



PRCC Welfare Secretary's Report 2010

1. CRB Application Forms

- The number of new/renewal forms submitted this year for PRCC members numbered only 4 but that is only because this was a light year and also because another 3 checks would normally have been done just before the end of the year.
 - For 2011 my list shows that a full dozen forms will need to be done – and this excludes any checks for people taking on new jobs which require a check.
 - In addition I certified another 29 forms for coaches and officials from other clubs etc.

2. Website and Internet

- We spent some time in trying to work out how our website system – which uses a secure system of logging in with a password – could be set up safely to use for notifying availability and selection for juniors. We think that we've cracked how to do this but so far the system has not been used for this purpose.
 - One of the reasons for this is that there will be quite a bit of setting-up to do and – particularly with the departure of Alan Dell – we need assistance with the admin in this area. Fortunately we have another volunteer waiting in the wings.
 - We have also recognised the growing significance of social networking sites such as Facebook. There are some who think that I am against such things but I do accept that PRCC needs to have a presence. However this needs to be suitably controlled to ensure that we comply with ECB's recommended best practice for ensuring that our youngsters are protected as far as we reasonably can. Revised advice has recently been received and we will need to consider this.

3. ClubMark

My previous comment leads on to the general question of ClubMark and whether it is 'worth it'. I feel I must mention this because there are some who have questioned the need for us to commit to this and the whole ECB welfare regime.

- Some 4-5 years ago the Committee decided that we needed to ensure that we became both a focus club and obtained ClubMark certification. The reasoning was quite straightforward – apart from recognition within the county we needed both of these if we were to gain access to ECB's limited funding. That policy has borne fruit and we now have the nets to prove it.
 - However ClubMark is an ongoing process – each year we have to self-certify that we still conform to its requirements and every third year we must undergo an independent re-appraisal. That re-appraisal comes up in 2011 and – if we fail – the loan money becomes repayable at once.
 - It's essential therefore that, irrespective of any qualms some people may have about the bureaucracy involved with CRB checks and the like, we retain our ClubMark status and it needs members to be aware of this fact of life and to co-operate with it. Monitoring the need for CRB applications and renewals and certifying the forms is enough to do, but members can help greatly by completing renewal forms promptly when received from ECB and contacting me then rather than leaving me to chase them to get these things done.
 - Similar comments apply to the need for coaches to renew their First Aid and Child Protection training every 3 years – this is one thing which I hope can be incorporated into the job specification for our hoped-for junior admin helper.

John Bushby
(Hon Welfare Secretary)
17 January 2011