

St Georges Junior Cricket Club

A presentation outlining a blueprint for the future development of the Junior Section of
St. Georges Cricket Club

Presented by

Dom Musgrove & Ray Sheldon

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Introduction and background

- Last season we observed many of our opponents seemed better prepared and much sharper, in skills and organisation
- The junior committee felt that we needed to tackle this issue head on and look at ways in which we could improve in all departments.
- Our youngsters feel they are not prepared to play some of the sides they face and their perception is they are at a disadvantage - defeated before they start
- We need to take action in order to stop some of our players either giving up the game or migrating to other clubs.
- This presentation looks at steps we feel we can take to improve our performances across the board and deliver success to the junior section of the club, stimulate discussion, and agree a way forward

Current situation – where we are

- The hard cricket ball is not introduced at U10 & U11's, our teams are meeting opponents who have been exposed to the hard ball and can deal with it
- We are not recruiting enough young players – if we can encourage a cohort of youngsters ages 6 – 7 we can start to impart basic skills in a fun and imaginative way.
- The basic skill levels across all age profiles is low compared with our opposition, giving our children a perceptible disadvantage.
- There is a basic lack of commitment across all levels of the club with a handful of people shouldering the burden.
- We do not communicate well – this in a time when we have a myriad of ways to spread the word to all members within the St Georges Cricketing Community
- Our facilities are not the best and need improving.

The Future – *where we want to be*

- Galvanise all factions of the Club to support the Junior Section
- Develop new training programmes based on ability – setting goals for each player and monitor their progress – junior players need to believe they're improving
- Weekly improvement award for the player that have demonstrated improvement in both skill and attitude – youngsters are competitive let's tap into this.
- Introduce younger players to the club – coordinating with primary schools within the surrounding areas
- Develop a communication programme using improved web site and social networking sites, and appoint a communications officer.
- Forward plan a series of social and fund raising activities for the season
- Recruit new coaches and develop existing coaches – look for external funding to support this

The journey – *how we reach our goal*

- Create a more fun environment for the youngsters focus them on believing this is their club and invite some of them to join the committee – It is their club too!
- Re-plan the training sessions to account for different age profiles and abilities therefore segregate the older players that require a different approach, and more intense training.
- Engage the senior players for coaches to utilise them to demonstrate bowling fielding and batting skills, - improvement is achieved by copying good technique.
- Develop an academy for the more able players who demonstrate ability beyond there age and whose ability needs to stretched by further development of their technique
- Monthly after training social activities, to raise funds but also engage with parents and helpers, create a community spirit and gain feedback from our parents
- Planned social calendar developed and agreed in February and circulated to all members with details of the registration. The first social event taking place on registration day.

The Detail - training sessions

Newly suggested training sessions

- **Session 1:** School Yr 2 to Yr 7 (Ages 6 -12) Monday 6.30pm – 8.30pm
- **Session 2:** School Yr 8 to 11 (Ages 12 -16) Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm
- **Academy:** School Yr 7 to 11 (Ages 11-16) Sunday 10am – 12pm

Session 1 – Mondays 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Years 2 & 3 (Junior Dragons)

Cost per year: £20 per year

Location: Big field - **Activities:** Blue stumps cricket, activity based games

Time/Duration: 6.30pm – 7.30pm (1 hour)

Coaches/no of children: 1 coach to 8 children – max 3 coaches / 24 children

Years 4 & 5

Cost per year: £30 per year **Location:** Big field

Activities: Introduction of hard ball cricket and incredible balls. Still use tennis balls for quick games. Introduce skills activities, such as drives, bowling actions, fielding skills, etc. **Time/Duration:** 6.30pm – 8.00pm (1 ½ hours)

Coaches/no of children: 1 coach to 10 children – max 3 coaches / 30 children

2009 Registered: 5 children based on 2009 will form this group

Junior Dragons “T” Shirt Design



Practice “T” shirt for the “Junior Dragons” entry level for years 3, 4 and 5 – given free on joining programme

The Detail - training sessions cont.

Years 6 & 7 (11 to 12 year olds)

Cost per year: £40 per year **Location:** Small Pitch and Nets

Activities: Continuing hard ball cricket drills, increase fitness levels. Rotation through nets. Nets will need to have a purpose. Split the children into 2 groups based on ability. This will help coaches to coach at the right level, and also challenge the children reach their levels. **Time/Duration:** 6.30pm – 8.30pm (2 hours)

Coaches/No. of children: 1 coach to 10 children – max 4 coaches / 40 children

2009 Registered: 28 children based on 2009 will form this group

Session 2 – Tuesdays 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Years 8 & 9 & 10 & 11 (Ages 13 to 16 year olds)

Cost per year: £40 per year **Location:** Big & Small pitches

Activities: Break the group into 4 groups, based on ability. 4 coaches to take each group. Each week rotate between nets and fields for field activities. Introduce higher levels of fitness. 1 extra coach to oversee the coaching, and bring in 1-2-1 sessions.

Time/Duration: 6.30pm – 8.30pm (2 hours)

Coaches/No. of children: 1 coach to 12 children – max 6 coaches / 60 children

2009 Registered: 44 children based on 2009 will form this group

The Detail - *training sessions cont.*

Academy – Sunday 10am – 12 noon

The academy is important to the club if we want to improve the level of cricket our young people are playing. They will be put forward for representative cricket, and be part of the St. Georges senior squads, available to play at levels that match their ability

Maximum of 16 children from Years 7 to 11

Selected to join the sessions, on the basis of:

- Already shown a level of good behaviour at club practice.
- Demonstrate a level of desire to play an higher level of cricket
- The coaches believe that the child will benefit from enhanced coaching
- Shows a good level of skill and aptitude for the game of cricket

3 coaches required as a minimum.

Run 2 x 7 week courses:

April (18th, 25th) May (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th)

June (13th, 20th, 27th) July (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)

Coaches paid, with 1 to1 coaching in specific skills – technique examined using video, with elite players helping with the juniors on Monday evenings

Academy “T” Shirt Design



Practice “T” shirt for the Academy with the Knights device imprinted

Actions we need to agree

- The new training format and approach
- The implementation of the Academy
- A communication strategy that openly advertises Junior Club membership
- Introduction of a match fee to help cover costs of balls and equipment
- Sourcing and supply of training kit for each key stage group
- Recruitment and training of more help from within the club and from external sources
- Set up an awards programme for achievements gained during matches and training.

Volunteering – How can you help

- We need coaches and helpers to run our coaching sessions and assist in the organisation of matches.
- Pre-season we'll have to prepare the playing area and generally tidy up the outfield and buildings – we need your help so lets make a day of it.
- Fundraising – if you have any ideas that can help generate some income bring these forward and we can include them in our fundraising plans
- Support our teams on match day by scoring, umpiring or assisting in the delivery of refreshments.
- We'll circulate a list, if you feel you can help please add your name and contact details to it, we'll contact you early in the new year.

Remember

Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.

You vote in elections once every few years, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community or club you want to be part of..

To Summarise

- We want to give our young people a fantastic experience when playing or practising Cricket
- We want to build a thriving and successful club that is at the centre of our community
- Our secondary goal is to develop potential in our young people and help them to be positive role models within our community
- Encourage adults to give something back and support this fine club in these challenging times
- Let's build on the solid foundations laid by previous generations and continue to make St. Georges Cricket Club the best club in the area.

Your Views!

A brief discussion on the content and of the presentation
and any thoughts and feedback.

