



Welcome to Carlton Cricket Club!

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to you and your child(ren) to Carlton Cricket Club's 2026 Girls Development squad. This note is a brief introduction; there is lots more information on the [Junior section of the club website](#).

We have plenty of space in our Girls squads! No knowledge of cricket is needed to join the softball or development squads. Please encourage your friends to come along and try out cricket as well - but please ask a parent to contact Martin Firth first to let us know they're coming.

What to expect

Cricket and fun!

The Girls Development squad is a level between the Softball and Hardball squads, for older primary players. The players train with an incrediball (part way between a soft and hard ball), progressing to hardball at their own pace.

Players will be invited to take part in softball matches. As their confidence with playing hardball cricket develops, they will also be invited to play hardball matches.

Girls Development squad training sessions are on Mondays from 5 - 6:15pm starting 20 April, at [our ground on Grange Loan](#).

We often have a cake stall and teas/coffees at Girls training sessions, which is a highlight of the training sessions from the children's point of view.

What should I bring to training sessions?

Your child does not initially need any kit, we have some kit they can borrow for training. However, as they progress towards hardball cricket, it is likely that they will want their own helmet, pads, gloves and bat.

Wear something warm and comfortable that you don't mind attracting grass or mud stains. But other club or school badges are not allowed.

Your Carlton membership includes a club polo shirt, which you can collect at the first few training sessions. Other than that, wear something warm and comfortable.

Optionally, we offer a range of cricket clothing through <https://www.gray-nicolls.co.uk/collections/carlton>, including the ever-popular Carlton hoodie.

It's also a good idea to bring a water bottle, and perhaps £1 to spend at the cake stall.

Please label anything which can be dropped: hoodies, hats, water bottles ...

Are there matches?

Yes! Girls in the Development squad will be invited to two types of matches, both on Sunday mornings. Both matches generally start around 9:15am and finish by noon.

- Softball festivals. We will generally play 3 quick games against teams from other clubs. There are two types of festival:
 - Girls U12
 - Mixed U10 (girls can play a year older, so girls who are not yet 11 on 1 September 2025 can play in these festivals).
- Hardball. We enter a team in the Lothian Juniors Girls Development league.
 - This level is aimed at girls who are just starting to play hardball cricket. The age is nominally U14, but it is open to players of any age for whom this level is appropriate.
 - The emphasis is on enjoying the game and practising hardball cricket skills.
 - Matches are 8-a-side, in pairs format, 16-overs a side. Everyone bats in a pair for 4 overs and everyone bowls 2 overs.

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

Drop off and pick up

We do not have anyone to look after your children outside of scheduled training sessions and matches.

- Please drop your children off no more than a few minutes before their training session or match meet time.
- Please pick up your children promptly at the end of their training or match.

Do you stop for summer holidays?

No! Cricket goes on every week from 20 April to the end of 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.

Our responsibilities

We take our responsibilities to our junior players very seriously. Coaches and team managers all work within the [Code of conduct for working with children](#).

If you or your child have any concerns about how you are treated, please talk to one of:

- Your child's coach
- The club's Child Welfare and Protection Officer: Mary Rose
mary.rose1008@gmail.com or 07958 649704

Carlton's full set of Codes of Conduct and policies is available on our website: [Junior codes of conduct and policies](#), including our [Child Wellbeing & Protection Policy](#).

Your responsibilities

We are proud of our record of inclusivity and fair play. When you join Carlton:

- you accept the [Code of conduct for spectators](#)
- your child accepts the [Code of conduct for Under-12s](#).



Carlton CC

Code of conduct for Under-12s

PLAY BY THE RULES

While you are here ...

- 1** Be yourself and welcome others
- 2** Be kind and honest to everyone
- 3** Try your best and have fun
- 4** Listen to your coaches
- 5** Remind a parent or carer to bring the right kit, food and drinks with you
- 6** Please do not wander off or leave without telling a coach

**If you are ever worried, talk to anyone from Carlton.
We're here to support you.**

Carlton Cricket Club CWPO: Mary Rose mary.rose1008@gmail.com 07958 649704

childline

ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111

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** - the "Arrows Chat" group is available for general Carlton discussions. This is aimed at senior teams, but might be of interest to parents of juniors. Contact one of the junior committee if you want to be added.
4. **Website ([CarltonCC](https://carltoncc.co.uk))** – Regular news updates.

Can I help?

Yes please!

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

- Running the cake stalls at Monday training sessions.
- Helping to run the teams on Sunday mornings.
- Helping at popular social events such as BBQs during the summer - cooking & selling food, setting up and clearing up.
- 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 Officers - 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 ...
- **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