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**Orpington Cricket Club**

**Development Plan**

**2022 – 2026**

1. **Introduction**

The club was formed in 1848, surviving for 116 years until the end of the 1964 season, at which time it was forced to vacate its private ground at the lower end of Goddington Lane to make way for the construction of St. Olave’s School on the site.  
  
The club carried on for a further year as a nomad side playing all away fixtures. This inevitably led to players leaving and the club ceased to exist between 1966 and 1971. In 1971 under the auspices of the newly formed Orpington Sports Club and another small band of hardy enthusiasts, Orpington Cricket Club was reborn, initially with one Sunday XI playing in Goddington Park until the brand new ground at Goddington Dene became available in May 1972.   
  
Fortunately, several members of the old club re-joined the new and, together with new members, enabled Orpington to fill two sides on both Saturdays and Sundays during that 1972 season. The following season the club commenced playing League Cricket in the North Kent League, of which Orpington was a founder member.  
  
After several seasons, owing to a thriving Colts section, the club began to make its mark on the League, with several league titles won. This success continued when the club joined the South Thames League where once again we won various league titles. Since 1996 the club has been playing in the restructured and open division Kent League. Whilst fortunes have fluctuated, the club currently runs 5 Saturday sides, including 4 playing league cricket, one Sunday XIs and the Colts section continues to thrive with sides in every age group that cricket is played at in Kent.

#### Vision

The Club’s vision is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of cricket.

1. **Mission**

* To foster and promote the sport of cricket at all levels within the community and within the sport, providing opportunities for recreation, coaching and competition.
* To ensure that all members, playing and non-playing, abide by the ECB Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and by the Laws of Cricket.
* To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club by adopting and implementing the ECB ‘Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children’ and any future versions of the Policy.
* To ensure a duty of care to all members of the club by adopting and implementing the ECB Club Inclusion and Diversity Policy and any future versions of the Policy.
* To ensure that all present and future members are encouraged to participate fully in all activities of the Club.
* Orpington Cricket Club provides a safe and welcoming environment where all players are given the opportunity to develop and succeed at the highest level, within our clubs strengths and building lasting friendships.

1. **Strategic Pillars**

**VISION – A proud Community Cricket Club – The Club of Choice within Bromley area.**

Junior Cricket

Club Operations

Member Engagement

Financials

To be recognised as a model club within Kent

To achieve financial sustainability and independence through five years of profitable operations

To have all our members actively contribute towards OCC

To have the best junior / colts section within Kent

To achieve 5 years of top 4 finishes in the Kent Leagues

Senior Cricket

**MISSION – Orpington Cricket Club provides a safe and welcoming environment where all players are given the opportunity to develop and succeed at the highest level, while building lasting friendships.**

**VALUES – Inclusive, Respectful, Committed, Leading**

**Senior Cricket**

Orpington currently run 4 Saturday League Sides and one Sunday Side

Objective: To achieve 5 years of top 4 finishes in the Kent Leagues

Supporting Strategies:

* Create an environment where players want to play their best cricket in the highest teams
* Recruit the right players to strengthen our 1st and 2nd XI Teams
* Develop our talented junior players into playing Senior Cricket
* Retain players across all senior squads

Key Activities

* Improvements to the Net facilities (2022 – 2024)
* Establish Player Pathway Program (PPP) to transition players from junior to senior cricket and provide tailored coaching (2022 – 2026)
* Better recognise player achievements (caps, number of games played, runs, wickets, catches to be shared more regularly) – (2022 – 2026)
* Sunday XI to join a development league (2023 – 2026)
* Promote the mentorship / development of our junior players to train during some of the senior sessions (2022 – 2023)

**Junior Cricket**

Orpington has a thriving colt’s section

5 – 8 Year Olds (All Stars)

8 – 11 Year Olds (Dynamos)

U11’s, U13’s, U15’s and U17’s – All playing league games

Supporting Strategies:

* Expand the colt’s section further to allow more to join
* Encourage more girls to join the colt’s
* Ensure all our colt’s enjoy playing cricket at all ages and have fun
* Ensure parents recognise the value of Orpington Cricket Club

Key Activities

* Establish Player Pathway Program (PPP) to transition players from junior to senior cricket (2022 – 2026)
* Introduce elite coaching sessions (2024 – 2026)
* Establish a club “Fair Play” policy to ensure every player gets a chance to participate
* Strengthen relationships with local schools and other local clubs/organisations.
* Reward players who “bring a mate” to Orpington CC
* Increase the number of qualified coaches – encourage parents to take the courses (2022 – 2026)
* Introduce more girls to join the Colts Section, encourage them to join Dynamos after All Stars and then from Dynamos into Junior Cricket.
* Have a girls’ team playing league games against other local girls’ teams.
* Set up a disability colts’ section, which would require some coaches to take the disability course. (2024 – 2026)

**Member Engagement**

Objective: To have our members actively contribute to our club, including parents from All Stars and Dynamos.

Supporting Strategies:

* Grow and retain our volunteers
* Grow senior and junior participation at functions
* Get to know our members better
* Connect to our great history (175 years in 2023)

Key Activities

* Publish opportunities for members to volunteer and provide training (2022 – 2026)
* Create members handbook which outlines member and club responsibilities to each other
* Hold a member event to encourage some of the long service members to meet new members (Life Members)
* Improve our member database and communication with current and former members.

**Financials**

Objective: To achieve financial sustainability and independence through five years of profitable operations

Supporting Strategies:

* Grow new sponsors with innovative packages
* Retain existing sponsors by showing value and recognising their important contribution
* Increase fund raising from social events
* Access grants to support Club Projects

Key Activities

* Improve sponsorship packages to encourage broader member take up
* Publicly and privately recognise new and existing sponsors.
* Improve facilities for the top pitch (covers, scoreboard, site screens) – (2022)
* Inventory of equipment owned by OCC and complete review required to see if any new equipment is required
* Re-lay matting in nets (2023 – 2024)
* 175 Years Anniversary (2023)
* Increase number of Social members

**Club Operations**

Objective: To be recognised as the model club

Supporting Strategies:

* Provide players with the high standard training and playing facilities
* Provide members with high quality services and clubroom facilities
* Ensure Executive and General Committee succession planning is well planned and managed

Key Activities

* Create Executive and General Committee succession planning guidelines
* Regain Clubmark Certification
* Keep playing membership fees competitive and inline with other clubs in the area.
* Maintain the current standard of the squares
* Offer our pitches for hire to not only increase revenue, but also reputation of the facilities we offer at OCC
* Ensure outfield is maintained to the standard required

**Values**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Member Behaviours** | | |
|  | Players | Parents / Supporters |
| **Inclusive** | * Treat all players as teammates * Introduce yourself to any player you don’t know * Encourage partners and families to attend social events | * Introduce yourself to any member * Support all teams |
| **Respectful** | * Read, understand, and abide by the player code of conduct * Openly show appreciation to the opposition and umpires * Ensure all changing room facilities are kept in a clean and tidy manner | * Appreciate that the coach is a volunteer and assist them where possible |
| **Committed** | * Work hard at training and in games * Warm up prior to games * Go beyond what is asked of you * Attend social functions and support off field activities | * Encourage to attend social functions * Assist during matches and coaching sessions |
| **Leading** | * Lead by example * Be proactive at training and games * Don’t be afraid to share you experience | * Be the first to put your hand up to assist * Take the initiative to encourage other parents to participate in club activities and attend social events |