**HYTHE & DIBDEN CRICKET CLUB 2021 AGM – 5 February 2021**

**2020 SEASON COLTS REPORT**

It seems a very long time ago since January 2020 when we started indoor training at Noadswood School.  It was great to see 35 Colts, including a number of new faces, regularly at training on Monday evenings for the nine weeks before “Lockdown” hit us. In that limited time, we saw great progress in all the Colts and most importantly, a lot of fun had.

My thanks to Matt Howe, Richie Froggett and Dan Duell for your support with coaching and to Dave Capstick, Andy Grave and Ian Prentice for giving up their time to attend training courses to become qualified coaches and supporting the Colts training sessions. A special thanks to Dawn for the many hours you put in to ensure Colts policies and procedures are in place and for being there at training sessions to keep us on track. And to all the parents for turning out on those dark, wet Monday evenings and in many cases, assisting the coaching sessions, often having as much fun as the Colts (Simon 😊​​​). My thanks also to Nix for helping out with the Colts admin.

Due to COVID restrictions, there were no New Forest Junior Cricket league matches in 2020, but our three managers, Dave Capstick (Under 9s), Andy Grave (Under 11s) and Becky Croton (Under 13s) did a fantastic job organising a number of friendly matches over the summer holidays, although sadly the U13s matches were blighted by rain, ironic after the balmy lockdown weather.  A big thanks to Dave, Andy and Becky for your time arranging the matches and to Steve C and all the volunteers that ensured the ground was in great shape to play the matches.

It was great to see many of the Colts playing in the Woodhouse Cup matches for the first time last year and all did Hythe & Dibden proud. Many thanks to Dan Duell for organising the matches and looking after the Colts.

HDCC has continued to encourage and support Colts accessing County level cricket via the Hampshire Regional Performance Centre player pathway and delighted that 13 Colts were put forward to take part in the 2020/21 training programme (fingers crossed training will start soon).  And congratulations to Ben Holbrook, in achieving selection for the Hampshire U14s shadow squad.

Going forward, we will continue to follow government and ECB guidance and will start outdoor training in 2021 as soon as guidelines permit.  In the meantime, we desperately need more qualified coaches to help support training sessions and welcome volunteers to undertake Foundation or Level 2 Coaching Courses, for which the club will meet the cost of course fees.

And finally, in anticipation of cricket this summer, we are looking for volunteers to be managers for U9s and U13s this year.   If you are interested and able to give a little time to help with coaching or managing the teams, myself, Dawn or Ian would be very pleased to hear from you.

Thanks to everyone who supported the Colts in 2020.