

FINDON CRICKET CLUB
CHAIRMANS REPORT 2015

So ends my fifth season as Chairman. Fair to say that this was not one of our more memorable seasons, in terms of success, and results on the pitch led to a lot of negativity off it, which I hope we can eradicate for next season. It's great to see some passion about our on field performance but this has to be tempered with the fact that as a village cricket club we are still playing at a high standard of cricket and as with all sports success is not guaranteed, unless you can afford to buy it. The future success of any sports club comes from within and as proven by our Under 19's this season, our investment in young talent, is key to our future success and is something we will continue to work hard to improve.

Sadly we lost a great stalwart of the club, with the passing of Peter 'Cloudy' Chapman, this year but whilst he left us with many fond memories, he also left us with a lasting legacy. The under 19 team received great support from the Chapman family from their early conception, with Pete umpiring and Sheila scoring. I look forward to his grandsons, Tom and Ben, benefitting from that legacy and I'm sure he will be keeping an eye on them from the celestial 'cobweb corner'.

Player availability does give cause for concern, but this is a nationwide problem affecting cricket and sport in general. Not something that is easy to resolve but we are looking at how best to invest in making Findon Cricket Club the first choice for cricket in the Worthing area. Part of this investment will be seen next season as we are soon to receive a new electronic scoreboard and as part of that purchase we will take delivery of a portable electronic scoreboard that can be used to improve facilities at Hill Barn. Last year saw works completed to improve both patio area's, replacement of the main clubhouse window, (now less draughty in my office), and a new alarm system. The new alarm system being the final work required after the break in from the end of the previous year. Both Eddie and myself were disappointed about the condition of the outfield for last season and work continues to resolve the situation and we both hope for some help from the weather god's, as a long hard cold spell is long overdue.

2017 will mark the 150th anniversary of Findon Cricket Club and next year will involve planning for how best to celebrate the event. Any idea's or volunteers to help organise events would be gratefully received.

Too many to name individually, but a big thank you to all, and I do mean all, members of the committee, managers, coaches, umpires, scorers and everyone else who have contributed to the successful running of the Club this year. Our Vice Chairman and Junior Manager will not be standing for re-election next year and these are both important roles that need to be filled. So don't be shy come along to the AGM and get involved.

With best wishes to you and your families for a happy and healthy 2016.

Gary Howell
Chairman
December 2015