11th July 2019

**Wiltshire Cricket Groundsman’s Association – Trailer Hire for end of season renovations**

Dear Club Secretary,

The Wiltshire Cricket Groundsmans Association (WCGA) is a member of Wiltshire Cricket Ltd (WCL) and plays an integral part in ground development and maintenance throughout the county.

The role of the association is to support clubs throughout the county when it comes to pitch advice and to offer support and guidance when it comes to issues such as ground relocation or machinery funding applications.

One of the great benefits that the WCGA can offer to clubs is the availability of two trailers that are owned by the association and that are available to hire by any affiliated club in Wiltshire. The trailers consist of a scarifier, spiker, broadcast spreader, sarrel roller and loam spreader. The first trailer was given to the WCGA during the times of Channel 4 coverage of Test Match cricket but since this time the trailer has been added to in terms of pieces of machinery with WCL securing funding through the ECB Machinery Grant to add pieces of equipment such as the loam spreader.

The second trailer was purchased by the WCGA on the back of increased demand and means that two trailers can be operated at the same time; one in the North and one in the South of the county, meaning that more end of season renovations can be carried out.

WCL and WCGA are very proud to have the trailers available to clubs to hire and want to see the trailers continually improved and maintained so that they remain a fantastic service for clubs. Many clubs have got great use out of the trailers over the past few years for support with autumn renovations but the WCGA would like to see far more clubs make use of the trailer.

**Trailer Operators**

Obviously it is very important that the trailers are kept clean and are returned in the same state that they are delivered. This has been an issue in the past and so the WCGA will now only hire the trailers with an operator. This operator will transport it to the ground and carry out the work with the assistance of the club groundsman. This will help ensure that the kit is kept in good condition and is used correctly. Also, through using an operator it will mean that the trailer can be transported to and from a ground within one day meaning that clubs will not, for example, have the trailer for a whole weekend. This process should help the trailer to be used by more clubs as availability of dates during the peak time of the year for autumn renovation will be better.

Please note that since 2009 there has not been a weekend option for hire of the trailer. Clubs will only be permitted to have the trailer for one day unless they have two squares.

**Costs and specification**

The WCGA committee has decided to apply the same charges for use of the trailer that have applied since 2015. The rate of hire will be £250 inclusive of operator for one day’s hire, this is on the basis of undergoing renovation works to a cricket square not exceeding 10 tracks. Any square which has more than 10 tracks will be charged an extra £25.00 for each track exceeding 10.

Within this cost the WCGA have made a decision to return to each hiring club at a later date (when ground conditions prevail) to carry out spiking to your square. If clubs do not wish the spiking to be undertaken, there will be no reduction in the charged rate allowed.

The operators will be given a specification outlining recommended practices what we the WCGA aim to achieve, thus creating operator uniformity across the board both North and South of the county.

**Hiring the Trailer**

To hire the equipment for a full day complete with an operator costs **£250**, and this figure will include a one off second visit to carry out the spiking of the square when the ground / weather permits. The cost of the hire is based on a square not exceeding 10 wickets. Over and above 10 the added on cost will be £25.00 per each extra strip. The costs for hiring will not be varied should clubs so wish not to have their square spiked.

**Spiker:**

The Groundsman Spiker can be hired out separately if the clubs so wish.

The costs will be:
- 1 days hire of Spiker with clubs collecting and returning using their own trailer / van facility will be £45.00 per day
- Clubs wishing to hire the Spiker with an operator for one day's hire will be charged out at £65.00 per day.

Clubs undertaking this hire arrangement must provide at least one member from the hiring club to assist with the renovation works for their club’s square. If for some reason the renovation works runs into the second day, even if only a part day, then the full charge per day will be levied to the respective hiring club. Please note that the costs as set out above are inclusive of transport costs and fuel. The clubs hiring the trailer equipment on this basis Must have all of the materials, loams, seed and fertilizers on site for use on the day of the booking and must have the square suitably mown off and ready for scarifying.

The WCGA has made arrangements for two trained operatives to use and or deploy the machinery throughout the county and each operative will have a designated working area. The two operatives are Richard Mosdell and John Wilkins. With two trailers in operation they will act on a roughly North/South basis.

All bookings must be made through the **WCGA secretary,** George Clift **(email;** georgeclift2004@yahoo.co.uk **tel; 01380 813928)** who will then co-ordinate/liaise with the operators and also as dual role as treasurer, will then invoice the respective club’s treasurer once the works are completed for record purposes. The committee has made a decision, that once a firm booking has been made, then payment must be made to the WCGA Treasurer G Clift and cheques made payable to the Wiltshire Groundsmans Association, in advance, no later than three weeks prior to your clubs confirmed booking date.

**When is the Trailer available?**

The WCGA’s policy is always to give existing bookers first choice of dates, prior to the Trailer being made available to all other affiliated clubs and so you may need to have some flexibility over your choice of dates.

If you would like to hire the trailer please make your request to George Clift for your preferred date and he will liaise with you from there.

If you have any questions regarding the Trailer or the hiring system please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

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