

SLAITHWAITE CRICKET CLUB

Club & Ground Information

Located in the heart of the Pennines, Slaithwaite Cricket Club has one of the most picturesque grounds in the whole of the Drakes Huddersfield Cricket League and possibly Yorkshire. Situated on Racton Street in the village, the ground has superb views across the Colne Valley and the rolling green hills and farmland that are nearby.

The club itself has been in existence for over 140 years. It was originally founded in 1873 and christened Slaithwaite St. James Cricket Club. It moved to the Hill Top ground in 1881 as Slaithwaite Athletic and Cricket Club and became one of the founder members of the Huddersfield and District Cricket League in 1892.



As the club's home is known as 'Hill Top', it is unsurprising to find it on top of an incline that looks out high over the rest of Slaithwaite village. It is also in the middle of an estate of traditional terraced housing that has a real community feel to it, but it is far enough away from the ground to avoid big six hits on Saturday afternoons.

Two main buildings make up the clubhouse: tea room and changing-room block – both of which are in close proximity in the right-hand corner of the ground as you approach the ground. The clubhouse boasts a welcoming atmosphere and its traditional public house décor makes it extremely inviting. Its facilities include a full bar, seating for over 200 people, and facilities for snooker, pool and darts. To add to this, the bar area shows off a multitude and variety of trophies and old photographs which show off the club's long

and rich history. The building is also available to hire out for parties and other events. Around the playing area the seating is plentiful for spectators, with a good number of benches located outside the clubhouse and around the ground. On a fine summer's day, the scenic location can provide a very enjoyable village cricketing experience.



The scoreboard is located in the right-hand corner of the ground looking from the pavilion. Away from cricket there is also a bowling green situated behind the main buildings, complete with its own premises. Along with the pavilion, the bowling green was opened in 1908.

For the 2008 league season, Slaithwaite Cricket Clubs 1st XI will be plying their trade in the Frank Platt Conference 1 after suffering relegation from the top division on the last day of last summer. Meanwhile the 2nd XI will be playing their cricket in the Drakes Premiership 2, the top league for clubs' second teams.