

Enfield Dragons

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Hello and welcome to the 3rd/ 4th (I've lost count!) addition of the newsletter. I wanted to do a quick update because we have seen some developments on and off the field recently and I wanted to take this opportunity to brag about them.

Under 9's

I am pleased to report an increase in the number of under 9's we've seen down at the club. I've enjoyed welcoming them to the club and see them getting their first taste of cricket. They all seem to be enjoying it and starting to develop their skills and appreciation for the sport. A significant milestone is set for this week. **On Sunday our under 9's will play their first ever game.** To my knowledge Enfield have never fielded an under 9's team previously and this is another important step towards the goal of establishing an under 9's team in the league next season.

Under 11's

We've had some real positives from an on field perspective recently. We are now regularly turning out 8 players at under 11's level and they are becoming really competitive. **Testament to this is their first victory of the season recorded last week v Colne.** As I look back on our first game of the year - I only had 4 under 11 players available and we were soundly beaten by Great Harwood. We played the same team 2 weeks ago and gave them a real game! Great Harwood have just won the cup and currently sit unbeaten at the top of the table. That tells me how much of an improvement the boys are making.

We have or are about to witness a number of young players making their cricketing debut in recent weeks. **A big well done to all those who have.** In my view, been able to introducing new players to this magnificent sport represents a significant achievement. The only way is up and we are certainly heading in that direction!

Under 15's

The under 15's are ticking over and have recorded some impressive results. It's good to see some of them playing regular senior cricket and it's nice to see a number of girls taking part and contributing to the team. #GIRLPOWER

On the subject of senior cricket – last weekend was another first for the club. There was a Basharat 1, 2, 3 on display in the 3rd XI on Sunday. Farther, son and daughter were all playing in the same team together. Can anyone tell me a previous example of this? I bet you can't!

Alfie Cook – a product of our junior system, scored his maiden century last month. Alf had a pretty good weekend scoring 101* on Saturday and 60+ on the Sunday. **Good lad Alf!**

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I've had a number of parents and kids coming and asking if there are anymore 20/20 games coming up. Unfortunately the club were knocked out at the group stage this year, however we are only about half way through the league campaign. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all that **junior members get into to all senior home games for free. Please check the clubs website, Facebook, Twitter and noticeboards for details of all home games.** Please come down and support our senior teams. It is nice to play in front of a crowd and you are all as much a part of this club as anyone else. It's also a really good way to help your son/ daughter to improve. Games are held on both a Saturday and Sunday, usually with at least one of the senior team playing a home game a weekend.

The club has a number of upcoming events that you may be interested in.

August 28th – Our annual Family Fun Day featuring 'It's a Knock Out.' Please come down and have a look around. We have stalls, BBQ's, beer tents, fun fair, mini golf, rodeo bull, bouncy castle and the opportunity to laugh at some big kids making themselves look silly. Last year we raised over £3000 for the club.

September 1st – Annual Golf Day. Tee off times start from 12.30pm and there is still an opportunity to book on. Please see the notice boards, myself or Howard Cook (Chairman) for more details. Trust me, it's a great day!

Ravi – the clubs professional is still available for any additional 1 to 1 coaching. Please speak to him or me for more details. I know some of the boys have been doing so extra work with him and the feedback has been positive.

Café Brillante – The official sponsor of Enfield Dragons. I had a very productive meeting with Mark last weekend. He is really enthusiastic about supporting us. If you are in town and in need of some refreshments – please pop in and see them. They do a great job of looking after you. They are also available to do deliveries on a Saturday and Sunday morning! What could be a better cure for your hang over than a fresh bacon but and a coffee delivered to your door!

As always – I'll be around the place should you want to ask anything or need to talk to me. Failing that, the usual social media and email address is available to you. Please don't hesitate.

One last thing, a big thank you to all you parents who continue to put up with my texts about games and endeavour to get your child to and from the games/ training etc. We couldn't do it without you.

AS