

# NORTHOWRAM HEDGE TOP CRICKET CLUB



## PROSPECTUS AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2006 TO 2011

### NORTHOWRAM HEDGE TOP CRICKET CLUB PROSPECTUS AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2006 TO 2011

CONTENTS	PAGE
THE CLUB	1
THE VISION	1
HISTORY	1
PLAYING RECORD	2
FACILITY DEVELOPMENT	3
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT	4
COACH DEVELOPMENT	4
<u>DEVELOPMENT PLAN</u>	
1. Administrative Structure	5
2. Membership, Multicultural Links and Disability	6-7
3. Coaching and Development of Talented Players	8
4. Child Welfare	9
5. Developing Officials	10
6. Primary School Liaison and Volunteers	11
7. Fixtures	12-13
8. Ground Development	14-15
9. Equipment	16
10. Developing and Maintaining Facilities	17-18
11. Links with YCB and Local Development Group	19
12. Communications within the Club	20
13. Health and Safety	21-22
14. Marketing and Promotion	23
15. Financial Management	24

## THE CLUB

The Club competes in the Halifax Cricket League and, in addition to its three senior teams, there are teams for youngsters at Under 11, 13, 15 and 17 years all competing in the Halifax Junior Cricket League.

The main entrance to the Club is off Westercroft Lane, where parking facilities are shared with the adjacent Northowram/Fields Cricket Club, although, as the name implies, access for pedestrians can also be gained from Hedge Top Lane.

## THE VISION

The vision of the Club, which is open to any person irrespective of age, gender, colour, creed or ability, is to promote and finance the playing of cricket. More specifically the Club aims to:

- Provide high quality cricket and social facilities to meet the needs and expectations of the members;
- Provide a quality coaching environment designed and maintained to raise the standards of play;
- Promote a thriving junior section capable of producing generations of enthusiastic, loyal, skilled, disciplined and ethical players, officials and supporters;
- Create the environment and provide the opportunity for individuals to achieve their full potential in whatever capacity they might choose within either the game of cricket or the administration of the club;
- Establish and maintain a family-orientated ethos;
- Nurture and encourage a culture of pride in and ownership of the Club, which will earn and sustain the respect and support of the local community.

## HISTORY

The Club was formed in 1919 at the Northowram Wesleyan Chapel, and competed in the Halifax Nonconformist League during the 1920 season as the Northowram Wesleyan Cricket Club. After a period of inactivity, the Club reformed in 1926 and, having relocated to its current site at Hedge Top Lane, it was accepted into the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of the Halifax and District Amateur League.

The Club's first change of name occurred in the mid-thirties when the Wesleyan and the Ebenezer Churches merged. The Wesleyan Church was closed and worship was centred on the Ebenezer Church with "Methodists" becoming the generally adopted name.

League cricket, as such, was suspended during the Second World War, although the Club did continue to play a form of competitive cricket against other clubs that were still able to select teams. In 1946, when league cricket was recommenced, the Club again competed in the Halifax and District Amateur Cricket League but, after only one season, it was accepted into the Halifax Cricket League for the 1947 season.

The second change of name took place in 1952 when, in an attempt to raise funds to build a pavilion, the members decided to organise a Christmas raffle, which was, of course, alien to the Methodist doctrine. Connections with the church were, therefore, severed and the Club adopted the name of the "Northowram Hedge Top Cricket Club". The conveyance of the land from the Coley Hall estate was undertaken on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 1961. The Club has, therefore, been a member of the Halifax Cricket League since the 1947 season.

## PLAYING RECORD

THE CLUB

### Senior

- 1961 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Champions
- 1965 Parish Cup Winners
- 1966 1<sup>st</sup> Division Champions
- 1970 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Champions
- 1971 Crossley Shield Winners
- 1984 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Champions
- 1987 Crossley Shield Winners
- 1994 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Division 2 Runners Up
- 1997 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Champions
- 1997 Sunday Section Winners
- 1998 Parish Cup Finalists and  
1<sup>st</sup> Division Runners Up
- 2003 Lindley Moor Trophy Winners
- 2003 Sunday League Division 2 Champions
- 2003 Crossley Shield Winners
- 2004 Rod Warhurst Trophy Winners
- \*2005 Sunday League Division 1 Champions
- 2005 Winners "Fair Play" Trophy

### Junior

- 1985 Under 17 League Champions  
Cup Winners
- 1992 Under 15 League and Play-Off Champions
- 1993 Under 15 League and Play-Off Champions
- 1995 Under 17 League and Play-Off Champions
- 1996 Under 17 League and Play-Off Champions
- 1998 Under 17 Play-Off Finalists
- 1999 Under 17 Collinson Cup Winners
- 2004 Under 13 League Champions
- 2005 Under 15 League Champions
- 2006 Under 11 League Champions
- \*2006 Under 15 League Champions

## FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

Facility development was an essential feature of the mid-to-post war years when the infilling of two delfts of an adjacent, worked-out quarry extended the ground; a refreshment hut was constructed and running water was piped onto the site.

The Club has continued to develop its facilities whenever the need has been identified and the finance has been available. The most notable of these being:

- The construction of a covered, “flushing” toilet block in 1968;
- The construction of a brick pavilion in 1980;
- The construction of an extension to the pavilion to include showering, toilet and bar facilities in 1989;
- Relaying five wickets on the playing area and laying five new grass practice wickets in 1992/93;
- The construction of a new purpose-built scoring unit, complete with an electrical source in 1998;
- The construction of a permanent sightscreen structure in 2001;
- A redevelopment and extension of the pavilion to meet the change in the nature and mix of the membership which included access and facilities for people with disabilities, extra toilet accommodation, a purpose-built kitchen facility and an enlarged club room, completed in 2002;
- The start of a three-year programme of reseeded and topdressing of the outfield to encourage better growth in 2004/5/6;
- The construction of two purpose-built artificial practice net wickets in 2005.

The Club has been awarded grants from the Local Authority for three of these projects: £3,000 in 1980 towards the cost of the first brick pavilion, £3,000 in 1998 towards the cost of the scoring unit and £3,000 in 2005 towards the cost of the artificial practice facilities. Otherwise, the vast majority of this work has been undertaken through “self-help” and has been financed from within the Club’s own resources. It is estimated that this 26-year programme represents a capital outlay of £350K at today’s prices.