



Clubs Matter

Developing Cricket Clubs and District Development Groups within Derbyshire

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LINES OF COMMUNICATION

The Cricket Club

At the heart of recreational and league cricket are clubs and the players associated in those clubs together with an army of volunteers who make things happen at those clubs.

What are the major issues confronting cricket clubs at this moment?

The short answer is many and varied. It can range from performance on the field, lack of coaches, lack of volunteers, fund-raising, ClubMark, Child Welfare – to name just a few. All of these issues are common to most clubs and it makes good sense for the knowledge gained as an example by a club with ClubMark is shared by all the clubs.

Remember – almost certainly one of the first questions you will be asked if you ring the DCB Office for advice is – does your club attend the District Development Group? The reason for that question is simple – that by attending 1 meeting the DCB Officers can see and talk with all clubs in that group rather than just one club. It is very time effective for the DCB Officers whose time is very limited.

What help is available and how can the club access it? What communication channel is open to clubs to make their voice heard in the upper echelons of cricket? How does your club sit in the structure that at the top is the England & Wales Cricket Board?

District Development Groups

The first channel for this upward dissemination of information is the District Development Group. It is a semi-autonomous group set up as part of the administrative structure of cricket and it is vital that all clubs participate. There are 7 such Districts in Derbyshire. They are: - Amber Valley, Derby City, Derbyshire Dales, Erewash, High Peak, North Derbyshire & South Derbyshire. On each Development Group to help advise clubs in their development sit representatives not only of each club in the District, but also the professional people involved in sport in that area, like for example the local schools sports coordinators, local Council Sports Development Officers, sometimes the local Community Sport Network and also present is usually a member of the Derbyshire Cricket Board. Such meetings, if conducted properly, result in a sharing of information and skills second to none. It is here that many local issues can be resolved, for it is a certain fact that a club with a problem will almost certainly find that another club in the locality has solved that problem. It is an opportunity for all local clubs to meet, exchange ideas and hopefully move all the clubs forward – for the common good. If however an issue

presents itself to which no local solution can be found, it can be referred up to the Club Development Committee.

For further information contact the Derbyshire Cricket Board for details of your District Development Group Representative or see the DCB website www.dcbcricket.com

DCB Club Development Committee

At each Club Development Committee (that meets bi-monthly) and present are representatives from each District there is a slot for a report from each District Development Group. If an issue arises, the Group as a whole can discuss, or at the Chair's discretion it could be referred to one of the other DCB Committees for discussion and resolution. Another avenue open to the Chair is to get the topic discussed at the DCB Executive Operations Group (EOG) or at the full DCB Management Board Meeting.

Chairman is Glendon Dallard (DCB Vice-Chair).

DCB Management Committee

At each Management Committee, the agenda contains a slot for a report from the Club Development Committee, and again any issues that are pertinent can be discussed by representatives from the whole of Derbyshire and each District Chair (or District Representative) is also present to ensure that the topic that affects their group is fully discussed.

Chairman is Jon Salisbury (DCB Chair)

ECB Regional/National

Representatives from Derbyshire sit on the Regional/National ECB Forums and again issues can be raised.

Conclusion

So there it is! It all starts with ensuring that your club attends the local District Development Group Meetings. **Does your club attend? If not – Why not? The advantages can be huge!**

And Finally

It should also be remembered that communication is a two way street and that communication can not only go up – but also come down the same chain. So if the ECB has something to say – it says it via its channels to DCB, who tell the Management Committee, who tell the Club Development Committee, who tell the District Groups – who tell the Clubs. This is another reason for your club to attend your local Cricket Development Group.

Cover point

1. **Free Pro 40 Tickets for NatWest Cricket Force Registrants (Visit: www.dcbcricket.com)**
2. **Player Nominations: Closing Date 18th July 2008**
3. **Summer Holiday Coaching for 2008 (Visit: www.dcbcricket.com)**