

# Umpiring Community Managers report 2020

In this bizarre year of Covid restrictions there was no formal cricket played! So no umpire stood in an official capacity so enough said about that.

I start by welcoming ten new home umpires to our ranks and I shall list their names at the end of my report.

As classroom based courses were impossible with the current Covid restrictions the ACCSO committee at some expense and a fair amount of hard work organised through the FC and the ICC an "online course".

Initially nineteen names were put forward by the various clubs out of that list only EIGHT qualified, three failed to complete and eight others didn't even start the course. A disappointing result!!

Home umpires are not the only problem on the horizon, the majority of pool umpires are already in their seventies, myself included, to expect us to continue to stand in the summer heat for up to six hours at a time with at least a couple of hours travelling thrown in is short sighted and I expect some older umpires to hang up their white coats in the near future.

We need to qualify more umpires and in particular younger umpires! (at least younger than seventy) but within reason the younger the better.

Without qualified umpires there will be **no formal competitive cricket!**

New umpires predominantly come from within our ranks I therefore urge players who are in their twilight years of their playing careers to consider putting themselves forward for umpire training.

Umpiring is a very satisfying way of continuing to be involved in your club and cricket in general more importantly it allows retired players give something back to the game we all love!

## Umpire training in 2021

Traditionally umpire training has been a classroom affair however with the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic face to face training is near impossible, making the online course the only viable way to train umpires for the foreseeable future.

I will attempt to organise a course early next year, before the beginning of the 2021 season thus giving a **final** opportunity for the clubs who failed to qualify a least one home umpire on this year's course.

There are a few qualified umpires in clubs who have qualified on previous courses with Stephen Harrison that do not currently make themselves available. Any help from that quarter would certainly help!

I don't apologise for repeating that the situation regarding umpiring in the South West is **critical**, the requirement for the home club to provide an umpire is here to stay!

Congratulations to the following newly qualified umpires

Course with Stephen Harrison Feb 2020 -

Justin Burley MCC

Andy Coope MCC

Colin Goodall ECC

Online Course

Peter Stirling CCKen Sutton CCC

Mark Hayden. MiCC

Louis Parry. MiCC

Medulla Dhorda TCC

Ruairidh Howells TCC

Rajesh Gopalan. TCC

Rolf Zechner. NCC

I hope you will all enjoy your umpiring and if the have any questions or require advice please do not hesitate to contact me.

Malcolm Grant

ACSO Umpiring Community Manager

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