

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Kinross CC - from a dying to a thriving club and trained scorer team in 4 years
- ACU&S Challenge 2007 - answers and summary from John Brown (page 3)
- Adverts & useful addresses (page 4)

The newsletter can only be successful if it receives copy for publication from scorers. Please submit articles, letters and questions to notchers@btopenworld.com

Notchers' Newsletter

ISSUE 1

JULY 2008

The network for scorers

Following the demise of ACU&S many scorers commented that they would miss 'How's That?' and would like the opportunity to keep in touch with other scorers.

This newsletter is *your* forum for sharing news and experiences, discussing scoring issues and networking.

EDITORIAL

When I sent out my last e-mail as Chairman of the ACU&S Scorers' Board I didn't expect such a big response to the invitation to sign up to an e-newsletter.

Scorers count. The match result, newspaper report, end of season statistics and club & league awards are only available because the information has been recorded by the scorers.

Cricket needs scorers.



THE KINROSS CC SCORER TEAM

Back row: Kim Tree and Debbie Weir
Front row: Julie Farrar, Kirsteen Ross and Amanda James

Scorers need training.

ACU&S Scorer exams stopped in April 2008 with the Kinross CC Scorers amongst the last to take an ACU&S scorer examination.

What next? Do you have any thoughts?

For ECB ACO and IICUS training information visit their website (see the last page for addresses).

Details will be published in the newsletter as available.

Kinross CC - developing cricket and scoring

by Kirsteen Ross, Kinross CC Club Secretary, Ladies Team Coach and ECB Level 2 Scorer

11th March 2004

My husband John and I saw a notice for an AGM on that evening for Kinross Cricket Club. We had lived in Kinross for 10 years but were travelling 15 miles to what we thought was our local club!

John went to that meeting and was surprised when the first item on the agenda was discussion as to whether or not the club should be folded having only £15.94 in the bank and 8 playing members! The committee were delighted when John said that he and our two sons, then aged 10 and 11, would be interested in playing - great news as the club had a team again!

October 2004

John was elected club captain and we set about drawing up plans to take the club forward. We believed that a junior section would provide long term sustainability and growth for the club but we were met with significant scepticism.

"Who would do the coaching?" "The kids would just be a nightmare", "Nobody would be interested", "Hadn't they tried for years to recruit new players". And so the objections went on

BUT, by a slim majority, the committee backed our plans. Now we *had* to make this work! We persuaded as many of the men in the club as possible to come along and do a bit of coaching.

12th April 2005

Eight children turned up to the first night of junior training - we almost had a team! We asked them to bring their friends and by the end of the summer we had 58 children attending each week with 3 men having undertaken the ECBI coaching course.

We managed to book our local high school for weekly indoor winter coaching and by the start of the 2006 season we realised that we had found some talented junior players. We entered the junior leagues at under 13 and under 15 level as well as entering a men's team in the Sunday league.

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We thought we had nothing to lose so entered our junior teams in Scottish Cup tournaments.

Things just got better and better. By the end of the season, we had 90 junior members and our under 13 team had won the Scottish Cup and come runner's up in the Northern UK finals effectively making us the 2nd best team from Midlesbrough, North.

At the end of 2006 we realised that the 15 year old worn and ripped artificial pitch on a muddy Council owned Public Park that doubled up as a football field was no longer suitable. The grass was cut fortnightly and after rainy football matches we were literally ankle deep in mud – the park was not called “The Myre” for nothing! We had to find a new ground.

Local Laird, Sir David Montgomery heard of the club's plight. He had played for Kinross Cricket Club as a teenager, loves cricket and his family are passionate about making Kinross-shire a great county. Impressed with the work the club did with the local children and teenagers, the Montgomery Family suggested we relocate the club to the county pitch size lawns in front of the beautiful, Sir William Bruce designed 17th century, Kinross House.



Kinross House and Cricket Ground

This proved a very busy time for the club; buying and building a new pavilion, planting new grass wickets and laying artificial practice and match surfaces. With the work completed, the ground was officially opened in June 2007.

By the end of 2007 we had won the U13 Scottish Cup again as and the U15 Cup and now had 120 junior members.

I now had a new mission – to improve the quality of the scoring at the club

It was becoming apparent that certain skills were lacking in the club, particularly that very important task of scoring. Everyone filled in the books differently. Some used symbols, some scored every ball and some scored only runs scored by batsmen. The books were often inaccurate and compiling statistics for the year end prizes was becoming a nightmare. I now had a new mission – to improve the quality of the scoring at the club.

I needed to find people who regularly attended matches at the different levels within the club to ensure all the age group games would have scorers. Who better to ask but mothers!

Some of us had a reasonable knowledge while others were new to the laws of cricket. All showed great enthusiasm to learn and take the club on to the next level of excellence and ACU&S offered the perfect solution to our learning needs – scoring courses by correspondence. We contacted Peter Danks and Cathy Rawson and enrolled two members of our new scorer team on the introductory and three on the standard level course. We purchased copies of Tom Smith's book (we'd never heard of this book before). Wow! What a revelation and what debates this started. Aspects of games played in the past were debated to establish whether the games had been correctly

scored and something new and exiting was awoken. There was more to this scoring than keeping the scoreboard up to date. We trainee scorers studied hard and regularly submitted our scoring tasks and score sheets for marking. We tried to learn those Laws of Cricket that related to scoring, struggling along the way at times to understand those quirky points of law that tested us greatly – “When exactly does a ball not count as one in the over? We met regularly and exchanged lots of emails and had lots of fun. In April 2008 we undertook the ACU&S scoring exam. We were all really nervous and we had an anxious wait for our results. But what a happy day – 2 weeks later we heard by email that we had passed.

We now can boast:

- 19 qualified coaches coaching 150 children.
- Every match is now scored by one of our trained scorers.
- Score books are meticulously completed.
- Statistics are easily obtained and updated each week and pinned on the club notice board.
- Balls received by all batsmen plus wide deliveries really do equal balls bowled by all the bowlers.
- Children and teenagers appreciate the work of the scorers, and captains, coaches and players thank us for our time.
- Many of the youngsters are taking a real interest in how the score book is filled in.

I know that the future of scoring at Kinross CC will be secure for quite some time to come.

So what next? I feel a new mission coming on ... the standard of umpiring in junior cricket is mixed to say the least. I wonder what I can do about that

Some questions and observations from John Gothard:

How do you feel about scoring alone? Are you expected to complete both books during play?

Are there many Leagues where scorers are mandatory?

At grass roots level club/team scorers are sometimes a rare breed.

No surprise there are anomalies with the score when the book is handed from one player to another.

As a player I was happy to score (rather than umpire) but your knowledge of the Laws has to be almost as good as that of an umpire.

At a local match I attempted to check the score with the opposing scorer by saying "81 for 4 off 22 overs?" to receive the response "Have you got a light for my fag, mate?"!!!!

It might be handy for a sheet to be issued to all clubs - via their County Boards on the rudiments of scoring.

Sometimes one feels marooned. Where is everyone when it comes to putting the numbers on the scoreboard - unless it looks like being a close finish when there is usually no shortage of volunteers!

We do not all have the advantage of a scoreboard.

what about scorers own insignia-anybody any ideas on that-matter of recognition?

ACU&S Christmas Challenge 2007 Report

I was delighted to receive 81 entries to this year's Challenge, once again a higher number than for several years. Whether the Challenge can continue into the future remains to be seen. For the third successive year Hilary White sent the first entry I received (20th November). John Betts (21st November) was the next to arrive, and then there was a late flood in mid-January.

There were more all-correct entries than in previous years, possibly an indication that the questions are easier, but I prefer to think that entrants are becoming wiser and more knowledgeable. There were 38 all-correct entries, although some of these were helped by the Third Umpire's kindness in judging (see notes below).

The preferred solution is as follows:

	Scratchers	Nottchers
1	17	143
2	101	4
3	9	21
4	3	0
5	45	5
6	8	3
7	1	5
8	10	47
9	37	0
10	8	0
11	1	1
Extras	<u>10</u>	<u>6</u>
	250	235

Result: Scratchers XI won by 15 runs

As always there were some questions which caused more difficulties than others: perhaps the most interesting was Notchers 6. The bowler's end umpire had called and signalled Wide Ball while his colleague had called and signalled No Ball, and the ball had gone on to cross the boundary. The bowler's end umpire should repeat his colleague's No ball signal, then signal Bye to show that the striker had not hit it, followed by Boundary 4, so the scorer would be required to answer three separate signals.

Some entrants explained that they would signal Revoke the last signal (Wide ball) to clarify the situation for the scorers. Although not strictly necessary, I felt that I could not argue with this, so I allowed the answer 4 (even for those people who had not sent an explanation). Even so, there were still 11 entrants who had this question wrong. Scratchers 9 (12 errors), Scratchers 11 (11 – no additional runs can be scored from No Ball if the batsman deflected the ball with his pad without playing a stroke – Law 26.3), Notchers 3 (11), Scratchers 3, Scratchers 8, Notchers 8 (7 each) and Scratchers 4 (5) were the only other questions which caused five or more errors. I hope that, with a closer look at the question and the law book, all will become clear.

As always I send my thanks to all who have sent in their entries, and especially to those who sent letters and/or greetings with friendly and/or challenging comments.

The names of the 38 correct solvers (Vic Allen, Mike Archer, IK Batty, Simon Batty, Doug Beebe, John Betts, Keith Brighton, Colin Campbell, Robert Chance, Colin Cordill, Jonathan Davidson, Paul Derbyshire, Keith Ebdon, M Elango (India), David Fern, Robin Ford, John Goodwin, Paul Graver, Wendy Hardy, Cyril Jones, Dave Kirk, Derek Laud, Cliff Loverock, Alan Luckes, Norman Moore, Paddy O'Hara, M Oliver, JH Parsons, JF Sous, Garry Rank, Brian Shepherd, Rory Slater, G Smalley, Nick Szkutko (Australia), Mike Tandy, Hedley Thorne, Derek Watkinson, and one with no name [postmark – Jubilee Mail Centre KT & TW?]) have gone into the Umpire's hat and the winner has been drawn at random at a meeting of the Scorers' Board on 20th January.

This year's winner of a £20 book token is **Cyril Jones (Peterborough)**.

I send my best wishes to all solvers, whether old or new, and hope that 2008 will be a wonderful year for you all. May the Spirit of the Game be paramount!!

Publication of "How's That?" ceased before the results of the ACU&S Christmas Challenge were available.

John M Brown has kindly provided the challenge answers and names of the successful entrants

ACU&S CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

More than thirty Crossword entries were submitted and the winner was PC Diprose (Emsworth, Hampshire)

Unusual score book entries

Lorna Piper recorded 'Red Arrows stopped play'

Playing on East Hill, Hastings, play was paused when the smoke from the Red Arrows display along the seafront meant I could not see the pitch! The League rules demanded five hours play so I had to record the length of the interruption!

Kevin Hutchinson (Thorner CC) reports a first for him:

Ground problems caused us to have to play on a public park. All was going well until I received the message " the park rangers want two of your players vehicles moved "

WHAT'S A SCORER TO DO?

At the end of the over I trotted out to the umpire with a "sorry sir but I need to borrow the Square Leg and Gully" Its possibly the only time I'll ever record the reason for a delay in play as " Vehicle Removal ", It set me wondering.... there must be lots of other unusual reasons for stoppages ?

Newsletter 'house-rules'

- The newsletter is open to all with an interest in cricket scoring
- The newsletter can be shared with other scorer colleagues
- Membership of organisations is not required
- The newsletter is free and will be circulated by email. Anyone wanting postal copies will have to submit A5 self addressed envelopes at standard postal rates (not large letter rates)
- It is **not** a forum for moans about the demise of ACU&S, about ECB ACO or about IICUS etc.
- Items will be moderated if necessary

It is for you to:

- share scoring news and items of interest related to scoring, score boxes, appointments and anything else you feel will be of interest to colleague
- ask questions related to scoring
- to make observations on what you feel scorers need

Remember this is a newsletter for scorers.

It and can only be produced if scorers write a little something to provide the necessary copy. More is needed for the next issue.

USEFUL EMAIL ADDRESSES

England and Wales Cricket Board Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO)
<http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/ecb-association-of-cricket-officials/>

International Institute of Cricket Umpires and Scorers
<http://www.umpires.tv> (For scorer specific information email scorers@umpires.tv)

Notchers' Newsletter notchers@btopenworld.com



Correspondence course

Cathy Rawson's commitment to affordable scorer training, including correspondence courses, did not die with ACU&S. Scorers who subscribed to the ACU&S standard level course are being mentored to conclusion of that training package.

The course is undergoing a re-write as it is now run independently and is open to anyone wishing to learn more about cricket scoring. The high standards set by ACU&S will prevail.

The (not for profit) course fee remains at £15.00 and details are available from Cathy.rawson@btopenworld.com

Provision of an independently run exam (on similar lines to the ACU&S exams) is under discussion. Unlike ECB ACO or IICUS examinations it will not offer accreditation but will allow scorers to recognition in that they have achieved the same level of skill and competency as another scorer in another part of the UK (or the world).

Your thoughts on independent examination (and any implications) are welcomed

MILLENNIUM SCORING RECORD

The A3 scoring record originally designed by members of the ACU&S Scorers' Board

Binder and 50 sheets (= 100 innings) £20 + P&P

Refill pack of 50 sheets £10 + P&P

For further details email milsteadmsr@btinternet.com

Total Cricket Scorer

An easy way to score and analyse matches with comprehensive statistics, and even control your electronic scoreboard

To download your free trial copy, or for more information, please visit our website:
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As used at Lord's

ACUMEN BOOKS



For books, scoring equipment or to access the Bulletin Board visit the Acumen Books website at

www.acumenbooks.co.uk

Thanks to everyone who submitted copy for this issue. If your contribution didn't appear in this issue please be assured that it has been saved for a future issue.

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