

## **THE COBHAM AVORIAN'S CRICKET CLUB**

### **2007 pre-season report**

The Cobham Avorians are looking forward to an exciting season after gaining promotion to the Surrey Championship Premier division, the top level of club cricket. Many changes are being made to the club including the re-building of the clubhouse by, friend of the club Andrew Beaumont's business, Runnymede Homes and the proposed laying of two artificial surface nets. Many local businesses have been approached seeking support towards funding these projects.

The club once again has wonderful support from major sponsors but is still looking for any company that is interested in becoming involved in one of Surrey's emerging community conscious cricket clubs. If you are interested contact Steve Lewis on (e-mail).

On the field it's a massive year for the club with both First and Second X1's gaining promotion last season. Cricket Chairman, Andy Bell, believes "We have a strong squad but probably lack a bit of depth. Any local young players who believe they could play at this level but may not achieve it where they are currently should look at The A's. There are definitely a couple of spots up for grabs."

This year's First X1 captain will again be Jeremy Hinds. After last years exiting and successful campaign Australian Mark Higgs of Canberra Comets has been invited back as the overseas player and the nucleus of last years side are staying together. Hinds commented that "Higgsie has been over twice before and each year we have gained promotion to the top division and he has topped the division run scorers each time. We know we are guaranteed a serious amount of runs at over a run a ball and he has the ability to take important wickets." Higgs had many seasons with New South Wales and South Australia and has a couple of full Australia One Day caps.

In support of last years leading batters, Auri Basu, Paul Pritchard and bowler Scott Jarvis, the 2006 Player of the Year, are seasoned all rounder's Graham Crawford, Robbie Arthur and Andy Umpleby.

Hind added "We have a stronger side than last season and are delighted to have brought to the club Berkshire Minor Counties star Steve Naylor and young wicketkeeper Ben Kingsnorth who has just returned from a winter playing down under. The league season starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May against Dulwich and we will be ready."

Two year's ago the colt's section was formed with great success, Colts academy manager Darren Talbot will be holding coaching sessions again this season every Friday evening with the help of his coaching staff and first and second team members. The colts will again be sponsored by "Fuel for Kids" and the club will continue to

have the sponsorship of among others, Chantry Estates, Invesco Perpetual, Skandia Life, Melon and Norwich Union.

Any one interested in joining Cobham Avorians as a player or supporter should simply contact the club. Details are on the website which includes all fixture lists, results and general information about your local club. Check it out on [www.avorianscc.co.uk](http://www.avorianscc.co.uk)