

**CORNWALL COUNTY CRICKET CLUB  
COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE 2020 SEASON**

The report on the 2020 season will go down as probably the strangest in the history of the club. It was of course due to the Coronavirus – COVID-19. The worldwide pandemic meant our competitive season was wiped out - without a ball bowled!

At the time of our AGM on 3 March, the virus was having a substantial impact on Italy and Spain having first emerged in China a couple of months earlier. We were planning for the usual season at that stage but that was soon to change. By the middle of March, Six Nations rugby games were being postponed. The Cheltenham National Hunt Festival went ahead though questions were raised at the wisdom of a quarter of a million people descending on Prestbury Park that week. When Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta went down with the virus football nationally was suspended and rugby soon followed. It was inevitable that the ECB followed suit and news came on 18 March of a suspension of all cricket activity. A National lockdown followed on 23 March which did not start to be lifted until 4 July.

At first, came the news professional cricket was suspended until 28 May but that duly got extended to 1 July and then 1 August. Likewise, the Recreational game was suspended until Adapted Cricket could finally begin on 11 July.

The newly branded NCCA was launched in April with a new website and social media channels. However, no cricket unfortunately with all competitions postponed – not cancelled to allow all options to remain open.

In mid-June, the decision was made to cancel the three-day NCCA Championship with the accommodation being a key factor as well as travel. NCCA Counties were surveyed and there was a consensus that T20 regionalised cricket in August and September and 50 over friendlies might take place. However, the counties met remotely on 20 July and voted that all competitions for 2020 be cancelled with a vote of 11-9 in favour.

One friendly did take place against Devon at Sandford on Sunday 16 August. The game was a 50 over under 25 match managed by Development Performance Manager Chris Hunkin.

*Devon 150 (38.3 ovs) (EH Hamilton 67, BA Beaumont 38, MC Golding 20; LP Goldsworthy 5-30, PM Kent 3-29),*

*Cornwall 148-8 (45.3 ovs) (AW Bone 40, JP Phillips 34, MH Gribble 31no; TRJ Codd 3-27).*

*Cornwall beat Devon by two wickets (D/L/S Method – Target 147 in 46 overs).*

Mark Gribble made an unbeaten 31 that steered Cornwall to a narrow two-wicket win with three balls to spare. Cornwall, set 147 to win under Duckworth-Lewis rules after a rain break, reached 97 for three thanks to a patient stand of 72 between Joe Phillips (34) and Alex Bone (40) after being 25 for three.

At that point, Cornwall were in the driving seat, but losing four wickets for seven runs scored in the space of 17 balls put a different complexion on the game. Cornwall subsided to 104 for seven – and Toby Codd (3-27) was on a hat-trick when Tom Dinnis went out to bat. He survived, but not for long as he was next out on 125. Conway Gilbert (13no) joined Gribble to see their side home.

Chris Hunkin reflected “it was a game well won under pressure at the end. Joe Phillips batted really well with Alex Bone and you can see why Gloucestershire have offered Joe an academy place,” said Hunkin. “We were 19 for two when Joe went in, and 25 for three not long after, but the situation did not faze him at all.”

“Wickets change everything and losing four when we did put us under pressure for the first time in the match.

“I thought Mark Gribble and Conway Gilbert coped well with the pressure out there and saw it through nicely.”

Hunkin also had a word or two for the bowlers, who had Devon all out for 150 in the 39th over when the total could easily have been far more. “After the first 25-30 overs felt our spinners, Goldsworthy and Piran Kent had put us in control for the first time. “At one stage we were looking at chasing 180-190, maybe more: instead we bowled them out early for 150.”

Elliot Hamilton top-scored for Devon with 67. Hamilton, who opened the innings with Jason Degg, was finally the seventh man out with the score at 143.

Cornwall: Charlie Kent, Lewis Goldsworthy, Joe Phillips, Jack Paull, Alex Bone, Mark Gribble. Dan Lello (Capt), Piran Kent, Tom. Dinnis. Conway Gilbert, Matthew Lawrence. 12th man Archie Pascoe

*Cornwall County Cricket Club Annual Reports 2020*

**Cornwall Over 50's Report 2020**

No competitive Over 50's cricket was played in 2020 due to COVID-19.

Sadly Geoff Husband died on May 14 aged 84. Geoff was Mr Cricket as far as senior cricket in Cornwall was concerned for over 30 years. He played 88 times in the ECB 50+ competition for Cornwall spanning some 20+ seasons

He also played for the over 60s and organised a whole series of friendly matches as well

A huge number of players have Geoff to thank for allowing them to represent their county towards the end of their career.

Geoff also organised bi-annual tours to the Isle of Wight where the ECB match just part of a week-long cricket extravaganza

Senior cricket in Cornwall has continued to evolve but it will be Geoff who will always be recognised as the key figure

His extraordinary commitment over many years was recognised by the County Club in 2016 when he was awarded the Arthur Lugg Cup.

In 2015 it was rather fitting that the ECB50+ reached the semi-finals of the national competition-beating Hampshire at Grampound Road on Geoff's 80th birthday.

Also sadly Phil Payne died in July aged 54 from Motor Neurone Disease. Having played many times for the Cornwall O50s friendly team before he was 50 Phil first played for the Cornwall's O50s ECB team in 2016 and went on to play 16 matches in three seasons before he and his wife Manuela moved to Retford in Nottinghamshire after the conclusion of the 2018 season.

The 2021 AGM takes place remotely on Monday 15 March.

*Trevor Lee  
Cornwall Over 50's Chairman*

**Cornwall CCC Fixtures 2021 Season**

18 April	T20 Group 2	bye	-----
25 April	T20 Group 2	WILTSHIRE h	Truro
2 May	T20 Group 2	Dorset a	Sherborne School
9 May	T20 Group 2	HEREFORDSHIRE h	Wadebridge
16 May			
23 May	T20 Group 2	Devon a	Bovey Tracey
30 May	Trophy 50 Group 2	DORSET h	Werrington
6 June			
13 June	Trophy 50 Group 2	Herefordshire a	Eastnor
20 June	Trophy 50 Group 2	DEVON h	Redruth
24 June (Thur)	T20 Finals Day (Fri 25 Reserve)		
27 June	Trophy 50 Group 2	bye	-----
4 July	Trophy 50 Group 2	Wiltshire a	Warminster
11 July	Championship Western Div 2	Wales MC a	Pontarddulais
18 July	Trophy 50 Quarter Finals		
25 July	Championship Western Div 2	bye	-----
1 August	Championship Western Div 2	DEVON h	Truro
8 August	Trophy 50 Semi-Finals		
15 August	Championship Western Div 2	Shropshire a	Bridgnorth
22 August	Championship Western Div 2	HEREFORDSHIRE h	St Austell
29 August			
2 September (Thur)	Trophy 50 Final (Fri 3 Reserve)		Wormsley
5 September	Championship 4 day Final		Tring Park