



Issue 7- April 2008

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Closing Date

The closing date for registering for NatWest CricketForce is 12pm on Thursday 3rd April. No registrations can take place after this date and no amendments can be made to existing registration forms either.

NO OF CLUBS
REGISTERED SO
FAR:

1355

NatWest CricketForce 2008

So, after all of the planning, hard work, organisation, blood, sweat and tears that have gone into getting ready for NatWest CricketForce 2008, it is finally here for you, your club and your local community to get stuck in. As you can see from the box above we now have 1355 clubs registered for NatWest CricketForce 2008; that's over 200 more than our total for 2007, 1150!! We would like to say a massive thanks and well done to all of the clubs that have registered to make this huge total and making NatWest CricketForce bigger and better than it's ever been. From the emails and communications we've been getting from the registered clubs we can see that there are great projects happening this weekend and even some that have happened already - Old Northamptonians CC in Northamptonshire were out in the snow over the Easter weekend getting started on their projects, a great effort from them!

Throughout this newsletter we'll be providing you with all the last minute information and advice we think you'll need to make sure everything goes well for you this weekend.

Thanks again to all of you for your hard work this year!!

Helpdesk - natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce



Official Supporters

A great asset that comes with participating in NatWest CricketForce is the support offered by our Official Supporters. Every year the benefits that come from the Official Supporters gets better and better as we get more and more on board. This year alone we have added Powerroll, SISIS, Bowcom, Dulux Decorator Centres and Build Centre to those already supporting us. Hopefully all of you have taken advantage of the offers from at least one of these companies; if you're still unsure of who those companies are and what they're offering please go to:

<http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/cricketforce/official-supporters-of-natwest-cricketforce-2008,1177,BP.html>

Beyond the services the Official Supporters provide to all participating clubs they also provide great support to our Showcase Clubs; here are some examples of what has been supplied this year.

A free Bowdry from Bowcom, Installation of Electronic Scoreboard from Daktronics, £1000 donation from Daktronics, Flat sheet cover from Climate Cover, brand new kitchen from Build Center, Portable scoreboard from Easyscore and a Gazebo from Jackson's Fine Fencing. No doubt there will be more additions to this as we get closer to the weekend. Don't forget we also had the competition for tiles and tiling products from H & R Johnson recently which a number of clubs benefited from.



Recruiting Volunteers

This weekend is the perfect opportunity for your Cricket Club to recruit volunteers into key positions in your club. Quite simply, all you need to do is just take some paper and pens and ask for names and contact details for all of those that help you out this weekend. This way you'll be able to contact them in the future about any similar events you'll be having or when needing to fill a position with your club and committee. By taking the details of everyone that has helped you this will also provide you with the perfect way to thank everybody properly for all of their efforts. As we try to tell everyone as much as we can; a thank you goes a long long way!!

www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce



Blogs

As we've mentioned before, we love to hear your stories about what you're doing or what you have done already for NatWest CricketForce. We have a blogs section on the website (see bottom of the page) that is filling fast with your stories and it's a great way for other clubs to pick up tips and best practise examples. We would welcome any blogs from you to add to the website telling us and all other NatWest CricketForce participants your stories. Please email natwestcricketforce@ecb.co.uk with your blogs.

Evaluations

As from Sunday 6th April an evaluation form will be made available for all participating clubs to complete. This will be accessible through the website (below) where a link will take you to it. We would like to encourage you all to fill this in as the information we gather from it is invaluable. All clubs that do complete it will be entered into a prize draw to win signed England Cricket merchandise. If you have any questions about this please email the helpdesk at any time.

Reminders and Tips

Here are a few last minute tips and reminders for your NatWest CricketForce event this weekend.

- Get the contact details of all of your volunteers - including email addresses
- Make sure you've got all of your Health and Safety issues covered (you can find a Health and Safety guide on the website (see bottom of page))
- Set up a music system at your ground to play music as everyone works, it's a great motivational tool
- Remember to take a camera and a camcorder too if you've got one. Photos are a great keepsake from the weekend to see what was achieved, plus we'd like to see some too!
- Make sure you've got plenty of food and drink for the weekend; it's amazing what some people will do in exchange for a drink and a bacon sandwich
- Contact any local media that you can i.e. radio, newspaper etc; the more publicity the better for you and us
- Make sure you show your thanks and appreciation to everyone that comes to help at your event
- Finally, make sure you have fun and get the jobs done that you needed to!!!

NatWest CricketForce Go Green Club Fund

The 'Go Green' Club Fund is open to all ECB affiliated clubs who have registered for, and participated in, NatWest CricketForce 2008.

The fund is designed to promote the concept of cricket clubs 'going green' and to support the UK's short target to reduce CO2 emissions by 20% by 2010.

****Clubs can apply for up to £10,000****

Please go to www.ecb.co.uk/natwestcricketforce and click on the link on the right hand side for more information, guidance notes and the application form.