



The Philanderers CC

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Unfortunately, the season came to an unsatisfactory conclusion with the final match being cancelled and which, to an extent, rather summed up the season. Of the 15 fixtures made 6 were lost with 2 being derailed by inclement weather and 4 due to the opposition being unable to raise a side. Still on the plus side the club was unbeaten in the remaining 9 matches with 8 victories and a draw. This means that the Sunday side's unbeaten run now extends to 61 games. Unfortunately, I cannot incorporate the season's statistics with this Newsletter as I've not had sight of the scorebook since late June and should be grateful if whoever is in possession of it could return it to me as a matter of comparative urgency.

I am pleased to report that the sum of £400 was donated by the membership for the RNLI and which I will shortly be sending to that worthy organisation. The Golf Championship at Royal Worlington was won with aplomb, so I am informed, by Ed Pearson.

Without being able to burble on here about the statistics I have no alternative but to go all serious regarding next season's fixtures. I am in somewhat of a quandary as to how to proceed. The season just past has been rather unsatisfactory on two counts. Firstly, four opponents pulled out of our matches having insufficient players although three of them managed to play at least one other game on the same dates that the cancellations came about. So, I am left wondering whether as we were treated with less regard than that afforded to other clubs if I should go back to them for next season?

Secondly, for all of our fixtures, both midweek and Sundays, extreme difficulty was once more experienced in raising a full XI. I had attempted to combat this by reducing the Sunday fixtures by 4 and those in midweek by 3 for last season. Sadly, this reduction in choices did not concentrate minds as I had hoped and a lack of enough availability continued. Putting it quite simply there are not sufficient numbers amongst the Playing Membership who wish to play often enough to warrant the number of fixtures which we had in 2022 even though these were merely half of the number which we played each season only a few years earlier. So, I am left with three choices. Increase player membership, get firm promises from existing players that they will turn out more regularly in future (and actually mean it!!), or, reduce the number of fixtures yet again to

say a rather paltry 8 on Sundays and 3 in midweek. I have recently been deleting a whole load of emails and am appalled at the number of “begging emails” I sent out during the season trying to complete sides. I really, really do not want to do that again.

To assist with my quandary, I will happily take views from anyone still reading this communication before I take any action. My only wish is to provide the number of games of cricket commensurate with the wishes of the membership. Currently I am uncertain whether this is the case.

One further matter relating to next season is that I am very willing to arrange a Tour providing that there is sufficient support given at an early stage. My chosen destination is North Devon where the club had 5 very successful forays a dozen or so years ago and where I still have contacts. I will shortly be sending out a more detailed schedule for the trip to seek support before I get involved with the organisation.

And the scorebook is where and when is it likely to arrive in the Bunker?

Phil
16th October, 2022



www.thephilandererscc.net



The Legends Lunch - Redmayne, Burnett, Lorimer & Yorke meet up to indulge themselves in past glories and inevitably their charisma soon attracts groupies.