



OLD CATERHAMIAN'S
ASSOCIATION

OLD CATERHAMIAN'S ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING Monday 6 September 2021

OLD CATERHAMIAN'S SPORTS CLUBS REPORT

Cricket:

The 2021 cricket season has returned in full, following the partial return of last year. The games have continued in close to normal fashion on the pitch, although arrangements off the pitch have not fully returned to normality. Players are arriving at grounds fully changed, match teas and bars are generally not running and, where they do run, are outdoors only - which brings us to the most significant phenomenon of 2021 – the lousy summer weather. This has been a year where games, league and friendly, have been abandoned during play or cancelled before, more frequently than any other in living memory. Despite the wet conditions the club has had good year, turning out two league sides each Saturday, a friendly side on a Sunday and three youth teams. All of these sides feature players with Caterham School connections whether present pupils, alumni or current members of Caterham School staff. So here's looking forwards to 2022 when the club will continue to thrive, accompanied hopefully by sun and indoor teas.

Rugby:

The entire 2020-21 rugby season passed without a single game being played but, following the roadmap produced and updated by the Rugby Football Union as frequently as the "Boris Regulations", our team managers, coaches and captains ensured a full programme of fitness and skills training with all the appropriate precautions in place. This clearly was key to keeping the club together and active with the result that during the last couple of months we entered and did extremely well at three pre-season Seven-a-Side competitions. This activity has enabled us to believe that we shall be well equipped to ensure a good start to the 2021-22 season. An early highlight was our Family Fun Day on 14 August. A feature of the day was a match between a representative OCRFC club side against a team composed of recent Caterham School leavers with OCRFC just edging ahead at the end to win a closely fought game.

The junior operation, too, is up to speed, and ready to launch into the new season having had access to the Queens Park pitch throughout the summer. The fact that we're ready to go is testament to the commitment of officers and players at all levels of the club.

We managed to hold a successful socially-distanced AGM in the Hill Pavilion and our 2020 Awards Dinner, postponed from May 2020, is scheduled for 11 September 2021. There won't be a 2021 one!

Lacrosse:

Cougars Lacrosse Club enjoyed their first training session of the season last Sunday (5 September) in glorious sunshine. We had a great sign-up of girls across all age groups - U12, U13 and U15. The girls are preparing for and looking forward to their first tournament next Sunday to start the season.

We have been able to enter both an U13 and U15 team into the South East League this year, so have plenty of matches ahead of us which, following last season being hit hard by COVID, will allow all girls some much-needed game time.

Many of our current members completed their Level 1 coaching award this summer and it is great to have them as part of our coaching team, led by our Head Coach Lee Lomas.

The club is going from strength to strength with new members joining and new parents volunteering to help as committee members. We are eagerly looking forward to the season ahead.

NH/WRB/09/2021