



The Black Minority Ethnic Forum (BME) brings together partners across Yorkshire cricket to help promote and develop cricketing opportunities for people within BME communities. Further details about the Forum can be found at the end of the newsletter.

BME Development Centres

Development Centres provide indoor junior cricket coaching programmes across the County helping to promote and give access to cricket in areas with large BME communities.

Each centre is situated in the local community, run by local clubs and coaches and easily accessible for all wanting to start or play the game of cricket.

Over the years the centres have grown with many centres helping to produce quality players for schools, district, county schools and also county. One such player is Usman Arshad who plays his cricket at Durham county cricket club having originally played at the Manningham centre before playing Schools County with Yorkshire B before going on to Durham.

The centres are accessible for all junior cricketers. The Yorkshire Cricket Board Community Cricket Officer can provide details (contacts on the YCB website <http://www.yorkshirecb.com/page/about/contacts/contacts-5396/>) or contact Taj Butt taj.butt@yorkshireccc.com or s.krishan@yorkshirecb.com.



How are they run?

All centres are required to have qualified coaches with all being DBS checked, insured through the E.C.B.C.A. Risk assessments and relevant information such as date of birth, school, address etc. All the coaches and centre directors value the parental support given to enable junior players to participate in the development centres.

What are the times and Dates?

Times and dates of when the centres start vary but many start late January and run for around 8 weeks Each centre publishes their own information and leaflets which are available on request at the Centre.

What do I do when I find a centre?

Your local centre director will be happy to explain how to join. Contact them by phone or email all will provide information as to cost, equipment needed and the next steps in to playing the game at clubs.

The centres provide an opportunity for juniors to play the game, with centres running soft ball sessions as well as hard ball basic or advanced coaching, if required. Centres also develop good club links giving juniors the chance to play at junior clubs by sharing information with local cricket clubs.



Who attends?

For 2015/2016, a total of 427 juniors attended the programme, within an age range of 7 to 17. This included 20 girls, with 1 centre running a girls only session. Of the ethnic origin data listed, the vast majority are described as of British Asian origin and Black British.

The Coaching Sessions ranged from softball play to hardball cricket, with number of sessions per centre ranging from 6 to 12. This year 23 clubs provided exit routes for players, with one centre listing exit routes to 6 local cricket clubs.

Coaching young children course Bradford

Christmas comes but once a year but so does the coaching course season once again Zara sports centre Bradford held a specific South Asian Course aimed at South Asian community from the Leeds Bradford Area.

Many of the new candidates had previously completed cricket activators or coach supports workers course prior to this in order to get a flavour of cricket coaching.

Candidates ranged from a full spectrum of groups and clubs such as a group Hamara Community Centre, some potential new coaches from Bowling Old Lane, plus three

Lady Coaches Hannah, Maryam and Sadhia all from the South Asian Community

Future coaches hoping to work on Women's and Girls cricket in and around the Leeds Bradford.



Kevin Gresham Coach Education Y.C.B. Quote –

"The standard of candidates was of a high calibre and a joy to work with."

The lead tutors on the course were Yusef Karolia with Ashley Metcalfe with modules run over the November / December period with the assessment early in January the main aim of the course was to ensure that all would be new coaches would work in the community volunteering on the B.M.E development Centres when the sessions begin in the new year .

Maryam

"Doing the cricket course has really boosted my confidence to deliver enjoyable activities for children. I have been able to learn the process of making all activities person centred and appropriate to age and ability. I would not hesitate in recommending this course to others who want to help young people enjoy and achieve."



BME Open Day

Players, coaches and parents from 9 of the BME Development Centres enjoyed an evening of T20 cricket at Headingley as guests of Yorkshire Cricket. Over 360 guests from across Yorkshire descended on Headingley and, despite seeing Yorkshire lose, had a fun evening!

DON'T FORGET TO NOMINATE

The closing dates are imminent for both the national and Yorkshire awards to recognise those people who have made significant contributions to cricket. Yorkshire had success in last year's national Asian Cricket Awards, with Batley CC joint recipients of the club of the year award. Categories and means for making nominations can be found here <http://www.asiancricketawards.co.uk/>

Nominations are also invited for the YCB Outstanding Services to Cricket Awards (OSCAs), again to reflect contributions made by volunteers within Yorkshire cricket. The categories include contributions to BME Cricket for someone who has given long, valuable service and "made a difference" in the availability of cricket for young people. For categories and nominations, click here: <http://www.yorkshirecb.com/page/clubs--leagues/oscas-2016/outstanding-services-to-cricket-awards-2016-11564>.



Umar Rafiq (YCB Director) presents Haqueq Saddique, Bowling Old Lane CC, the Numan Shabbir Syed award for services to BME cricket.

COACH EDUCATION

New coaches have come through the coach education route this winter with 3 BME Coaching Children's cricket courses being delivered at Lightwaves (Wakefield) Zara Centre (Bradford) & Sheffield. Thanks to the ECB for their subsidy of these courses.

A Tribute to Philip Ackroyd

Philip Ackroyd died on 5th January aged 80, leaving behind his beloved wife Patsy. Philip had an intense love of the game and believed that the game was for all, whatever their origins or background. He served on the Coaching, Senior Cricket, Centre of Cricket Excellence, Disability, Womens Cricket and BME sub-committees or Forums at the YCB.

Philip was also a loyal servant of Yorkshire County Cricket Club joining the YCCC committee in 1984 as Dewsbury Representative and, when it was re-vamped, from 1993 as West District Representative. Philip's belief that cricketing opportunities and development should be for all led to him joining the Disability Cricket Forum in December 1991 when it was formed serving on it to 1997 and also the Womens Cricket Forum from 1995 to 2003.

His greatest committee commitment was to the Black Minority Ethnic Cricket Forum seeing the formation and development of all the BME Cricket Development Centres. Following his 2003 "retirement" he developed a close association with Mount Cricket Club (from Batley and a true Black Minority Ethnic club) attending with Patsy and speaking at all prize presentations and supporting many other activities.

Shiv Krishan commented "when I first joined the B.M.E the many years ago Phillip was always a font of knowledge his skill and wit was well remembered. Whenever I saw him whether it be on the cricket field, development centres and at Lords Tarveners games he would shake my hand, smile and we would have a long chat about how the centres where doing, always keen to know about any B.M.E development that was in the Yorkshire region. "

More about the BME Forum

The Forum meets quarterly at Headingley with a remit to recommend policy and strategy, raise issues, to raise racial awareness and advise on policy, suggest programmes of action and promote opportunities, support BME clubs, and disseminate information.

MEMBERSHIP

Chairman Umar Rafiq Vice-Chairman Taj Butt

YCB Executive Director Andrew Watson

Secretary to Forum Graham Purdy

BRADFORD Taj Butt, Shiv Krishan, Sarfraz Qureshi, Haqueq Siddique

CALDERDALE tbc

KIRKLEES Umar Rafiq, Yusuf Pandor

LEEDS Tony Bowry, Taj Butt

ROTHERHAM Johnny Younis

SHEFFIELD Sam Gittens

WAKEFIELD Mohammed Ayub

YCCC David Ryder/ Steve Skillern

YCF Will Saville

YCB Members Board Ann Coe

To find out more about the work and role of the Forum contact Umar Rafiq on u.rafiq@yorkshirecb.com or Graham Purdy on g.purdy@yorkshirecb.com



The BME Manningham development centre as the Guard of Honour at the Yorkshire Vikings opening NatWest T20 Blast fixture against Leicestershire at Headingley. More of this in the next edition.