

## Jolly's Drinks Cornwall Cricket League 2009 Season Preview

Local cricket clubs have been coming to terms during the winter of changes to the UK immigration system which have come into place. A points based managed migration system has been introduced, in the biggest shake-up of the system for 45 years. Cricket clubs now need to obtain a 'sponsor licence' in order to bring players and coaches from outside the EU into this country. As part of that application process, clubs must obtain a Governing Body Endorsement for both for their licence, which is obtained from the UK Borders Agency, and for each individual they wish to bring into the country. In addition to this locally clubs voted in a rule change at the AGM which now limits clubs to only one 'seasonal' overseas player per team. Previously there were no restrictions on numbers. A 'seasonal player' is defined as a player who spends less than 12 months in Cornwall and Devon in the current year.

In the ECB Cornwall Premier League a change has been made to revert back to determining league placings by the most points gained. An average points system has been used over the last three seasons. Cancelled games will now go back to both teams receiving six points apiece. Clubs have also voted in a potential package for the 2010 season which may see an increase from eight to ten teams in the Premier League, combined with a new 50 over competition and a countywide 20/20 involving both Premier & County 1 teams. Its implementation will be dependent however on the top two teams from County Division 1 meeting the required ECB criteria to be promoted. As a result a question mark will remain until after the end of the season as to whether a Premier League team will be relegated this season.

Meanwhile the format for 2009 remains with teams playing each other in a round robin 50 over win/lose games at the start of the season following by 110 over 'Time' games home and away. To avoid starting or finishing on a Bank Holiday weekend the season has been extended to the first weekend in September with the Mayday Monday not a scheduled full day of league fixtures.

**ST JUST** are bidding to win a sixth successive Premier League title, having dominated last year's competition. Gareth May continues in charge with Mark George as his deputy. The Premier League's leading batsman David Roberts is again the club's professional. He has topped the Premier League averages in four of the last five seasons and finished second on the other occasion in 2006. New Zealanders Darren Cudby and Adam Barrett are not available this year. A newcomer however is 22 year old left arm quick bowler Patrick Houghton. He is also from New Zealand but has a British passport. Making a shorter trip is left handed batsman Liam Devine who moves from Penzance. St Just start with a trip to Werrington.

**TRURO** were runners-up last year for the fourth time in five campaigns. With an influx of players at Boscawen Park they look set to provide a formidable challenge. County skipper Tom Sharp is the club professional and takes charge at Truro for a twelfth term. Chris Martin is vice captain. He missed some of last season with a broken thumb. Sharp welcomes his County all rounder, Chris Hunkin who has made the move from relegated Grampound Road after 14 years service. Another established top division player, hard hitting batsman Barry Purchase, returns after a decade playing at Camborne and Newquay. Another recruit is the promising young St Austell batsman Ross Chadwick who has moved from St Austell. He has been a leading batsman in his Cornwall Schools career and hit a century for the Cornwall Under 17's last year. Jonathan Kent is bowling in the nets having missed the majority of last

season due to an ankle injury. One downside is that kiwi all rounder Aaron Pennell is unlikely to be available this season, as the Border Agency has rejected his application for a new visa. He is currently appealing against this decision. Truro open the season at home to St Austell.

**FALMOUTH** had a good 2008 season to finish third under the captaincy of Duncan Ayres. He continues at the helm with Adrian Noott the vice-captain. 19 year old Matt Wiley is a newcomer. He is a wicket-keeper batsman from Perth, Western Australia. A couple of players, Richard Kellow and Tom Glover, have made the short trip to Constantine. A new cricket committee has been set-up under Mike Hoban with Chris Old very much involved in coaching. Falmouth start their campaign with the long journey to new boys Callington.

**WERRINGTON** won three of their last four games to finish fourth last year. Ben Smeeth continues as skipper and welcomes back Adam Hodgson as his vice-captain. 24 year old Hodgson, who has represented Cornwall, returns after playing for Bath last season. Sam Hockin, who took 50 wickets for Bude last year in Division 2, has also signed. Hodgson does not return from Australia until the fifth week of the season while Opening bat and left arm spinner Seb Street will be home from University in June. Former vice captain Darren Johns availability will be very limited. Joel Kennan has returned to Australia and Mark Taylor is spending the season travelling abroad. Alex Smeeth has been training with Somerset all winter and will lead the bowling attack backed up by Ian Worsnip. Matt Robins has been in Australia playing all winter. Mark Horwell will continue to open the batting and keep wicket and Mark Hodgson is expected to start the new season where he left off last year.

**PAUL** fell away last season to finish fifth after an impressive first campaign in the top flight. They have been boosted for this season however with Justin Stephens returning as professional after only playing a couple of games in the middle of last season. Another bonus will be the return of Neil Pengelly who takes over the captaincy from Paul Osborne . He has recovered from an injury which kept him out of the side last year. Kelvin Snell is the vice-captain. Tom Edwards returns after a couple of seasons at Ludgvan while Ross Williams returns after a year in New Zealand. A late departure is opening bowler Anthony Hosking who has gone back to Ludgvan. Paul host Newquay on the opening day.

**ST AUSTELL** will be looking to build after surviving their first season back in the top flight. Skipper Sean Hooper welcome's back slow left armer Andrew Libby from Roche to add balance to the attack. Seamer Simon Ellison is back to full fitness after last year's knee operation and takes over as vice captain from brother Matt. Dan Jarman has spent the winter playing in New Zealand and he, Matt Rowe, Taylor Williams, Hooper, Mike Bone and Matt Ellison will be expected to do most of the batting. Gary Bone and Simon Ellison head a host of seam bowling talent that will be fighting for places – James Maycock available all season, Scott Barrott, Liam Watson, Steve Raven and newcomers Sean Mee and John Brain will all competing for a place in the side. 14 year old new boy Ben Kitt-Osborne shows promise and should bowl his way into contention as well. New Zealander Brayden Hill will not be returning. The club has a new Chairman in Brendan Parkinson but scorer Brian ' Condor ' Holder will be sadly missed.

For the second successive year **NEWQUAY** survived relegation of the final day of last season. For 2009 there's a new man in charge at the Sports Centre with Joe Crane taking over the captaincy from Rob Harrison. Good news for Crane is that the Cornwall all rounder remains at the club and his County colleague Neil Ivamy is the vice-captain. There will be

new faces with 21 year old right handed batsman James Newnham, an Australian with a British passport, joining along with two Cornwall cricketers. Former Grampound Road all rounder Martin Pearce has signed after playing at Lydney last year. Another all rounder, 21 year old Daniel Stephens, has made the move from Camborne and skipper Crane is hoping his side are more competitive this year. Missing however is Barry Purchase who has moved back to Truro. Overseas player Scott Steward might be available.

**CALLINGTON** are the promoted team returning after three seasons. They are led by Jim Shorten who took 45 wickets last year. He was only bettered in the County Division 1 bowling averages by Sanjaya Rajapakse who took 48. However the club are holding their breath on whether he will reappear in a few weeks as there are problems in getting him over from Sri Lanka. Season planning has not been straight forward at New Road. They were hoping to have the services of Somerset and Devon's Arul Suppiah. However a couple of centuries in warm up games saw him catapulted into opening the batting in the first LV County Championship game against Warwickshire at Taunton last week. Dan Davis topped the batting last year with John Parsons, Peter Tancock, Luke Davis and Andy Shorten all contributing. Chris Bennett supported with the ball taking 39 wickets. One newcomer is Aiden Libby who has joined from Looe.

#### County Division 1 Preview

County Division 1 games have been increased from 48 to 50 overs apiece with bowlers now further restricted to only 20% of the available overs i.e. 10 overs maximum in a full game. Clubs again voted out a proposal to fall in line with the Premier League and set a minimum over rate of 17 over per hour. There are concerns that with starts remaining at 2pm bad light might well be a problem at either end of the season. Games will also continue to be rearranged if called off due to the weather in County Division 1 only.

**GRAMPOUND ROAD** were narrowly relegated from the Premier League and will play in the second tier for the first time since 1999. Martin Roberts continues as skipper, having taken over during last season after starting in the second eleven. However he won't have the services of Chris Hunkin (Truro), Peter Emery or Jamie Trudgeon (both Roche). Tom Trethewey has joined from Lanhydrock.

Having run St Austell and Callington close in the last two seasons **CAMBORNE** might well be expected to be the leading challengers. However there has been something of an exodus from Roskear during the winter. Leading batsman Ian Goldsworthy and Daniel Mitchell have moved up the hill to local rivals Troon. All rounder Dan Stephens has gone to Newquay, Nick King to Redruth and James Gool to Beacon. On the plus side for skipper Martin Jenkin is the late change of heart of Paul Berryman who has reneged on his move to Redruth. He could be part of a reunion with former Gloucestershire player Malcolm Pooley and his son Sam moving up from the third team and the return of bowlers Scott Curnow and Darren Shoreland.

**REDRUTH** improved considerably to finish third last year. Martin Strick takes over as skipper from Pete Bolland with Redruth rugby coach Nigel Hambly the vice-captain. The two overseas players last year, Sriram Krishnamurthy and Moritz Hartmann are not returning. Hartmann would have loved to have had another season but has been offered a teaching post back in New Zealand. Last year's professional Dave Simpson, after a winter of doubt, has

decided to stay in New Zealand. There are a couple of replacements. Kolynn Tai from New Zealand is a batsman and spin bowler while Nick King has opened the batting for neighbours Camborne.

**WADEBRIDGE** were a creditable fourth last year, their highest finish for over a decade. Neil Richards continues as captain. Cornwall Cricket Development Manager Joe Skinner, having moved to the area to live, has joined the Club from Perranarworthal, Joshua Clingham arrives from Sydney, and Tom McLachlan from St Minver. Clingham is a teenage top order batsman and right arm bowler from Sydney, while McLachlan is a young all rounder joining from neighbours St Minver. Nick Yelland scored over 900 runs last year while Dave Dunnett and Stuart Parkyn had outstanding seasons with the ball and along with Gyles Reynolds will spearhead the attack. County Youth bowler Ross Keast has joined St Minver. Off the field the Club has invested in new covers and are fundraising for a pavilion extension and renovation to provide new changing rooms, toilets and umpires and scorers rooms, with planning permission ready to be sought in the near future.

Kiwi all rounder Craig Davies returns for his second season as **GORRAN'S** sole overseas player following the league rule change. Dan Laming will be missed having played a key role in the second half of the season to take Gorran up the table to safety. Tom Braysmith will return from London for the majority of games in 2009. Captain Chris Lovell is also able to call upon the core of last season's team. Much will depend on the skills of opening batsman Matt House, wicket keeper batsman Robin Kendall and all rounders James Tomlinson and Jack Braysmith. Seam bowler Kevin Harris will hope to replicate his outstanding performances of 2008. Gorran also have a plethora of talent emerging from their large youth section. Opening bowler Chris Kendall has made huge strides in the close season. Gorran is also making significant developments on the facility front. Chairman Andy House has negotiated various loans and grants to facilitate a magnificent new £50000 pavilion extension. This will provide new bar, toilet facilities, junior storage area and new decor throughout.

Wayne Jenkin takes over as **HAYLE'S** captain from Steve Pollard with Paul Lello his deputy. Newcomers include 19 year old batsman James Franklin from Leedstown and Joshua Rule who returns from Penzance. 19 year old Dawnley Grant, son of former St Vincent and Windward Islands captain Dawnley Joseph is also set to join. A quick bowler he has played for the West Indies under 19's. His father was the 1986 Vinter Cup Final man of the Match for Hayle, in their win over Perranarworthal. Bowler Kevin Smitheram is also to make a comeback but Australian Lucas Sekata-Coleman is not returning to the Towans while batsman Jason Weeks has moved to Crofty/Holman.

**PENZANCE** finished mid table last year and will again be led by Tony Riggall with a similar line up to that of 2008. One loss is that of batsman Liam Devine who scored almost 500 runs last season. He has moved to St Just. On Sunday 26th April there is a special game at St Clare in memory of club stalwart and former county captain Brian Laity. The footpath leading from the main road to the cricket pavilion is being named the 'Brian Laity Way' in his memory. The formal naming ceremony takes place at 1pm before a match between a Penzance XI and a Chairman's XI selected by Treve Laity.

**LUCKETT** have received a pre season boost with the signings from Launceston of top order batsman Michael Bolt and opening bowler Peter West. Andy Brenton skippers the side with

John Schuttkacker his vice-captain. One loss is that of batsman Paul Clements who has moved to South Petherwin.

**TROON** had a nervous finale to last season before securing their status. Skipper Steve Eddy will have Mark Jenkin as his vice-captain. Ian Goldsworthy rejoins Troon from Camborne as Professional for 2009. He has previously played for Troon at both youth and senior level. He replaces James Bryant who was at Troon for three seasons. Also moving from Camborne is wicket keeper batsman Daniel Mitchell. Damien Trease has made the move to Crofty/Holman.

**LAUNCESTON** won their first five games last year but it all went downhill and they ended up by losing five on the reel to finish in tenth spot. The omens don't look too promising with a number of players having left in the close season. Skipper Peter West and opener Michael Bolt have gone to Luckett, and vice-captain Kevin Horrell and Dave Cox to South Petherwin.

**BUDE** make an immediate return after one season in Division 2 East. Sean Parish has moved overseas with work and as such resigned from his roles as both 1st XI Captain and Club Chairman. Ashley Hockin has decided to stay in Australia for a while longer while Sam Hockin has joined Werrington to play Premier cricket. All rounder Andy Layton has moved to the area from Nottingham. Also joining is Australian Tristan Du Toit who is staying in Bude over the summer whilst also touring around the country.

**FALMOUTH SECONDS** make their County Division 1 debut with former professional goalkeeper Kevin Miller as skipper. It promises to be a challenging season for the club with a step up in standards. Falmouth follow Truro, St Austell, Callington and Grampond Road in having teams in the two county Divisions at the same time.

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Outside of the two county divisions there have been three withdrawals on the eve of the season. Goldsithney have withdrawn from Division Three West with immediate effect. The League Management Committee has reluctantly accepted that due to player shortage they are unable to continue to field a team at that level. They will continue with one team playing in Divisions Six West.

Similarly in a statement Troon CC have said: "Due to a shortage of Senior Players the Club has had to take the unfortunate decision to withdraw the 3rd XI from division 7 West. While we have no shortage of young talent wanting to play, without a core of senior players willing to run the side we cannot proceed. Later in the season we know that more players will be available and the situation would improve, however it was decided that it would be unfair on the other Club's if we were to continually forfeit games. The Club is currently developing a second ground at Troon School which we hope will be ready to use next season. The Club is hoping to re-enter a 3rd XI next season".

Penzance thirds have been forced to withdraw as their ground at Humphry Davy School is undergoing major development.

There have been no changes to the playing conditions in the Eastern or Western sections where 141 teams are set to compete. Player transfers confirmed to date (107 and counting) are:

West

- Barrigger - Gary Croke from Mt Ambrose, Shaun Harris from Mt Ambrose.
- Beacon - James Gool from Camborne, Jak Hodgkins from Praze, Roger and Robert Hocking from Troon.
- Camborne - Scott Curnow from Barrigger, Luke Johnson from Mt. Ambrose, Darren Shorland from Rosudgeon.
- Constantine - Tom Glover from Falmouth, Richard Kellow from Falmouth.
- Crofty/Holman - Julian Osborne from Falmouth, Damien Trease from Troon, Jason Weeks from Hayle.
- Falmouth - Jeffrey Carvelly from Porthleven, Chris Johnson from St Gluvias
- Hayle - James Franklin from Leedstown, Joshua Rule from Penzance.
- Gulval - Matthew Barnes from St Ives, Gareth Bodilly from Penzance,
- Leedstown - Neil Jenkin from Gulval.
- Ludgvan - Anthony Hosking from Paul.
- Mount Hawke - Matthew Thomas and Ryan Thomas from Troon.
- Mullion - Stuart Lee from Crofty/Holman.
- Paul - Tom Edwards from Ludgvan, Nicole Richards from Rosudgeon.
- Perranarworthal - Spencer Duckham from St Gluvias, David Hill from Chacewater, Lisa Reeks from Truro, Ben Manley from St. Gluvias
- Porthleven – Ben Pascoe from Menheniot.
- Redruth - Nick King from Camborne, Brian Bawden from St Gluvias, Craig Williams from Troon.
- St Day - Robert Risbridger from Perranarworthal.
- St Ives - Simon Bendall from Goldsithney, Nathan Hill from Chacewater, Leigh Murray from Goldsithney
- St Just - Liam Devine from Penzance.
- St Levan - Malcolm Brown from Paul, Chris Hichens from Gulval.
- St Newlyn East – Michael Balme from Veryan
- Troon - Ian Goldsworthy from Camborne, Scott Jenkin from Redruth, Daniel Mitchell from Camborne, Tom Mitchell from Helston.
- Truro - Thomas Armstrong from Chacewater, Jeremy Bradley from Perranporth, Ross Chadwick from St. Austell, Chris Hunkin from Grampound Road, Barry Purchase from Newquay, Chad Ruddy from Perranporth, James Walton from Grampound Road.

East

- Boconnoc - Kevin & Lee Ashton from Lanhydrock
- Callington - Russell Holloway from Gunnislake, Aidan Libby from Looe, Kevin Pethick from Gunnislake
- Fowey - Darren Full from Torpoint
- Grampound Road - Ian Berridge from Chacewater, Alexander Rust from Chacewater, Samuel Rust from Truro, Tom Trethewey from Lanhydrock, Dave Legge from Perranarworthal.
- Gunnislake – Luke Southcott from Callington.

Holsworthy - Simon Long from Bude.

Lanhydrock - Christopher Rogers from St Neot.

Liskeard - Richard Lovelock from Looe, Ian Smith from Callington.

Looe - Mark & Nathan Lister from Tideford .

Luckett - Michael Bolt from Launceston, Chris Simpson from Saltash Town,  
Peter West from Launceston.

Newquay - Martin Pearce from Lydney, Daniel Stephens from Camborne,

Pencarrow - Johnny Andrews from Newquay, Daniel Cock from Lanhydrock,  
Peter Cann from Gorran, Matthew Dingle from St Minver,  
Caleb Rowe from Lanhydrock, Christopher Rippon from Newquay,  
Simon Patterson from St Minver.

Roche - Peter Emery from Grampound Road, James Hunkin from St Austell ,  
Ben Libby from St Austell, Alex Pearce from Tregony,  
Jamie Trudgeon from Grampound Road

St Austell - John Brain from Fowey, Ben Kitt-Osborne from Tideford , Andrew Libby  
from Roche, Michael Sweet from St Stephen

St Blazey - Matt Dumont from Lanhydrock, Barney Jackson from Lanhydrock , Alex  
Sparrow Lanhydrock , Lee Sturtridge from Lanhydrock.

St Minver - Craig Allen from Wadebridge, Ross Keast from Wadebridge

St Stephen - Dean Burnett from Roche, Luke Medlin from Foxhole

South Petherwin - Paul Clements from Luckett, David Cox from Launceston, Kevin Horrell  
from Launceston, Paul Sykes from Liskeard.

Wadebridge - Charlie and Tom McClachlan from St Minver, Jake Rowe from Lanhydrock,  
Joe Skinner from Perranarworthal.

Werrington - Adam Hodgson from Bath, Sam Hockin from Bude.

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