

AUCC Coach/Manager Briefing Evening Years 2-4, Tuesday 4th October 2011

Introduction – RW

- Thanks for coming
- Introduce self, CB, NF, any Grade Convenors present
- Introduce Marc Ellison as JCC
- Intro Wendy and Julie
- Programme for evening

General Club matters - CB

1. Introduce Grade Convenors present.
2. Our junior playing numbers are at 632 – 16 up on same date last year.
3. Use AUCC website for all information:
 - General and grade info
 - Calendar – start and end dates
 - Club events
 - Draws, grounds, cancellations
 - Link to Club Stats System
4. Club Stats Recording – ClubGroups for the 2nd season. Some minor upgrades and improvements – including # of games played for AUCC. We will be running a training session – details later.
5. Friday night cricket – years 3 and 4 will play some of their games on Friday evening with games starting at 4.45pm. Y3 should be finished by 7pm and Y4 by 7.30pm. Games will alternate each Friday between Colin Maiden Park (our grass pitches on Block E) and Bloodworth Park on Shore Road (artificial wickets). Youth coaches can be in attendance at the first few to ensure games start on time. We want to encourage a picnic atmosphere at venues. We plan to trial a BBQ and cans of drink for sale.
6. We are planning some Friday night “Junior Club Fun Nights”, with our Premier players in attendance to coach and take the players for games whilst parents relax in the clubrooms. Nov 11th and Feb 18th.
7. Sponsors
 - Top Catch are our principal sponsor – located opp Pak ‘N Save
 - Welcome back Barnes Jenkins Insurances
 - Joined by New World Stonefields, Gough Materials Handling – distributors for Hyster Lift Trucks
 - Welcome to Travel With Kidz – specialists in family travel
 - Champs closure – brings in Kookaburra and Score Sportswear (Samauri and Lotto branded sportswear)

Please support our sponsors at every opportunity you get! Links to their websites are on ours.

8. **Playing shirts and caps** – available from here this season – dates and times on our website.
9. **Aces schedule** – starts Nov 29th with a 4-dayer, then 1-dayers in Dec before HRV T20 starts on Dec 18th. There are 5xT20 games in Dec/Jan (all televised), 1 dayers in January and 4-dayers in February. Tickets for the HRV Cup T20s will be available from the Club and mean we get a commission from Auckland ticket, so please make your purchases via the Club. It costs no more buying tickets this way!

Coaching Support this Season - NF

1. All Team Coaches should have attended the Have-A-Go cricket coaching course. If not previously, you can attend this season on either Wednesday 19th October or Thursday 27th October. Course is from 6.30pm till 8.30pm, venue TBC. Email invitations will follow shortly. A valuable course and a valuable written reference manual is given out, which should be used to run practices and impart the learning points of skills.
2. Group coaching session will be run on Monday afternoons by Junior Coaching Team. All year 2-4 players invited. Intended to be complementary to team practices, not to replace them. Focus is on skills-based exercises and drills rather than games
3. Year 2, 3 and 4 teams will get 1 or 2 visits to team practices over the season by a club coach from the junior coaching team - if we know when and where you are practicing each week.
You may practice at your local school or at Colin Maiden Park (but do not practice on the grass wickets.) Richard will contact you to ask for your team practice time and venue.
4. When you have a Friday game scheduled at Bloodworth Park or Colin Maiden Park and you cannot get parental help to start the game, we will endeavour to arrange a club coach to help start the game. Draws will be posted at in advance so you can plan for your Friday game (i.e. so you can arrange to be there early, and plan what to do with a free Saturday!).
5. Coaching team –
See the web page <http://www.aucc.co.nz/juniorcoaching.php>
Junior Coaching Director – Nigel Fletcher
Junior Coaching Coordinator - Marc Ellison
Others available for private coaching include L2 and L1 trained coaches - refer first inquiries to Marc Ellison and he can discuss the appropriate coaching solutions with you.
6. Coaches use resources – there are club run and Auckland Cricket run CACT courses <http://www.aucklandcricket.co.nz/Coaching-a-Cricket-team/0,27121,112132,00.html> ; Auckland Cricket runs a modular Level 1 programme

http://www.aucklandcricket.co.nz/Uploads/Level_One_Modules_2010_-_Schedule.pdf; practice and fielding exercises on Auckland Cricket website http://www.aucklandcricket.co.nz/Uploads/Student_Coach_Session_Plans.pdf ; a coaching programme http://www.aucklandcricket.co.nz/Uploads/Coaching_practice_plans.pdf and the goldmine resource called Teaching Games for Understanding (read this!) <http://www.aucklandcricket.co.nz/Coaching-Resources/0,27160,116032,00.html>

Gear and Game Administration - RW

1. Gear bags are packed and can be taken away this evening. Please check contents against inventory – let Richard know if anything missing, wrong size, etc.
2. **Player Recognition** on game day:
 - POD receives trophy, certificate and Subway voucher
 - Select a player who has made the most Outstanding Contribution to the team's performance – receives certificate and ice cream voucher from Village Co-op in St Heliers.
3. Years 2 and 3 are registered in the NZ Cricket Have–A-Go and Kiwi Cricket programmes. Both include some giveaways for the players, but these haven't arrived yet. Will be available at the Scorer's evening (Weds 26th) or from Richard's office on Saturday morning 29th October.
4. **Coach Shirts** – Top Catch is the Club's principal sponsor and provides a shirt for the Coach of every junior team. Not yet available - Club Manager will arrange distribution. Get players to look for AUCC team Coaches by spotting the black polos at the playing venue!
5. **Rules** – check your grades rules. Years 2-5 will be on our website (as soon as the Rules Arbiter is appointed). Print off a copy and always have it with you at the game.
6. **Draws** – will be posted on our website. Games are home and away – home games at:
CMP (E) for Y2
CMP and Selwyn College for Y3 and 4
Refer website for ground layouts.
7. Bill Hart Trophy – This is a competition run with our club for teams in Years 3 thru 6. It requires the coach or parent from the team to print off a form from our website <http://www.aucc.co.nz/images/Best%20and%20Fairest%20Blue%20Form.pdf> Arrange for the opposition team coach or scorer or representative to complete analysis and sign and date form. These points are tabulated at season-end and the **original** forms must be maintained and sent to the Club Manager if you are to be considered as a place getter.

8. EDCA Challenge Trophies – there is the Coyne Cup in Year 3 and the McLellan Cup in Year 4. This is like a Ranfurly Shield. If you lose, you pass it on. It is for all games against Saturday teams in EDCA (AUCC, Grafton and Parnell). We are the holders in Year 4. Coaches should receive an email (from Parnell) re the names of the teams that are the holders before the first game. You must show Cup to opposition at beginning of game if the holder. There is no Cup for year 2.
9. Playing philosophy – Saturday and Rep games. Please refer to the website statement <http://www.aucc.co.nz/Playing%20Philosophy.htm> Rules are formulated so players get a similar opportunity at years 2-4. The early years and Saturday games are about developing the players and this doesn't happen without getting opportunity and experience. Representative games which are played on Sundays have a more competitive focus and offer the better players more an additional opportunity.

(LET EXPERIENCED COACHES GO)

How to run a Softball Game - CB

Pre- Game

1. Coach gets there early and introduces himself to opposition
2. Roughly agree boundaries and put out cones – consider other nearby games.
3. Keep the kids out of the gear bag or the contents will disappear!!
4. Appoint a captain and get them to toss the coin or call with opposition – advise if wish to bat or bowl OR otherwise toss/agree with opposition coach
5. Agree with opposition coach the wide rules, no balls called, alternation of striker and playing numbers and how you will deal with them (eg if less or more than 8 players)
6. Agree what end to bowl from (after considering other games, the sun and the pitch)

Game

Keep the kids away from the scorer...they need to concentrate.

Watch out for kids climbing trees or falling out of them, playing near roads or manhole covers, we lost a very nice bat down one of them!

When the Fielding Side

1. Fielders for a circle around batsmen and pitch but must be 10 metres except for between Wk and Point. Usually have bowler , WK , player behind WK (long stop or fine leg) near boundary, then two players on the

- off side (eg mid off and cover) and three players on leg (eg square leg, mid wicket and mid on).
2. Use cones to place in fielding positions in Year 2 so players know where to stand and move to.
 3. Fielding coach or umpire to stand at the bowlers end and umpire/coach
 4. Coach bowlers – side on, straight arm etc
 5. Players move around in a clockwise motion after bowling their over
 6. An over is 6 balls but cannot be longer than 8 balls if extras bowled.
 7. Remember to signal extras (ie when not hit with bat).
 8. Opposition coach or umpire stands at square leg (refer under “When the batting Side” for what to do)
 9. After 8 overs have been bowled (10 in Year 4), the first innings is over and the fielding side takes a turn to bat.
 10. Boundaries – there is a straight line between boundary markers to determine boundary.
 11. Remember to rotate strike- usually if a player has faced three good balls in an over and is still facing the players should swap. Note that if a player scores a 4, they need not return to the same end, but rather may rotate the strike.
 12. You may adjust the length of the crease if a player cannot bowl ball to the other end – this is to help the batsman as much as the bowler.
 13. You return to the field after the first two batting partnerships have been bowled (ie 8 overs in years 2 and 3).
 14. Every player gets two overs to bowl in the match (unless have more than 8 players) and every player should have a turn in fielding in all positions (including WK).

When the batting side

1. Coach/umpire at square leg. Assist with coaching batsmen – ensure not too close to wickets and grip and stance okay. Remind them when to run and about creases and bats down behind line.
2. You umpire run outs your end and no balls!

Nine a side

When nine, rather than stand a player down, do the following after discussing with opposition coach:

1. In field, have a “parent pit”. Stay in for an over then rotate. Refresh and recharge station! Good in second innings especially on a hot day!
2. Bowling – two players get one over and not two each! Some one elses turn next week!
3. Batting – two players get 2 overs of a 4 over partnership! Let the sharing players bat first as every player, especially in year 2 , wants to bat first! le

After Over 2, one boy comes off and another replaces him for the last 2 overs of the partnership of 4 overs. Then it is the normal 4 over partnerships for kids. Again, rotate those players who share each week.

Less than 8

Again the rules prescribe:

1. Can loan players when in the field - make it easy and place in a position near parents, so they can rotate child each over or two. Place at cover where not much action and maybe he doesn't rotate that position.
2. Batting – lowest scoring player re enters! That's lowest runs, not byes and runs, but whatever you agree.
3. Bowling – year 2 and 3 the coach of batting team nominates bowlers. In year 4 it's the bowling team.

After the game

Encourage the captain to take the three cheers for the other team and lead them for the handshakes...keep an eye for inappropriate behavior!

Encourage the captain to shake the hand of the other coach and the scorers
Player of the day is captain the following week and brings home baking or treats for the innings break.

Practicing

No need to practice in the nets for softball, the cages ruin the balls...but saying that, I would encourage one net session, in the second half of the season, purely to break up the routine, give the kids a treat and make them feel like special cricketers.