

Jordans Cricket, a short(ish) history

Not a lot of people know this, but... Jordans still has a cricket team.

Sadly, games are no longer played at the peaceful haven that is the Green, but the Club is very much alive and flourishing and is proud to have Jordans on its badge.

As far as history records, Jordans Village Cricket Club (JVCC) was formed shortly after the birth of the modern Village in 1919, with records going back to the 1930s. Cricket was played on the Green until 1993, only interrupted by World War II and a legal action, lodged by a disgruntled house-holder, preventing cricket being played on the Green for 12 months before a landmark court case was heard in Slough County Court in 1994. Thankfully for cricket lovers, the Club prevailed and cricket returned to the Green the following season.

The case caught the imagination of sports lovers and the media and was widely reported in the UK and internationally. The Independent described the outcome at the time as follows:

Britain's village cricketers breathed a sigh of relief yesterday when a judge ruled that the occasional threat to neighbours from balls hit for six was not sufficient reason for stopping play.

For a full version of the article, please see:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/keep-hitting-sixes-judge-tells-village-cricket-team-charles-oulton-reports-on-a-neighbours-failed-1435534.html>

The next major milestone in the Club's history was a merger with two other clubs, Chalfont Taverners and Green Dragons in 2002, necessary because of reduced playing resources in village cricket and other amateur sports clubs in general. Jordans Taverners CC was thus formed and the Club moved to Seer Green, staying as close as possible to Jordans, but to a ground with more extensive playing and practice facilities.

In 2017 the Club moved to a dedicated cricket ground in Coleshill, where it now shares a picturesque venue with Coleshill CC, playing mostly on Sundays. The emphasis is on friendship and a team ethos, with players ranging in ability from none to quite a lot. New recruits of all ages are always welcomed, whether as supporters or players. The Club has always attracted new recruits from around the world, with Australia, India and Bangladesh proving to be particularly fruitful sources. As well as Sunday fixtures, there are occasional T20 games, played on a Friday night, practice nets at Seer Green recreation ground on a Thursday evening, various social events throughout the year and an annual dinner. The Jolly Cricketers in Seer Green is a great supporter of the Club and remains the Club's after-match retreat and principal recruitment office. For contact details, please visit our website (details below), which also has match reports, player reviews, a fixture list and other generally informative items, mixed with weak attempts at humour.

The Club's greatest achievement? Some would point to the bowling performance at Farnham Common CC, where the Jordans' attack restricted the home team to 5 runs, all out. Others may mention the court case, subsequently used by other Clubs to maintain their existence. More profoundly, there are those that prefer to think about the longevity of the

Club, still thriving in difficult times for participation sport, thanks in part to the friendly, welcoming atmosphere within the Club and in no small regard to the Club's pride in its roots.

Tim Sonnex, Chairman, Jordans Taverners Cricket Club

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