



Memorial Playing Field  
Longwood Lane  
Failand  
Bristol  
BS3 3TQ

April 2020

Dear OBWCC member,

I hope you are well and are not getting too bored with staying indoors as a result of the measures that have impacted us all in these highly challenging times.

I wanted to write to you with a quick update from myself and the committee to keep you informed of what we are being told about the prospects of playing cricket this summer, the clubs finances and some "events" we are looking at putting together while we are unable to gather.

I'll start with the club finances as I wanted straight away to express my gratitude to all of you who have sent subscriptions and donations over the last week or so. To give you a bit of background; to keep the club running this year, our treasurer has estimated that we will need approximately £10,500 in order to meet our costs which include the rent of our ground, match balls which we are committed to pay for and various insurances and league subscriptions. While we do maintain some reserves, we rely heavily on the income from membership subscriptions, which we ordinarily look to collect in the run up to the first game of the season, to get us through the year.

As a committee we held our first Zoom meeting on the 23rd March and discussed whether we should approach our members given that we didn't know how much cricket we could offer you this year. After that meeting the captains put out a soft message to capture whether or not this might be supported and if so to then put a more formal approach together. Since then a total of 51 of you have sent money to the club, this includes new recruits who haven't even played a game for the club yet and members who won't be playing this year but maintain close friendships at the club. We have already received 65% of the subs we took in last year! This is just phenomenal, I cannot thank you enough and it gives me great heart that the enjoyment you get from your cricketing weekends with OBWCC is important enough for you to support in these testing times.

Any further subscriptions will be welcomed with the sincerest of thanks but if you feel that you are unable to pay a full subscription at this time, please consider supporting the clubs other fund raising activities such as the bonus ball competition which I understand now just has 3 balls available for selection (please contact Will Penny at [will\\_penny@hotmail.com](mailto:will_penny@hotmail.com)).

With regards to cricket, we are receiving multiple emails from the ECB, the leagues and the county boards reinforcing the message that you will all have heard by now that all cricketing activities are suspended until further notice. Bristol Grammar School shut its sports hall to us so indoor nets haven't taken place since the 15th March and the only date we can align to at the moment is the 28th May which is the date the ECB provisionally gave for the 1st Class game to resume. Personally I

believe we will be looking at a longer period before we will be back out at Failand but as things stand all adult league competitions and junior programmes are still looking to be completed in some shape or other. We will let you know more when government and ECB guidance is received.

Some of you will be aware that this season marks the 25th anniversary of the merger between Old Bristolians Cricket Club with Westbury on Trym Cricket Club. Those of you who attended last year's presentation evening may recall that we were planning a dinner to mark this occasion that we were originally planning to hold last month. As events have taken over, this event has been rescheduled and I would like you to mark your diaries for the 5th September as this is the date we have provisionally set to now bring this to you. This is of course dependent on whether social distancing rules have been relaxed so we will be keeping this under review and the event will not take place if there is any danger that covid-19 could still have an impact on our health.

Other events that the committee are looking to bring to you over the coming weeks and months are a quiz night (via the internet of course), a raffle and we will still try and schedule the annual golf day in October/November. With regards to the abovementioned raffle, the committee are looking to put together a hamper of goods and services for the winner so if you feel that you have anything you might be able to contribute please contact Stu MacArthur (stumac\_696@hotmail.co.uk, 07881 247140) or Jon Sheeran (jcsheeran@yahoo.co.uk, 07739 755536). Further details will follow.

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to seeing you all once this is all over. Until then, look after yourselves and your families and should you have any questions, please contact me on 07718923340 or at rossdallimore@hotmail.com

Yours faithfully,

Ross Dallimore  
Chairman  
Old Bristolians Westbury Cricket Club.