



## North Middlesex CC Juniors: Key Dates 2020



Sun 5 April	<b>ECB/NATWEST CricketForce Day at the Midd</b>	Working together to spruce up our ground from 9:30 – free BBQ for helpers. More info will be posted on website nearer the date
Mon 6 - Thur 9 Apr Tues 14 – Fri 17 Apr	<b>Easter Cricket Camps</b>	Email <a href="mailto:nmcc.camps@gmail.com">nmcc.camps@gmail.com</a> for more info.
Sun 19 April	<b>First Outdoor Coaching/Practice Session at the Midd</b>	<b>Minis</b> – Boys and Girls (Reception and Year 1) - 9:00 to 10:00 <b>Girls</b> - all older ages 9:00 to 10:20 <b>Boys</b> – U7, 8, 9, 10 and U11 - 9:00 to 10:20 U12, 13, 14 and U15 - 10:30 to 12:00. U16 and 17 – Tues evenings at 18:00 with Seniors
Tue 26 - Fri 29 May	<b>Half term Cricket Camp</b>	Email <a href="mailto:nmcc.camps@gmail.com">nmcc.camps@gmail.com</a> for more info.
Sat ?? July TBC	<b>Mid-season evening BBQ</b>	Date to be confirmed
Sun 19 July	<b>Final Outdoor Coaching/Practice Session</b>	
Mon 27 - Fri 31 July	<b>Summer Cricket Camp 1</b>	Email <a href="mailto:nmcc.camps@gmail.com">nmcc.camps@gmail.com</a> for more info.
Mon 10 – Fri 14 Aug	<b>Summer Cricket Camp 2</b>	Email <a href="mailto:nmcc.camps@gmail.com">nmcc.camps@gmail.com</a> for more info.
Aug - Sept	<b>Masterclasses with James Parslow and Middlesex CCC players</b>	More info to follow
Tues 24 – Fri 28 Aug	<b>Summer Cricket Camp 3</b>	Email <a href="mailto:nmcc.camps@gmail.com">nmcc.camps@gmail.com</a> for more info.
Sun 6 September	<b>End of Season Junior Club Day</b>	Cricket comps, presentations and BBQ

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## Purpose of Note

This note is for parents and carers of our Junior girl and boy members to help you understand how our Club runs, what you can expect from us and what we expect from you and your sons and daughters.

Further information can be found on our website ([www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk)) or in our Fixture Book, hard copies of which will be available at Sunday practices – please make sure you take one.

If you have a question but can't find the answer in this note or from the website, please contact us directly at: [nmcc.colts@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.colts@gmail.com)

## About North Midd – An inclusive cricket club

- North Midd –
  - Was founded in 1875
  - Has ECB Clubmark status (awarded to Clubs achieving required operating and developmental standards). One of these is to publish and update a Club Development Plan. North Midd's current Development Plan is available on our website.
  - Is registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club and so benefits from Gift Aid relief on donations. Donations make an important contribution to the club's finances and North Midd receives an extra 25p for each £1 donated if the Gift Aid form is completed.
- The Junior Section is a vital part of North Midd. We strive to create an environment which encourages players of all abilities to enjoy their cricket and improve their skills in a friendly and inclusive environment, whilst at the same time enabling them to achieve their full potential however ambitious that may be.
- As they pass through the age groups, Juniors will have the opportunity of playing for North Midd's Senior section which runs 5 open age XIs on Saturdays. Four of these sides play in their highest possible divisions in the Middlesex County League, the strongest League in London.
- In 2019 our 1st XI won the Premier Division of the League and so became the Champion Club in Middlesex for the first time since the Premier League was introduced. Our Second XI have been champions of the Second XI Premier League for 3 of the last 4 Seasons. In 2019 our Third XI were second in the Third XI Premier League after being champions in 2018.

- 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd Senior XIs play County League matches every Saturday afternoon at North Midd. Juniors and their families are very welcome to come and support our club teams.
- Our older Girls will have the opportunity to play women's cricket under the exciting innovative partnership we have established with our neighbours, North London Cricket Club. Under 16 Girls will join North London women for their practices – for more information on this please contact - nmccgirlscricket@gmail.com.

### **Success in developing young players**

- We run an Academy and Performance squad structure which facilitates additional focused training for some of our highest performing players. We believe this is a key reason why we have an unparalleled record of retaining and developing our Juniors and pride ourselves on integrating them into our Senior sides. We know that we have a greater proportion of our senior sides filled by juniors than other clubs in the county. In 2019, 6 or 7 current or ex Juniors played regularly in our Premier League winning 1<sup>st</sup> XI.
- Also, in 2019 four of our former Academy players signing professional terms with Middlesex CCC. One of these played for England U19s on their tour of Antigua at the end of 2019. All these players started with us aged under 8 or younger. One of our ex junior girls is in the Middlesex County Squad.
- At our junior age groups, we have players selected for Borough and County squads as well as players part of the England Player Pathway for the national indoor teams.

### **Objectives of Club and Junior Section**

- Objectives of the whole Club include –
  - To be a spirited, inclusive, committed, collegiate and high quality cricket Club of which our Juniors and Seniors all feel part.
  - To offer affordable 'Cricket for All' alongside a pathway to develop our strongest players.
  - To keep our 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3rd Senior XIs in their respective Premier Divisions of the Middlesex County League.
- Aims of our Junior Section –
  - To ensure that every North Midd Junior member has a fun, safe and enjoyable cricketing experience and so is keen to return for the next practice/match.
  - To ignite in our Juniors a lifelong love of the game.
  - To ensure that every Junior is given opportunity to develop skills and to achieve his/her playing potential.

- To ensure that all North Midd Juniors, their Coaches, Managers, parents and carers are aware of and live up to the Spirit of Cricket.
- To operate our Academy (see below) as a pathway to develop the skills of our strongest Juniors to Middlesex County Premier League calibre and beyond through our own coaching and support for Middlesex Borough, Regional and County Age Group cricket.

### Organisation of the Junior Section

- The Junior Section is run almost entirely by volunteers who give up their time to provide boys and girls with the opportunity to play cricket. The majority are, or have been, parents of boys or girls in our Junior Section. Many have qualified as coaches.
- We welcome new volunteers. The later Section headed “Volunteering/Getting Involved” gives information on how you can get involved.
- Our volunteers are supported by a small number of professional coaches.
- All Age Group Managers, lead Coaches and League Team Managers have had a Disclosure and Barring Service (“DBS”) check.
- Our Club Welfare Officer is Mary Cracknell. Any concerns regarding the operation of the Club or behaviour of an individual should be reported to her. Mary’s contact details are on the website, on the club notice board and in the Fixture Book.
- Contact details for Managers/Coaches of the various age groups will be on the website before the first practice sessions.
- A Parents’ Representative sits on the Club Committee. In 2020 this is Suzy Francis. If you have any suggestions for improving how we do things or would like to become more involved in Club activities, please contact Suzy - [nmcc.parentrep@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.parentrep@gmail.com)

### Becoming a Member of North Midd

- At the beginning of each season all **new and returning** members should complete and sign a North Midd Membership Form (one per family) and pay the annual subscription. This will include a commitment by Parents to read and abide by the Club’s codes of conduct for Juniors and Parents – see the Section below headed “What we expect of Parent/Carers/Juniors” for more on these. **Membership is not complete until we have received both a completed form and subs.**
- Subscriptions for 2020 will remain at 2019 levels i.e. £100 for the first child in a family, £90 (10% discount) for second and subsequent children. Minis’ subs will remain at £50 (£45 for siblings).

- **NB - In addition to returning a completed form and paying the subs, new members also need to create an account on our Pitchero website, through which the team coaches can communicate with you on availability and team selection. Here's how to do this –**
  - Go to the website at [www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk) and click on the button at the top right 'Join'.
  - Type in your email address, choose a password and give a phone number.
  - Click on 'Register'.
  - **Once you have registered or are already registered**, click on 'Login' and type your email and password.
  - You then need to apply for a parent role.
  - Click on your name at the top right and click on 'Membership' from the drop-down menu.
  - Click on 'North Middlesex Cricket Club' and select 'Apply for parent role'.
  - You can then select your child(ren). Type in the child's surname and select from the list (current members have already been added to the database).
  - If the name does not appear you can type it in. Click on 'Apply'. The request will then be sent to the webmaster for approval.
  
- No match fees are payable for Junior outdoor games (league, cup or friendlies).
  
- Membership entitles players to use the nets when available and subject to displayed net rules. See later section about use of our Bowling Machines.
  
- In March 2020 Membership Forms with payment info will be emailed to 2019 members and to those who have registered their interest over the winter with us.
  
- The deadline for existing members and others who have received forms to pay subs and preserve their priority is **3 April 2020**.
  
- Others wanting to join should email [nmcc.colts@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.colts@gmail.com) to check if there are spaces available.
  
- Please note –
  - No Junior will be eligible for selection for any North Midd fixture unless his/her sub has been paid.
  - Under Middlesex Colts Association ("MCA") Rules once a Junior is registered for one club he/she will not be entitled to play for any other Club in any MCA competitions for that season or the following indoor season. Breach of this rule is likely to result in the deduction of league points from North Midd.

## Age Qualification

- For 2020 this is as follows –
  - Minis – born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2015 – Reception/School year 1
  - U7 – born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 - School year - 2
  - U8 – born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 - School year - 3
  - U9 – born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011 - School year - 4
  - U10 – born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010 - School year 5
  - U11 – born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 - School year 6
  - U12 – born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008 - School year 7
  - U13 – born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 - School year 8
  - U14 – born between 1 September 2005 and 31 August 2006 – School year 9
  - U15 – born between 1 September 2004 and 31 August 2005– School year 10
  - U16 – born between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004– School year 11
  - U17 - born between 1 September 2002 and 31 August 2003 – School year 12
- Boys may play in league and cup matches above their own age level but not below.
- Girls may play in league and cup matches above their own age level. Girls, who are not Middlesex players, up to 15 years may also play in a team 1 or 2 years below their age group. This does not apply in ECB National U 13 and 15 Cups where Girls may not play below their own age level.

## Junior Practices

- Timing for these in 2020 will be as follows –
  - **Minis** – Sunday mornings **09:00 to 10:00** .
  - **Girls - U7 to U15** – Sunday mornings **09:00 to 10:20**.
  - **Boys - U7s to U11s** – Sunday mornings **09:00 to 10:20** .
  - **Boys - U12s to U15s** – Sunday mornings **10:30 to 12 noon**.
  - **Boys - U16s and U17s** - Tuesday evenings starting at 18.30 with Seniors.

Please try to be at the Club 10 minutes before the allotted start time. Time is short and our coaching teams are keen to make the most of it by starting promptly.

- Further information about our practices –
  - **Venue** – our Ground at 185 Park Road normally referred to as “the Midd”.
  - **Format** – a typical Coaching Session will involve a mix of game based and drill based practices. Please ask the Coaches if you would like access to on line materials illustrating the drills we use so you can carry on practicing during the week.

- **Allocation** - Juniors may be allocated to practice squads by reference to their stage of cricket development and experience as well as age.
- **Signing in** - Please ensure that your Junior has signed in with his/her Manager/Coach at the start of each session.
- **Weather/Cancellations** -
  - If any session is cancelled because of bad weather, we will post a Tweet (@Northmidd) on the Twitter feed on our website ([www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk)).
  - If the weather is doubtful on a practice morning and no Tweet has been posted on our website, parents should check with the relevant team manager that the practice is definitely on. We encourage parents to stay and help where possible, but if you do leave your son/daughter at the Club, please be prepared to collect early if the weather deteriorates so that the session has to be abandoned.

## Junior Matches – League entries, selection and fixtures

Fixtures for all teams can be found on the North Midd website: [www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk). You don't need to logon or be registered to do this. Just click on 'Teams', select team, and click on 'Matches'

**Overview** - In 2020, we will be running at least 16 boys' and girls' junior teams, a record number.

### Boys – League and Cup entries –

- League and Cup matches in the MCA competitions start at Under 9. As noted below, girls are also eligible for these matches.
- For 2019 we have entered teams at U9 (2 teams); U10 (2 teams); U11 (2 teams); U12 (2 teams); U13 (1 team); U14/15 (2 teams) and U17 (1 team).
- Under MCA Rules-
  - Where we have entered 2 or more teams at an age level we have to nominate A and B squads;
  - Within certain limitations, players in B squads can play for A teams but not vice-versa.
- Age Group Managers will be selecting squads at the start of the season and will be in touch with you direct about selection. The aim is to have players playing in teams most suited to their stage of cricket development and to maximise their opportunities to contribute and develop. This should also create stronger, more competitive teams and set a higher standard for all to emulate. Focus will be on what is best for the player's development rather than just age.



### **Girls – League and Festival Entries –**

- For 2020 we have entered teams in the MCA Girls U 10, U 12 and U14 Leagues.
- We will also be entering teams into three "B20 Festivals" which are designed for younger girls
- Girls are eligible to play alongside boys in League and Cup matches and, except in some cases, may play in teams below their own age level – please see the "Age Qualification" section above for more details on this.
- As mentioned, our older Girls will have the opportunity to play women's cricket under the exciting innovative partnership we have established with our neighbours, North London Cricket Club – for more information on this please contact Mike Harris at nmccgirlsccricket@gmail.com

### **Friendly matches –**

- Boys U8s and younger age groups will have a programme of internal soft ball matches and friendlies with other clubs . These are to introduce younger members to match play.
- Age Group Managers will try to arrange friendlies for any Juniors not regularly playing in League games.

### **Middlesex U19 T20 and MDL (Middlesex Development League) -**

We have entered teams in these competitions.

### **Fixtures -**

As noted above, fixtures known at the start of the season are already on the website – click on 'Teams', relevant team and then on 'matches'. They will also be in the Fixture Book, copies of which will be available at Sunday practices – please make sure you take one.

### **Match management -**

- Our aim is for match availability and selection to be carried out via Pitchero which is accessible either our website or a Pitchero App on your phone. It will, therefore, be important for players to be registered on the website (details of how to do this are in the "Becoming a member of North Midd" section above ) and also for parents to have regular access to Pitchero, as well as responding promptly to Age Group Managers requests for availability etc. Downloading the Pitchero app to your phone is recommended.

## Juniors playing in Senior teams

- As noted, many older Junior members play regularly in North Midd's Senior teams on Saturday afternoons. Normally Juniors become eligible for selection for Senior teams from U13 upwards. Match fees (which include teas) will be payable.
- All captains of Senior teams will have undertaken a DBS check. They are also familiar with ECB Guidelines for young players playing in mixed age teams.

## Donations

- The Club is always looking to improve the coaching and practice facilities we can offer to Juniors.
- Any donations (however small) will be most welcome. Donations can be made by online as noted on the Membership Form, with notification to Susie Nicoll, with a completed Gift Aid form (for the donation amount), where applicable.
- Because of its Community Amateur Sports Club status, any donations to the Club qualify for Gift Aid relief.

## What we expect of Parents and Carers/Juniors

- Codes of Conduct –
  - As part of our aim to be a spirited, inclusive, committed, collegiate Club, we want all connected to the Club to enjoy their cricket and the Club atmosphere. The way we all conduct ourselves both on and off the field is key to achieving these aims.
  - We have Codes of Conduct for players, parents/carers and coaches. The Codes for Juniors and Parents are on our website.
  - Please read and live up to them even at times of disappointment and when others are failing to do so. They are so important for maintaining the culture of North Midd and the spirit of the very special game we all love. "Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of Cricket".
- Cricket Etiquette – please observe the following –
  - Please do not walk on the Squares at any time.
  - When a match is in progress, please do not walk behind the bowler when he/she is about to start his/her run up. Wait until the ball has been bowled.
- We are also keen to hear your views and suggestions for how we can improve any aspect of our Club. Of course, we are also receptive to any offers for assistance in implementing ideas too (see below)! If you do have any suggestions, please contact our Parent Rep, Suzy Francis, whose email is [nmcc.parentrep@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.parentrep@gmail.com)

## Volunteering/getting involved

- We are **not** a “drop and run” commercial operation. We rely on as many parents/carers as possible to help run our Club. North Midd works hard to create a supportive and positive environment so that you will enjoy your volunteering.
- To run a successful Junior Section, we always need volunteers. Please do not be shy about coming forward. Unless we have parents willing to help then we will struggle to put out teams. You can help in various ways at matches e.g. with scoring, umpiring, taking the register, being on first aid duty, putting out and taking in stumps, boundary markers and other Club equipment. Previous cricket experience is **not** required.
- At Practice sessions and during matches, our coaches always welcome assistance e.g. to help run drills/warm ups, take the attendance register, scoring, put the kit away at the end.
- Umpiring and scoring evenings are held in the Season for which no prior experience is necessary. Age groups may also have other roles such as Match reporter, photographer, transport co-ordinator, friendly Fixtures Secretary etc.
- If you would like to qualify as a coach or a coach support worker, Middlesex Cricket run courses regularly through the winter months and less frequently in the Summer. We try to notify parents of these but if you need more information please contact Richard Nicoll. Many of our older Juniors find that acquiring a coaching qualification is useful for their personal statement/UCAS Form/Duke of Edinburgh Award. Courses are normally open to Juniors of 16 years and upwards.
- Regular volunteers at the Club aged 16 and over, who have contact with Juniors, are required to have a DBS check. This is a straightforward process which can be done on line. Jeremy Tobias-Tarsh ([jeremygtt@icloud.com](mailto:jeremygtt@icloud.com)) or Richard Nicoll ([nmcc.colts@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.colts@gmail.com)) can arrange for an online application form to be emailed to you and are qualified to verify your required ID.

## Clothing and Equipment (including helmets)

- Cricket whites are encouraged for U8s and above and required for matches. See below about how to buy North Midd playing, practice and leisure wear. For matches we encourage all players to wear a cricket shirt with a North Midd logo.
- All boys require an abdominal guard (aka “a box”) to play or practice with a hard ball. This is usually from U9 and upwards. Other equipment will be provided by the Club, although many boys have their own bats and as appropriate pads, helmet and gloves. Please make sure these and all items of cricket clothing are clearly marked with the member’s name.

- In line with ECB requirements, helmets with a faceguard or grille must be worn by all players who are under 18 when batting against a hard cricket ball in matches and in practice sessions. Young players should regard a helmet with a faceguard as a normal item of protective equipment when batting, together with pads, gloves and, for boys, an abdominal protector (box). Wicket-keepers should wear a helmet with a faceguard when standing up to the stumps.
- The latest British Safety Standard for helmets is BS7928:2013 (for both adults and juniors). For more information on this please visit - <https://www.ecb.co.uk/concussion-in-cricket/helmets>. This ECB note includes guidance on buying helmets.

### North Midd Cricket Clothing

- A range of playing, practice and leisure wear all with North Midd logos can be bought online through our suppliers at : [www.surridgesport.com/north-middlesex-cc](http://www.surridgesport.com/north-middlesex-cc)
- We will have limited stock of white cricket shirts, trousers and caps available for the first few weeks of the season for you to buy at the Club (on Sunday mornings) but after that you will need to order online.
- We have some stock from the previous season that we will also be selling at a reduced price along with some second-hand clothing.

### Buying bats

There is guidance on the website about buying the right size of bat. Here is the link <http://www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk/a/coaching-materials-and-resources-43077.html?page=5>

### Director of Cricket for 2020

- At the end of the 2019 Season, the Club committee decided that the time had come in North Midd's development when we needed to create the role of Director of Cricket to help us ensure that our many coaching and playing activities and projects are co-ordinated and delivered. We were delighted that James Parslow, who has been our outstanding Overseas Player for the past three seasons, took on this role and has been heavily involved in our indoor coaching programmes and other Club matters in recent months.
- James has a Level 2 equivalent coaching certificate and a Sports Science degree. His focus in the coming Season will be on the planning and directing of coaching for the

Juniors, overseeing the transition of junior players into senior cricket (including managing the Under 17, Under 19 and Middlesex Development League teams), organising and running the summer camps (reporting to Mary Cracknell in respect of these important elements of the Club's offering), strengthening the links we have with local schools, co-ordinating the seniors' coaching and recruiting new players to the Club.

### **North Midd Academy and Performance Squads**

- Purpose -
  - To produce 1st XI cricketers for North Midd and potentially County/International players;
  - To develop and retain our best home-grown talent;
  - To integrate the Senior and Junior sections
  - To sustain a "one club" feel
- Overview –
  - A crucial element of our sustainability is the ability to nurture and develop our best young cricketers and prepare them for the challenges of cricket at 1st XI level.
  - This process starts from a young age and is continued as members mature and progress through the youth system and into senior cricket.
  - Whilst North Midd is committed to providing 'cricket for all', it is critical for our future that our strongest young players are given an environment in which to develop their skills above and beyond the general training.
- Academy Structure/Programme for 2020 – a full Academy and Performance Squad programme for selected players has been running indoors throughout the winter. Information about Academy/Performance Squad selection and the for Summer 2019 will be circulated once finalised.
- Please contact the Juniors' Co-Ordinator with any queries about the Academy or Performance Squads on [nmcc.colts@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.colts@gmail.com)

### **Bowling Machines**

- The Club owns one senior and two junior Bowling Machines. During the Season these are normally stored in the storage unit next to the permanent artificial nets.
- These machines may only be operated by someone who is either a UKCC2 or higher qualified coach or by someone authorised by such a coach. A key is required to open the storage unit. Please apply to [nmcc.colts@gmail.com](mailto:nmcc.colts@gmail.com) if you want a key.
- Use of the Machines is subject to compliance with Regulations, a copy of which will be issued along with the key.

## AllStars and Dynamos Cricket 2020

- Over the coming weeks you will see an increasing amount of publicity about these 2 ECB initiatives.
- North Midd have been running All Stars' sessions (for 5 to 8 year olds) since 2018 when ECB first launched the concept. We will be doing so again in 2020 with the sessions starting on Sunday 17 May and running between 11 and 12 noon for 8 weeks.
- North Midd will also be running Dynamos' sessions. These are being introduced by ECB for the first time in 2020. Dynamos is a game-based concept modelled on the new "Hundred" format aimed at 9 to 11 year olds. North Midd's Dynamo sessions will start on Tuesday 19 May and run for 6 weeks between 4.30 and 5.30pm.
- Both All Stars and Dynamos are being run separately from North Midd's own Club programme but North Midd members are welcome to sign up for them if they would like to. For more information (including as to cost) please go to [ecb.clubspark.uk/](http://ecb.clubspark.uk/) and from there navigate to the North Midd site by typing in postcode N8 8JJ. Alternatively go direct to our page at - <https://ecb.clubspark.uk/AllStars/Course/4875cbc6-c0f0-4172-a688-f7a8aaef9c16>