



## The British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia

### 2024 MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

#### Welcome! - About the BOCC

The BOCC [www.bocccricket.com](http://www.bocccricket.com) was first founded in 1925 but ceased playing in 1939 at the outbreak of World War II. The club was revived in 1986 at a time when there were only three active local cricket clubs in the Philadelphia area. There are now more than 30 clubs within an hour's drive providing a thriving cricket playing community (and varied opponents!).

We are proud to have consistently grown over the years since our revival to be one of the most active and best-organized clubs on the Eastern Seaboard. We presently boast some 50+ senior playing members along with thriving youth participation and programs. BOCC participates in the [Greater Philadelphia Cricket League](#) and [Philadelphia Metropolitan Cricket League](#) and for a typical weekend (April thru October) we simultaneously field one or two further teams playing in other competitions or friendly but competitive games. Continuing expansion has required more ground time than our original home ground at Cope Field in Haverford College could provide. In 2006 we made history by laying down the first cricket wicket in any State Park in Pennsylvania at Evansburg State Park and inaugurating our second home ground. In 2008 we laid a second pitch and converted them both to artificial wickets. A practice net was also installed some years later along with a storage shed late in 2022. All home cricket matches are now played at Evansburg State Park and the grounds are maintained (by us – volunteers to help are always welcome!) to a high standard.

The BOCC plays cricket for fun, for love of the game, yet competitively, with a will to win. We place high importance upon members participating in social functions and volunteering effort on and off the field. There is a full program of social events throughout the year, besides the traditional post-game celebrations. Our Club is run democratically, by the members, for the members. Above all, the BOCC strives to uphold the notion of “cricket first, Club second, team third and the individual last!”

#### How to Join

- If interested in playing, come to nets at Evansburg State Park on Thursdays after 5:00 pm in the season or pre-season indoor nets. You may apply to join the club and be considered for team selection upon completion of membership form and receipt of appropriate payment.
- The BOCC runs a specific youth program with softball cricket for younger children and a partnership with 22 Yards Academy for a hard ball option for older kids. Further details on our youth program can be found at [www.bocccricket.com](http://www.bocccricket.com) or email our Youth Director at [youth@bocccricket.com](mailto:youth@bocccricket.com).
- Approval of membership applications is vested in the Club Committee; whose decision is final. If an application is rejected, all fees paid will be returned.
- If your interest is not playing but rather supporting the club in some other way, an additional membership option is available through becoming a Vice President.
- For all contact information please email: [skippers@bocccricket.com](mailto:skippers@bocccricket.com)

## Disclaimers

Those playing at nets practice and matches agree to do so entirely at their own risk and while the BOCC carries certain insurance covering medical and property expenses, primary responsibility rests with the member. The BOCC expressly disclaims any liability for any injury to any player incurred during practices or matches. The club does not provide playing equipment - players are advised to secure their own helmet, gloves, box and pads, etc. Should any BOCC player cause a ball to injure any player or non-player or damage his/her property then it is the primary responsibility of the player directly causing such injury or damage.

Membership of BOCC assumes member acceptance to being a part of any BOCC social media audio or video publications. Any specific objections must be explicitly submitted in written form to the committee members. In such cases reasonable effort will be made to minimize publication, but club cannot be held liable given the nature of team sports/events.

## Eligibility and Selection

- The BOCC is governed by its Constitution. All Applicants are expected to read and abide by the Constitution. (See <http://www.bocccricket.com/docs/constitution.html>. Two additional supporting documents provide details on club ethos, behavior on and off the field, and our governance structure and expectations. See Code of Conduct (<http://www.bocccricket.com/docs/bocccodeofconduct.pdf> and Roles and responsibility of Committee members (<http://www.bocccricket.com/docs/BOCC%20Officers%20roles.pdf>)
- Members are expected to conduct themselves as Gentlemen, on and off the field
- Membership does not convey the RIGHT to selection. While best endeavors are made to arrange forward fixtures to marry available demand, this is not a precise science, and any game may be oversubscribed on a weekend! Further, the Club Committee (whose decision is final) have full discretion to weight selection criteria according to playing ability, volunteer work on and off the field, regularity of availability, practice attendance and social participation. Note that league sides are strictly selected by merit and represent the best available players for each league game. Selection policy for other fixtures will be at the discretion of the Club Committee.

## Notices

- The membership fee for senior players joining the club includes a set of BOCC logoed cricket whites, cap and tie (except for certain reduced fee memberships) along with a prepayment towards club social functions (waived for youth/reduced fee memberships). Youth memberships include shirt/trousers and cap.
- Members are strongly encouraged to purchase their own playing gear as the club doesn't provide it. However, the Club does maintain certain items of logoed club clothing for purchase.
- The BOCC maintains a website at [www.bocccricket.com](http://www.bocccricket.com) that requires registration and is accessed via a login and password. Upon your membership application being approved, you will be provided with access to this site by our Webmaster via registration. Instructions on making yourself available for games are posted on the site. ***Please note that all team selection and match availability activities are conducted via this website.*** Members are particularly asked to register their availability for fixtures at least a week in advance, **whether you are available or not.**

- **Note that the BOCC website is the official communication vehicle for the club and while there is an informal WhatsApp chat that is not endorsed by the club.**
- Beginners who wish to learn the game of cricket are welcome to join and players are generally helpful in the coaching arena – just ask! Playing members however will take preference in selection and those likely selected for upcoming matches will take priority in nets practice.
- Please note that **no alcohol** is permitted on any part of the Evansburg ground (including the storage shed), and such rule is strictly enforced. Please pick up after yourself and park in designated areas only while at Evansburg. Our good standing with the host authorities of our ground is of paramount importance to the Club.
- Players are required to arrive at matches **60 minutes before the scheduled start time and should be prepared to help before and after games in various duties as directed by the team captain.** Players must wear cricket whites for all matches except those subject to special league rules. Note that colored clothing may need to be purchased to participate in those fixtures.
- Failure to follow the guidelines in “Eligibility and Selection” and the “Notices” may lead to loss of playing privileges at the discretion of the Club Committee.

**NEW MEMBERS PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WITH CLUB DUES. New playing members must have attended two net practices prior to acceptance of application.**

**PLAYING MEMBERS:** \$300 (after July 1 - \$200) (includes Club logoed whites clothing set, cap and tie and a subsidy towards club social functions)/RENEWING, \$250 (includes social subsidy)

**FAMILY PLAYING MEMBERSHIP:** \$300/\$250 as above for Father paid to BOCC with reduced fee of 50% off registration fee for each child enrolled as a youth member

**BEGINNER/SUMMER SOCIAL PLAYING MEMBERS:** \$100 (eligibility for Summer social games (June – August) – not league) typically for local country club players interested in further matches outside of their limited playing season.

**UNEMPLOYED SENIOR MEMBERS:** \$150 (including Club logoed whites clothing set, cap and tie)/RENEWING, \$100

**STUDENT MEMBERS (Details below – Youth Cricket at BOCC):** \$150 (including Club logoed whites clothing set and cap)/RENEWING, \$150

**VICE PRESIDENTS:** Discretionary (a minimum of \$25 is customary)

**MATCH FEES:** Typically, \$15 per game for league games (reduced for youth/unemployed), \$10 for social games and payable to the match Captain.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse/significant other (for social events) \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Playing Membership Only:**

Standard of play (circle whichever applies): First Class / League / Club / Friendly / Beginner / Youth

When did you last play regularly? \_\_\_\_\_ Name of club: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of player (Circle whichever applies): Bowler / Batter / Wicketkeeper / Allrounder

The BOCC is always on the lookout for umpires for league matches. Would you be willing to volunteer your time to provide this valuable service to the club?

(Circle whichever applies): Yes / No

**Signed:**

**(I have read and agree to abide by both the Eligibility and Selection criteria above (if intending to play) and the Constitution of the British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia**

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**If seeking to join as a new playing member you will be notified promptly of the Club Committee or Youth Director's decision and provided access to the players' website page upon acceptance.**

Send completed form via email to [skippers@bocccricket.com](mailto:skippers@bocccricket.com) and payment via Venmo (preferred) @BOCCTreasurer (to avoid BOCC incurring a bank fee please do not select payment for goods or services), PayPal using "Send to Friends and Family" option (also to avoid a bank fee) to [treasurer@bocccricket.com](mailto:treasurer@bocccricket.com), also Zelle using 610-731-6314.

Alternatively completed membership form can be sent along with check made payable to "BOCC" to:  
Chris Lawrence  
Treasurer  
British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia  
336 West Springfield Road  
Springfield, PA 19064  
[clawrence66@msn.com](mailto:clawrence66@msn.com)

**NOTE:** Registering players please use this link to add their details  
<https://www.bocccricket.com/register/default.aspx>

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**PRESIDENT'S FUND:** Contributions to this special fund have proved invaluable in the support of major facilities related development projects such as new wickets and maintenance equipment that help ensure the BOCC is the premier cricket club in the mid-Atlantic. Individual donors are featured by name on an Honor Board on our website and are differentiated by the value of their donation, as follows:

Diamond Supporter: \$1,001 +

Platinum Supporter: \$501 – \$1,000

Gold Supporter: \$251 - \$500

Silver Supporter: \$100 - \$250

Cumulative donations will qualify the donor's name to be moved up the Honor Board relative to the total sum donated. Yes, I would like to contribute to the President's Fund

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription for Recognition Board/Website: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **Youth Cricket at BOCC**

Options for young players at BOCC are dependent primarily on your age.

### **Softball Cricket**

The primary goal of the BOCC softball cricket program is to provide a safe and enjoyable environment where young cricketers can learn how to play the great game of cricket. The Program typically runs on weekends from April through September at the BOCC home ground located in Evansburg State Park at 528 Skippack Creek Rd, Collegeville, PA 19426.

### **Hardball Cricket**

BOCC has partnered with 22 Yards to provide a specific hardball program for older school age children that provides coaching in a more structured and competitive framework using a hard ball. Coaching sessions will be conducted throughout the season at the BOCC home ground located in Evansburg State Park at 528 Skippack Creek Rd, Collegeville, PA 19426, with participation in organized tournaments also available.

### **How to Join**

- Please access the BOCC website at [www.bocccricket.com](http://www.bocccricket.com) for all details on the Youth Program including membership fees. Note that being a senior playing member of the club entitles discounted youth membership fees (50%) for your children.
- Approval of Youth membership applications is vested in the Director, whose decision is final. If an application is rejected, all fees paid will be returned.
- If you have interest in supporting Youth activities (volunteer help is always welcome!), please contact BOCC Youth Director, Ajay Nayak [ajnayak1@gmail.com](mailto:ajnayak1@gmail.com)