



Surrey County age group round up for 2006

2006 was another broadly successful year for the County's age groups. Pemberton Greenish Surrey Academy Director, Gareth Townsend and Performance Manager, Gavin Franklin, were tremendously happy with the progress of the Club's youth section and offer below a report for each age group from the under 9s through to the under 19s.

Surrey under 9's

Under the guidance of Nigel Holman and Matt Cussans, this hard working squad achieved several outstanding results and managed to win five games, drawing three and losing just one.

In 2006 Surrey became the first county to field a completely under 8's county team. The side played Buckinghamshire under 9's but despite a determined effort, the experience of the older opposition proved too much, as Surrey lost on the day. Nevertheless the ability to put together such a side shows the depth of our age group system at present.

Amongst many fine individual performances, Robbie Hughes dominated the under 9's season with both bat and ball, scoring 250 runs at an average of 62. He was also the side's leading bowler taking ten wickets at an average of 12. He is certainly one to watch for the future.

Surrey under 10's

The under 10's had an excellent season with 11 wins, two draws and only two losses. Once again the strength of the Club's youth squad was highlighted as the under 10's fielded 24 players throughout the season, with a large proportion of the players able to both disciplines.

There were several notable individual performances throughout the summer, however the successes of the side was down to the all round contribution of every member of the squad.

Guy Lancefield spearheaded the side's seam bowling attack bowling with both pace and consistency. He was very well assisted by all-rounder Chris Leith, who backed up his bowling performances scored with valuable runs and electric fielding.

The bulk of the wicket-keeping was shared by two talented all-rounders in Alex Milton and Matt Nolan, who both scored valuable runs and took crucial wickets.



Malvern College hosted a three-day festival, which offered a great opportunity for the side to spend a sustained period of time together both on the field, during practice sessions and matches and also off the field during team meetings and arranged activities. The festival was a great success, demonstrated by strong team performances resulting in three victories from as many games. Nathan Thorpe showed maturity beyond his years, captaining with intelligence. He gained the respect of his team mates through his outstanding batting at the top of the order as well as his level headed approach to controlling team affairs.

Surrey under 11's

Under the management and coaching team of Geoff Richards and John Notton, the under 11's won six, drew seven (the majority of those winning draws) and lost just one game.

Outstanding partnerships at the top of the innings, including 206, 126, 104 and 81, dominated the season for the side. Amongst several notable individual performances, the captain Richard O'Grady finished in a blaze of glory with scores of 89 and 101 not out at the Taunton Festival.

The team's wicket keeper batsman, Matthew Stiddard, continued to impress as he demonstrated his all round ability with three half centuries and some very fine wicket-keeping. Jack Winslade was outstanding at the top of the order as he featured in two century opening stands including the under 11 record opening partnership of 206 against Warwickshire. He also played a part with the ball, taking 12 wickets.

Surrey under 12's

Under the new management of Dave Sheppard and Sid Lahiri, the under 12's won seven and lost three of their fixtures. The side's batting was dominated by Harry Ledger, who scored 309 runs at an average of 44. He was well supported by Matt Davies and talented wicket-keeper, Michael Burgess, who scored 250 runs at 36 and 171 runs at 29 respectively.

Burgess' batting form was rewarded with the fantastic achievement of representing the South of England Under 13's at the Taunton Festival.

The wickets were shared around amongst the bowlers with Adil Sheikh and Rory Snowball fronting the pace attack with 26 wickets between them whilst leg spinners Josh Howe and Matt Packham picked up 17 wickets each.



Surrey under 13's

Malcolm Carter and Richie Risebro managed the under 13's, who had another very good season, which saw them play some excellent cricket in all disciplines of the game.

The side performed brilliantly to reach the ECB Cup National quarter-finals before sadly losing out to Essex. Nevertheless the boys came back strong to secure good wins over Kent, Middlesex, Hampshire and Sussex twice, showing the all-round strength of this squad of players.

Amar Patel and Jack Richards topped the bowling charts with 12 wickets apiece whilst leg spinner, Sam Woods, was close behind with 11. Richards' efforts were enough to see him selected to represent the South of England under 13 age group at the Taunton Festival.

The outstanding batsman of the year was the side's opener Charlie Dennis, who scored nearly 300 runs.

Surrey under 14's

The under 14's were entered into the newly introduced ECB 45-over cup competition, and despite strong victories against Berkshire, Hertfordshire and Sussex, their loss to Kent saw them fail to qualify for the next stage of the competition.

In spite of this setback, the squad of players showed great character and ambition to bounce back and finished the season with four consecutive victories against strong opposition.

There were several notable performances from the players including match-winning scores of 117 and 85 (both unbeaten) by Tom Deasy in two of the ECB Cup fixtures.

Bilal Chohan spearheaded the pace bowling and was ably supported throughout the season by the squad's strong crop of seamers. The individual performances of Bilal and Tom were enough to see them selected for the South of England under 14 Festival which took place at Loughborough University. This season's success was very much down to the contributions of every young cricketer who represented the county and this squad succeeded through team spirit as much as skill.

Shaun Cousens demonstrated great leadership qualities, gaining the respect of his team and captaining from the front at all times with the bat, ball, in the field and off the field, and was a great ambassador for Surrey Cricket.



Surrey under 16's

The Surrey under 16's side, coached by David Gorrod, went unbeaten throughout the season to lift the County Cup. With an exceptional team spirit, the tight united squad performed strongly throughout the year. Fielding a regular team helped build team spirit and allow players to find their roles in the team.

Daryl King led the attack with 16 wickets at 15.63 and was brilliantly supported by Jason Roy and the spin of George Adolphus and Matthew Roberts, who each took nine wickets apiece.

A late addition of Daviel Newton, who scored 310 runs in the last three games without being dismissed, was a true support to Luc Durandt (231 runs at 77) and Seren Waters (254 runs at 63.50).

Surrey under 17's

For the first time in five seasons the under 17's side did not qualify for the National Final. This was disappointing for a team that went unbeaten through the season and were never bowled out when batting. Results beyond the sides control allowed Sussex to acquire more points and go onto the National Final as South Division One winners.

The bowling attack toiled all season and worked hard for their wickets. Stuart Meaker (10 wickets) was outstanding in the early part of the summer bowling with pace and control, however a niggling back injury prevented him from bowling in the last three games.

George Wells, who was playing in his first season for Surrey, contributed in every game and was a committed and hard working addition.

Tom Winslade and Ed Young got 14 and 13 wickets respectively and were the main threat with the ball.

The batting fired all season and we were never bowled out. Jak Martin (364 runs at 60.66) with two hundreds was ably supported by Seren Waters, Ed Young, Simon Barrett, Jason Roy and George Wells. They can be proud of their efforts and could not have done much more.

Thanks to Mike Powell and the coach David Gorrod for their efforts throughout the season.



Surrey under 19's

A very short season with just four two-day games saw our under 19's win two games and lose one.

The wins against Warwickshire and Middlesex were comprehensive and saw hundreds made by Pete Young against Warwickshire and Laurie Evans against Middlesex, where we chased down 430 in a day. The two most consistent players were Young (225 runs in three innings) and Akbar Ansari (162 runs).

In the bowling department Tom Winslade picked up eight wickets, including five for 52 against Hampshire.

For the second consecutive year, the last match against Lancashire was abandoned without a ball being bowled.