

CWSC AGM

Catford Wanderers Cricket Section report November 2022

2022 was a solid year for the section overall. Both of our Saturday teams-maintained places in their respective leagues. As with most years the beginning of the season is a challenge due to availability of players however as the season progressed this got better. It is also important to note that our Sunday XI, captained by Haris, did extremely well to reach to finals of the Caribbean Cup competition. This is a very competitive cup competition that we enter to provide a good standard of cricket for our Sunday team over and above the friendly matches we usually play on a Sunday. The achievement of reaching the final should not be underestimated, given the standard of opposition. A big well done to all players that took part in the cup run, hopefully next year we can go one step further!

The section remains relatively stable. As measured in terms of playing performances across all teams. The 1st XI managed to cement their place once again in Division 3, through a season in which we changed captains part way through. A promotion in 2021 for the 2nd XI to division 2, could have easily resulted in a quick relegation in 2022. But credit must go to the 2nd XI for a fighting spirit, led by their captain Navid, to ensure we finished comfortably outside of relegation positions.

A special mention to Ollie for exemplary batting performances for the 1st team throughout the season. He was a rock in the middle of our batting line up. I would also like to mention Navid, in his first season as captain of the 2nd team, he produced excellent performances during the season leading from the front with the bat and ball. The Sunday XI has done well under the guidance of Haris Kamran working hard throughout the season to field a team each Sunday to play both cup and friendly matches.

Our playing membership is stable (approx. 30 paid members this season) and very importantly we are still attracting good numbers of children to our ECB affiliated Dynamos and All-Star Saturday morning coaching sessions.

As section Chair, I would like to thank our section treasurer and captain Daron Kularatnam for a massive effort this year to push forward fundraising efforts towards our new nets. This is not a small project, but we are currently around £7k short of our target of c.£50k so there is still more to do. We were also successful in receiving an 'Inspired to Play' ECB grant for £1,000. This was put towards buying new junior kit in preparation to develop the junior section. No other grant money was received, however several opportunities were explored and discussed by the committee.

2022 was another solid season for the development of the junior section, leaving much to look forward to for the future. Our ECB All Stars and Dynamos programme, took place across in May & June. The diversity was a breath of fresh air, and ages ranging from 5 all the way to 11. Parents were extremely positive in their reviews of both the programmes and the organisation of the club. I would like to thank Vishaal Patel for his management of the junior programme and the coaching volunteers for their commitment. However, the growth

and development of our junior section will only become a reality with the commitment of both existing and new volunteers in coaching and administrative roles.

Finally, a huge thank you to all the members of the CWCC section committee who truly do go above and beyond to make sure the section functions every season.

Lekan Ojumu
Chair, CWCC (cricket section)