

A quick Recap on the colts' season in 2021:

This year we entered two colts' teams into the Berkshire League at the U9s and U13s age groups. Although results were mixed at this age it is all about enjoying cricket and the feedback I have received from parents and the Team Managers is that the kids loved their cricket and are keen and eager to remain part of Taplow cricket club for next season.

This year we saw a large influx of U9s into the cricket club, this is extremely pleasing to see. As a club we need to ensure we take every step possible to make sure our colts' section continues to be engaged and we continue to grow this as much as possible. As well as providing a pipeline of new players for our senior teams it is also worth emphasising how critical the Friday nights are financially in supporting the ongoing wellbeing of the club.

Following on from this I am also very proud to see James Weston-Kaye, Charlie Badman, Ethan Duckworth and George Price become regular members of our Sunday side and also support the second 11 as and when required. All of these colts have represented Taplow from the U9s so it is great to see them be welcomed into our senior sides, I would like to thank Ben Daghish and Ed Atkins for all their support and making these young adults feel so welcome. They have thoroughly enjoyed their first season with the seniors.

Our current focus for the Colts Season on 2022:

As mentioned previously, we need to ensure we continue to build our support for the Colts Section.

Our first priority will be to establish and allocate our Colts into the relevant age categories in preparation for League Registration in January.

Due to the varying age categories of our Colts this may potentially result in 2 to 3 Colts teams, across both the Berk and Bucks Leagues. Additionally, we need to find and assign Managers for some of our Colts teams, as some of the parents who currently perform this role are not in a position to undertake this role next season.

Another key priority for this season is to assess our coaching requirements for the Colts section. Both Rob and Ed have performed a sterling job this year and I would like to thank them for all their support. However, given the large number of U9s we had join the club this year we need to agree a plan how we can better support them in their coaching roles. One option we are considering is to appoint external coaching from a third-party company. This is currently under assessment and our decision is largely dependent on maintaining our existing coaches (Rob and Ed), gaining commitment from our existing colts that they will re-join the club next year, plus trying to anticipate how many new colts will join for the 2022 season.

Wrap Up

I would like to thank all the Committee members for their support with the Colts section. Primarily due to work commitments I have been unable to attend many Friday evenings or Colts' match days and without their support the Colts' season and Friday nights would not have been successful.

I am looking forward to next season already, thanks again.

Duncan Price
Colts Chairman
16 October 2021