

Mens Playing Report 2022 Season

The 2022 season like the 2021 season saw silverware lifted at Priors Flat. The 1st XI were crowned the NTCL Division 1 Champions after a last day win v Alnmouth & Lesbury as Newcastle City were rained off at Swalwell. The 1st XI also retained the Roy Coates Trophy defeating Lanchester in a final reduced to 10 overs due to the rain. The 2nd XI in their first season in Division 3 after Promotion in 2021 finished in a respectable 9th place, full strength they were a match for any of the top sides but suffered from unavailability regularly.

From a personal point of view it was one of the hardest seasons to turn 22 players out on a Saturday, a lot of time was spent by 2nd XI Captain Ben Griffiths in chasing players and asking players to play. A number of thank yous to people who stepped in for either the first or second XI's at the last minute both junior and senior! Cup availability was again mixed and the 1st XI who have had a strong Cup record in recent years and despite the Roy Coates Trophy win exited a number of the other cups at an early stage.

The 1st XI as already previously mentioned had a fantastic season overall, built on homegrown talent alongside the excellent addition of Deon Billington. The runs were shared throughout the side, which is a major factor for the 1st place finish. Five players scoring 100s and eight players scoring 50s. Special mention to Ollie Fletcher and Tim Raglan for scoring their first 100s, in particular to Ollie having come so close previously and to Euan Stephenson who's unbeaten 100 in the 10 over final will live long in the memory. Like the runs wickets were shared, the depth of the side helping to get over the line in a number of tight finishes. Archie Fletcher in his first full season in the first XI stood up to replace Matthew Scott who left for Burnopfield and Sam Peter also enjoyed a breakout season.

The 2nd XI in Division 3 for the first time competed throughout, wins against runners up Warkworth and 3rd place Benwell & Walbottle showed the potential in the squad. Junior Will Marrow had a fantastic season with the bat to finish with 539 league runs scoring 2 100s. Dan Toward with 29 wickets finished as the leading wicket taker. A number of departures will see a slightly different 2nd team take to the field in 2023 and we wish those who have departed well at their new clubs.

The under 18s and 19s competed in both Northumberland & Durham Cricket Board ran competitions, these fixtures were used as extra match practice for those playing senior cricket and to give under 15s a challenge against older opposition. The under 18s will be replaced by the NEPL 3rd XI in the 2023 season, greater flexibility of playing adults will help turn out teams but also give the juniors on the field some extra support as they learn their trade.

As always a huge thank you to everyone who scored for the seniors in 2022. We are short of scorers and the 2nd XI did suffer a points loss for one game. As well as turning out two sides regularly in 2023 finding two scorers every Saturday will be a challenge.

More thanks this time to the ground staff who make Tynedale CC one of the best places to play and bat in the North East. Finally, to Craig, Clare and their staff who provided excellent teas and bar service and to the Committee members who provide help behind the scenes.

The 2023 season if like the 2022 season will be tough and challenging, not just for Tynedale but a number of clubs. Recruitment has been slow and it is imperative all sections and committees of Tynedale CC come together to make 2023 a success.

Tom Cant