

EGHAM CRICKET CLUB JUNIORS – 2020 REPORT

2020 turned out to be a busy year. As soon as lockdown eased in mid-May we offered 1-1 sessions down the club until we were allowed to organise some group coaching on Monday and Friday evenings. Initially these were restricted to groups of 6 plus a coach before further relaxation of the rules meant that we could return to something a bit more normal whilst still following the guidelines in place at the time. Turnout was fantastic from the players with numbers increasing as we welcomed new players to the club. Splitting our training over two nights with the U12s and 14s on a Monday and younger age groups on a Friday proved a great success as this allowed better use of our facilities, space and coaches. We also managed to get an All Stars programme running on Fridays during August for those aged 5-8.

With leagues cancelled we were left to organise our own fixtures and we crammed in 36 fixtures in 7 weeks for U9, U10, U12 and U14 teams. It was great to see the new U10 hardball team take the transition from softball cricket in their stride and with 39 different boys and girls representing the club at U10 and U9 age groups enthusiasm for the game is booming. The U12s really kicked on this year, benefitting from the more focused coaching we were able to offer and we also saw a number of the U14s transition into adult cricket, making significant contributions which is ultimately the aim of the junior section.

After such a busy summer there are obviously lots of people to thank! Everyone who helped coach and provide welfare support on training nights, those that helped run match days, score, run the bar, prepare the ground, all the parents who supported their children and the club as well as the players themselves for making it such an enjoyable summer. Sadly, we have not been able to arrange an end of season awards evening to thank everyone in person but hopefully we will be able to do that soon.

For the winter, it looks as though we will have use of the fantastic new facility at Bishopsgate School and we are currently organising the winter training programme starting in January, the details of which will come out as soon as possible.

It's a great time to get involved with the junior section and to keep up the momentum we need more help in running the programme. We need people to help coach, manage teams, organise events etc. and so if you are interested please let me know. You don't need lots of experience, just an enthusiasm to see our players having a great time.

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