



Long Compton Sports Club

Community Focused ~ Family Friendly



It has been a while since we contributed to The Link magazine, and we'd like to give an update on the Sports Club.

The last twelve months have been devastating for us all, but we have been very busy keeping the grounds in good order so that everyone has been able to enjoy their personal form of exercise in lovely surroundings. The cricket club managed to enjoy a truncated season of Sunday friendlies, most at home in the village. We had to comply with the ECB protocols with regular breaks for hand sanitizing, and no access to the pavilion for comfort breaks, teas, or friendly post-match beers, but despite this we had an enjoyable summer.

The village football team ceased to exist a few years and we have been hosting Shipston-on-Stour's youth teams for the past four seasons on Saturdays. They also had a truncated season this time last year, but are hoping to extend their season this year in to June to make up for the time lost since Lockdown 3.0 started in January.

The cricket season will get under way in May, starting as we usually do with the annual President's Match for the And Carty Memorial Trophy. David Smart, our President, has enjoyed regular success in this match versus the current 1st XI, and we are looking forward to putting bat to ball again in this year's fixture. We have a full season of fixtures arranged, culminating in a weekend tour to Devon in September. When finalized, we'll put a full fixture list out for those who might be interested in popping down to the sports ground of a Sunday afternoon.

However, the 'season' starts in earnest on the weekend of 24th April, when the club gets together to literally dust off the cobwebs and get everything in shape for the coming season. If anyone is interested in joining us for a busy weekend of ground preparation, we'd be delighted to see you on Saturday 24th!

We were fortunate enough to receive some grant funding last year and we have invested in new machinery to keep the ground looking as spectacular as it does, and with the balance of the money we have left, we will be installing a permanent practice net in the south west corner of the ground. We are appreciative of the support from Aunt Phoebe's Trust on this, as this will be a practice facility for use all year round, and for anyone to enjoy – provided you come armed with cricket bat and ball!

I always used to finish these articles with an invitation, and, despite the length of time since our last missive, the invitation is still open! If anyone feels the urge to don a set of whites and have a pleasant afternoon of cricket, please do get in touch. Our standard is more for pleasure than competition (although

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there are one or two exceptions to that!) Equally, if you have time on your hands and would like to contribute to the mowing or wicket preparation during the summer, we'd love to hear from you. Contacts are:

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