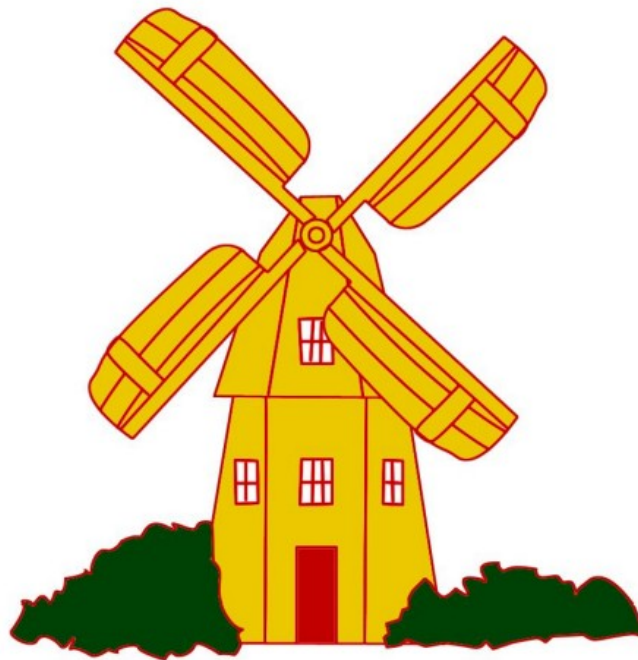


Avoncroft Cricket Club



Annual Report 2023

Season Overview

Despite the wettest cricket season in a generation, Avoncroft Cricket Club can look back on another successful season in 2023. Consistent rain throughout March and April meant that, as the first game of the season came about, the club's grounds team were still unable to get ground equipment out of the garage due to flooding across the bottom of the ground. Despite the incredible efforts of the team over the next few weeks, ably led by curator Mark Taylor, it took another month for the ground to dry out and for playing conditions to be appropriate enough for games to begin.

Once this did happen, results on the pitch were mixed; the high points being the 1st XI's triumph in the Midweek T20 trophy and the 2nd XI's exciting promotion push which, poetically, was scuppered by further wet weather that bookended the season!

Whilst adult results were mixed, 2023 was undoubtedly the most successful year of junior cricket in the club's history. Leading the way for the Under 9s, who were crowned county champions – only the 2nd county title achieved by the club since junior cricket reformed in 1996. The club's Under 8s almost made it 3 titles the following week, making their way all the ways through their county competition only to be pipped in the final against Barnards Green. Note to be outdone, there were successes throughout the older age groups, with league victories for both the Under 12s and Under 14s.

Despite all this success, the club's greatest achievement in 2023 was probably the launch of a girls cricket section as part of our flourishing junior programme, with sides at both Under 9s and Under 11s competing in local softball competitions. This development was an exciting step forward in the club's plans to offer an inclusive cricket environment for all of the local community, and stands the club in a great position to continue to drive forwards in the future.

1st XI Review

The weather played a massive part in the 1st XI season, with washouts in the first 4 games of the season effectively ending Croft's title charge before a ball was bowled as other sides pulled away in the first month. By the end of their Division 3 season, Croft had lost 7 games to the weather – nearly a third of season – and this contributed to the team's inability to build momentum and deliver consistency on the pitch.

Although consistency was a challenge, there were still some real high points, many of which came in the Midweek T20 Trophy competition; a cup that Croft had won in two of the previous four seasons. Having strolled through the early rounds, Croft's biggest scare came in a semi-final match against Himley. With the game drifting away after Croft had posted a below par 144-5, captain Josh Cound produced a magical penultimate over to take 2 vital wickets, and Matt Athey took 2 incredible catches before keeping his nerve to bowl his side to a 4 run victory in the last over. In the final, runs from Will Baker and Mark Whitehead enabled Croft to post 177-4, a total that was always going to be beyond opponents Bewdley, as Croft lifted the trophy for a third time.

The league a less successful affair, with 6 wins and 8 defeats leaving Croft comfortably in mid-table. Will Baker (558 runs) and Josh Cound (18 wickets) led the individual standings, but a special mention should go to Ant Pittam, who was the pick of the bowlers across the season with 15 wickets at an average of under 16.

POS	TEAM	P	w24	wc24	w20	wc20	wd10	wd8	dsi	t	ld2	ld2*	ld4	ld24	ld20	ld20	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	R/W	W	Pts
▲ 1	Barnards Green CC - 2nd XI	22	2	0	10	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	4	22	17	0	20.37	12	348
▲ 2	Belbroughton CC - 1st XI	22	1	0	10	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	6	15	16	0	16.11	11	307
3	Old Elizabethans CC, Worcs - 2nd XI	22	1	0	10	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	2	3	16	22	0	9.71	11	305
4	Lye CC - 2nd XI	22	3	0	8	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	1	5	17	11	0	3.67	11	300
5	Netherton CC, Worcs - Saturday 2nd XI	22	2	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	3	4	35	29	0	3.08	7	269
6	Himbleton CC - 1st XI	22	1	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	1	4	27	26	0	1.03	7	226
7	Avoncroft CC - 1st XI	22	3	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	5	0	0	7	15	19	0	-4.4	6	209
8	Feckenham CC - 1st XI	22	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	7	0	1	5	32	25	0	-8.58	5	193
9	Martley CC - 1st XI	22	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	8	0	0	4	33	26	0	-4.67	4	185
10	Brockhampton CC - 2nd XI	22	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	10	0	3	4	21	39	0	-6.22	4	185
▼ 11	Stourbridge CC - 2nd XI	22	1	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	9	0	1	4	35	27	0	-8.69	3	173
▼ 12	Old Vigornians CC - 1st XI	22	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	4	1	0	10	0	1	4	36	36	0	-24.08	0	115

2nd XI Review

The 2nd XI had a great season, narrowly missing out on the Division 8 promotion playoffs by 1 point; the weather again playing it's part as their last game was rained off when only a couple of bonus points were required to secure second place. Despite this disappointed, the team can be proud of their record of 9 wins and 4 defeats across their league campaign.

2023 was the season when our talented crop of youngsters really started to stamp their mark on 2nd team cricket. Although captain Chris Pitt led the batting ranks once again with 429 league runs, Ben Athey (U14) and Ben Huxley (U15) were the next two highest run scorers with both also featuring high up the bowling standings. Jack Wright (U17) was the sides leading wicket taker although he was closely followed by Andy Pittam, who at the spritely age of 71 was the perfect example of the inclusive nature of Avoncroft Cricket Club, where players young and old can come together on the cricket pitch!

POS	TEAM	P	w	wcn	t	l	lcn	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	NRR	W	Pts
▲ 1	Pershore CC - 3rd XI	18	13	0	0	1	0	1	3	5	3	1	2.45	13	287
▲ 2	Inkberrow CC - 1st XI	18	9	0	0	4	0	1	4	8	17	2	0.36	9	228
3	Droitwich Spa CC - 4th XI	18	8	0	0	6	0	1	3	14	34	0	0.14	8	228
4	Avoncroft CC - 2nd XI	18	9	0	0	4	0	1	4	11	11	0	0.54	9	227
5	Himbleton CC - 2nd XI	18	6	0	0	6	0	1	5	19	25	0	0.76	6	194
6	Old Halesonians CC - 1st XI	18	6	0	0	6	0	1	5	10	28	0	-0.04	6	188
7	Astwood Bank CC - 4th XI	18	4	0	0	9	0	1	4	21	47	0	-0.63	4	173
8	Redditch CC - Redditch Entaco 3rd XI	18	5	0	0	7	0	1	5	13	17	5	-1.13	5	155
9	Hagley CC - 3rd XI	18	3	0	0	9	0	1	5	17	41	2	-1.03	3	146
▼ 10	Bellbroughton CC - 3rd XI	18	1	0	0	12	0	1	4	30	37	0	-1.94	1	112

3rd XI Review

Having been promoted from Division 9 in 2022, the 3rd XI faced the harsh reality of the step up in standard in Division 8 (North), effectively playing at the same level as their 2nd XI counterparts. Despite the significant efforts of the players young and old, this proved to be a step too far for the 3rds, who finished at the foot of the table with just 2 wins to go along with their 10 defeats in the season.

Runs were incredibly hard to come by, with only two batters scoring above 150 runs for the season – Dan Wood’s career best of 88 proving to be the top score across Croft’s 12 games. The 3rds held their own more easily with the ball, as the next generation of Croft players followed the proven route of 3rd XI to build up their experience in the adult game. 14 year old Pete Smith led the bowling standings with 10 wickets, whilst youngsters Carter Morgan and Hayden Smith both impressed in their first taste of senior cricket.

Despite finishing last, the 3rds avoided relegation as only two sides went down across the 4 Division 8 leagues, however the committee determined that Division 8 cricket was not ideal as a first stepping stone for our younger players and as such have requested to be placed back into Division 9 for the 2024 season.

POS	TEAM	P	w	wcn	t	l	lcn	a	c	BatP	BowlP	Pen	NRR	W	Pts
▲ 1	Himley CC - 4th XI	18	11	0	1	1	0	1	4	4	14	0	1.91	11	271
▲ 2	Halesowen CC - 5th XI	18	8	0	0	5	0	2	3	14	22	0	0.59	8	221
3	Stourbridge CC - 4th XI	18	7	0	1	4	0	1	5	8	32	0	1	7	218
4	Lye CC - 3rd XI	18	8	0	0	2	0	2	6	10	4	0	0.69	8	214
5	Netherton CC, Worcs - Saturday 3rd XI	18	8	0	0	6	0	1	3	16	14	0	0.38	8	210
6	Pedmore CC - WCL 3rd XI	18	7	0	0	6	0	2	3	13	17	1	0.14	7	194
7	Oldswinford CC - 3rd XI	18	5	0	0	8	0	2	3	12	23	0	-0.77	5	160
8	Enville CC, Staffs - 3rd XI	18	3	0	1	10	0	1	3	15	36	1	-1.53	3	138
9	Harborne CC - Worcs Lge 4th XI	18	2	0	1	9	0	1	5	18	33	4	-0.65	2	125
▼ 10	Avoncroft CC - 3rd XI	18	2	0	0	10	0	1	5	16	33	0	-1.68	2	119

Treasurer's Report 2023

2023 was another strong year financially for Avoncroft CC, with the club posting a surplus of £2,861, whilst also making £14,551 available for investment into equipment and pavilion improvement works. Unfortunately, more work was required than anticipated at the start of the year following a water league in the pavilion that caused significant damage to fixtures and fittings. Whilst the club's insurance policy mitigated the financial risk, the club were indebted to the efforts of our volunteers, particularly pavilion manager Jason Huxley, for the efforts to get the pavilion up and running for the start of the cricket season.

The Accounts are attached to this report, however the key points in summary are as follows:

- The club made a surplus of £2,861, with income increasing to £41,887. This position is slightly skewed by the insurance payment mentioned above. Excluding one-off grants, income reduced by just under £3,000, with the club finances impacted by the unusually wet season which reduced bar takings, match fees and other social fundraising.
- Despite the poor weather, the club's junior section continued to flourish, with a further growth in membership contributing an additional £1,100 in membership fees.
- The club's development account shows the main areas of investment in 2023, which included:
 - o £11,665 on pavilion refurbishment and enhancement
 - o £2,199 on a new ride-on outfield mower
 - o £687 on additional ground equipment
- The club's success with its day-to-day finances meant that a development account balance of £10,236 was set aside for further investment priorities in 2024.

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	General A/C		Development A/C		TOTAL		TOTAL	
	2023		2023		2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
INCOME								
Main Committee		0		0		0		0
- Grants					0		0	
Playing Committee		6,324		0		6,324		7,311
- Subscriptions	2,840				2,840		3,405	
- 1st XI Match Fees	280				280		406	
- 2nd XI Match Fees	244				244		355	
- 3rd XI Match Fees	85				85		100	
- Sunday Match Fees	225				225		275	
- Unallocated / Other Match Fees	1,775				1,775		2,080	
- Indoor League Fees					0		85	
- Indoor Nets	875				875		605	
Junior Committee		6,232		0		6,232		5,101
- Subs, Training & Match Fees	6,232				6,232		5,101	
Social & Fundraising Committee		4,411		5,250		9,661		11,390
- Vice Presidents / Donations	35				35		480	
- Sponsorship			5,250		5,250		1,250	
- 200 Club	1,230				1,230		1,520	
- Bonus Ball	610				610		727	
- Ground Hire	610				610		522	
- BBQ	1,393				1,393		1,973	
- Clothing	75				75		3,752	
- Other social/fundraising	448				448		1,168	
Ground & Pavilion Committee		0		11,650		11,650		2,312
- Capital Grants			11,650		11,650		2,312	
Bar Committee		8,020				8,020		9,281
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC INCOME		24,987		16,900		41,887		35,395
EXPENDITURE								
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Main Committee		7,584		0		7,584		7,281
- Loan repayments *	1,930				1,930		1,930	
- Insurance	2,920				2,920		2,079	
- Lease extension			0		0		1,608	
- Fire Compliance	285				285		67	
- Licences	593				593		575	
- Affiliation Fees					0		0	
- Pest Control	1,308				1,308		840	
- Sundries	548				548		182	
Playing Committee		3,011		0		3,011		2,844
- League Fees	454				454		1,528	
- Balls	884				884		0	
- Trophies / Medals	18				18		199	
- Indoor Nets	735				735		527	
- Ground Hire	920				920		590	
Junior Committee		1,266		0		1,266		1,381
- League Fees	620				620		730	
- Kit / Equipment	646				646		351	
- Trophies	0				0		300	
Social & Fundraising Committee		0		0		0		5,455
- Social/fundraising equipment			0		0		1,107	
- Clothing	0				0		4,358	
Ground & Pavilion Committee		12,614		14,551		27,165		16,203
- Capital Purchases			2,880		2,880		5,930	
- Ground Rent	341				341		341	
- Ground Work / Expenses	8,039		0		8,039		7,086	
- Pavilion Cleaning	458				458		290	
- Pavilion Maintenance / expenses			10,015		10,015		1,218	
- Utilities (Gas)	105				105		0	
- Utilities (Electricity)	2,530				2,530		564	
- Utilities (Water)	1,140		1,650		2,790		804	
Bar Committee						0		89
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC EXPENDITURE		24,474		14,551		39,025		33,263
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC PROFIT / (LOSS) BEFORE INTERNAL TRANSFERS		512		2,349		2,861		2,132
TRANSFER TO DEVELOPMENT A/C		0		0		0		0
TOTAL AVONCROFT CC PROFIT / (LOSS)		512		2,349		2,861		2,132

Notes to accounts

* The club took out a loan of £9,650 from England & Wales Cricket Trust in 2019 to fund the cost of ground equipment. As at 31st December 2023, the club has repaid £6,274 leaving a remaining liability of £3,376. There are 7 quarterly payments outstanding, with the final payment in Q3 of 2025.

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS			
MOVEMENT OF FUNDS			
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023			
	Bank £	Cash £	Total £
Opening balance at 1st January 2023	20,328	754	21,082
Split between:			
- General a/c	12,442	754	13,196
- Development a/c	7,886		7,886
2022 Cheques banked - Income	0		0
2022 Cheques presented / written back - Expenditure	0		0
2023 Cheques received but not yet banked - Income	0		0
2023 Cheques sent but not yet banked - Expenditure	0		0
Surplus / (deficit) for the year	1,834	1,027	2,861
Consolidation of bar balance into main account	1,125	499	1,624
Closing balance at 31st December 2022	22,162	2,280	25,567
Split between:			
General a/c	11,350	1,781	13,131
Development a/c	10,236		10,236
Bar a/c	1,125	499	1,624
Social a/c	576		576

AVONCROFT CRICKET CLUB - CLUB ACCOUNTS				
DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT - MEMORANDUM				
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023				
	INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	2023		2023	
	£	£	£	£
OPENING BALANCE		7,886		
Made up of:				
- General Balance		7,886		
Grants		11,650		0
Insurance Payment	11,650			
Sponsorship & Donations		5,250		14,551
JP Legal	2,000			
HCB Solicitors	2,500			
Bournville Village Trust	500			
Others	250			
Ride-on Mower			2,199	
Mower			500	
Minor ground equipment			187	
Electrical works			1,802	
Carpets			6,120	
Plumbing			575	
Excess water bill			1,650	
Other pavilion repairs			1,518	
Transfer from General Account		0		0
SUB-TOTAL		16,900		14,551
BALANCE		10,236		
Made up of:				
- General		9,236		
- Ground resilience		1,000		

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Avoncroft Cricket Club

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date: 26/2/24.

Name:

Philip Ingle