

Sides from fields of cricket, football and basketball

TEAMS IN WITH A

Nominee: Honley Cricket Club

Everything is just champion at Honley now!

THE future looks bright for Honley Cricket Club.

This season it won the Drakes League Championship for the first time in its 125-year history.

And to crown the glory, triumphant Honley also won the Romida Sykes Cup.

Club secretary Tim Hirst described the season as a "magical double".

He added: "We have been going for a lot of years now and people were often amazed we had never won anything.

"But we have certainly laid that ghost to rest now. Last season was a great effort.

"Everyone pulled together at the right time and did a wonderful job.

"There were some worrying moments towards the end of the season when we lost a few games. But in the end we had done enough."

And Tim, who is also the scorer for the club, is confident that youngsters coming through the ranks could become stars of the future.

He said: "We have a really great youth set-up and I believe we are moving forward well.

"We have had some of the young players turning out for the second team already.

"And we have just had our first dads and lads game, so there really is a buzz about the club at the moment.

"It means a lot to the community for the team to be successful.

"Everyone from the tea lady to the opening batsman has worked really hard."

And the reason the team has been so successful? A mixture of good players — and an investment in roll-on roll-off pitch covers.

Time said: "We got the covers from a local manufacturer and they have worked well for us, because when other teams have not been able to play we have picked up points.

"We have not just been looking at spending all our money on players."



■ CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS: Honley captain Robert Moore (left) receives the Byrom Shield from league chairman Roger France in front of the team