



# CHRISTCHURCH JUNIOR CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## **CJCA Year 7 2024 Review and Preview**

The season just past saw some improvement in the PlayHQ system with better functionality for Club Administrators and there was an improvement in the reliability of the E-scoring side of things.

**The current Year 7 intake** started the season as year 6's in our Festivals (2023) and for many in Saturday Cricket. At Christmas the move the "grace period cricket" for all players rather than "Pairs Cricket" moved players towards more conventional cricket.

We finished the year with 23 teams playing Year 6 Saturday cricket as well as others playing in either the Year 5/6 Super 8 competitions (incrediball) or ahead of their age in older grades.

In January the CJCA had 4 teams participate in the "New Year 7 Festival" at Mandeville which provided a blend of both "Grace Period" and "Out you're Out" Cricket over the three days – many thanks to our volunteer coaches who assisted over those 3 days as the teams played matches against Canterbury Country and a team from Nelson.



This number of teams was down on what we normally see participating in January Festivals and we hope that more players will want to play in the offerings in January 2025 which have recently be scheduled.

In February/March we had our Summer Festival and there were 6 teams participating – again this is down on our normal numbers of 8-10 teams so we hope this will rebound in Spring of 2024 (the next CJCA Festival opportunity). This Festival provided plenty of opportunities for players to develop their skills and get more used to the harsh realities of "out you're out" cricket which once players get used to managing - will stand them in good stead going forward.

## **The Year Ahead**

Planning is well underway for the next 11 months. Pre-season Training registrations will open in June with the year 7 programme running at 3.30pm-5pm on Saturdays (TBC at the Sir Richard Hadlee Centre) and 10.30am-12noon (at the Sporting Edge Centre, Matipo St). This Programme will commence 17<sup>th</sup> of August (Saturdays) and 18<sup>th</sup> August (Sundays) and run for 6 weeks.

## **Spring Festival**



Year 7 Spring Festival will be on the 27<sup>th</sup> of October, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of November so will be concluded before Show Weekend weather dependant. Registrations will open in August.

This Festival is planned to be at Warren Park and will feature 4 20/20 games and a longer format game on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day.

Registrations will close for the January Festivals during the Spring Festival

## **January Festivals**

In January 2025 the CJCA Year 7 (2024) will participate in Canterbury Regional Festivals these will be a 3 1/2 day Festival held at Ashburton between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 (Sunday to Wednesday)

As we seek to be a good member of the wider Canterbury Junior Cricket family it's important that we support going to festivals away from home.

## **Year 8 2025**

Following the 2025 January Festivals current Year 7 boys become Year 8 (2025) boys and their Summer Festival moves to playing on grass wickets most likely at Burnside Park – provisional dates are the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February and the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> of March. The challenge of playing on grass will be new for some but those who have previously participated in January Festivals and the odd time where clubs/schools play on grass on Saturdays they would have already played on the surface that will be used more once players move to Youth Cricket in 2026.

I hope your child has had a positive experience with Cricket as a Junior player and hope that should there have been any roadbumps over the journey that we have been able to smooth these and make your CJCA experience a positive one. We pride ourselves on our openness and hope that should be concerned about anything either at Club/School or Association level that you have the confidence to approach me.

Should anyone require further information about any aspects of Cricket be in Club/School Cricket or CJCA Cricket please get in touch.

Please email me [gm@cica.org.nz](mailto:gm@cica.org.nz)