

## **SENIOR AND JUNIOR MEMBERS INFORMATION**

Welcome to the 2024-2025 Cricket Season. Thank you for selecting Cleveland-Thornlands Cricket Club (CTCC) - "The Cougars" - as your cricket club.

The following is a summary of club information and expectations for both Senior and Junior players. Some information may not be relevant to all.

For Juniors. Your child is entering a development program that will continue through to their graduation from secondary school. By the end of this program we hope to:

- Instil in them a lifelong love of the game of cricket
- Equip them with the skills that will allow them to participate in the game to whatever level they aspire
- Promote in them respect for the officials of the game, their coaches, their teammates and their opposition players
- Teach them to respect that there are differing skills and levels of ability amongst members of a cricket team, and that every team member deserves the opportunity to do their best, no matter how good that may be.

To assist in achieving these goals we have an expectation of parents:

- That parents will offer every assistance to the team management and to the Club when needed
- That no parent will openly criticise the performance of any child (including their own)
- That every parent will offer praise and encouragement to their child and to their child's teammates
- That parents always set an example by acknowledging the performances of opposition players
- That parents understand parental "cricketing advice" given their child may conflict with that of the coach. Please feel free to discuss any aspect of the game or any concerns with the team coach or manager. However, avoid providing conflicting information to your child
- That no Cleveland Thornlands team will go onto the field without a coach, manager, umpire and scorer. Each of these roles is filled by a Club volunteer drawn from our player parents. If you have never been involved, now is your chance. The Club can provide support and/or tuition in these aspects of the game - all we need is for YOU to step up and volunteer. You don't necessarily have to take the role on indefinitely, even helping occasionally makes a difference.

New membership applications are subject to acceptance by the Club Committee and to the registration of a suitable number of players to form a team, to suitable team management being available, and to RCI / BEARS acceptance of the team nomination. If a team does not eventuate, or a position isn't available for your child the Club will endeavour to place your child with another Redlands club, and any registration monies paid to the Club will be refunded within 30 days. Players registering at sign-on or shortly thereafter seldom miss out on a place in a team, but there may not be capacity for those registering close to or after season start.

Every new player will be assessed prior to final team selection to ensure that each player is placed in a team in which their current skill set will allow them to participate satisfactorily and in which they are best poised to develop as a player. It may be that this is not the preferred team which you specified at registration. The player assessment will be undertaken at age-based training sessions held on Friday afternoons during September, prior to the commencement of the season.

Our membership fees are structured as an annual one-off fee. The membership fee covers the cost of affiliation fees, compulsory player insurance, players shirt, ball / gear fees, and end of season awards and presentations. Each RCI player is presented with a participation medallion at the end of the season, whilst a limited number of performance-based trophies are awarded per BEARS team and the Senior teams.

All players are expected to wear a CTCC embroidered shirt (included in membership fee). Broad brim hats, cricket whites, caps, and some training gear available for purchase from the club.

**Note** that peaked caps may be worn for training but CTCC broad brim hats are compulsory for Junior matches. Cricket trousers, shoes, and other cricket clothing and accessories are available from local sports stores.

All Club activities are run by volunteers. We encourage and invite your active participation:

### **Coaching**

The Club makes every effort to identify and recruit coaches for all of our teams prior to the start of the season. With our growing membership we have an ongoing need for additional coaches. We therefore request parents to consider taking on the role of coach or assistant coach for new teams. No prior coaching experience is necessary to coach junior cricket, only good communication skills, a keen interest in the game, and an enthusiasm for developing the skills of young children. The Club will aid any parent willing to undertake the coaching role and will cover the cost of attendance at a full day "Community Coach Accreditation Course". New coaches are always welcome to gain further experience, tips and training ideas by attending any of the BEARS Regional Coaching Program (RCP) sessions – either to assist or just to watch how it's done. More information on the RCP program is available on the BEARS website under the "Rep Program" tab. Please contact the BEARS Coaching Director prior to attending.

### **Managing**

It is vital that each team has a manager to support the coach in providing effective team communication and in interaction with the Club committee. If coaching isn't your forte perhaps, you'd like to help by managing your child's team? Managers are tasked with keeping the team informed of training dates and times; games dates, times and venues; allocating volunteers to umpire, score, help in the canteen, and assist with other club fundraising activities. Much of the managerial role can be done by email / text. Although it is preferable that the manager attends all team matches there is no requirement to be present at the training sessions. Historically mums and dads have been equally successful at this role so feel free to volunteer your other half for the role if you're not available!

### **Canteen duty**

The Club runs a canteen out of the Clubhouse on Saturday mornings. Each week those CTCC teams scheduled to play a home game will be allocated a duty slot on the canteen roster. Volunteers drawn from the team parents (typically two people for an hour at a time) are required to help staff the canteen under the direction of the Clubhouse Manager.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteers are the Club's lifeblood; essential at games, at fundraising events, at Club functions and to fulfil the official roles within the Club. In order to encourage players, parents and the rest of the family to take an active interest in Club activities an annual 'thankyou' will be provided at seasons end to those deemed by the committee to have gone above and beyond to setting our players up for success.

Parents should expect to receive regular communication from the team manager, and/or coach, regarding team training & match information, and Club activities. Please ensure that your contact details as held in PlayHQ are always current and correct, particularly email addresses and mobile numbers.

Registering your child for playing is done through PlayHQ. Player and parent/guardian contact details are held confidentially on the PlayHQ database, administered by Cricket Australia. The CTCC Club Registrar administers the details for the players and parents associated with the Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club

Notification of the team training day and time will be advised once team selection has been finalised. Training together builds team cohesion. It also allows the coach to identify and build on team strengths as well as to focus the training sessions on less developed skills to the benefit of each of the players. Your child is expected to attend all training sessions. If your child is unable to attend training or a game due to illness, please notify the team coach or manager as early as possible in advance.

Each coach has a set of coaching guidelines, with specific requirements for fair and equitable participation expectations for that particular age group. A copy is available at the Clubhouse or from the Committee. Please take time to read these.

An explanation of the cricket pathway is provided in the Club Information Booklet. If your child would like to be considered for nomination for the Representative cricket trials please discuss this with the Club as soon as possible (advanced cricketers only please, Under 12 – Under 16). Please note that nomination for the Queensland School Sport (QSS) trials must come from your child's school. Please lobby the school PE teacher / principal if your child is keen to participate in U13 or U15 QSS trials.

**We are committed to making every member's experience with our Club as positive and rewarding as possible.**

We do hope that you enjoy your involvement with our Club. If you have any questions or concerns at any time during the playing season, please discuss these with your coach or manager in the first instance and as soon as possible. If the coach / manager is not able to resolve your query / concern, then please contact the Club President or our Member Protection Officer. (see the Club Information booklet for contact details).

*Cleveland Thornlands Cricket Club Committee*