

# SISSINGHURST CRICKET CLUB

King George V Field  
Sissinghurst Road  
Sissinghurst  
Cranbrook  
Kent TN17 2JA

01580 714845

[juniorsissinghurstcc@gmail.com](mailto:juniorsissinghurstcc@gmail.com)



## SCC JUNIOR SECTION MISSION, VALUES and INFORMATION SHEET FOR 2025 SEASON

At Sissinghurst CC we have a clear mission in terms of what we want to achieve within our Junior Section. That mission is based on the following:

- *Adhering to an inclusive 'One-Club' culture, serving young players, both male and female, and their families, whilst working in partnership with the Clubs Senior players, Committees, the local community, and schools.*
- *Providing top quality coaching and playing opportunities for young players of all abilities, furnishing, and nurturing a junior and then senior involvement in the game.*
- *Producing both male and female cricketers that achieve Area and County recognition, as well as developing all levels of league and social cricketers for the junior and senior sections.*
- *Fostering the development of young players in a safe and secure environment in accordance with the highest sporting values. Player safety will always be put above participation.*
- *Creating and promoting a year-group parental programme that actively encourages the involvement of parents in the development of the junior section.*
- *Strengthening the Junior Section's culture to ensure an environment that is supportive and inspiring for its young cricketers.*

To achieve this mission, there are several core values and behaviours that we expect all players and parents to adhere to should they want to be members of Sissinghurst Cricket Club. These are as follows:

- *All players must practice and play within the laws and in the spirit of the game.*
- *All players must encourage their respective teammates irrespective of the level of individual involvement.*
- *All players must respect their opponents irrespective of the competitive nature of the fixtures.*
- *All players must be polite to umpires and respect their decisions. Do not show dissent by either word or deed.*
- *Listen to your coaches – respect them and work hard to gain their respect.*
- *Know when and where you have a match or training session - being late is disrespectful to both your teammates and coaches.*
- *Invest in and wear the right Club kit, take pride in your appearance and your Club.*
- *At Under 11 level and above all players will be expected to have their own equipment including a protective box, thigh pads and helmet which must be worn for all hard-ball sessions.*
- *Junior members are not allowed to smoke or consume alcohol on club premises or whilst representing the club.*
- *Parents are expected to adhere to the same level of etiquette and behavior as is expected of their children, unsporting behaviour will not be tolerated.*
- *If there is a problem speak to your coach, the Head of the Junior Section or the Welfare Officer.*

## How Do We Measure Success?

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There are some key fundamentals to measuring our success that, if achieved, contribute to making SCC a "SPECIAL" Club. These are:

- *Success in all age-group League and Cup competitions.*
- *Production of excellent cricketers that fulfil their full potential as Junior members.*
- *Enjoyment of the game for all, irrespective of ability or gender.*
- *Continuity and quality in the coaching across all age groups.*
- *Involvement of parents both willingly and productively in support of the age group Lead and Support Coaches and the Junior Section generally.*
- *An active social programme that involves both parents and children in support of the Club and its stakeholders.*
- *Legacy of junior members who go on to represent the Club's senior sides.*

It is important for players and parents alike to understand that from Under 13 and above the Club is playing cricket in a League within which the standard, generally, improves year on year.

It is a competitive League, and the Club makes no bones of the fact that it aspires to win in both League and Cup formats. This can sometimes mean that not all team members get to bat or bowl in certain fixtures. On pitch decisions are left to the Captain and their leadership team (usually three senior players) as part of their strategic development as cricketers, which is actively encouraged by the League, but does not always lead to equal participation.

The Club fully recognises that it can be a real challenge to effectively manage the balance between cricket for all and the participation of Area and/or County level players in competitive League fixtures. We will always attempt to organise intra-Club games or friendlies against other Clubs that allows wider participation, but we may not get it right all the time. As such, in a desire to be **open and transparent**, we would ask that parents, who maybe concerned by this, discuss their child's involvement with the Head of the Junior Section before committing to the payment of the Annual Subs.

## 2024 SEASON REVIEW

It has been another fantastic year for junior cricket at Sissinghurst. With over 60 junior games and tournaments played across all age groups, it has been a busy but hugely enjoyable experience.

Ben and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all players and their parents/carers for their exceptional commitment to cricket this summer. We have seen immense progress in all years with tournament, cup, and league successes shared across the age groups. It is also right to celebrate the efforts and commitment of our coaching group; we have regularly had 19 coaches available on a Sunday for our coaching sessions, with many groups benefitting from a larger number than ever before. Furthermore, we would like to express our gratitude to those who have scored, umpired, and marshalled the troops during matches. Without this support, our roles become infinitely more difficult.

There are several people to thank who work tirelessly to ensure our ground is considered one of the best in Kent. The work of Graham White, Mike Burgess, and Jonathan Gurr is hugely appreciated and cannot go unnoticed; their incredible efforts help produce and maintain exceptional pitches year in year out for Sissinghurst to play on. Thank you to Jackie Winner and Mandy Agar for their huge

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support behind the scenes ensuring the clubhouse is welcoming and that we carefully safeguard the wellbeing of our youngsters. Thank you to Benenden School for the use of indoor nets for pre-season training and for joining our brilliant team of sponsors for the 2025 season. Thank you to JM Finn, TN17, Burtons Solicitors, and Kent Construction Consultants for their financial support as lead sponsors this season and to our affiliates The Milk House, NXT, and Woollybear for their support across the Junior section.

The final word must go to Christina Dyas: after seven wonderful years, she is sadly stepping down as the junior administrator. Christina is a great champion of junior cricket and all things Sissinghurst. She has been the first contact for many of our families, ensuring that all enquiries reach the coaches in a timely fashion and trial sessions are promptly organised. She has completed a colossal amount of work behind the scenes to allow for us all to be successful on the training and playing field and we would like to thank her for all her hard work. If anyone is interested in supporting the junior section with administration tasks, please contact Lewis Clift via email – [juniorssissinghurstcc@gmail.com](mailto:juniorssissinghurstcc@gmail.com).

Lewis Clift and Ben Stinton

**Please see the link below for the year group coaches' review of the 2024 season:**

<https://sissinghurstcricketclub.org.uk/juniors/>

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## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE 2025 SEASON

There is much to be excited about as we look forward to the forthcoming season.

With Simon Latham completing his first season as Chairman of SCC, Lewis Clift has agreed to take responsibility for the Junior Cricket and will assume the overarching role of Head of Junior Cricket. Ben Stinton will continue overseeing the girls' provision as Head of Junior Girls.

We are proud to have Benenden School joining JM Finn and TN17 as kit sponsors. The new kit is available to purchase now from the Club Shop, accessible from the SCC website or by following the link below: <https://teamwear.nxt-sports.com/shop/sissinghurst-cricket-club>.

Before you look to purchase new playing shirts we wanted to make you aware of a “sale window” which will open for last three weeks of January 2025, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> January. During that window Mazuri have agreed to offer the following discounts:

1. Senior long sleeve playing shirts reduced from £40 to £33.
2. Senior short sleeve playing shirts reduced from £36 to £30
3. Junior boys and girls short sleeve playing shirts reduced from £30 to £22.50

To further offset the cost of purchase, it was agreed at the Club's AGM last month that we will make a £10 deduction to the 2025 Annual Membership Fee as a contribution to the cost of the shirts. As such the net costs of the new shirts will be £23, £20 and £12.50 respectively.

At the end of January prices will revert to the full cost.

The Weald of Kent Junior League will once again be running competitions at U9 (Kwik cricket), U11 hardball and softball, U13 and U15 levels with additional U18 friendlies for the boys. In order to increase the amount of match time across our U13 boys we will continue to enter both a Year 7 and Year 8 side to the Under 13 League and Cup Competitions. This was a successful venture last year with the Year 8 side winning the league and the Yr 7 reaching the cup semi and finishing mid table in the league.

For our ever-growing girl's section there will be Weald of Kent hardball Leagues sitting alongside the KCC Hardball 80 Competition and the Kent Countdown Softball Competition. In an exciting venture, Ben Stinton will be introducing a ladies team to Sissinghurst. This will allow our older girls to continue to represent the club, providing consistent long term performance opportunities.

Most of the League fixtures will be during the weeks of the Schools Summer Term except Cup Finals which will be at the end of August for all except the Under 9's. Once the Fixtures have been agreed we will circulate to all those signed up members across the Age Groups so that dates get in your diary early. **It is hugely important to team planning that you let your Team Manager know dates your child will NOT be available at the earliest opportunity.**

All our fixtures will, once again, be coordinated through the Spond App so please make sure you have signed up.

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## REGISTRATION

Lewis and Daryl Lloyd will be coordinating the Junior Administration duties for this coming season.

### **We wanted to highlight a key change to our Membership Policy made last Year.**

Due to the high level of interest in becoming Junior Members of Sissinghurst Cricket Club, we must ask that all Junior Members are available for team selection other commitments, outside of cricket, allowing. This means that Sissinghurst Cricket Club Junior Members should avoid also being members of other cricket clubs that participate in the Weald of Kent Junior Cricket League fixtures and/or clubs that participate in the Cricket Festivals organised by KCC where dual membership would preclude selection for Sissinghurst Cricket Club.

This will ensure that membership is allocated to players that want to both train with and play for Sissinghurst Cricket Club. It is incumbent on new/existing members to inform the Club of any dual membership at the time of joining the Club or renewing an annual membership.

This year we request that everyone completes the registration documents through Spond to ensure that our records are up to date. More information will follow as to how to do this.

If your children have schoolfriends who may be interested in joining please give us a mention and pass this note on. Please use the email below: [juniorssissinghurstcc@gmail.com](mailto:juniorssissinghurstcc@gmail.com)

### **Agreed coaching times for Summer 2025:**

Under 7 and 9's: SUNDAY mornings 09.45am-10.45am.

Under 11 Boys and Girls: SUNDAY mornings 09.30am-11.00am

Under 13 Boys and Girls: SUNDAY mornings 11am-12.30pm.

Under 15 Boys and Girls: SUNDAY mornings 11am-12.30pm

Sunday Coaching will commence on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April** and run every Sunday morning until **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July inclusive**.

Any youngsters too old for the junior teams can join Senior club night on a Wednesday from 6pm once the season commences.

## **PRE-SEASON INDOOR NETS**

We are delighted to confirm that the SCC Junior pre-season nets will be hosted at **Benenden School** for the second year and will commence on **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**. These sessions will run through to **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**, with the only exceptions being Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February (1<sup>st</sup> weekend of half term) and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March (Benenden's Annual Trampolining Competition). After the 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Benenden have a three week Easter break. A **date for the diary is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April**, when we plan to return to Sissinghurst for our first Sunday morning summer training. More on this nearer the time.

The hall is booked from 3:00 to 5:30pm for the boys and 5:30 to 7:00pm for the girls. We are very lucky to be able to use such a fantastic facility and once again, will be benefitting from the coaching

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of Head of Cricket, Liam Cook for the sessions. As Benenden is a boarding school we all need to adhere to their strict safeguarding expectations or we risk losing the booking. For clarity:

- There can be no access allowed to facilities until the start of each session.
- Parents are expected to drop their child at the Sports Hall and leave the site promptly.
- There can be no spectators allowed onsite or in the Sports Hall.
- Players will be brought out of the Sports Hall to the car park for collection at the end of their session.

The focus of the nets will be on the following:

**3pm to 4pm – Under 11 Boys Hardball.** For the boys this will predominantly be Years 5 and 6 for those already playing hardball and those moving up from last year's Incrediball group.

**4pm to 5:30pm - Under 13 and 15 Boys.** This is our largest group with a planned two team entry in the Weald of Kent League and Cup competitions next year. Therefore, they will need the full use of the nets for an hour and a half.

**5:30pm to 7pm – All Girls Y5 and up.** We will be joined by Benenden girls. The time and space we have will allow sessions to be a mix of nets and training games.

Please can all players bring their own cricket ball and cricket equipment for hardball nets.

## **Offer of senior nets for Under 15s up:**

For our older Juniors (Years 9 to 13) we are delighted to be able to offer club funded senior nets at Sutton Valence School from 7.30pm to 9pm starting on Sunday 26th January and running through to Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March. This offers a fantastic opportunity get to know the Senior Members a little better as well as demonstrating just what you can do. The nets will be held in conjunction with Linton Cricket Club so a good turnout is pretty much guaranteed on a weekly basis. Please do take advantage of this free pre-season opportunity.

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## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES & PAYMENT

The annual Membership Fee for children at years 2-4 is £80 and years 5-8 is £90 per child (this includes a reduction of £10 to offset new playing shirt purchase, outlined earlier). In a change to last year, there will be a charge of £60 for our Junior Members from Years 9 to 13. This will provide players an opportunity to represent the Club in Senior Saturday and Sunday sides during the season without any additional charge. **The costs include all coaching sessions, League and Festival participations.**

We are asking this year, in an attempt to reduce the administrative burden, that **All Payments** are by BACs Transfer to; Lloyds: Account Number: 00286889 Sort Code: 30-92-36 Reference: (Surname) Junior Subs

**In order for the Club to be compliant with the Club's insurance policy all those representing the Club must be Registered Members which requires the completion of the Membership Form and the payment of the annual Membership Fee in line with the Club's protocols. Failure to do so is technically a breach of the conditions of the Club's insurance policy and as such prevents non-compliant members from representing the Club.**

## TEAM MANAGERS/COACHES

**The coaching team will be over 20 strong this year with the vast majority of coaches being ECB Level qualified and all, without exception, DBS compliant.**

U7/U9 – Brough Cooper, Chris Innerd, Adam Brownlee, Nick Snoek, Ed Brennan, Joe Lewis, Matt Lucas and Tim Moore

U11 Development/Softball - Daryl Lloyd and Tim Grierson-Rickford

U11 Hardball – Michael Godfrey, Toby Vallance and Matt McKinnon

U13 Hardball Year 8 – Giles Kennedy, Tim Pett and Oliver Morris

U13 Hardball Year 7 – Giles Robinson and Lewis Clift

U15 –Daryl Lloyd and Lewis Clift

U18 – Phil Browning (1st XI Senior Capt) and Lewis Clift

Girls U11 Hardball – Lead Coach: Argie Taylor, supported by Ben Stinton, Emma Bullen and Viv Stewart

Girls U13 Hardball – Lead Coach: Pedro Stewart, supported by Ben Stinton, Emma Bullen and Viv Stewart

We are always looking for more coaches so if any parents would like to assist with the teams as 'team managers', coaches or coaching assistants then please let me know.

If you are interested and would like to attend any ECB coaching courses, Level 1 and 2, the club will cover the costs.



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## **SOCIAL PROGRAMME**

An important element of what makes SCC a Special Cricket Club is the social element that sits alongside the cricket. We are keen to organise and maintain an active programme of social events that not only promote the Club but also raise the valuable funds required to improve the facilities we all enjoy.

If you would like to be involved in the organisation of this programme or have ideas on certain types of events, please can you let us know.

## **SPONSORSHIP/FUND RAISING**

A key element of our progression is raising funds to allow for such things as the All Weather Net Cages or further improvements to the playing surface which are not possible without greater levels of sponsorship. If you are interested in sponsoring the club personally or via your business, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

The SCC Junior Section Team