

## **ClubMark and Bledlow Ridge Cricket Club**

Clubmark is a scheme introduced by the England and Wales Cricket Board to ensure that Clubs are well managed to a uniform standard and that four main objectives are achieved. Below is an extract from the ECB website detailing these objectives.

The Club's policies can be located on the website at [www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk](http://www.bledlowridgecricketclub.co.uk) . Any questions relating to these policies should be referred to our Club Welfare Officer Caroline Bird ([carolinebird68@msn.com](mailto:carolinebird68@msn.com) 07729 827176)

### **1. Duty of Care and Safeguarding Children**

The ECB and Bledlow Ridge CC are committed to ensuring that all children who play cricket have a safe, positive and fun experience, whatever their level of involvement. The ECB recognises the importance of safeguarding children within the game and is committed to developing and implementing policies and procedures which ensure that everyone knows and accepts their responsibility in relation to a duty of care for children.

A Club has a duty of care to ensure the safety and welfare of any child involved in related activities, to safeguard them and protect them from reasonably foreseeable forms of harm. Safeguarding is about all of us acknowledging that this duty of care exists, and it is about us putting practical measures in place, in our own locations, to minimise the likelihood of foreseeable harm arising.

### **2. The Cricket Programme**

The Cricket Programme (the combination of coaching, training and competition) assists young players to realise their potential in the sport.

Developing a competition programme is vital for young people as it is one significant reason why many join a club in the first place. Clubs are required to provide suitable intra and/or inter club competition.

Within the Clubmark framework, guidance is provided on supervising

young players and minimum player:coach ratios. Coaching staff have a key role in establishing an appropriate coaching environment and creating a successful playing programme.

Clubs have to demonstrate that coaches are trained to appropriate levels and that the activity undertaken in the club reflects best practice in the development of young people, Knowing Your Club and its Community – One Game

Bledlow Ridge CC offers junior cricket to all children from the age of 6 upwards. Practice is held during the season on Friday evenings and competitive matches at U10, 11, 12 ages take place during the summer. Younger players are offered intra-club games and more fun based practice. During the summer, the club also runs a very successful junior club festival for all age groups

A winter academy for its most talented boys is also part of the Cricket Programme

### **3. One Game**

This objective is aimed at widening the appeal of cricket to ensure as many people as possible are welcomed into the game at all levels regardless of age, race, ability, gender, ethnic origin, nationality, colour, parental or marital status, religious belief, class or social background, sexual preference or political belief.

The basic premise for this section of ECB Clubmark is to ensure that all clubs are aware of their immediate community. That way, a club can ensure it is meeting the needs of its local community when planning opportunities for people to participate in cricket.

### **4. Club Management**

Clubs that are well managed tend to be successful. They have well ordered finances, and keep volunteers and members well-informed with good communication.