



North Perrott Cricket Club

The Cricket Ground, Willis Lane, North Perrott, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 7SN.
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Hi everyone,

Apologies for the delay in my August update but I wanted to wait in order to reflect on our progress in the National Village Cup and it therefore gives me immense pleasure and pride to be writing this off the back of a fantastic quarter final win yesterday (30th) against Frocester CC.

This hard fought victory came after similar results against Pentyrch CC, Burbage & Easton CC, Congresbury CC and Timsbury CC in what has been a very busy August. Jake and his young and talented team are now just one game away from a Lord's final and this would be a fitting pinnacle to Jake's tenure with the Club following his decision to leave at the end of the season following a move to London. Jake has been playing cricket at Willis Lane for nearly 15 years having grown up playing through the Youth Section culminating in him captaining the 1st XI over the last few years. Sad news as I am sure you'll agree but totally understandable given the travel time and commitment needed. Jake goes with our thanks, admiration and on the understanding that the gate at Willis Lane will always be open for him – go well Skip! So there is all to play for this coming Sunday (6th) at Willis Lane in the semi final match against Redbourn CC – 1pm start. Bar open. Food available. Please come along and support your Club it would be great to see you.

Away from the National Village Cup our 3 Saturday teams, Sunday team and the Youth age groups from U12 to U15 have been similarly busy packing in games during this shortened season and its fair to say they have been equally as successful recording more wins than losses overall. The change to 'adapt play' I mentioned in my July update has now become the norm but I must say its strange not to see the players tucking into those delicious cricket teas. Similarly the procedures we initially put in place to be able to open the bar have worked extremely well and we have subsequently adapted them further to better cope with demand whilst continuing to keep everyone safe. Clearly we continue to have to make some difficult decisions and compromises on some of the facilities we can and can't offer at present (e.g. drinking inside) driven by adherence to Health & Safety Law (Covid guidance) and I would ask for your continued understanding on this when at Willis Lane by ensuring you follow the clear guidance and social distancing requirements.

As you'll no doubt realise in order for Cricket to be played there is lots that needs to happen not least the ground maintenance and wicket preparation, second to none in my view, diligently undertaken by Tom and his helpers John, Steve and Dan. There is also the running of the bar which, as I have said before, is a key source of income to support the up keep of our wonderful facilities. Mark Downing, the Vice Chairman, has done a great job here in building a team of able and willing volunteers to ensure its smooth running and my thanks goes out to Duncan Ireland, Dominic Salaman, Kate Frost, Sarah Ward and Lucy Binns particularly for their support over the last few weeks.

If anyone else would like to get involved either with a stint behind the bar or undertaking a few jobs around the ground please let me know as you'll be welcomed with open arms.

Anyway I hope you've found the update useful and in my September update in a couple weeks time I'll get back to more broader topics across the Club as well as hopefully sharing further successes on the pitch! So let's keep our fingers crossed we continue to get good weather so we can all enjoy the remainder of the season as it is.

Thanks and stay safe.

Jules

Jullian Marshall-James
NPCC - Chairman