



Hampset News

Hampset Cricket Club
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Dear Members

Happy New Year and welcome to the Hampset News, which is being re-issued by the Executive Committee to help keep each of us informed of what's happening at the club. Please try to think of it as **your** Newsletter. We want to make sure that everyone's kept informed and would welcome any suggestions for improving the format and content, so please feel free to send any comments or suggestions to Paul Huxtable, the Communications Manager, at the Club address or by email - phux00@waitrose.com.

Cricket Update

2009 should, hopefully, be a year of real progress at Hampset on and off the cricket field. Our First Team will be hoping to follow up their 3rd place last year with a promotion push this year. Fixtures are already largely in place, with pre-season games starting from **April 11** and the league season beginning on **May 2**. We also have a tour to Brighton lined up for the first week of August - **£50 deposits are now due** – please give to Jon Solly as soon as possible to guarantee a place.

Senior winter nets (open to anyone 15 or over) will be run on **Saturdays from 11am – 1pm** from **February 21 to March 28 at Beechen Cliff School, Bath.**

Junior cricket is still flourishing at Hampset too with record numbers across our age groups. This is due to our large number of volunteer managers and coaches. Our coaches are undertaking more training this winter, with winter training starting on **Sunday January 11 at Beechen Cliff School**. There will be a Registration session at the club on **Sunday 4 January at 2.30 pm**. Payment will be due then. Further details will be sent out by Adrian Jeffrey in due course.

Hampset **Fast-Track**, our elite coaching programme for our most talented young players has been expanded in 2009 thanks to a very generous sponsorship from **Mobilize Consulting through Chris Book**.

Finally, thank you to everyone who contributes to cricket at Hampset – thanks to captains for taking on a tough job; thanks for all members of the Cricket Committee for playing such an active role in the running of the Club; and thanks to all the players who have stayed loyal to our Club and continue to give their best for Hampset CC. Let's make 2009 the year of the Scorpion.

Jon Solly, Cricket Manager (jsolly@hotmail.com)

Hampset Cricket Force 2009

The vital pre-season activity of preparing the Ground and Clubhouse will be held over the **weekend of April 4 and 5**.

Cricket Force 2009 will be a much bigger event than last year and needs all the help we can get. Please try to keep this weekend free in your diaries and come along to help out if at all possible. We do need as many volunteers as we can get over the weekend to make sure we can start the season with the best set-up as possible – we can also have a lot of fun in the process.

More details are available from either Stan Szcotko (somersetstan@aol.com) or Jon Solly.

Club Membership

We want to improve the ways in which members are kept aware of activities and give everyone the opportunity to get what they want out of the Club. As part of improving communications and general administration, we have been reviewing the membership list to ensure that we have accurate information and contact details for all members.

A lot of work has been completed over the last few months updating and checking the membership list. In order to make sure we've got it right, and to confirm how you would like to be contacted, it would be very much appreciated if you could complete and return the short membership questionnaire that is attached. The form also gives you the opportunity to let us know if you are prepared to help out in any way and tell us what you think the Club could do for you.

Completed forms should be returned, either electronically or handwritten (whatever's easiest), to Paul Huxtable by the end of February if possible. Please let Paul know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance for completing your details, it will be a great help.

Bar Rota

The Club still maintains a totally voluntary rota for manning the bar and we are **constantly in need of new volunteers** to take a turn behind the bar.

It's important to remember that we are only able to open the Clubhouse as often as we can and keep prices down because the bar rota is voluntary. It is essential that as many members as possible take a turn on the bar to ease the burden on the few that currently help out on a regular basis.

If you are able to help out by manning the bar for an evening once a month it would be appreciated.

Please contact John Nicholas or Stan Szczotko, at the Clubhouse or by email (somersetstan@aol.com), to get more details. It's not too onerous and can be fun.

Cricket Teas

There is also a voluntary rota for providing teas during the cricket season, and, as with the bar, we are **constantly in need of new volunteers** to help out in the kitchen, preparing food in advance, or assisting with the purchase of stock, which is paid for out of Club funds.

If you think that you will be able to help out in any way during the cricket season then please contact Ruth Solly (ruthsolly@fastmail.fm).

Clubhouse Opening Times

The Clubhouse is open all year round, with skittles or crib usually being played most week nights during the close season. There are also social events that are organised on regular occasions throughout the year. Details of what's on each week are displayed on the notice board just inside the front door. We hope to add the diary of events to the Hampset web site in the near future.

Opening times are 8.00 to 11.00 pm Monday to Saturday and 12.00 to 2.00 pm on a Sunday.

The Clubhouse can also be made available for use by Club Members at a cost of £15.00 per event, or £50.00 per event for non-members. All events need to be approved by the Operations Committee. For more details on using the Club contact Stan Szczotko (somersetstan@aol.com).

Hampset Fashion

Hampset tops and fleeces are available at £20 and blue polo shirts at £12. Female and junior sizes are also available. Contact Nick Lear (nickandkatielear@hotmail.com) for more details.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 69th AGM will be held at the Clubhouse on **Saturday 7 February 2009**. Please come along if you can as the AGM provides an opportunity for you to comment on the running of the Club and elect Committee Members. Discounted drinks will be available from the bar all evening.

Annual Club Dinner

The Annual Club Dinner will be held on **Friday 13 March**. Tickets will be available from Bill Hallett or Stan Szczotko and will be allocated on a "first come, first served basis". It's a good night, which always proves very popular, so please get your tickets booked as soon as you can.

Social Calendar

The Club continues to be funded mainly out of bar takings and social events. The Operations Committee and the Social Manager, Jeanette Porter (jeanetteporter@hotmail.com), in particular have organised a number of events during 2008, which were well attended and enjoyable evenings.

The 2009 Social Calendar is currently being finalised and will be included in your Fixture Card, which will be sent out before the start of the cricket season. There's also the notice board at the Clubhouse and the Club's website.

Hampset Website

The Club's website is currently being revised to make it more informative and useful for all members. The main website has changed to www.hampset.org.uk, which will be developed further over the next few months. Please bear with us as we try to develop the most effective means of communication via the web.

Your Newsletter

The Newsletter has been sent out with the calling letter for the AGM to make sure that we reach as many Members as possible. We plan to issue a Newsletter on a quarterly basis in the future, but are open to comments and suggestions. We could publish something on a more frequent basis if you thought this would be more beneficial. Please let Paul Huxtable have any feedback you may have, including how often you would like to see a Newsletter issued and what was good or not so good about this particular issue.

If you would like more information regarding the content of this Newsletter, or the Club, or you have any difficulty in contacting any of the people mentioned, then please contact Paul Huxtable, who will be happy to help.