



# Welcome to Carlton Cricket Club!



We'd like to extend a warm welcome to you and your child(ren) to Carlton Cricket Club's 2025 Under-12 squads. This note is a brief introduction; there is lots more information on the [Junior section of the club website](#).

## What to expect

Under-12s train on Wednesday evenings starting on 23 April, and play matches, if selected, on Friday evenings throughout the summer (May, June, July and August).

## Training

There are two U12 training squads, which have been selected by the coaches.

Squad	Training Time	Description
Under-12 Development	7:00 - 8:25pm	The U12 Dev squad is a bridge between the P2-P5 softball squads and the hardball squads. It is for players who are new to hardball or who have less experience of hardball matches.
Under-12	5:30 - 6:55pm	The U12 squad is for more experienced Under-12 hardball players

You can tell which training squad you are in by looking at your details in Pitchero.

Carlton kit is strongly encouraged, but generally you should wear something warm and comfortable that you don't mind attracting grass or mud stains. Other club or school badges are not allowed.

All Under-12 players must have their own abdo guard (aka "box") from the start of the season. Players will generally need their own cricket kit: pads, gloves, bat, helmet. We do have some kit that new U12 Dev players can borrow for training, but we normally expect players to have their own kit once they are comfortable they are going to continue with hardball cricket.

It's also a good idea to bring a water bottle, and 50p to spend at the cake stall.

Carlton training kit, including the ever-popular Carlton hoodie, is all available from <https://www.gray-nicolls.co.uk/collections/carlton>. We also have a second-hand kit stall, which operates at various times during the season.

Finally, please label everything. We clear up astonishing amounts of unlabelled lost property every year, and it is hard to return it to its owner without a name.

## Matches

We enter three Under-12 teams in the Lothian Junior Leagues. Teams are 8-a-side; players play in pairs, so everyone bats in a pair for 4 overs and everyone bowls 2 overs. The pairs are often ranked, so that stronger pairs in each team face each other. Similarly, less experienced pairs face each other.

All U12 squad players will be invited to play matches. U12 Dev squad players will be invited provided that:

- the coaches feel that they are ready to play hardball matches
- they want to play matches.

For P6 players who are completely new to hardball, we will take the first couple of weeks to introduce them to it and then see if it is appropriate to join an Under-12 team.

About half of our matches are 'double-headers' against other clubs with 2 or 3 teams in the league (Grange, MDAFS, Stew Mel & Watsons). In those weeks we will select a 1st, 2nd and 3rd team to play against our opponent's equivalent teams. The other matches will be played in roughly equal teams.

The double-headers were new in 2023, and were generally positive for all players, as they create closer competitive matches for everyone and closer match ups between batters and bowlers allowing each individual to develop their skills and contribute to the game.

Matches are on Friday evenings, we meet at 5:30 for a 6pm start. They generally last around 2 hours. Each team will play about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of its matches at Grange Loan, the remainder at other clubs' grounds. We play many matches in Edinburgh, but also some further afield: Livingston, Penicuik and North Berwick all play in the Lothian Junior Leagues.

We use Pitchero to announce matches, ask about availability of players, and announce teams. We'll send a separate communication with more detail about how we use Pitchero.

For matches, please wear your Carlton polo shirt and dark blue tracksuit trousers. Carlton blue trousers can be bought from <https://www.gray-nicolls.co.uk/collections/carlton> and are preferred, but any dark blue trousers are fine.

## Your commitment

Under-12 cricket requires a greater level of commitment than softball. When you sign up to any Under-12 squad, you commit to:

- Attending at least 80% of training sessions
- If invited into an Under-12 team, being available for at least 80% of matches.

We do recognise that family commitments, and illness, happen. But you *must* please let your coaches or team managers know as soon as you are aware of anything which will prevent you from attending training or being available for a match.

## Code of conduct

Carlton players are expected to accept, and to play by, the Code of Conduct for Junior Members (this can also be found online at [Junior codes of conduct and policies.](#))



### CARLTON CRICKET CLUB PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS

The adults at the Club should help to make cricket safe and fun. This is your job too. This means respecting other players and the people who are there to help you to learn. You should do this by:

- Accepting what the coach or umpires ask you to do in the rules of the game
- Being prepared and on time for training and games
- Playing to the best of your ability
- Respecting the coach and other helpers
- Never swearing at or insulting anyone, including other players
- Telling your parents or carers where you are, or if you are going to be late
- Following advice from coaches to keep you safe and injury free
- Never bullying other players either yourself or in a group

Bullying can take many forms, including:

- name calling
- belittling
- giving only negative feedback
- hitting
- shoving
- stealing
- damaging belongings
- spreading rumours
- making threats
- sending/posting nasty messages
- intentionally leaving people out

If you are worried about something, don't keep it to yourself. You can speak to any of the coaches at the club, or you can contact the Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer directly.

Carlton Cricket Club CWPO: Mary Rose [mary.rose1008@gmail.com](mailto:mary.rose1008@gmail.com)

If there isn't anyone you can talk to, you can contact ChildLine in Scotland on 08001111 or [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk).

## How do I keep up with Carlton news and events?

You can stay informed through:

1. **Pitchero** – Match details, training updates, and event announcements. Enable notifications so you don't miss anything!
2. **Instagram (@Carltoncc1863)** – News and updates.
3. **WhatsApp Groups**
  - Team admins may create WhatsApp groups for team discussions (not for availability or selection, which is managed via Pitchero).
  - The "Arrows Chat" group is available for general Carlton discussions (family-friendly, children must have a parent in the group too). Contact your team admin if you want to be added to this group.
4. **Website ([CarltonCC](#))** – Regular news updates.

## Do you stop for summer holidays?

No! Training goes on every week from 23 April to the end of August. Lothian Juniors League matches take a break in the first week of July, but otherwise play from May to August.

## What if it rains?

We try very hard not to cancel cricket, so you will find we play on through light rain. But sometimes the weather defeats us and we have to cancel a training session. When that happens, we will announce it through Pitchero.

## Can I help?

Yes please!

All of our lead coaches for training sessions are paid professionals, but all the administration of the club and of match squads is done by volunteers. We always need help to run the club, for example:

- Running the cake stalls at Wednesday training sessions.
- Helping to run the teams on Friday evenings.
- Selling and serving burgers at club social events (once the weather warms up a little).
- And various other roles.

We will make requests for help of various sorts at points through the season - please consider these positively and offer help when you can, we really appreciate all help

Alternatively, please contact Siobhan or any one of the junior committee (see below) and offer to help. It doesn't have to be a lot, a few evenings selling cakes would be a great start and a good way to meet other parents at the club.

## Can I join in?

Yes!

Some parents join Carlton to play cricket as well as their children. We run seven senior league teams including two Women's teams, plus a Sunday development side and occasional friendly games. If you're interested in playing, please contact Martin (membership secretary).

## Who should I ask ...

Contact details are all on the [Contacts](https://carltoncc.co.uk/juniors/contacts/) page: <https://carltoncc.co.uk/juniors/contacts/>, also on the noticeboard just inside the middle door of the clubhouse.

Junior cricket is managed by the Junior committee. Key contacts are:

- **Siobhan Fontenla**, junior convenor - questions generally about Carlton junior cricket.
- **Mary Rose**, Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer - questions or concerns about the wellbeing of your (or any) child.
- **Stevie Gilmour**, head coach - questions about coaching; tips on improving your child's cricket; summer camps ...
- **Charles Stronach**, cricket manager - questions about junior teams.
- **Kelly Caton**, kit manager - questions about Carlton clothing.
- **Kelly Foley**, fixtures secretary and Lost property.
- **Martin Firth**, membership secretary - questions about membership and Pitchero.

We try to make sure that one of us is at training sessions to answer questions, or just for a chat about cricket.

We hope you and your children enjoy cricket as much as we and our children have done, and we look forward to seeing you at Carlton this summer.

Siobhan Fontenla & the Junior Cricket Committee