

# Shepley Junior Cricket Club

## Newsletter #2

April 2011

What a great start to the season with blue skies and lots of enthusiastic young cricketers at Marsh Lane for the past couple of Friday evenings. The younger end of the age spectrum has seen a large increase in numbers; at under 11 and under 9 level we have, in total, in excess of 35 members.

Aside from the challenge of learning a new sport, having fun and keeping fit in beautiful surroundings, the junior cricket club has entered teams into the Huddersfield league and our thoughts now turn to competitive cricket. League rules stipulate that at U9 level teams are 8 strong, at U11 level it's teams of 10.

Obviously we want all our juniors to enjoy competitive cricket although the large number of members at Shepley CC means we cannot guarantee to give every boy or girl the opportunity to play every week.

Under 11 cricket uses a hard ball meaning pads, gloves & box are essential when batting. Under 9 cricket is played with a soft ball so no protective equipment is required.

The majority of our young cricketers are under 9 (according to league rules a child's age on 31 August 2010 dictates his / her cricket age) although many are capable of playing at under 11 level.

The initial training sessions have been aimed to identify the right age group for each cricketer from both an age and ability perspective.

A summary of the different ages and first fixtures is below.

Age Group	Games Played	First Fixture
Under 9	Saturday, 9am start	14 May
Under 11	Wednesday, 6 pm start	4 May
Under 13	Sunday, 9 am start	1 May
Under 17	Wednesday, 6 pm start	27 April

Full fixture lists and league rules can be found on the junior page of the club website (<http://www.shepleycc.com/>)

Please let us know whether your child is available or not for the first fixtures so we can plan the squad selections. If you can do the same for the coming fixtures as well that would be great.

Like all clubs, volunteers run Shepley CC and additional help is always welcome. If you can support us in our efforts please contact any of the coaches or club officials.

The U17 team started their league campaign on Wednesday with a hard fought point against a very good Green Moor side. They scored 135 for 6 in their 20 over and Shepley were 85 for 8 in reply. The team spirit was excellent and gives real hope for a successful season. Thanks to all those who turned up to support the team on a chilly night at Marsh lane. Our next fixture is Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May, away at Scholes. This will be another tough game so it would be great to see as much support as possible.