**FAQ’s for Junior Cricket at Beckenham Cricket Club**

**REGISTRATION & MEMBERSHIP**

**How do I enrol my child at Beckenham Cricket Club?**

Beckenham CC have moved to use Pitchero to register and run Junior Cricket from 2020.

To register yourself and your child go to <https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/beckenhamcricketclub2/> , click **JOIN**, fill in your details (as a parent), set up your password (minimum 8 characters) and click on acceptance of the Terms of Service Consent Box.

Next step you will be asked to “Apply for Roles?” You **MUST** select “Parent” **only** and then click “Next Step”. (If any other box is already checked, you can click on it to remove the check mark.) Now add/select your child(ren) to apply for the Parent Role on the system and select the age group in which they will play (U9, U11, U13, U15/U17).

You will have completed **Stage 1** of Registration and must await approval from the Club before completing Stage 2 (this will be done within 24 hours).

**Stage 2** – you will receive a prompt from Pitchero/Beckenham CC to complete the additional personal details for your child(ren). It is very important this is completed along with emergency contacts names and numbers, your child’s medical conditions and consent to the Terms and Conditions for playing in the Junior Section.

You have completed Stage 2 of Registration and once again, the Club must approve your submission (within 24 hours).

**When do I pay for my child(ren)’s Membership?**

After Stage 2 of Registration is completed, you will be invited to purchase Junior Membership and Coaching on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening. Additional coaching opportunities will be available on the site closer to the start of the season.

**How much is Annual Junior Membership in 2020?**

Annual Junior Membership at Beckenham CC is very competitively priced and varies according to age and whether your child is participating in softball or hardball. In 2020 a combined membership / coaching fee will range from £120 - £160. There is a sibling Membership discount of £10 (for child 2, 3 etc).

**Softball** (boys and girls aged 5 to 11) Reception to Y6 £70

**Hardball** (boys aged 9 to 13) Y4 to Y8 £110

**Hardball** (girls aged 10 to 13) Y5 to Y9 £70

**Hardball (**boys/girls aged 14 to 18) Y9 to 13 £90

**COACHING**

**How much does Coaching cost in 2020?**

Junior Coaching on Sunday mornings in two, 90 minute sessions divided into softball and then hardball players cost £50 for 16 weeks. A further Wednesday evening session for softball and hardball transition players will also cost £50 for 16 weeks.

There will be coaching for specific age groups on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings – more details to follow. Coaching camps during school holidays will be available.

**What other coaching does Beckenham CC provide?**

We provide all year round coaching. Our indoor programme takes place at the Kent Ground on Worsley Bridge Road and runs from late autumn through the winter period from Nov - March. Juniors are also able to access private 1-2-1 sessions from one of our more experienced ECB qualified coaches.

**Does my child need any previous cricket experience to join?**

No, we provide coaching for all levels as part of our Junior membership package from complete beginner to county junior level player.

**Do you offer taster or trial sessions in advance of joining?**

YES. We will happily accommodate children for free, trial sessions to try out and experience the sport if they have not played before prior to making any financial commitment and joining.

**My child is quite a strong player - how will their needs be met?**

In recent years large numbers of talented Junior players (boys and girls) at Beckenham have gained selection for Kent County age group squads and Bromley Area representative sides. There are some very good Junior players at the club to play with and practice alongside. Talented Junior players are also given opportunities to play up an age group in addition to their designated age group where it assists in their development.

The club field six men’s Saturday sides, two men’s Sunday sides and introduced a new women’s team in 2019. We actively encourage and support our stronger and older junior players (13+) onto the pathway to play adult cricket.

**TAKING PART**

**What age do children have to be to join and do you cater for boys and girls?**

We accommodate boys and girls aged 5 upwards through to 18. The Girls section is amongst the largest in the county. All players can access coaching and match play opportunities at the appropriate level.

**How do I know what age group my child should be in?**

Your child’s age group is determined by their date of birth and corresponds to school year.

**When does the Junior Cricket season start?**

The Junior outdoor season usually commences mid/late April and runs through until mid August.

**How many Junior teams do Beckenham CC run?**

In recent years Beckenham has operated more junior teams than any other club in Kent. In 2019 we fielded 16 different teams at U9 (softball), U11, U13, U15, and for the 2020 season we will also be running an U17 team. There are girls only teams at U9/U13 and girls are also encouraged to play in mixed teams alongside boys. For the first time at U11 we aim to field weekly a ‘prioritised’ Girls Pairs team and at U13 a ‘prioritised’ Girls T20 team.

**How do I find out which team is appropriate for my child and how are teams selected?**

For U9/U11/U13/U15/U17 age groups there are identified volunteer personnel who act as Age Group Leads. These should be your initial point of contact. The Age Group Leads work with the Match Managers in each age group to administer squads/teams and selection with guidance and support from coaches.

All team selection and management will be handled via Pitchero and parents will be directed to sign up on the app before the season starts.

**What is the format of Junior matches?**

Softball matches for younger children (U9) tend to be shorter, action packed games of eight overs a side where each player bowls and bats in pairs. Hardball cricket matches for U11 and U13 age groups are 20 overs a side and last approximately 2 hours 30 minutes. U15 and U17 matches are longer format.

**What leagues and competitions do teams play in and when do matches take place?**

Beckenham Junior teams compete in the North Kent Junior Hardball League from U11 - U17 age group and a range of other county and local festivals in U9 and U11 softball. Matches take place between May and July and are played on week day evenings from 5.15pm – 8.00pm; Sunday morning for U15.

**Where are Junior matches played?**

Whilst several home matches will be played at our main ground on Foxgrove Road, home matches will also take place at other locations in the Beckenham/Bromley area. Away matches vary in distance ranging from local opposition on Plaistow Lane for example to grounds in Gravesend, Dartford or Bexley who are in the North Kent Junior League.

**How much does it cost to play matches?**

Beckenham CC Junior Section charges no match fees for team-based summer cricket. Match fees apply for any indoor Junior matches over the winter. Juniors will pay match fees whenever they play up into Senior cricket.

**Is the Club successful at Junior level?**

In recent years Beckenham Juniors have won several League titles and Cup competitions at U11 and U13 level and last year won the NKJL U15 Premier league title. We are also competitive at U9 softball.

**Do Beckenham Juniors play friendly matches?**

Yes – in addition to the league, cup and festival match play opportunities there will also be occasional friendly matches and an increase in intra-club match play provision during and alongside training. We are keen to see as many children as possible experience playing the game.

**Is hardball cricket dangerous?**

No player will get involved with hardball cricket until they are happy and confident to do so. Protective helmets and pads are worn when batting and our expert coaches will train players how to handle the ball. Injuries in cricket are rare and no player without experience is exposed to any danger.

**Can I be sure my child will be well looked after?**

Beckenham CC has coveted Club Mark status. Club Mark is awarded to clubs that have appropriate safeguarding and child protection policies and processes in place. All our managers and coaches are DBS checked and all coaches have attended first aid courses.

**Can my child use the Club’s outdoor training nets at Foxgrove Road?**

In addition to using the nets at organised training sessions as club members you are welcome to come and make use of the nets when they are free. There are some busy times when the adult or Junior teams are practicing, but the nets are available after school most days, weekends, and school holidays.

**EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING**

**What clothing should my child wear for training and club matches?**

It is not essential/necessary for children to wear cricket whites for practice and training, but they can if they wish. Junior players representing the club in league matches are expected to wear whites and ideally a club shirt if possible. Beckenham CC Junior clothing is available on line at Gray Nicolls through the Club Shop at [https://www.gncricketshop.co.uk/BeckenhamCC/\_CSmain.aspx?](https://www.gncricketshop.co.uk/BeckenhamCC/_CSmain.aspx?%20)

**Will children be required to have all their own equipment? Does the club provide kit/equipment?**

For the younger children playing softball, all equipment is provided. Juniors playing hardball will require their own abdominal guard/box but other equipment such as bats, helmets, pads and gloves are provided by the club and available to be used/borrowed during training.

Cooke & Matthews in Chislehurst offer a 10% discount for Beckenham Junior Cricket members and they stock an extensive range of all sports equipment especially cricket.

**GENERAL**

**Are there opportunities to socialise within the Junior Section ?**

Cricket is fun and we are keen to celebrate whenever we can. When the weather permits, we aim to hold BBQs from time to time at Foxgrove Road during home matches. Training on Sunday morning is an opportunity to mingle with other parents and watch the coaches at work with your child(ren). You can also discuss your child’s progress with Age Group Leads, Team Managers and Coaches.

We hold our Junior Cricket Awards at the end of the season in September and it is great to see player and team progress and success celebrated at all levels.

A new Junior Cricket noticeboard will be up in the Clubhouse this season and will feature news, results and updates weekly.

Joining Beckenham Sports Club as a Social Member gives you access to Club bar and restaurant and receive discounts on all drinks and snacks using your Club card for purchases whenever you wish. Pop into the Club and obtain your Club card and pre-loading for £50. It is great value!

**How can I help Junior Cricket?**

We are all volunteers, so any assistance you can provide is always welcome and helpful. We are always seeking parents/carers to help with scoring, umpiring, coaching, and administration. If you are keen to contribute, please get in touch with the Age Group Leads after you have Registered or Emyr Roberts, Chair of Junior Cricket.

**What else goes on at Beckenham Sports Club?**

Beckenham CC is part of Beckenham Sports Club with active tennis, squash, running, hockey, cycling and veterans football sections if you or your family are keen!