

Welcome to D.P.Roberts Hughes & Denye  
**New Brighton Cricket Club**

Established 1856

The Business Assistance Liverpool & District Cricket Competition  
an ECB Premier League

Monday 31st August - 12.00

1st XI v WALLASEY

### Captain's Comments

We welcome our nearest and dearest rivals to Rake Lane this Bank Holiday safe in the knowledge that Dave Miles and his team will be back for premier league cricket in 2010. As I'm sure many of you will be aware that there will be a reduction of 3 teams from the top division next year from 14 to 12 and the end of season scramble for survival has fortunately passed both clubs by. This will allow us to plan for the future with clear minds and we can begin to look at the possible shape of next season's fixture list.

It is being suggested in certain quarters that a fixture list containing 22 games per team can mirror those of other ECB premier leagues in that it removes all Bank Holiday fixtures, starts later and finishes earlier. I mention this now because I am, personally, wholly opposed to removing the idea of Bank Holiday games. I realise that many clubs in our league hate them but New Brighton/Wallasey is a derby that allows old opponents to re-unite for a 'it was better in my day' chat safe in the knowledge that the game lives on in the traditions that have been established over decades...Sledging, abuse, bouncers, beamers, non-walking, hissy fits and cap/bat throwing!!

On a more serious note, if we are likely to be forced down the 'Saturday only' fixture route I would suggest both clubs demand that the derby game is scheduled for the 2 traditional Bank Holiday weekends and then look to have it re-arranged from the Saturday to the Monday under the guise of tradition. My other suggestion is that we continue with our current arrangements but start the league in May, use the April dates to resurrect the old divisional round robin of 45 over games and have the early Bank Holiday Monday used for the 4 teams playing out the semi-finals of this competition. Everyone else has this day off in order to go shopping or spending quality time on facebook as is the way of the young!

I'm throwing this out early because I'd like to get a consensus from players and spectators as to their views on the way forward. If people like a return to the old round robin and retention of Bank Holiday fixtures we'll attempt to find a seconder for a proposal to this effect. We may even have to seek a premier league consensus with a view to having this arrangement only for premier league clubs because I know some of the first division teams don't like this idea at all. Let me know what you're thinking and I'll take this through our Club Committee and beyond. As it will be my last season at the helm at New Brighton I certainly want 2010 to be a well organised and successful season

Finally, by the time you read this we will know how our 1st X1 and under 16's sides have done in their respective Twenty20 finals days yesterday. As I wrote this last Tuesday I hope I'm not tempting fate by saying congratulations everyone on your well deserved success yesterday!!



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## *NEW BRIGHTON*

*Watkins T.D. (Capt)*

*Evans A.M.*

*Evans M.L.*

*Hale M.J.*

*Hale P.A.*

*Nawab A.*

*Neal A.T.*

*Roberts A.*

*While D.R.*

*While J.P.*

*Wilson L.I.*

## *WALLASEY*

*Miles D.E. (Capt)*

*Bourne C.J.*

*COOK M.W.*

*Eagles A.V.*

*Eagles R.A.C.*

*Hughes J.M.*

*Huston J.R.*

*Leckey J.P.*

*Murphy J.J.*

*Pugh J.J.*

*Wilkie M.J.*

*Umpires: Peter Freeman and Ray Rigby*

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