



21 March 2021

ACTONIANS LADIES CRICKET

This is the first of a double header pre-season newsletter!

However desperate we are to get out there and play, we are still in the middle of a global pandemic, and things will move slowly to release us. So, this newsletter will say what we know so far, and the next one will hopefully give us dates on when we can get started, and how cricket will look this season

FIRST MATCH All being well, our first league match is Sunday 25th April.

AVAILABILITY For all matches, enter your availability on the club website.

<https://oldactonianscricket.secure-club.com/availability/default.aspx>

Fixtures all entered, so ready for you to enter availability now

LEAGUES This year, we are playing in the Middlesex Esme Irwin league, a 40 over league, playing Ealing, North London, Harrow St Marys, Finchley and Hampstead home and away. Winner of this league has play offs for promotion to the Championship, played on 12 and 19 September. We also have a mini T20 comp against Ealing and Harrow St Marys, with final against the winners of the other half of the league on 6 June

We are also in the Derrick Morgan League, a 20 over league. These matches are on Sunday mornings as well as Sunday afternoons, and on Friday nights. In this week we play Ickenham 2nd XI, Richmond, Bushey Park, HWCP and Harrow CC home and away. There are semi finals and finals of this league, played against the teams in the Northern part of Middlesex, on 22 August and 5 September

KIT We will play in red shirts / white trousers for the Derrick Morgan league – red shirts provided by the club. This is a pink ball competition.



We will play in whites with red ball for the Esme Irwin league. DON'T BUY NEW WHITE SHIRTS YET. The club has a new sponsorship deal which will require all adults to be wearing the same playing shirt when representing the club. You'll get a new shirt with your membership this year, and additional shirts can be purchased on the club website

SOCIAL MEDIA keep yourself updated with the Facebook page and group, and Twitter and Instagram accounts, as well as endless WhatsApp and emails!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ActoniansLadiesCricketEaling>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ActoniansLadies>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/actonianladies>

TRAINING Mikey Thompson, ex coach of Middlesex Ladies and current Middlesex Community Coach and Disabilities Coach, will be coaching us again on Thursdays 6.30pm this year. For everyone comfortable with hard ball cricket, we join the men at club training from 6.30pm Tuesdays

UNKNOWN We don't know yet when we can get to the club. Assuming the Government / ECB say that we can play again from 29 March, we will need to undertake a Covid risk assessment of the club. It is likely to be Rule of 6 to put up nets, which means setting up rotas for helpers at Boddington and the main ground. This means it is likely to take longer than usual to get nets up. We can't set a definitive date to do this yet, as we need to know when football and rugby will vacate the ground – we can't play cricket with goalposts still up!!!!

And then, when we get nets up, and agree when to start training, we will be waiting for ECB guidelines on training – will it still be alternate nets, max 6 to a net, like last year. And actually playing? Will it be sanitising breaks every 6 overs again? Sounds like there will still be restrictions on sharing cars, no changing facilities



What will the club Covid risk assessment be? Will it be locked gates, and having to give names in advance for track and trace, and be ticked off a list as we enter the ground again?

Basically, lots we don't know

So while we patiently wait for more information from the government and governing bodies, there are 2 things we can do

ONLINE TRAINING Make the most of the amazing opportunity we have for online cricket training with Naomi Dattani, Middlesex and Sunrisers captain, full time cricket professional. We have 2 more sessions. Sunday 28th March at 11.30am-12.30pm and Sunday 11 April 11.30am-12.30pm. Each session is designed to be as inclusive as possible for all players. It will cover fitness, fielding skills and drills, some batting drills and some bowling. Even if you are not a bowler, it is useful to listen to the theories of bowling, so you are aware of field placings for each bowler, and where you should be. One hour of your time based in your living room – what could be easier?

1:1 WITH THE CAPTAIN This year, promotion to the Championship and development of two full women's teams at the club is a real possibility. As captain, Katie wants to make sure that she makes the best use of all players during matches, but also gives everyone the opportunity to develop as a player. We have new adult players joining us, and hopefully a number of junior players wishing to play adult cricket. To that end, she has come up with some questions for every player to fill in. Think about them carefully – why do you like cricket, what can you offer the team, what do you want to learn this year, what do achievement and success mean to you?

Please complete and send back to katiedavies97@hotmail.co.uk (or text answers on [07903401351](tel:07903401351)) by **Friday 16th April**

1. **Batting-** *where do you prefer / see yourself batting - top/middle/bottom of the order, what is your confidence level, what are learning points for this season*
2. **Bowling-** *When do you like to bowl (Opener/Middle/Death), what is your confidence level, what are learning points for this season*



3. **Fielding-** *Where do you enjoy fielding, what is your confidence level, what are learning points for this season (Eg slip fielding, wicket keeping?)*
4. **Development-?** *Any technical points to work on when Batting/Bowling/Fielding, being more involved with the running of the club, having a leadership role in some form, umpiring, scoring*
5. **Anything else you would like to get out the season?**