Pontesbury Sports Association – review of 2022

Pontesbury Sports Association

2023 will see changes to the executive committee of the PSA as the Chairman (Roy Picken) and Treasurer (David Wilson) have decided to stand down. Roy and David have served since the formation of the PSA in the mid-1980's – they will be a tough act to follow!

We are currently looking for volunteers to join the SPA committee, which will have many exciting projects to plan for to take sporting provision on in the community forward for many years to come.

<u>4x4</u>

We are looking for a 4x4 to pull our gang mowers around the sports field. An MOT failure would be fine as it would only be used on the field.

During 2022 sporting activities at the Pontesbury Sports Ground (PSG) were able take place unrestricted. These activities included junior football, cricket, bowls and rounders.

Pontesbury CC

<u>Clubmark</u>

We are pleased to report that we have been re-accredited for ECB Clubmark.

<u>Juniors</u>

We were able to run coaching sessions from May through to September staggering sessions on a Monday and adding a session on a Friday evening so we could manage the groups and maximise the opportunity for children to participate. This included boys and girls from 4yrs to 15yrs.

We were able to run the ECB national programmes (AllStars 4-7-year olds and the Dynamos programme for 8-11-year olds). The girls only sessions proved very popular with 18 girls participating in Dynamos.



We were able to field an U13 Girls Softball team which competed in and won the County U13 Lady Taverners Title at Wellington.

We have juniors playing for the County teams (1 x girls U11, 3 x girls U13 and 1 x boys U12)

To support the continued growth of our junior section we now have two more coaches who have just completed their courses this February.



Matches were played during the summer for U11 and U13 against local clubs.

Women & Girls

The Women & Girls section continued to go from strength to strength with over 30 ladies playing softball cricket at the 6-a-side festivals and in our 10-a-side league team.

In 2022 our ladies also launched a hardball team.

<u>Seniors</u>

Shrewsbury and District Evening Cricket League. We ran two teams in 2022, one of which was a development team to introducing juniors to adult cricket.

The Shropshire County Cricket League ran a full programme in 2022. Two teams playing Saturday and one on a Sunday. Availability proved an issue throughout what proved to be a challenging season for all three sides.

County Cricket @ Pontesbury

We continued to host County Age Group games at Pontesbury (in 2023 we will host a boys U12 and girls U13 that will hopefully feature Pontesbury CC players).

In 2022 we staged our first Shropshire Over 50's game.

Walking Cricket

We are exploring funding / additional coach support for piloting Walking Cricket (softball) this summer. This increasing the opportunity of all ages and abilities to participate in cricket.

Pavilion Project

This project to look at making improvements at the pavilion to make sure that it's fit-for-purpose. The Shropshire Cricket Board (ECB) are aware of the intention of PCC to kick-start the project during 2023. We are applying for an ECB County Grant Fund (£10,000) which will help us with phase 1 – the internal reconfiguration of the changing rooms / toilets / showers to create a new changing room for women/girls and juniors. We have received a quote for this for approximately £16,000.

Phase 2 would be to expand the pavilion. The cricket club will engage with interested stakeholders during the coming months to plan the best way forward.

Flooding

We have been fortunate that we have not experienced any significant flooding in the last 12months. A new drainage ditch has been dug around the bowling green which has helped to alleviate flooding on the wood side of the playing field.



Worthen Juniors

In 2022 Worthen Juniors have run boys U12 and girls U12 teams at PSG. Worthen have also launched a ladies team, who have been playing friendlies so far.

For the 2023/4 season Worthen will run the ladies team and a new adult team (mostly U18) from the PSG so the pitch will revert to full-size.

With a ladies football team there is additional incentive to improve the changing facilities.

Bowls Club

Bowls continue to struggle for numbers so are likely to only run two or three teams in 2023 on the PSG green.

Mytton Rounders

The ladies continue to use the PSG and played a full season of fixtures

Tim Barber – Vice Chair Pontesbury Sports Association & Secretary PCC

March 2023