

## **Chairman's Report 2022.**

Another full season of cricket has come and gone with pride of place this year going to the Over 70's who won the Vase Competition. As a Club we are fortunate to have many members wanting to represent Devon in the Seniors Cricket Competitions but all Captains continue to be challenged with unavailability issues due to work commitments, injuries and numerous other reasons. I would personally like to extend my sincere gratitude to Mark, Ian, Roger, Neil and Tom for manfully sticking to their job of getting eleven players on to the field of play and for the most part succeeding. As the world becomes more acceptant of the effects of COVID it is hoped that from next season there is an easing of the worries surrounding this disease to such an extent that all teams can hope for greater stability in the selected sides.

Each of the five sides that represent Devon Seniors had success stories throughout the season to go alongside some disappointments. The Over 50's 1st XI qualified for the main knockout competition but had a rather disappointing experience against Middlesex. I am sure this team will want to put that behind them in the 2023 season and make sure they progress further.

The Over 50's 2nd XI went all the way to the Final where they lost to Worcestershire but overall there were some superb performances put in by the side during the year.

The Over 60s had the most problems with availability resulting in the 2nd XI on one occasion playing 5 from the Over 70's squad just to be able to fulfil the fixtures. It is hoped that as more players should qualify for the Over 60s next season this situation could well be eased. There was a very unpleasant end to the season for the Over 60's 2nd XI when having convincingly won the Bowl semi-final the National Management Committee decided to eliminate the team on an unproven technicality and therefore the side was unable to compete in the Final.

Tom Stanton and his Over 70's finished 13th in the National standings and were therefore entered into the Vase competition. In the first round they defeated Warwickshire but then followed that up with victories over Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and Somerset all of whom had finished higher in the original competition. A fine end to the season.

Once again this year I would like to thank everyone for all they contributed to our Club. Whether a Captain, a player, a scorer, an umpire, a committee member, a Vice President or a Sponsor your contribution is always appreciated and is an integral part of the success of our Club.

I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity and privilege to be Chairman of our Club for the past two years. These have not been easy times but our Club has come through it all and we are in a very strong position both financially and with the number of players coming forward. I wish the new Chairman continued success for our Club both on and off the field of play. We are in a fortunate position to still enjoy playing cricket so let none of us spoil that opportunity while it is available!

Mike Canning  
Chairman