



Wheldrake Cricket Club and Rowntrees and Huntington Cricket Merger Proposal

October 2018

Background

Wheldrake CC are now operating with just one team in the York Vale League and are now at a stage where they are struggling to find 11 players for every game. There is a good youth set up with junior teams, but these junior players have not quite been ready to step up to adult cricket. The club also no longer operates an evening league team. The club requires an injection of players and purpose to keep hold of the junior players and grow in the future.

Rowntrees and Huntington CC have been in limbo since losing their Mille Crux ground to York St John University and have been ground sharing at various places since 2016. This is costly to R&H and after being in a strong financial position several years ago, ground hiring has taken its toll to the point where it would be a struggling to carry on in this state. It is also hard to attract new players without a permanent base or facilities and whilst the club has remained relatively successful on the field, it will be hard to maintain this.

In 2017 R&H began sharing with Wheldrake and did so for most home matches in 2018. A strong relationship developed between the two clubs and towards the end of the 2018 season it was felt it would be interests of both clubs to merge and build a stronger future. A meeting was held between key committee members of both clubs where it was agreed to progress. The York and District Senior League gave it's blessing to continue with the proposal.

How the Merger Would Look

Club Name and Crest

Due to the arrangement with the Wheldrake Recreation Association where by any member clubs must be based in the village of Wheldrake, the club name would have to remain as such. It is hoped that to maintain a connection to the old names of Rowntrees and Huntington, we could call the new club 'Wheldrake RH'. This however would affect Wheldrake's Club Mark accreditation and would mean the process would need to be restarted. As Clubmark is valid for three years, the proposed solution would be to continue with the merger and play as Wheldrake Cricket Club with teams in

both the YDSL and YVCL, redesign a new club badge and colours, and in three years time look at renaming the club. The proposed club colours would be maroon, the current colours of R&H and one of the existing colours of Wheldrake. New club kit will be made available.

Position of teams and players

The club would have two teams. The 1st team would take the place of Rowntrees and Huntington in Division 2 of the York and District Senior League, the 2nd team would take the place of Wheldrake in Division 2 of the York Vale League. Players of both clubs would be amalgamated where some existing Wheldrake players will end up playing for the 1st team and some existing R&H players would play for the 2nd team. This would be decided by usual selection processes between appointed club captains. It is felt some of the existing Wheldrake junior players will also be in a position to step up to the 2nd or 1st team.

Use of the Ground

It would be hoped that fixtures could be worked out between the Senior and Vale leagues to allow the ground to be used by each side on alternate weekends. However 1st team fixtures would take priority with Sunday's as an option in the Vale League.

Evening League Cricket

The club will apply to join the Foss Evening League. R&H will resign from the Pilmoor Evening League.

Ground Improvements

To bring the ground fully up to Senior League standards, a new scoreboard and scorebox for scorers will have to be erected. There are already plans in place by Wheldrake to carry out this work and it will be completed in time for the 2019 season.

Junior Teams

The existing Wheldrake junior teams will continue to be run. Players/coaches who are currently with R&H will become involved in the running and coaching of these teams. With a Senior league team within the club, this will give a better pathway into adult cricket for these junior players.

Election of officers

All committee positions will be made vacant and anyone will be free to stand for those positions, including those who currently hold roles within their existing clubs. It is hoped the new committee will include a mix of people from the existing Wheldrake and R&H clubs. The positions available will be President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Child Welfare Officer, 1st team Captain and Vice-Captain, 2nd team Captain and Vice-Captain, Evening League captain. Further positions within the junior set up will also be made available. These roles will be filed at a club EGM upon acceptance of the merger.

Club Finances

The current funds of both clubs will be amalgamated, and decisions of annual subscriptions and match fees will be made at a later date.

Conclusion and Next Steps

This proposal will be voted on by all current members of both clubs. This will consist of a separate vote of members at each club, as arranged by the committees of the existing clubs. If there is a majority of votes in favour of the merger at **BOTH** clubs, then we will proceed to arrange an AGM of both clubs to form the make up of the merged club.

The committees of both clubs strongly support this proposal for prosperity and continued success of both clubs. We hope you join us in voting favourably for this outcome.