

WOMEN'S BIG CRICKET MONTH

Women's Big Cricket Month has been a great success here in Suffolk with new and experienced female cricketers getting involved with all aspects of the game. Read on to discover some of the many highlights of the month for Suffolk cricket both inside and outside Suffolk

Suffolk Umpiring in Action!

For the first time, Suffolk cricket has been represented in a franchise cricket match by Candy Cornelius. Candy stood as a head umpire for the Sunrisers cricket franchise warm-up match against South East Stars on Saturday 19th June. Unfortunately, the Sunrisers team lost by 8 wickets in the game, however, for Candy this is a great achievement and something for both herself and the county to be extremely proud of.

Candy is umpiring a series of games this summer in the women's EAPL, so keep a look out for her at your games and umpiring future games in the regional franchise setup.

For more information on Candy, her umpiring, and how and why she got into it, head to our social media platforms where you will find Candy spotlighted as part of our Women's Big Cricket Month celebrations.



Two Counties Leagues Progress

The Two Counties Leagues are well underway with matches taking place every weekend across the four leagues: Performance, Central, East and West. This Women's Big Cricket Month has seen over a dozen matches played across the leagues, with a large proportion of matches falling foul to the weather.

The current league tables show this season to be extremely competitive and exciting, with only one win separating Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC and Woolpit CC in the Performance league, and a tie between Felixstowe and Corinthians CC and Melton St. Audry's CC in the Central league. Woolpit CC's Lily Tillbrook is currently the highest run scorer across the four leagues with 137 runs, while Alice Lowe and Sally Ablitt of Felixstowe & Corinthians CC share the most wickets taken with 7 each.

To follow the action across all four leagues and to see where your team currently lies in the table, head over to the Two Counties play-cricket page, <https://twocounties.play-cricket.com/>

Women's EAPL Highlights

This season sees the launch of the inaugural Women's East Anglian Premier League (EAPL), consisting of seven teams from across East Anglia.

This June, matches have come thick and fast with notable performances in every match. Highlights from this month include the first league hundred scored by Immy Sidhu for Melton St. Audry's CC, six wickets in Easton's opening two games for Vicky Mitchell, and an opening stand of 146 runs between Sophie Utteridge and Jess Board for Woolpit CC!

The women's EAPL ends in September this season and with five of the seven teams located in Suffolk, there are lots of opportunities to go watch and support the women involved. For more information on the women's EAPL and to follow the league statistics, go to the women's EAPL section of the EAPL play-cricket page,



Social Media Spotlight

Follow Suffolk women on twitter and Instagram to review our social media spotlight. The spotlight focused on exposing all aspects of women and girls' cricket. This included more obvious roles such as playing and umpiring, and less obvious roles such as the work of our groundswomen. There are also club highlights to show what our clubs have got up to during the season, and even a comment from ECB women's managing director Clare Connor.

The social media spotlight aimed to highlight the amazing work of our volunteers in Suffolk and to show women and girls the different ways in which they can get involved in cricket.

If you have been inspired by anyone or anything in our spotlight, or are looking to get involved this summer, please email Ineild@suffolkcricket.org or contact your local club for more information.

Women's Softball Festivals

This Women's Big Cricket Month has seen three Women's Softball Festivals (WSFs), with others postponed due to bad weather.

WSFs are a great way to mix and socialise with neighbouring clubs, and to introduce women's cricket if your club does not have a setup already. They are fun and enjoyable for everyone involved and aimed at total beginners who just want to give cricket a go!

The first WSF of Women's Big Cricket Month was hosted by Melton St. Audry's CC and involved over 30 women! Kesgrave CC followed Melton in hosting their own WSF towards the end of the month, involving players from in and around the Ipswich area. On the last Friday of the month, Felixstowe & Corinthians CC hosted our third WSF of the month, however, rain limited the evenings activities. Despite this, each WSF was a success with a whole host of new women and girls picking up bats and balls and learning to play!

Congratulations to everyone involved in organising, running and playing in each softball festival. I hope everyone who took part is encouraged to keep playing cricket. For those who are interested in subsequent WSFs or want more information on how to get involved this summer, please contact Ineild@suffolkcricket.org for more information.



Coaching

Throughout Women's Big Cricket Month, Suffolk cricket has hosted both ECB Support Coach and Foundation 1 coaching courses; both of which have had good female uptake. It is extremely exciting to see an increasing number of women and girls signing up for coaching courses and getting involved in coaching at their club in Suffolk. The courses which ran this month have been extremely successful in developing and expanding our female coaching body in Suffolk and we hope to continue to grow and support more female coaches in the future.

Our next coaching course is an ECB Support Coach course, to be held on Sunday 11th July. This is an entry level coaching course aimed at beginner coaches looking to start their coaching journey and is free of charge. This course will be FEMALE ONLY and we hope to encourage as many women and girls over 16 as possible to take part. Registration for this course has now closed, however, we will be running further courses for prospective coaches later in the year. If you would like to be notified of the next course available, please contact Ineild@suffolkcricket.org.



Women's Big Cricket Month: Thank You's

This Women's Big Cricket Month aimed to expose, highlight and celebrate the amazing work each and every person involved in women's and girls' cricket in Suffolk does to ensure the success of female cricket. This includes everyone from players, officials, and coaches to background staff, administrators, and ground staff.

Thank you to everyone who dedicates their time and effort into any and every aspect of cricket, particularly those volunteers who comprise the backbone of cricket in Suffolk.

Women's Big Cricket Month 2021 focused on getting as many women and girls as possible involved in cricket in one way or another and without these people this would not be possible. We hope to build off the success of this Women's Big Cricket Month for the remainder of this season and into next and look forward to an even bigger and better Women's Big Cricket Month next year!

GET INVOLVED THIS SUMMER!

What's going on this Summer?

For Girls:

- U11 Girls Softball Festival – Wednesday 21st July – Kwik Cricket – Woolpit CC – U11 Girls
- Suffolk Hundred Festival – Friday 17th August – Kwik Cricket – Bury St. Edmunds CC – U9 mixed, U11 mixed and girls, and U13 girls
- Ipswich School Games Festival – Tuesday 6th July – Registered schools only

For Women:

- Women's Softball Festivals – Yoxford and Sudbury CC's – contact clubs via social media or play-cricket for more information
- Beccles CC and Bungay CC – play in the Norfolk Softball Leagues – contact via social media or play-cricket to get involved

Women's Club Training Sessions:

Mondays

- Melton St. Audry's CC, 6.30pm

Tuesdays

- Copdock & Old Ipswichian CC, 6-8pm
- Mildenhall CC, 6pm

Wednesdays

- Kesgrave CC, 6-7.30pm (softball only)
- Woolpit CC, 6-7.30pm

Thursdays

- Easton CC, 6.15-7.45pm
- Worlington CC, 6-8pm

Fridays

- Bury St. Edmunds CC, 6-7pm (softball only)
- Felixstowe & Corinthians CC, 6.30-8pm
- Haverhill CC, 6-8pm

Sundays

- Yoxford CC, 11-12am

