



North Middlesex CC Juniors: Welcome to the 2019 Season



KEY 2019 DATES: Please save them now

Sun 7 April

ECB/NATWEST CricketForce Day at the Midd. Working together to spruce up our ground from 9:30 – free BBQ for helpers.

Sun 14 April

First Outdoor Coaching/Practice Sessions –

Girls – U15 and younger - between 9:00 and 10:20

Boys -

➤ Minis to U11 (incl) between 9:00 to 10:20

➤ U12 to U15 (incl) between 10:30 and 12 noon

All Girls' and Boys' sessions will be at the Midd.

Mon 15 - Thurs 18 April

Easter Cricket Camp – email nmcc.camps@gmail.com for more info on all Camps. Any further Easter Camps will be announced separately.

Tue 28 May - Fri 31 May

Half term Cricket Camp.

Sat 20 July (Provisional)

Mid-season evening BBQ

Sun 21 July

Final Outdoor Coaching/Practice Session

Mon 22 - Fri 26 July

Summer Cricket Camp 1.

Tue 26 Aug – Fri 30 Aug

Summer Cricket Camp 2. Any further Summer Camps will be announced separately

Sun 8 September

End of Season Club Day – 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) 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

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).
 - 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 Middlesex CC. 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 the last three Seasons, our First XI has finished in the top 3 of the Premier League and our Second XI have been champions of the Second XI Premier League each of those 3 years. In 2018 our Third XI were champions of the Third XI Premier League.
- 1st, 2nd 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 see www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk.

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.
- Recent example of our success include one of our former Academy players signing full professional terms with Middlesex CCC. Another played for England Young Lions on their tour of Bangladesh in early 2019. These two players started with us aged 7 and 4. One of our junior girls is training with the England Indoor Women and Girls' squad.

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, 2nd, 3rd and 4th 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 demonstrate 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 above 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 2019 this is Eileen Tay. If you have any suggestions for improving how we do things or would like to become more involved in Club activities, please contact Eileen – her contact details are on the website and in the Fixture Book.
- We are intending to continue to make more use of our website (www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk) in 2019. Emails will be sent to Parents separately on the relevant logistics.

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.
Membership is not complete until we have received both a completed form and subs.
- Subscriptions for 2019 will be at £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).
- 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 2019 Membership Forms with payment info will be emailed to 2018 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 2019**.
- Others wanting to join should email 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.
 - As well as completing a Membership Form, we will also need you to join register on our website, which enables our team coaches to communicate with you on availability and team selection (see further below). However, please note that registering on the website **does not** on its own mean that you are becoming a member of the Club or that you have registered interest in joining. You only become a member after completing a Membership Form and paying the relevant annual subscription.

Age Qualification

- For 2019 this is as follows –
 - Minis – born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2014 – Reception/School year 1
 - U7 – born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 - School year - 2
 - U8 – born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011 - School year - 3
 - U9 – born between 1 September 2009 and 31 August 2010 - School year - 4
 - U10 – born between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2009 - School year 5
 - U11 – born between 1 September 2007 and 31 August 2008 - School year 6
 - U12 – born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 - School year 7
 - U13 – born between 1 September 2005 and 31 August 2006 - School year 8
 - U14 – born between 1 September 2004 and 31 August 2005 – School year 9
 - U15 – born between 1 September 2003 and 31 August 2004– School year 10
 - U16 – born between 1 September 2002 and 31 August 2003– School year 11
 - U17 - born between 1 September 2001 and 31 August 2002 – 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 2019 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 ability 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).
 - 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 is abandoned.

Junior Matches – League entries, selection and fixtures

Overview - In 2019, we will be running at least 14 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 2018 we have entered teams at U9 (1/2 teams); U10 (2 teams); U11 (2 teams); U12/13 (3 teams); 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 and, where relevant, C squads;
 - with limited exceptions (i.e. where one squad has insufficient players to fulfill a fixture), we are not allowed to switch players between squads during the season in league games.
- 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 ability 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 2019 we have entered teams in the MCA Girls U 11, U 13 and U15 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, in 2019, for the first time, 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 see www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk.

Friendly matches –

- Boys U8s and younger age groups will have a programme of internal matches and friendlies with other clubs (using "Incrediballs"). 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 U17 and U19 T20 -

We will enter teams in these competitions.

Fixtures -

Details of fixtures known at the start of the season will be on the website – click on the relevant age Group. They will also be in the Fixture Book, copies of which will be available at Sunday practices – please make sure you take one.

Registering on the website –

- 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 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.
- Important to repeat that registration on the website does **not** mean you become a member of the Club. As stated in the Section entitled “Becoming a Member of North Midd” membership is not complete until we have received both a completed Membership Form and your subs.

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.
 - Dogs are permitted at the Midd (but not inside the Pavilion) but must be kept on a lead at all times. Please clean up if they foul the ground.
- 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 nmcc.colts@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, our coaches always welcome assistance e.g. to help run drills, take the attendance register, put the training kit away at the end.
- Umpiring and scoring evenings are held in the Season for which no prior experience is necessary. Age groups 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. Courses are normally open to Juniors of 16 years and upwards.

- Regular volunteers at the Club who have contact with Juniors are required to have a DBS check. This is a straight forward process which can be done on line. Richard Nicoll can arrange for an online application form to be emailed to you and is 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.
- 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 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). The full list of helmets meeting this standard is available at <https://www.ecb.co.uk/news/79227>

North Midd Cricket Clothing

- A range of playing, practice and leisure wear all with North Midd logos can be bought through the on-line shop on the website - www.northmiddlesexcc.co.uk.
- We will have limited stock 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>

Overseas Player for 2019

- James Parslow, our Overseas Player in 2017 and 2018 will be returning in 2019. James is from NZ where he plays first grade cricket for Suburbs New Lynn CC. He is a highly promising 23-year-old top order batter and occasional bowler. He has a Level 2 equivalent coaching certificate and a Sports Science degree. James will be helping us with coaching and Holiday Camps through the Summer and will be available to give one to one coaching. His contact details will be posted on the website when he arrives in late April.

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 2019 – a full Academy and Performance Squad programme for selected players has been running indoors throughout the winter. Information about Academy selection and the Academy programme for Summer 2019 will be circulated once finalised.
- Please contact the Juniors' Secretary with any queries about the Academy or Performance Squads on 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 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 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.