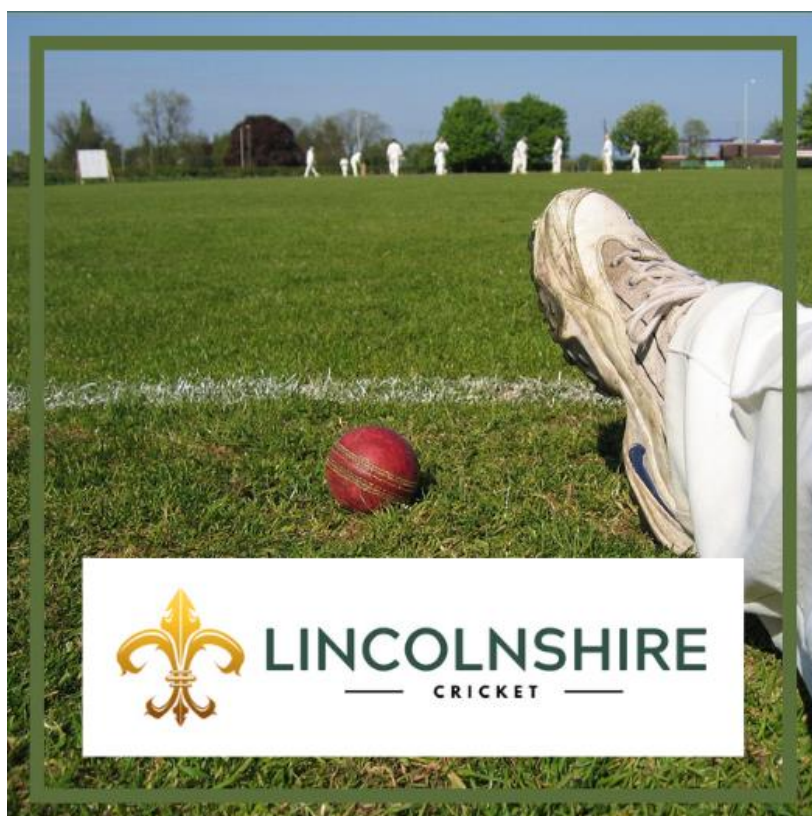


Lincolnshire Cricket
Club Support Newsletter
January 2024 (09.01.24)

AFFILIATING IN 2024:



Every January we communicate with clubs around the affiliation process to Lincolnshire Cricket and outline the benefits affiliating brings.

There are a couple of changes to make you aware of this time around, namely a slight increase in the affiliation fees & the phased introduction of a Terms & Conditions document which formalises your club's affiliation to us as your local County Cricket Board.

The benefits and entitlements of affiliation have not changed. In a nutshell, this is access to and dedicated support from our staff across all areas of the game – Recreational, Participation & Growth, Performance. This encompasses:

Entitled to enter national & local competitions, including recreational leagues.
Support from our W&G Development Officer to help your club develop Women & Girls cricket.
Support from our Participation & Growth Manager on National Programmes (All Stars & Dynamos Cricket).
Support from our County Safeguarding Officer to embed safeguarding practices throughout your club.
Support from myself on Clubmark, club development, facility development & funding, volunteers etc.
Access to our Performance Cricket set-up and staff to improve and enrich playing journeys,
+ much, much more



The fees for 2024 are as follows:

For clubs that only play open-age cricket - £25 (£30)

For clubs with a junior section - £45 (£50)

For Clubmark clubs - £60 (£70)

The figure in brackets is the fee payable should you fail to meet the 31st January deadline to pay your club's affiliation fee.

Fees are ideally paid via a BACS transfer to the following account:

Account name - Lincolnshire County Cricket Ltd

Account number – 29195960

Sort Code – 30-67-76

Reference – Club Name + 'AFF'

If you are unable to pay via this method, please get in touch.

Attached to the same email this newsletter came from is the Terms & Conditions document to formalise your affiliation. We are strongly recommending clubs that compete in the Lincolnshire County Board Premier League and the two top divisions of the feeder leagues (LCCL Premier Division & South Lincs & Border Championship) sign and return this document to us before 31st January.

This will not be a mandatory requirement of affiliation this year, but the intention is that it will be for ALL clubs that wish to affiliate to us and receive the associated benefits from January 2025.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

FLOODING & WATERLOGGING GUIDANCE:



With a new storm coming about almost every week and huge amounts of rainfall becoming more common, I thought it important to share the GMA's guidance on flooding and waterlogging, as well as general cricket winter maintenance advice.

Primarily aimed at winter sports surfaces rather than cricket specifically, the below link is still relevant to our clubs' outfield and contains useful information on identifying the causes of waterlogging - <https://resources.thegma.org.uk/dealing-pitch-use-wet-and-waterlogged-conditions>.

The ECB advice on flooding covers both prevention and considerations for clean-up, with multisport advice from Sport England. The main page is here - <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/club-support/flooding>.

Cricket specific winter maintenance guidance can be found here - <https://resources.thegma.org.uk/winter-maintenance>. This covers advice on mowing, fertilisers, preparing the outfield for the season and most significantly aeration on the square. January is the final month in which aeration is recommended for the square, so the window is beginning to close to get this done.

I hope your grounds are not affected too much by excess water, but if they are and you need further support, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

ECB UMPIRE COURSES:



We now have new ECB Umpire courses confirmed for the first 4 months of this year. Dates, locations & booking links that take you to further information are as follows:

Stamford (20th January) - <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/event/ae5f3585-b4d0-47fa-ba2b-f9d5df1f183a/summary> - Last chance saloon to book onto this one! A minimum number of required participants is necessary by 15th January to prevent cancellation (we currently have 4, we need 8 in total).

Lincoln (18th February) - <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/event/330b5d73-07c6-4b16-9e27-97bd4f0112f4/summary>

Grantham (16th March) - <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/event/e1195f05-f799-453b-80c5-927baba5312c/summary>

Scunthorpe (28th April) - <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/event/befef8ac-b159-4150-9005-a9443fab289e/summary>

The course is suitable for anyone wishing to take their first step into umpiring, whether that be in a role at your club to help with junior cricket, or with a view to standing in one of the local open-age leagues at a weekend.

The new course comprises of some online learning, which takes approximately 60 minutes to complete (in one go or in bitesize chunks), followed by a one-day face-to-face course which is partly practical learning and partly classroom based.

Again, any questions from anyone, please don't hesitate to get in touch and ask.

YOUNG LEADERS IN CRICKET:

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Following on from two previous meetings prior to Christmas, the YLiC team has set up further online enthuse meetings for potential Young Leaders (aged 14-16) and their parents/carers.

Each meeting will last approximately one hour and will be an opportunity to see what the programme is about and to ask any questions.

This is a fabulous programme and an opportunity to engage young people in volunteering at your club, setting the young people up with skills they can develop for life and setting your club up for sustainable success.

Tuesday 9th January 7pm - [Register for Virtual Enthuse Evening Tuesday 9th January 2024 - Google Forms](#)

Monday 15th January 7pm - [Register for Virtual Enthuse Evening Monday 15th January 2024 - Google Forms](#)

Anyone who registers will be sent a Zoom link before the meeting takes place.

SINGLE LEAGUE STRUCTURE UPDATE:



Following three geographically-placed Club Consultation meetings at the end of August and beginning of September last year and the feedback received from those meetings, we have now established some focus groups regarding the proposed move to a single league structure for Saturday cricket in the county.

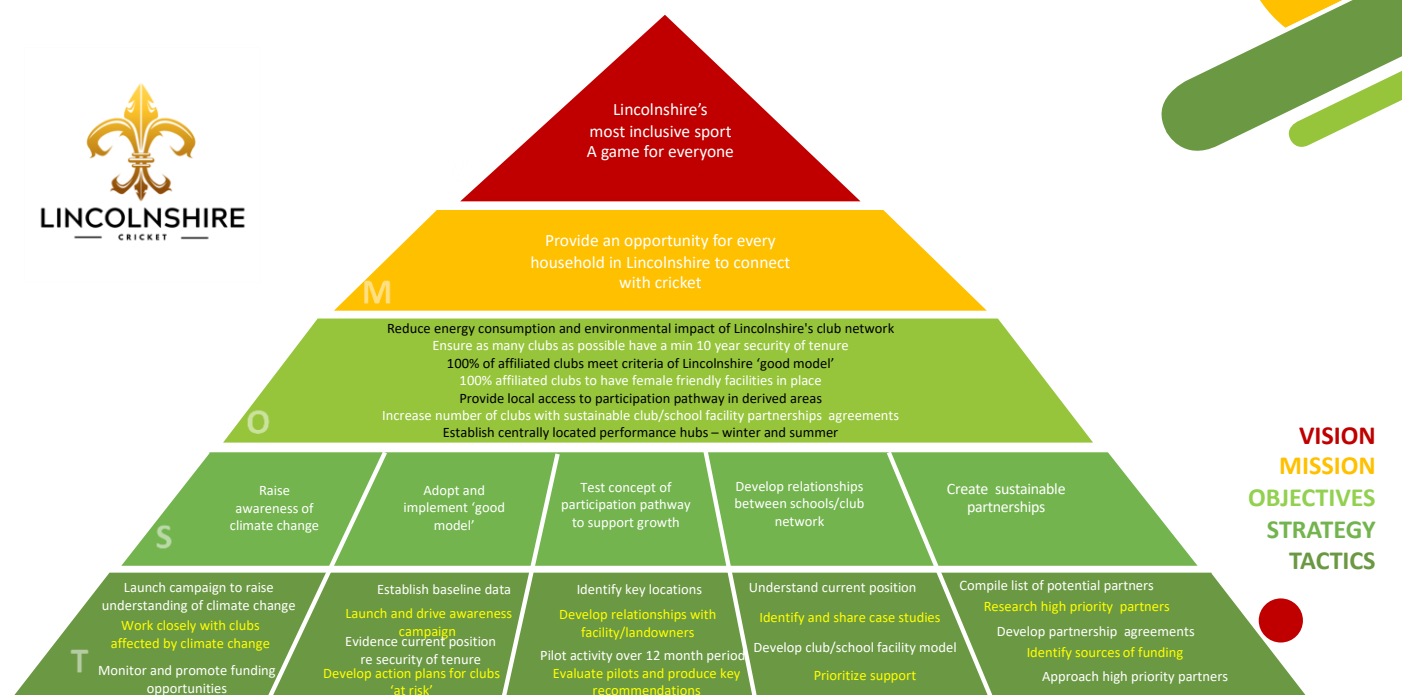
Three focus groups have been set up, the subject of which will be Structure and Layout, Governance and Rules & Finance, with first meetings of the groups scheduled later this month.

It will be the task of the groups to establish the detail around these topics in relation to the transition to a single league pyramid, as requested by the recreational network at the Club Consultations.

We hope that significant enough progress will be made to update the club network on a semi-regular basis over the course of the next 9 months or so, but time will tell how quickly we can move this forward to realise the ambition of a joined-up structure that will bring many benefits to the game and its clubs.

FACILITY STRATEGY:

Facility Strategy 2023-2032



Our Facility Strategy was signed off by the Board of Directors and officially published last month. You can read it in full via a link on our website - <https://lincscricket.co.uk/index.php/2023/12/05/3123/>

We will now look to implement the strategy over the many areas we work in. Some things will be easier to action than others, and some ambitions will require investment from external sources. We hope the strategy will provide the evidence there is a need and demand to do more and develop better facilities, thus attracting the necessary investment.

We will review the strategy on an annual basis and it is sure to evolve over its lifespan to meet the needs of the game in our county.

We encourage all clubs to familiarise themselves with the strategy and we will be in touch on various aspects over time as we look to bring it to life.

FIRST AID FOR MENTAL HEALTH:



We now have 13 different individuals from various locations across the county who are fully qualified Mental Health First Aiders.

We are the first County Cricket Board nationally to have achieved such a thing, and are leading the way on mental health support for our recreational cricket network.

Our MH First Aiders are a phone call or message away from supporting anyone who may be struggling with any form of poor mental health. They are fully trained to support, discuss & guide towards other forms of professional help where required.

Our MH First Aiders' contact details are present on our website here - <https://lincscricket.co.uk/index.php/mental-health/>

RIDE-ON MOWER REQUIRED:



Saxilby CC are looking for a second-hand ride-on mower to use on their outfield for the 2024 season.



If anyone can help with this, or knows someone else who could support, please get in touch with James Willox, Chair of Saxilby CC – jameswillox@gmail.com

To keep up to date with all the latest information from Lincolnshire Cricket, please follow our social media pages –

Instagram: [@Lincscricket](#)

Twitter: [@Lincscricket](#)

Facebook: [Lincolnshire County Cricket | Facebook](#)

Website: <https://lincscricket.co.uk/>

Best wishes,

Martin Shillito
Lead Officer – Clubs & Leagues
Deputy Safeguarding Officer
Lincolnshire Cricket

