

**Tynedale Cricket Club**  
**Men's Playing Report 2021**

**Trophies Return to Priors Flat!**

The 2021 season was a huge success for Tynedale Men's 1st and 2nd XI's, both individually and collectively.

The 2nd XI completed the League & Cup Double. In their first season in Division 4 the 2nd XI cruised to promotion with 15 wins and only 3 losses to confirm promotion to Division 3 by 56 points. Alongside their league success they also lifted the William Birkett Cup defeating four teams along the way including two Division 3 teams.

A good mixture of youth and experience in the second XI, with nearly all coming through the Tynedale junior system built a fantastic team environment through the season. Well led by Captain Ben Griffiths their success saw the team nominated for Adult team of the year at the Sport Tynedale sports awards.

Captain Ben Griffiths led the batting with 563 runs across the season. Well supported by the returning Craig Barber 510 runs and Paul Scandle 425 runs. Under 16s Will Marrow 314 runs and Archie Fletcher 228 runs continued their development through senior cricket. When available Richard Brooks 315 runs and Matthew Percival 222 runs added expertise in the middle order. When called up on David Holt also played some crucial innings including a match winning 58 in the first game of the season v Percy Main.

Junior Will Marrow was also excellent behind the stumps with 23 victims, finishing top of the dismissals across Division 4.

The successful season was built on a very strong bowling attack. Dan Toward 49 wickets @ 10 and Archie Fletcher 47 wickets @ 9.96 led the way and finished as the top two wicket takers in the league. Well supported by Ben Cuthbertson 38 wickets, James Percival 22 wickets, Craig Barber 17 wickets and Mark Clark 13 wickets.

Juniors Ted Fletcher, Adam Newton, Zak Old, Finn Peter and Nico Sykes all played their part at various times of the season.

The 1st XI lifted their first trophy since 2014 when they won the Roy Coates Cup Final in a dominant display v Hylton CC having defeated North East Premier League side Philadelphia earlier in the day in the semi-final. Entering five cups the first XI made it to four finals. Defeats v NTCL Champions Consett in the Eric Topham Trophy and last over heartbreak v NEPL side Newcastle in the Northumberland Cup were hard to take. The Thomas Wilson Cup Final v Morpeth will be played in 2022 having been rained off three times.

Defeating NEPL sides Benwell Hill, Philadelphia and Shotley Bridge in various cups saw the potential in the team. The one cup disappointment was the defeat v Benwell Hill in the Tyneside Charity Bowl QF. 18 cup games played at venues as far away as Evenwood and Durham City saw the commitment from a talented group.

Finishing in 6th place in the NTCL Division 1 will be seen as a slight disappointment, a slow start with two defeats and a poor ending with two defeats as the team tired ultimately cost the side a higher place finish. A two-wicket defeat and three run defeat v Champions Consett also showed how the team can go on to push for more trophies. The first XI however did pick up the Colin Albone Trophy for scoring the most runs (3,350) in Division 1.

The batting was led by Tom Cant in his ninth full season as Captain. With 1756 runs across league and cups from 34 innings at an average of 67.54 with 16 50s and 3 100s. 56 wickets @ 15.39 with 21 catches and 2 run outs showed his invaluableness to the team. He now sits in 6th place (batting) and 7th place (bowling) in the club all time stats. His performances were rewarded at the NTCL presentation when he was voted the Division 1 Players Player of the Year.

James Rainford 733 runs, Dan Parker (645), Sam Mannion (524) and Ollie Fletcher (447) supported the Captain. Euan Stephenson chipped in with some powerful cameos and Jamie Crichton excelled in his role at the end of innings. Crichton behind the stumps with 40 catches and 8 stumpings was excellent all season and finished top of the dismissals in Division 1.

With the ball young seamers Matthew Scott 58 wickets, Sam Peter (46), Nathan Byerley (45) and Jake Robson (37) all developed as the season went on. Scott was rewarded with the Bowler of the Year trophy at the NTCL dinner.

Tim Raglan on his return to the club mid-season showed his worth with both bat and ball and will no doubt become a main player in 2022. Youngsters Archie Fletcher & Ted Fletcher also showed their talent with the ball and will continue to push for a regular place in coming seasons.