



## The British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia

### MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

#### **Welcome! About the BOCC**

The BOCC was first founded in 1925 but ceased playing in 1939 at the outbreak of WWII. The club was revived in 1986 at a time when there were only three active local cricket clubs in the Philadelphia area. There are now more than 26 clubs within an hour's drive.

We are proud to have consistently grown since our revival to be one of the most active and best-organized clubs on the Eastern Seaboard. We presently boast some 50+ playing members; we field three or four teams each weekend from April through October and played over 70 matches in 2010. BOCC participates in two local leagues, the Garden State Cricket League <http://www.dreamcricket.com/gsclnj/> (New Jersey, Sundays) and the Philadelphia Cricket League <http://www.philadelphiacricketleague.com/pls/html/db/f?p=668:1:4191541067643064::NO::> (typically Saturdays) and we simultaneously field one or two further teams playing in other competitions or friendly but competitive games. Continuing expansion has required more ground time than our original and primary home ground at Cope Field in Haverford could provide. In 2006 we made history by laying down the first cricket wicket in any State Park in Pennsylvania at Evansburg and inaugurating our second home ground. In 2008 we laid a second pitch at Evansburg State Park, and converted them both to artificial wickets, which provides three grounds in total for home fixtures. In 2009 we gained access to a disused house on the boundary of Evansburg which over time is planned to be converted into a club house (again, the only one we know of in the area).

Note that the BOCC plays cricket for fun, for love of the game, yet competitively, with a will to win. We place high importance upon members participating in social functions and volunteering effort on and off the field. There is a full program of social events throughout the year, besides the traditional post-game celebrations. Our Club is run democratically, by the members, for the members. Above all, the BOCC strives to uphold the notion of "cricket first, Club second, team third and the individual last!"

#### **How to Join**

- If interested in playing, come to nets at Haverford College on Wednesdays after 5:00 pm (when school is out).
- After two nets, you may apply to join the club using the form attached.
- Please see playing eligibility criteria below.
- Receipt of appropriate fees and completed membership form by the Treasurer.
- Approval of membership applications is vested in the Club Committee, whose decision is final. If an application is rejected, all fees paid will be returned.
- If your interest is not playing but rather supporting the club in some other way, an additional membership option is available through becoming a Vice President.



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### Disclaimer

Those playing at nets practice and matches agree to do so entirely at their own risk and while the Club carries certain insurance covering third party medical expenses during BOCC matches, the BOCC expressly disclaims any liability for any injury to any player that may participate in practices or matches. The club does not provide full protective gear - players are advised to provide their own helmet, gloves, box and pads, etc. Should any BOCC player cause a ball to damage any player or non-player or his/her property or the college property then it is the sole responsibility of the player directly causing such damage.

### Eligibility and Selection

- The BOCC is governed by its Constitution. All Applicants are expected to read and abide by the Constitution. (See <http://www.bocccricket.com/docs/constitution.html>)
- Members are expected to conduct themselves as Gentlemen, on and off the field
- Playing Members will commit to play for no other club except with the prior consent of the Club Committee [the BOCC believes that the future of cricket in the USA crucially depends on the development of independent club infrastructures with their own registered and committed memberships]
- Membership does not convey the RIGHT to selection. While best endeavors are made to arrange forward fixtures to marry available demand, this is not a precise science and any game may be oversubscribed on a weekend! Further, the Selection Committee (whose decision is final) have full discretion to weight selection criteria according to playing ability, volunteer work on and off the field, regularity of availability and social participation. Note that the GSCL side is strictly selected by merit, and represents the best available players for each league game. Selection policy for other leagues will be at the discretion of the Club Committee.

### Notices

- The membership fee for players joining the club includes a club shirt and tie, trousers and cap and a prepayment towards club social functions (waived for student/reduced fee memberships).
- The Club maintains certain items of signature club clothing for purchase. For matches, bats and pads are available, but you are strongly encouraged to purchase your own gear.
- BOCC Website: The BOCC maintains a website at ***www.bocccricket.com*** with a "Players only" section accessed via a login and password. Upon your playing membership application being approved, you will be provided with access to this site by our Webmaster. Instructions on making yourself available for games are posted on the site. ***Please note that all team selection and match availability activities are conducted via this website.*** Members are particularly asked to register their availabilities at least a week in advance, **whether they are available or not.**
- Beginners who wish to learn the game are welcome to join and players are generally helpful in the coaching arena – just ask! Playing members however will take preference in selection and those selected for upcoming matches will take priority in nets practice.
- Please note that no alcohol is permitted at either Haverford College or the Evansburg ground and such rule is strictly enforced. Please pick up after yourself and park in designated areas only at Haverford College or Evansburg. Our good standing with the host authorities of our grounds are of paramount importance to the Club.



## **The British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia**

- Players are required to arrive at matches **60 minutes before the scheduled start time and should be prepared to help before and after games in various duties as directed by the captain.** Players must wear cricket whites for all matches except those matches subject to special league rules.
- Failure to follow the guidelines in “Eligibility and Selection” and the “Notices” may lead to loss of playing privileges at the discretion of the Selection Committee.



## The British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia

Please print out this form and complete

**NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS PLEASE RETURN THE FORM BELOW WITH CLUB DUES. NEW PLAYING MEMBERS MUST HAVE ATTENDED TWO NETS PRACTICES PRIOR TO APPLICATION.**

(Please pay dues promptly on or before May 1st each season, or on joining if a prospective new member: *no pay no play!*)

NEW PLAYING MEMBERS: \$200 (after Aug 31 - \$150) (includes Club shirt, trousers, cap and tie and includes a subsidy towards club social functions)/RENEWING, \$175 (includes social subsidy)

BEGINNER/SUMMER PLAYING MEMBERS: \$60 (eligibility for Summer social games) for local country club players interested in further matches outside of their own limited Spring and Fall season

OUT OF AREA RENEWING PLAYING MEMBERS: \$50 (at the discretion of the Club Committee certain playing members that have moved out of the country or the immediate geographic area can renew at this reduced rate)

NEW COLLEGE STUDENT/UNEMPLOYED PLAYING MEMBERS: \$100 (including Club apparel referenced above)/RENEWING, \$60.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PLAYING MEMBERS: \$60 (including Club apparel referenced above)/RENEWING, \$35.

NEW OR RENEWING VICE PRESIDENTS: Discretionary (a minimum of \$25 is customary)

MATCH FEES: Typically \$15 per home game/\$10 for away game, reduced by \$5 for students/unemployed and payable to the Captain of the day

Name (Block capitals) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Spouse/significant other (for social events) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Tel work \_\_\_\_\_ Tel home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (note we use this for contacting you regarding club activities and it's required from players for match availability)

\_\_\_\_\_



## The British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia

### Playing Membership Only:

Standard of play (circle whichever applies): First Class / League / Club / Friendly / Beginner

When did you last play regularly? \_\_\_\_\_ Name of club: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of player (circle whichever applies): Bowler / Batsman / Wicket-keeper / All rounder

Do you have (know of) any children/students who may be interested in future Youth Cricket programs?

Names/ages: \_\_\_\_\_

The BOCC is always on the lookout for umpires (particularly for league matches). Would you be willing to volunteer your time to provide this valuable service to the club?

(circle whichever applies): Yes / No

### Signed:

**(I have read and agree to abide by both the Eligibility and Selection criteria above (if intending to play) and the Constitution of the British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia)**

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**SEND completed form with check made payable to "The BOCC" to:**

**Chris Lawrence**

**Treasurer**

**British Officers' Cricket Club of Philadelphia**

**336 West Springfield Road**

**Springfield, PA 19064**

**If seeking to join as a new playing member you will be notified promptly of the Club Committee's decision and provided access to the players' website page upon acceptance.**