



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 Hardball squad. This note is a brief introduction; there is lots more information on the [Junior section of the club website](#).

What to expect

The Girls Hardball squad train on Monday evenings from 5 - 6:15pm, starting on 20 April. They will play matches in the Lothian Juniors Girls U16 league throughout the summer (May, June, July and August), although at the time of writing the match day(s) have not been confirmed.

Training

The Girls Hardball squad trains on Monday evenings (details above).

Carlton training 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. Carlton training kit 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.

We expect Girls Hardball players to have their own cricket kit: pads, gloves, bat, helmet. However, we do have some kit you can borrow in an emergency.

It's also a good idea to bring a water bottle.

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 a Girls Under-16 team in the Lothian Junior Leagues. Teams are 8-a-side; matches are generally 20 overs each side. At the time of writing, the match day(s) have not been confirmed.

Girls are also invited to play with boys in Under-12, Under-14 and Under-16 fixtures. If you feel you have not been included in the right set of teams, please talk to Sam or Stevie.

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 - and you - use Pitchero.

Playing kit

Players playing for the Girls Hardball team will need a Women's Hardball playing shirt, available from from [the Carlton Grey-Nicholls store](#).

For matches, please wear your playing 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.

Senior cricket

Some Girls' Hardball players also attend Women's senior training and play in Women's senior matches.

- Attendance at senior training is by coach invitation based on performance at Girls' Hardball training. You should discuss with your coaches whether you are ready for that, and which team you should sign up for.
- Women's training is on Mondays, 6:30 - 8:30 pm.
- At the time of writing, the structure of the Women's season is unclear. There will be some (maybe all) of the following fixtures:
 - 40-over WPL games on Sunday afternoons.
 - 30-over WPL games, probably on Sunday mornings.
 - 20-over Challenger League games, probably on midweek evenings.
 - Cup games, probably 20-overs, timing TBD.
 - Maybe T10 festivals, timing TBD.

We use Pitchero for availability and selection for seniors in exactly the same way as for juniors. And we ask for an additional subs payment of £30 for girls who also take part in senior cricket.

Playing kit

Playing kit for senior teams is the same as for the Girls U16 team. If you play for the Women's first team, you will be given a playing shirt.

Your commitment

Girls Hardball cricket requires a significant level of commitment. When you sign up to the Girls Hardball, you commit to:

- Attending at least 80% of training sessions
- Being available for at least 80% of matches.

We do recognise that family commitments, and illness, happen. But you *must* please set your availability on Pitchero as soon as you are aware of anything which will prevent you from being available for a match.

Do you stop for summer holidays?

No! Training goes on every week from 20 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-16s](#).



Carlton CC

Code of conduct for Under-16s

PLAY BY THE RULES

While you are here ...

- 1** Be yourself and accept others - we're all different, let's celebrate this! Appreciate that everyone has different abilities and skills.
- 2** Be respectful to everyone - coaches, teammates, officials, players from other teams. Celebrate success and be gracious when we lose.
- 3** Try your best, have fun, and encourage others
- 4** Listen to your coaches
- 5** Take care of our equipment and space
- 6** Be on time for your training sessions and matches. Bring the correct kit, food and drinks.
- 7** Please do not wander off or leave without telling a coach
- 8** Follow our club rules, and the rules of cricket. Follow our online safety and social media policies and procedures.
- 9** Speak out if you feel worried or concerned - including any bullying you may hear or see.

**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)** and [Linkedin](#) - 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:

- Helping to run the team at fixtures.
- 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 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