

## Presidents Letter – September 2009

Every year I seem to say the same thing, but where has the season gone? It seems like just a couple of weeks ago that season 2009 got underway, but now it is done, dusted and consigned to the history books.

For the record, 2009 will go down as a pretty good one for the club overall. The 1s finished 7th in Division 1 of the East League, a scenario few of us who have played for the club for some time could have imagined. The 1s flirted with the upper end of the league for a while, but a few losses here saw any possible promotion to the National League thwarted. Div 1, as you would expect was a highly competitive league, with only 17 percentage points separating first from ninth. Overall however, Shaun & his boys can take great pride in what is the club's highest ever league finish.



After the abysmal performances of 2008, the 2s had a vastly improved summer, finishing 3rd in Div 6 after losing out for the second promotion place by Musselburgh 2s, who timed their late season run to perfection. A great start to the season saw the 2s hold onto 2nd place until fairly late in the season when a couple of untimely defeats allied to two serious injuries to Danny Perry & Arjun Gupta in the same game at Dunfermline conspired to see the 2s fall out of the promotion spots. Despite this minor blip, 2009 has been a much more fruitful season than 2008 and our return to Meggetland has turned out to be an enjoyable & profitable one. Special mention has to go to Irfan Mohammed who ended up as 2nd top run scorer in the division with 425 runs and equal top wicket taker (28 wickets). A fantastic performance throughout the year and worthy of commendation.

After a few years of nomadic existence, it was fantastic to get back to Meggetland. It may have changed beyond recognition, but it is still our home ground and for the well-being of the club, we needed to get back sooner rather than later. It is fair to say that, particularly in the very early part of the season, the wickets at the MCG were amongst the best in the east league. The ball came onto the bat beautifully, the bounce was true and the outfield lightning quick, all of which helped contribute towards some very high scoring games. Some decent early season weather helped make our homecoming feel even better, and both sides playing at Meggetland again made us feel like a united club once more.

At this point, in true Oscar winning fashion, I'd like to say thank you to a few people. First, I'd like to express my gratitude to all those ex-players who contributed financially to the club over the season. Every one of your donations is very gratefully received and help to keep the club's head above water. Next season we will look to extend our match ball sponsorship scheme to local businesses, shops etc as a means of off setting some of our costs.

Thanks also to all of those players who turned out in 2009. We had a good influx of new players this year, and it was not always possible to ensure a game for everyone who wanted to play on a Saturday. I appreciate your patience if you missed out from time to time.

On behalf of the club, I would also like to extend a very big thank you to Susan Craigmile for her sterling efforts throughout the year on the tea front. By some distance, Boroughmuir provided the best teas in the East League this year. No more last minute packets of sandwiches or rolls with fillings that any self-respecting rodent would turn their nose up at. Susan ensured that our teas were nothing short of outstanding, and I am very grateful to her for her contribution this summer.

Last but not least, thanks to the two captains, Shaun and Neil. Both put in a lot of work on the field, but if anything even more off it. I can attest to the amount of time I spent with these two gents rolling, cutting & soaking the square to make sure it was of a good standard come each weekend. Anyone who thinks being a captain involves just turning up on a Saturday and choosing the batting order needs to think again.

It is our intention to have some sort of awards night out at the end of September or start of October, and once we have got something arranged I'll be in touch to extend an invitation.

Yours in Cricket,

Kenny Skidmore, President,  
Boroughmuir Cricket Club