



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 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 Wednesdays from 22 April at [our ground on Grange Loan](#), and play matches on Friday evenings throughout May, June, July and August.

Training

There are two U12 training squads.

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, 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.

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. Carlton kit is strongly encouraged at training, and 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 perhaps £1 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; everyone bats in a pair for 4 overs and everyone bowls 2 overs. The pairs are usually arranged so that batters and bowlers are at a similar level.

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. Other matches will be played in roughly equal teams.

The double-headers were new in 2023 and are 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, meet at 5:30 for a 6pm start. They generally last around 2 hours. Each team will play about 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: for example, Livingston and North Berwick 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.

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.

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 set your child's availability on Pitchero as soon as you are aware of anything which will prevent them from being available for a match.

Do you stop for summer holidays?

No! Training goes on every week from 22 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.

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 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.

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:

- Baking cake and helping to run the cake stalls at Wednesday training sessions.
- Helping to run the teams on Friday evenings.
- 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](#) 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 ...
- **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