



# Poloc Cricket Club

'Shawholm', Pollok Country Park, 2060 Pollokshaws Rd, Glasgow, G43 1AT. Tel: (0141) 632 0730

7 March 2021

Dear Member,

## Preparing for reopening

I have decided to combine the February and March update together, partly because lockdown restrictions have meant nothing major has happened to report on through February but as we have moved into March, we have seen some significant work taking place in the clubhouse and around the grounds to get the club ready for reopening later in the Spring.

Whilst the cricket season may still be some way off there have been some positive noises coming from the Scottish Government and Cricket Scotland that suggest we may be able to have something that might resemble a cricket season this year although, as yet, no decisions have been made about the viability of leagues. The club have entered teams at 1st and 2nd XI level in the WDCU Saturday League fixtures as well as entering the Sunday and Midweek Leagues. We have also, of course, committed to WDJCU Junior League teams for the forthcoming season.

## Update from Cricket Scotland CEO, Gus Mackay

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*"Following on from yesterday's Scottish Government's Strategic Framework update about the phased and gradual easing of lockdown, I want to let you know how Cricket Scotland continues to work towards, and lobby for, the return of the sport. In this we recognise, like all the Scottish cricket community, the continuing public health crisis caused by the virus.*

*The Scottish Government has stated their intention for the Level system (0 to 4) to return at the end of April, subject to the evolution of the virus. This should allow for some sport to be played close the traditional start date for the cricket season, albeit probably under some restrictions. The detail of what activity will be permitted in each level is currently expected to be confirmed in mid-March.*

*I remain optimistic that a better domestic cricket season than last year will be possible in 2021. Last summer we proved that cricket is Covid-safe, and scientific research has been published since then showing that there is minimal risk of Covid-19 transmission through sports equipment such as cricket balls. There have been no reported cases of Covid-19 linked to cricket matches; through the work done last summer, we know that the game itself is safe and that risks of transmission through activity outside the boundary rope can be mitigated.*

*Cricket Scotland will continue to advocate for the game to be allowed to restart as soon as it is safely possible. Since last season, cricket has been re-classified, following our representations, as a "non-contact" sport which should make the re-opening of the game easier under the regulations. For example, cricket will be able to take advantage of the relaxation in about mid-March (all going well) which will permit non-contact outdoor group sports for 12-17-year-olds.*

*The Scottish Government has made it clear that the timings they have laid out are indicative and any changes will be driven by the virus data. It should also be noted that the provisional dates for the resumption of activities in England set-out by UK Government on 22nd February do not apply to Scotland.*

*As has been the case throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, Cricket Scotland is in regular contact with **sportscotland** to ensure that cricket is well represented in any plans for a return to sport. In addition, we will, as before, work with the Regional Associations and the new Cricket Scotland Match Officials Association to plan the season as greater clarity emerges.*

*We will continue to monitor the situation closely and update you all regularly on progress. The next update will be issued in mid-March unless there are material developments before then."*

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## **Major clubhouse works commence**

The recent lockdown has given us the opportunity to look at our clubhouse space and freshen up areas of the clubhouse that have been looking tired for many years. I am very grateful to House Convenor, Stuart Irons, for his work and planning of the refurbishment of the clubhouse.

**Phase 1** is nearing completion and has seen the main bar area and backroom area repainted and a new carpet fitted. The main bar area space will be reconfigured with new furniture, wall mounted TV and a new configuration which will allow the "Shawholm Shack" to operate from within the clubhouse when this becomes an option.



**Phase 2** has just started to get underway is returning the clubhouse layout back to how it was in the 1960s (which older members may remember) with the removal of the wall between the Tennis Lounge and the Gents Tennis dressing room space, to create a large area with double bay windows and single door. This area will be used by our Fitness Section, *BodyFit*, run by Stuart Irons and Adam O'Donnell and is being converted into an indoor gym space which will be able to be used when restrictions are lifted and will complement their fitness activities which take place outdoors. The gym has easy access to both male and female showering facilities and will enhance our use of this space within the building.



**Phase 3** will see work on the attached house to install a heating system to allow the building to be used all year round, in comfort, without resulting in large electricity bills.

As you will see in the photos above, the work is ongoing but will benefit all members and guests when completed.

### **Groundworks continue**

Adam Richardson and his team continue their groundworks at present, getting the policies ready for the start of the season and the work done last year is providing us with a very good surface for the year ahead.

### **Winter Golf and "Shawholm Shack"**

Winter Golf has still been possible at Shawholm and it has been great to see a regular group of members and temporary members using the facility throughout February and March. It has also been great to see people continuing to make use of the "Shawholm Shack" for their coffee or hot chocolates whilst taking a walk in Pollok Park. Continued thanks to Donna Richardson for running the "Shawholm Shack".

Yours sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kenneth J A Robertson.

Kenneth J A Robertson  
President