on each side - took three wickets in an over. Kulkarni and Caleb Clark combined to dismiss Thunder for 58, before Eli Ogier and a Basset hat-trick left Lightning reeling at 23/7. The drama was not yet over, however, as Lucas Soper and Ayman Ashad held back the tide of wickets, shifted the momentum and saw their side home.

Valete - So, whether it's been your first taste of the Player Pathway, a second summer (or indeed, a third, fourth, or fifth, if you managed to sneak on for some substitute fielding despite only being seven years old at the time), I hope you can always look back on these seasons and think about the progress and development that you've made as cricketers. No matter where the game leads you, I hope you remember the two rules we set for ourselves at the start of every new season: have fun, and learn something new. You've got plenty of decades for more of the same. Just make sure that by the time your 40th birthdays roll around, you've learned how important it is to get forward when you're batting on a low deck, just in case your first ball barely gets above your ankles...

### Boys Under 11 Squad - 2025

Mujtaba Ali, Ayman Ashad, Ahmad Atif, Noah Avery, Otis Baker, Barnaby Barrow, Max Basset, Daniel Bates, Laksh Bhagwani, Freddie Blackwell, Matthew Bollinghaus, Barnaby Bosley, Isaac Brook, Anvay Chandrawale, Caleb Clark, Jessie Coates, Barney Cole, Ashley D'Souza, Albie de Winton, Max Duncan, Ike Elliot, Jamie Elliott, Arthur Floyd, Leo Franklin, Alfred Gall, Alfred Good, Caleb Gregory, Aryan Gupta, Bertie Holt, Fynn Holt-Karawita, Harry Hudson, Barney Humphreys, Frank Irvine, Yusuf Islam, Aadi Kulkarni, Charlie Lamb, Rowan Lines, Kingsley McGeown, Wilf McGuirk, Ahmad Mukhtar, Meena Pal Afghan, Xander Mudd, Eli Ogier, Wilfred Oseman, Fenwick Partridge-Brown, Marvin Patel, Monty Pearmain, Freddie Phillips, Freddie Postlethwaite, Dexter Rhind, Beau Richards, Charles Robinson, Harry Rowland-Clark, John Santer, Arlo Shotton, Charles Sinclair, Harnoor Singh, Lucas Soper, Fergus Toller, Anthony Vinall, Jacob Webb.



An outstanding season for the Girls, highlighted by numerous direct hits resulting in run outs, many of the throws from considerable distance, the discovery of many budding wicket keepers, some inspired bowling spells, destructive batting cameos, 100+ partnerships, and last ball finishes but most of all for the team spirit and camaraderie on show at every match.

Splitting into 4 squads we started at Greys Green in early May with 3 x 100 ball matches, Dynamos won both their games with Lucy Black (3 wickets), the Titans v Spartans was tied. End of May Bank Holiday weekend saw 3 days of cricket with all teams involved at Charlbury, Bloxham and Didcot, Charlbury was sunny with Eleanor Mann (26 n/o), Bloxham we just managed to finish the games in drizzle, Clara Cox (37 n/o + 3 wickets), Tia Read (25 n/o) Dora Aubrey-Fletcher (29 n/o) and Bismah Ahmed (37), Sylvie Fooks (3 wickets). At Didcot we just got wet, finished the first games with Saee Chatap (40 n/o) and then play was abandoned for the day. Great perseverance at Didcot where conditions were wet and cold, but the girls still had lots of fun together, they even got the umpires dancing to keep warm!

Ardington and Greys Green followed soon after with more close finishes and retirements n/o for Arabella Haines-Shaw (25), Elodie Monahan (28) and Willow Llewelyn (25). Greys Green hosted our first 35 over in early July and with the Girls learning to adjust to the longer format of the game there were lots of good all-round performances with Sylvie Fooks taking 3 wickets and 4 other bowlers taking 2 wickets each.

Didcot hosted the second 35 over match a few weeks later with Japji Kaur taking 3 wickets, Allegra Smith and Willow Llewelyn both scoring 23 but the highlight of the day was the bowling of Sylvie Fooks who took 4 wickets in 4 overs with 3 maidens for only 4 runs.

With the next set of games at Bloxham being called off due to heavy overnight rain we found ourselves back at Ardington in early August for another 35 over match and it provided a most exciting finish. Wizards posted a score of 176 all out, Saee Chatap (49) and Clara Cox (23) and the Titans chased it down with only 1 wicket left to finish on 177, Alba Bocci scoring a vital 12 runs at the end to win the game. The next set of games took place over 2 grounds at the same time with Warborough and Charlbury hosting. At Charlbury there were 2 close game with Eleanor Mann 27 (n/o) Amelie Brown (26 n/o), Edie Hayes (25 n/o), Chloe Tervert (25 n/o) and Mary McFarlane (25 n/o).

Over at Warborough Isabelle Tate-Davis (27 n/o) and Bismah Ahmed (27) top scored with Molly Dellor taking 3 wickets in the first game. Next up was the last 35 over match of the season at Hook Norton where both teams scored over 200 runs each and bowled the full 35 overs each, it proved to be the most nail biting of endings. Wizards batted first and got off to a great start with openers Ellie Thomason and Tia Read moving the score on well before Isabelle Tate-Davis came to the crease and blasted a run a ball 69 n/o to all corners of the ground to ensure the Dynamos team needed 202 to win.

Dynamos lost 2 quick wickets but Arabella Haines-Shaw (46) and Cara Wood (18) settled things down and when Molly Dellor chipped in with a quick fire 28 the game looked to be over but the Wizards kept taking wickets and the game came down to the last ball with the scores tied and only one wicket remaining. Kitty Mummie-Young knocked the ball into the leg side and the girls ran through for the match winning run.

The last games of the season were split over 2 locations again, Warborough and Witney Mills. The weather forecast was not great but we managed to finish 3 of the 4 scheduled matches. At Witney Mills the first game was dominated by the batters, Amelie Brown (27), Alba Bocci (34), Marnie Stephens (50 n/o) and Olivia Shaw (51 n/o). The second match started but with Olivia Preece on 29 and Bea Godwin on 20 the rain came down and washed out the rest of the day's play. At Warborough we had another tied match with both teams finishing on 103, Isabelle Tate-Davis (27) and Tia Read (22). The second match finished just as the rain started to come down with Ellie Thomason (30 n/o).

An amazing season to coach the Girls through, lots of learning and fun along the way, I look forward to seeing them all continuing their cricketing journey in the future.

### Girls Under 12 Squad - 2025

Bismah Ahmed, Mia Antoniou, Francesca Ashby, Bethany Ashton, Dora Aubrey-Fletcher, Lucy Black, Alba Bocci, Amelie Brown, Mia Buckland, Saee Chatap, Florence Clancey, Rosie Clarke, Matilda Clarke, Clara Cox, Ticky Crawshaw, Clio Cullen, Erin de Rauville Ridgway, Keira de Rauville Ridgway, Molly Dellor, Alexia Elliott, Sylvie Fooks, Beatrice Godwin, Eliza Hadway, Arabella Haines-Shaw, Edie Hayes, Riya Hegde, Millie Judah, Japji Kaur, Emma Lanyon, Susanna Large, Willow Llewelyn, Esme MacPhail, Eleanor Mann, Mary McFarlane, Elodie Monahan, Kitty Mumme-Young, Amelie Pharaon, Olivia Preece, Tia Read, Emma Richardson, Rosie Ruxton, Nisha Sandhu, Jemima Saunders, Sophia Sharda, Olivia Shaw, Fiora Smallwood, Allegra Smith, Aoife South, Marnie Stephens, Ava Sumner, Isabelle Tate-Davies, Chloe Tervet, Ellie Thomason, Darcie Travers, Francesca Trill, Yahavi Umasunthar, Matilda Walton, Dana Winstone, Cara Wood, Sophie Tighe.





The season began at the picturesque Stonor CC with the first block of 40-over matches on a cold May day. This marked the start of the longer-format fixtures, running alongside T20 and Hundred days.

In a hard-fought, low-scoring opening game, the Invincibles posted 138-9 from 42 overs, thanks to Sonny McGeown (41) and Leo Ward (34). In reply, Lightning were bowled out for 99 in 32 overs, with Nathan Anderson taking three wickets. The second long-format fixture introduced the win/lose/draw structure, giving players a chance to test their red-ball skills developed during the indoor programme. In a high-scoring clash, Phoenix declared on 261-8 (40 overs), with strong contributions from Henry Mawaring (93), Arthur Stewart (46), Freddie Fowler (37), and Banjo Rowan-Hull (32). Henry Chapman picked up three wickets for Lightning. Despite resistance from Freddie Whitfield (50) and James Acton (53\*), Lightning were all out for 173 as Phoenix held firm.

### Half-Term Festival: T20s

Festival week brought the first T20 matches, split between BNOCC and Didcot, with the usual mix of sunshine and rain. At BNOCC, Lightning and Invincibles produced a thrilling tie at 110 apiece, McGeown again starring with a half-century. Phoenix then beat Lightning by four wickets (Mawaring 41), before defeating Superchargers by 28 runs (Fowler 61). The Superchargers hit back, beating Invincibles by seven wickets, with Bertie Caithie (3 wickets), Sulieman Ayyaz (2 wickets), and Henry Bowers (37) leading the way.

At Didcot, Lightning edged a low-scoring thriller against Superchargers, thanks to four wickets apiece from Whitfield and Jack Wale. Invincibles then defeated Superchargers by 38 runs, with Grayson Summers finishing unbeaten on 20\*. Phoenix continued their winning run with a three-wicket victory over Lightning, before sealing another win by 45 runs, highlighted by Fowler's explosive 84\* (31) and Bedford's 39\* (21). Acton (45\*) and Bell (33\*) top scored for Lightning, while Bedford also added three wickets.

### Long Format Returns

Rain washed out Superchargers v Phoenix, but the next fixture saw Superchargers beat Invincibles by 30 runs. Joseph Dineen (42\*) top scored, with Alexander Jewell producing a superb 4-1 spell. Richardson, Houlihan-Smith, Dickson, and Turner all chipped in with two wickets each.

### **Hundred Festivals**

The first Hundred day saw Lightning bowl out Invincibles for just 60, with Dev Gupta and Jack Wale both taking three wickets. Green and Ayyaz sealed a nine-wicket win. Phoenix then edged a tight contest by five wickets, Jacob Rowland anchoring the chase with 47\*. Stewart (32) and Poole (27) starred as Phoenix won again, this time by 29 runs.

At Hook Norton, Lightning edged Phoenix by three runs, with Mustafa Shah (52) top scoring and Bedford replying with 36\*. Phoenix then dominated the second game, winning by 59 runs (Bedford 48, Warne 36\*). Superchargers closed the day with a narrow five-run win over Lightning, Ayyaz (38\*) and Bell (44) impressing.

Rain ruined the Charlbury festival, but Hook Norton's next round saw Invincibles beat Lightning by 42 runs, thanks to Bell (52) and Shah (41). Superchargers earlier beat Invincibles with Oscar Campbell (60) and Harry Peebles (40) in fine form.

### Late-Season T20s

The closing T20 phase brought new teams and more close encounters. Superchargers edged Invincibles by 17 runs (Ayyaz 57, Bedford 54), before Invincibles bounced back with a nine-wicket win led by Robbie Robinson's unbeaten 50. Phoenix then twice overcame Lightning, one match decided by a single wicket with Davies taking four wickets.

Invincibles later defeated Superchargers by 34 runs, with Bedford (64), Wrapson (41), and Manwaring (41) piling on the runs. Fowler (45) and Acton (34) fought hard in reply, while Viv Ogale took three wickets. Superchargers levelled the series with a 19-run win, Shah blasting 67 and McGeown 31. Green's unbeaten 71 kept Invincibles in the hunt.

On the final day, Superchargers edged Invincibles by nine runs in a high-scoring thriller. Zach Green (67), Zach Lewis (31), and Gupta (31) all contributed, with Smallwood taking three wickets. Invincibles' Duncan (67) and Smallwood (40) kept it close. Earlier, Lightning beat Phoenix by five wickets, Bukhari claiming three wickets and Ayyaz scoring 37. Phoenix responded in style, beating Lightning by nine wickets, Harris-Bass and Bedford taking three wickets each before Rowland (50) and Jewell (32) guided the chase.

It has been a memorable season full of close contests, big performances, and great team spirit. Players developed not only as cricketers but also as individuals, creating friendships and memories that will last long into the future. Runs and wickets were spread across the squads, and it was encouraging to see attacking cricket played with both bat and ball.

A special thank you goes to all parents for their commitment and support throughout the summer

### Boys Under 12 Squad - 2025

James Acton, Nathan Anderson, Suleiman Ayyaz, Ayaan Baig, Will Bedford, Alistair Bell, William Binning, Henry Bowers, Zulfi Bukhari, Alexander Caithie, Oscar Campbell, Henry Chapman, Teddy Clayton, Charlie Cleevely, Rhys Coates, Kit Davies, Trystan Davies, Theo Dickson, Joseph Dineen, Huw Duncan, Rory Eames, Freddie Fowler, Ludo Gray, Zachary Green, Felix Green, Dev Gupta, Louis Harris-Bass, Benedict Houlihan-Smith, Samuel James, Alexander Jewell, William King, Harold Lane Fox, Sam Langlais, Zach Lewis, James Lodge, Henry Manwaring, Sonny McGeown, Albie Morant, Vivaan Ogale, Harry Peebles, Louis Poole, Franklin Richardson, Mylo Ridler, Robert Robinson, Banjo Rowan-Hull, Jacob Rowland, Mustafa Shah, Jasper Smallwood, Arthur Smee, Arthur Stewart, Grayson Summers, Austin Tier, Henry Turner, Jack Wale, Henry Wallom, Leo Ward, Nathan Warne, Kobe White, Freddie Whitfield, Rory Wrapson.





Every season with a Pathway squad brings challenge, enjoyment and opportunity for development. 2024/25 was no different, and I hope every player involved in any way felt enjoyment, development and grew their love of the game throughout.

Through the winter over 60 Under 13 girls participated in Phases 1 and 2, more than ever before. With 16 indoor training sessions allowing access to skill development and an opportunity to significantly grow awareness, love and skill in the game. Following on from a winter of hard work 3 squads were selected to participate in a summer of cricket as part of either the 'County Age Group' squad of 14 or one of two development squads of 14. Meaning 42 Under 13s took part in both internal and external fixtures in the pathway summer 2025.

The 2024/25 Pathway summer has been an incredible season of development, friendship, team unity and on-field success both team and individual. The year saw our County Age Group squad win 7 out of 12 external fixtures against exceptionally strong opposition, whilst development squads experienced both internal matchplay and external opportunities against other counties.

More players than ever achieved individual batting milestones. And year on year the standard, competition for places and number of players in the Women & Girls game increases and this year's U13 group highlights that. Top run scorer Audrey Feddersen with 445 runs closely followed by Ishi Gummadelli 435 runs highlight the batting strength of the squad, as well as Nerys Garrod, Hebe Kingsbury, Esme Bell and Eloise Garrod all achieving half centuries from the county squad. On top of batting depth a high quality unit of seam (right and left handed - a rarity in Oxfordshire girls' pathway) and mixture of off spin and leg spin bowlers offer threat on a variety of fronts. Top wicket taker Izzy Wood (U11 playing up in U13), off spin twins the Garrods and a high pace seam attack coming at batters with bouncers, variations and swing movement lead to a well rounded, ambitious and high performing squad with depth and quality outside of just the county squad.

Highlight days for the squads include a long trek down to Somerset and the Vipers regional competition fixtures for the county squad and fixtures for the development squads against Northants and Berkshire. However, for me, the overall memory I will have of the squad is seeing the closeness, individual growth and support for each other's successes.

No matter the player's background, experience or performance, seeing groups of players on laps, watching the game and discussing the game of simply celebrating as a unit will live long in the memory. An incredible group of young cricketers all on their individual journeys in cricket.

### Girls Under 13 Squad - 2025

Akshara Akkiraju, Esme Bell, Emilia Benchiba-Savenius, Maeve Bollinghaus, Zanthe Brawn, Rose Brown, Bebe Buckley-Sharp, Ellen Cherry, Rosie Cruikshank, Elizabeth Elliott, Audrey Feddersen, Annabel Foster, Emma Gardner, Eloise Garrod, Nerys Garrod, Sarah Grace, Ishi Gummadelli, Freya Ham, Alexa Hare, Georgiana Higham, Amelie Hopkinson, Chloe-Anne Houseman, Hebe Kingsbury, Nancy Lord, Bridget McGuirk, Freya Monk, Rosie Morgan, Harriet Newsum, Flora Nicholson, Margot Norris, Gabriella Owen, Eloise Pollock, Piper Rey, Holly Rose, Chloe Tappin, Florrie Turner, Elizabeth Vellacott, Ruby Wilkie, Poppy Wilson, Izzy Wood, Emilia Ziegler





Every season brings with it challenge, enjoyment and plenty of opportunities to learn - this year was no exception, and hopefully a significant step in everyone's journey.

This year began in November, in Sports Halls across Oxfordshire. With just over 100 players participating within Phase 1 for selection into Phases 2 and 3. Following 4 weeks of indoor sessions, we selected a pool of 42 players to progress to Phase 2 and 3 where there would be two development squads of 14 players and one county age group squad of 14 players. The overall standard of the group was very high and it was clear from an early stage that players had benefited greatly from their previous year, where more players than before had the opportunity to engage in matchplay opportunities and experience Cricket within pathways.

Following an enjoyable winter programme where players progressed their skill via specific training and a lot of indoor games we played two games at Bloxham School on the Hockey pitch before organising the players into their three Summer squads. We were again happy to be working with a strong group of players, but certainly felt the headache of selection!

The County Age Group squad started their season with two T20s away to Berkshire. With great performances from the players they were able to win games with Zach Rayner scoring 55\* in the first game and a 50 from Kaian and Tony Garner claiming 3-16 really kicked off the season. Followed by wins against Buckinghamshire, the confidence was growing within the team.

The squad then travelled to Redditch CC to play against Worcestershire in a 40 over match, Jethro Kock played the innings of the season with 125\* off 113 balls and with Max Smith taking 3-20 with the ball being supported by all the bowlers were able to bowl Worcestershire out and won by 75 runs. With the confidence high in the team the players came up with more wins against Somerset in a reduced game of 28 overs with a good bowling performance to restrict Somerset to 164-8 and with Will Logan scoring 50 leading the team home. With a win against Berkshire followed with a standout performance from Harry Sedgwick taking 4-13 off his 7 overs. We then hosted Gloucestershire, where the team were able to bowl out Gloucestershire for 71 with all bowlers contributing Sam Robinson took 4-28 to help reduce the visitors. The team then chased down the total in 9.5 overs, one game that won't be forgotten.

The development teams had an impressive year. They played lots of games with different formats with hundred ball games, T20s and 40 over games with some excellent cricket being played. The development games started with two T20 games at Marsh Gibbon CC, with the Eagles batting first Otto Bisson lead with the bat and scored an impressive 78 off 55 balls helped the team get to 174 off their 20 overs, the buzzards didn't get going and with good performances from Jonty Feilden and Freddie Syms both taking 3 wickets restricting the buzzards to 93-9 off 20 overs. With the 100 ball and T20 games being close and competitive, the players then went to Freeland CC to play in a 40 over match with the Eagles batting first; Zach Rayner scored 53 and the Eagles were bowled out for 176 with Haniel Paul finishing with figures of 4-16. With the Eagles bowlers striking early on top reducing the Buzzards to 17-3, Lewis Yeung came in and steadied the innings with a 75\* supported well at the end by Josh Lowe who scored 31\*. The buzzards chased the total down with a ball to spare.

The next opportunity for the development teams to play was at Aston Rowant CC where Freddie Fowler scored 67\* but wasn't enough to get past the Eagles with Kaian Eaton scoring 53 supported by the batting up to chase down 202 in 25.5 overs. To finish off the season the Eagles faced off against Oxford MCC Foundation Hub Under 14 boys in 2 T20s. With the Eagles batting first Siddant Nirmal scored 101\* off 65 with 16 fours and Tony Garner scoring 52 pushed the team to score 188 off their 20 overs. Bowling the opposition out, Alby Duncan finished with figures of 4-12 off his 4 overs and helped restrict MCCF to 126 all out.

In the second game the MCCF got up to 140-4 off 20 overs, but with Aaron Payten scoring 58\* to lead the team home in the 18th over to win both games. Having the blend of internal and external games really pushed the players forward and all players worked really hard to improve and continue their development.

As we neared the end of the season the county age group squad were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to play at the 1st Central County Ground in Hove, against our men's professional county partners; Sussex. The opportunity to play at a professional ground is not one that many get, and provides relevant learning opportunities for those who aspire to progress within the game. The players were delighted to beat Sussex on the day, with Will Logan hitting a dominating 52, including three 6's into the stands, and Ollie Cronin finishing with figures of 4 overs, 1 maiden, 9 runs and 2 wickets. This win meant the county age group squad finished unbeaten, winning 8 from their 8 games played. Whilst our priority as a county is to develop individuals, it is a positive sign that we were able to secure victories against strong opponents including Somerset, Buckinghamshire, Worcestershire and Sussex.

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 foster development beyond Sport. Thank you to everyone for their support this year, we look forward to following your journeys in the years to come.

### Boys Under 13 Squad - 2025

Oliver Bewes, Otto Bisson, Hadley Chadwick, Charlie Challis, Leo Clancey, George Clarke, Ollie Cronin, Ethan de Savoye, Harry Devanny, Alby Duncan, Kaian Eaton, George Eaton, Jonty Feilden, Orlando Fitton, Will Foster, Edward Frieda, Tony Garner, Oliver Golding, Sam Holmes, Thomas Kent, Jethro Kock, Alfie Lewis, Will Logan, Joshua Lowe, Siddhant Nirmal, Haniel Paul, Aaron Payten, David Powell-Jones, George Randall, Zach Rayner, Elliott Rhind, Stanley Rice, Samuel Robinson, Harry Sedgwick, Dougal Sidgwick, Max Smith, Alexander Smith, Emmanuel Syddall, Freddie Syms, Daniel Tilley, Freddie Woodfin, Lewis Yeung





This season with the Under 14s has been an absolute pleasure to coach and be around. The squad was full of strong leaders, headed by captain Gus Floyd, who led with maturity and understanding well beyond his years. Gus was an accomplished captain, setting the tone both on and off the field—empathetic towards his teammates in challenging moments, yet humble and grounded when things went well.

The environment within the group was consistently positive and supportive, built on trust, team spirit, and a shared belief in the process. Even when faced with strong opposition and difficult phases of play, the players showed resilience, choosing to learn from setbacks rather than dwell on them. Importantly, they began to understand the value of seizing key moments in games—committing to playing on the front foot, even when retreating might have seemed the easier option.

Over the course of the season, the team grew in confidence and cohesion, delivering excellent performances both individually and collectively. Notable highlights came in strong matches against Bedfordshire, Herefordshire, Shropshire, Nottinghamshire, and Buckinghamshire.

While numbers and league positions never tell the full story, the true measure of this squad lies in the experiences and lessons they absorbed. Each challenge they faced has contributed—consciously—to their development as cricketers and as people.

This is an exciting, talented group, full of vibrancy and potential. With continued hard work and the same spirit they showed this season, there is no doubt they will go on to achieve great success as teammates and as cricketers.

### Boys Under 14 Squad - 2025

Nauman Amran, Theo Antoniou, Dara Bannerman, Rory Bennett, Freddie Bisson, Nathaniel Brown, Max Burch, Patrick Dineen, Dominic Ellis, Gus Floyd, Jackson Galbraith, Zane Gardner, Srivats Goyal, Hector Gray, Casper Green, James Hart, Adittya Nair, Kevin Olivier, Cole Parekh, Joshua Pereira, Scott Reyburn, Charlie Spicer, Onslowe Tappin, Charlie White.



After hard work and commitment from November through to April, we were all excited to get back to playing and continue the learning through the competitive season.

Our season began with two games during the May half-term against Berkshire and Dorset. Unfortunately we had to watch it rain at Berkshire - but fortunately this was not a sign of things to come. Our first game was therefore against Dorset, and we spent less time at that game than we did in Berkshire! It was an exciting game for the supporters, seeing Oxfordshire bowled out for 62 on a challenging wicket against some good bowling. Despite the low score, confidence was high amongst the players and this paid off bowling Dorset out for 55 in the chasing innings; an exciting start to the season with Rabiya Dogar finishing with 4 wickets from 5 overs.

We then had a break in games until the end of July. Scheduling for this age group is challenging, ensuring that players also get opportunities to play up within the Under 18 age group, play Women's fixtures if selected and represent their Club sides.

One particular highlight of the season was a particularly dismissive win away to Dorset Rabiya and Addie were the pick of the bowlers, Raibya 3 wickets, 6 overs for 23 runs and Addie 1 wicket, 5 overs for 11 runs, both helped to dismiss Dorset for just 142 after 31.2 overs. Georgia and Emily's impressive 104-run opening partnership started what was an impressive run chase, finishing the game off 144-1 in just 25.4 overs, with Emily finishing 64\*.

Another memorable game at home to Berkshire saw the girls' bowl the opposition out for 139, with the wickets being shared around. It proved to be an impressive bowling performance and one of the better fielding performances of the season, with all catches being taken. While the coaches were pleading for another Dorset esc chase, this proved not to be the case, with wickets steadily falling, Niamh steadied the ship, seeing her finish 85\* off 76 and steer the team towards a 3-wicket win.

The 24th of August saw us travel to Marshfield, Wiltshire where Oxfordshire dismissed the opposition for a very under par 134, with Eloise Fitton the pick of the bowlers taking 3 wickets in as many overs whilst only going for 5 runs, this was backed up by a superb fielding display by the whole team. In reply we got off to a flyer with Georgia Ainley looking to get home early as she dispatched her 23 balls faced for 41 runs, Suri Shah was also in on the action scoring an unbeaten 58\* from 45 balls. The last game for the season for our girls was at Charlbury against the MCC foundation, unfortunately (or fortunately for the opposition) the weather turned and the game was abandoned, however not before Rabiya Dogar scored 100\* from 54 balls before retiring and Olivia Thresh not far behind with an unbeaten 86 from 61 balls.

Thank you to all the players, parents and guardians and everyone else for their commitment and efforts throughout the 2025 Summer. We have all enjoyed it, and we hope that you have too.

### Girls Under 15 Squad - 2025

Georgia Ainley, Sophie Broom, Rabiya Dogar, Edith Fiddy, Isabella Frieda, Mary Harrington, Olive Harrison, Lilidh Keymer, Esme Leslie, Emily Mayer, Aysha Monk, Ella Owens, Addie Richards, Niamh Rogan, Suri Shah, Marney Skinner, Eleanor Stone, Olivia Thresh





The 2025 season for the Boys Under 15s was a good progressive year with lots of positive performances. We played 13 games, winning six and losing seven.

Our first win came in game 1, Gloucestershire away in May, bowling them out for 186 in response to our 240 (Sam Dunning 75, Archie Ricks 56, Oscar Dunlop 3-7, Jules Leslie 3-30). Another great win was in game 2 away to Somerset where we scored 322-6 (George Logan 107 not out, Archie Ricks 52, Vinupa Sirimanne 3-38).

We played three matches in June, unfortunately losing all three to Bucks and Worcestershire (twice), however there were some good individual performances (Sam Greenslade 4-53 & 4-35 v Worcs, George Logan 69 v Worcs, Archie Ricks 57 v Worcs and Paddy Stocks 45 not out batting at number 10 v Worcs, putting on 86 for the 9th wicket with Sebastian Grocutt (36).

After a long break we were back in August for five more fixture days. Firstly 2 x T20s against Glamorgan which we lost both at Didcot. We then had a 2 day fixture with the U16s where we mixed the teams up. Seb Grocutt performed brilliantly with 6-27 in the first innings and 5-43 in the second innings, fellow spinner Jules Leslie picked up 3-20 in the first innings too.

In August we also played 2 x T20s against the MCCF Oxford Hub. We dominated both games with 50+ scores from Sam Allen (55), Sam Dunning (72), George Logan (56) and significant bowling contributions from Jack Walsh (4-4) & (3-1).

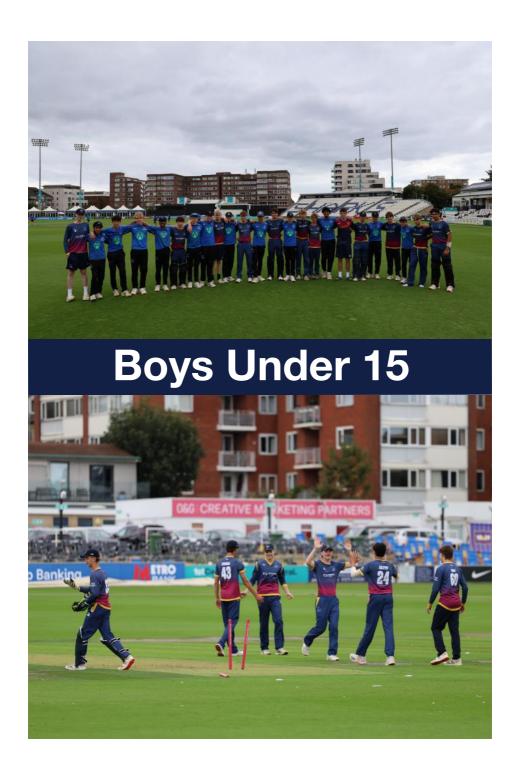
We also played Buckinghamshire in 2 x T20s. In game 1 we got outplayed, however we came back strongly in game 2 with Sam Greenslade bowling 3 overs for just 6 runs as we limited Bucks to 138/5 off 20 overs. In reply, Hugo Du Plessis scored 42 and George Logan scored 48 not out to see us home.

For our last fixture we travelled to the County Ground at Hove to play Sussex U15s in a T20. We chose to bowl first but Sussex got off to a quick start. We came back superbly with good contributions from Paddy Stocks (3-26) and Tom Bratby (3-19), restricting Sussex to 145/9. In reply we never quite got ahead of the chase with some good Sussex bowling. George Logan batted well for 50 not out however we finished on 125/6.

They are a superb group of highly talented cricketers and I look forward to seeing them continuously look to improve. Thanks to all the coaches and parents for their help, it's been brilliant!

### Boys Under 15 Squad - 2025

Sam Allen, Harry Bewes, Josh Boucher, Thomas Bratby, Evan Cowley, Hugo du Plessis, Oscar Dunlop, Sam Dunning, Sam Greenslade, Sebastian Grocutt, Julius Leslie, George Logan, Archie Ricks, Henry Saunders, Vinupa Sirimanne, Paddy Stocks, Matthew Sykes, Jack Walsh



Whilst the results may suggest that this was not a successful campaign, there are many reasons for the members of this squad to be positive about their time within the environment. There have been a number of incidents within the season that indicate that the foundations of individual success have been laid and that they are well on track for future successes. This has been shown by individuals being able to implement training plans that were developed over the winter training phases into the matches and that execution of individual skills within each of the disciplines has improved throughout the course of the season in each member of the squad. This was highlighted by memorable team and individual performances against Glamorgan, where Joe Botha (99\*) stood firm whilst trying to chase down 370, Shropshire, where Ibrahim Zahid and Ben Miller shared a 114\* 2nd wicket partnership in torrential rain to secure a DLS win, Buckinghamshire, where Sam Hicks scored a vital 46 and took the winning wicket in the final over when only ten runs were needed, Ibrahim Zahid's impressive knock of 75 against Notts and Barnaby Harrison recording impressive figures of 5/32 against Leicestershire, are just a few of the stand out performances this year.

There has also been a significant development of the members of this squad in their ability to self-regulate their emotions surrounding their performances and offer honest feedback on their performances and feedback on how they can improve for the future. The behaviours shown by the members of this squad has had an immeasurable positive impact on their long-term development and has shown that they all exhibit an open/growth mindset from which they will be well set to deal with the challenges that lay ahead of them in future years. This has resulted in a number of the squad being chosen to represent the Under 18's and Men's 2nd XI throughout the course of this year, an achievement that cannot be overlooked or underplayed. The Under 16's season has been one fraught with challenges inside the cricket environment and outside of it. They have faced a unique balance of challenges with them having to juggle the needs of their athletic development alongside the educational stressors that come with their GCSE exams. They have also come face to face against some very strong first-class county teams this year where they have risen to the challenge and stood toe to toe against them which they should be very proud of and should hold their heads up high with the achievements they have made. Their dedication to the program and desire to improve has been exemplary throughout the course of the year and has enabled some of the key accomplishments that were outlined at the start of the year to be achieved. I would like to take this opportunity to thank every member of the squad for their energy and enthusiasm that has made this year one of the most enjoyable years of coaching and to the parents and guardians for their unwavering support to the program.

### Boys Under 16 Squad - 2025

Joe Botha, Henry Golding, Barnaby Harrison, Samuel Hicks, Finley Hoy, Sholto Hunt, Stan Jackman, Ben Miller, Olly Offwood, Will Owens, Joe Richards, Theo Rittson Thomas, William Rorich, Louis Schaay-Manning, Shivakumar Senthilkumar Sridevi, Tom Spokes, Freddie Webb, Ibrahim Zahid





A season which saw a squad build confidence, character and resilience.

I have really enjoyed coaching this group of players. It's been highly rewarding. I am extremely proud of how they have approached every match, in particular the One Day Cup games. This was a huge challenge as we competed in an extremely tough group. We found our niche In the shorter format and this is where we excelled. Individual contributions and team effort really helped the squad produce some great results.

Leadership on and off the field has been of the highest quality. Players supporting each other and developing a strong team cohesiveness is something to be noted. I believe the best teams are the ones that stick together when it's tough. This group of players stayed strong and positive throughout. The group has taken many learnings from this season which will no doubt help their development. There were challenges along the way, but we remained positive and kept smiling until the end of the season.

I would like to thank all the players and parents for all the support this past season. Thank you to the players who stepped up from the Under 15 squad to help when availability was low.

Many thanks to fellow coaches who have supported me and the squad. It's great to work alongside coaches who care so much about girls cricket and want them to be successful.

Thank you to the venues/clubs that have hosted our games, the umpires and scorers, without them all we would not have any cricket taking place.

Special thanks to Alex Westbury and Sam Arthurs for the tireless work they do behind the scenes to ensure our Pathway provides the best opportunities for all our players.

I'm looking forward to the season in 2026 already. It's going to be a big Summer with the Women's T20 World Cup being hosted on home soil. This will help inspire our players even more and most importantly continue to enjoy the game!

### Girls Under 18 Squad - 2025

Mim Aldred, Alice Banwell, Ceci Bower, Rosa Camilleri, Darcey Evain, Emilia Harding, Nicole Harper, Louisa Hayward, Rosie Hewlett, Shauryaa Jamwal, Bethan Lewis, Honor Murray, Carys Owen, Felicity Rae-Welsh, Amelia Richardson, Daisy Romanek, Zoe Soonawalla, Katie Waugh





It was a hugely frustrating season for the Boys Under 18s, as in a summer that was so hot and dry, the vast majority of our fixtures suffered badly from rain, leading to disappointment in all three formats.

In the ECB Under 18 Championship, for the second season in a row, Oxfordshire finished unbeaten in their group, but with rain washing out day 3 on three of the four games, it meant that only one victory was achieved, leading to a disappointing third-placed finish. However, this masked what was another exceptional season of three-day cricket for the team, as we were in strong winning positions in two of the three washed-out games, which would have led to us winning the group. There were many notable performances across the three-day championship, with two centuries for Nikhil Nair, plus centuries for Adrian Hector and Ethan Barksfield. With the ball, spinners again held sway, with both left-arm spinners Dexter Ainley and Samora Leslie taking five-wicket hauls, Samora in back-to-backs. Nilkhil also claimed a five-wicket haul in a game against Buckinghamshire, in which he also scored one of his two tons - the first player in mine and Darryl's tenure as coaches to score a century and claim a five-wicket haul in the same game - some achievement. There were consistent spells throughout the season also from our off-spinner Gursimrat Singh, who bowled with considerable control and guile, and he was a popular and talented addition to the squad. In total, over the course of the season as a whole, we saw five centuries, Max Bolam scoring a magnificent 132 in our annual fixture against St Edward's School. Sadly, for what feels like the umpteenth time, our involvement in the T20 competition was completely ruined by rain, meaning we had no opportunity to qualify for the latter stages. A full-day wash-out in one of our three T20 days at Cumnor meant it was virtually impossible to qualify for the quarter-finals, although, impressively given these circumstances, we still managed to finish as runners-up in our group, but unfortunately did not accrue enough points to qualify as one of the best three second-placed sides.

It is a constant cause of frustration that Oxfordshire continue to be affected so badly by wet weather in this particular competition – and hopefully we can have more luck in 2026. In the 50 over one-day cup, we produced an excellent performance but sadly in a losing cause in our 1st round tie against Glamorgan at Cropredy. The Welsh team actually went all the way to win the competition, but no team pushed them closer than Oxfordshire in that first-round game. In the subsequent 50 over Plate match against Gloucestershire, a run-fest saw us narrowly lose out at home, but only after a brave chase where we came close to winning, chasing 346 for victory to lose by only 31 runs. It would be remiss not to mention other stars of the season. Harrison Marner finished as the leading run-scorer for the team, with captain Jack Veal, who led by example, not far behind. Jack also took an extraordinary 17 catches over the course of the season, an exceptionally high number of catches for an outfield player. Dexter finished as leading wicket taker with 22, while Gursimrat finished with 20 and Samoa with 19.

The most pleasing aspect about this season, however, is not necessarily performances on the field, which were excellent throughout. It is the way our team conducted themselves, both on and off the field. We pride ourselves in playing hard and fair, and it was wonderful to receive some glowing feedback from all the umpires this season over the respect and good behaviour of our players. To those that now leave the pathway, we wish you all the best for the future, and hopefully, as has been the case regularly over the years, we will see some of you progress to the senior teams. On behalf of myself, Darryl Woods and Duncan Green, we would like to say a huge thank-you to all the players and the parents, who are unsung heroes in ensuring the players are delivered on time all over the country!

### Boys Under 18 Squad - 2025

Dexter Ainley, Stanley Askew, Ethan Barksfield, George Beard, Max Bolam, Rudi Derbyshire, Adrian Hector, Samora Leslie, Fergus Lynch, Harrison Marner, Nikhil Nair, Logan Rainbow, Conor Rogan, Gursimrat Singh, Alex Tervet, Jack Veal, Barney Villiers, Jack Watson





# **Disability Cricket**

What a year this has been for Oxfordshire Disability Cricket with an expansion of the programme we are now delivering inclusive cricket to more young people and adults than ever before. We now have six Hubs covering all parts of the county and have also delivered SEND sessions to fifteen Special Schools and Colleges.

This has been made possible thanks to the funding and support from The Lords Taverners and The England and Wales Cricket Board but also the fantastic backing given to the programme by the Oxfordshire Cricket Board. Nick Pinhol has played such an important role in our development as Head of Participation and his appointment as Managing Director of Oxfordshire Cricket is so well deserved and we look forward to working with him in the years to come. An old friend and past colleague, Shaz Khan, has returned to the county as Head of Participation and his knowledge and experience will help us all, especially in the drive to further expand the Disability Programme.

The Lords Taverners Super 1's programme delivering Table Cricket, Softball Cricket and Hardball Cricket via our six hubs and The ECB/LT's SEND programme delivering the same activities to fifteen special schools and colleges have helped over 200 young people and adults to develop as individuals through cricket. We have also run three workshops throughout the year covering health, work experience and first aid and because we encourage parents, grandparents, carers and other family members to join us at our Super 1's sessions we have become a close group offering support and guidance to each other. The phrase 'a problem shared is a problem halved' is so true within the Disability Cricket family.

The expansion of the programme did not happen without a lot of planning and hard work and the appointment of Charlotte Jennings as Community Coach has enabled us, via Lords Taverners funding, to allocate the majority of her time to the programme and the SEND schools delivery. Her experience, coaching knowledge and empathetic approach has made her so popular with everyone involved with Oxfordshire Disability Cricket. She has also worked hard to become a Coach Developer and featured in The ECB's recent match day programmes as the perfect role model for females in cricket. Well done Charlotte!

My thanks also go to all the people that support our programme. The family members who help out at our social 'get togethers', who transport our participants to games and give help and advice to us all.

The 380 plus sessions, we deliver throughout the year, would also not be possible without the trained volunteer coaches that help out on a weekly basis. Lucy Hunter, Chris Cordell and David Mayers all have their own stories to tell but are so important to myself and Charlotte and we are so grateful to them for their help and experience.

Lucy was diagnosed as Autistic, when she was at college, and has played in The Disability Premier League as well as representing Middlesex in D40 cricket. Now committed to Oxfordshire she is such an asset to the programme. Chris has a son with ADHD, who is in the programme, and gives us the help and knowledge that enables us to understand and react to various situations that we encounter. David is the Disability Cricket Lead at one of our Disability Champion Cricket Clubs, a retired Orthopaedic Nurse his knowledge and experience is priceless.

Finally I want to acknowledge and say a massive well done to two of our participants who have been recognised for their contribution to Disability Cricket locally and nationally. Tom Jackson was our Disability Player of The Year in 2024. Tom is one of our Down Syndrome players and has been with us for five years, since he was thirteen. His enthusiasm is so infective and he will help set up any session he attends. He would come to every hub sessions if he could and we are so grateful to his family, especially his Nanny & Pappy, for bringing him along and being such supportive grandparents. Harry Watts is one of our older players and as well as being a very decent cricketer is also a football referee. Harry is one of life's doers and when the opportunity arose to train for and become a Lords Taverners Young Ambassador he jumped at the opportunity and is well respected in that role. He has also begun a career with Chiltern Railways and we know he will be successful and respected going forward.



# **Disability Cricket**





