

YOUNG GUNS!

Mick Baldwin on the junior section

The club puts big emphasis on young players and young talent. We have Under-9, Under-11, Under-12, Under 13, two Under-15 and Under-17 teams. And obviously seniors too.

So a lot of cricket is played here; in fact, in the summer it's unusual to see the ground without a game being played! It's used seven days a week – whether for matches or practice. And sometimes it could be a mix of the two eg. an Under-9s match and seniors practice.



Our junior coaches don't babysit – they're there to help kids. They're a massive asset for the club and of course they're all CRB-checked.

The juniors come from all over: Cleckheaton, Heckmondwike, Scholes, and not just Gomersal. The ultimate aim is to convert them into seniors. At the moment four lads from the Under-15s and Under-17s are in the 2nd XI. We really do like to promote from within.

Andy Gale (above) was a junior here. He was head and shoulders above the other lads. Mark Lawson was also here; he graduated from the juniors to the 2nd XI and 1st XI.

We have a lot of parents come down on junior practice nights. They're a mix of cricketers and non-cricketers. Some help out with the running of the teams, which is great for the club.