

New name, new sponsor new qualification opportunities

You may have noticed (how could you not!) the men in pink this year standing in local cricket matches. Not only have GACUS become GACO (Guernsey Association of Cricket Officials) but under a new sponsorship deal with Lancaster Guernsey they have a new appropriately branded pink range of clothing.



Mark Latter, Guernsey Cricket CEO commented: “we made a decision this year to look to increase the visibility of our local umpires and scorers and pink certainly does that! Moreover, we wanted to emphasise that a game needs both umpires and scorers and hence the reference now to both as officials in the GACO title. We are launching several initiatives seeking to drive up recruitment of officials to our game and a rebranding of the association comes at an appropriate time. Having the support of Lancaster helps us finance these ideas and we are extremely grateful to Lancaster Guernsey and Paul Oliver for the support.”

Key to this new drive is education and qualifications and we are delighted that ICC are launching their new online ‘Training and Education Programme’ and the ‘ICC Umpire Foundation Course’ is now available online to all budding officials. To register and see what the course looks like go to - <https://www.edapp.com/icc/> or contact the Guernsey Cricket Office if you want to get involved (info@guernseycricket.com). In due course an ICC Umpire Level 1 course will follow for which the foundation Course is a pre-requisite.

Latter continued: “via ICC Tutor Training Courses we will soon have locally accredited tutors who will be able to run local courses for new recruits to the officials ranks. This is hugely important in driving up numbers and standards locally. Playing internationally as well as domestically means Guernsey Cricket can offer officials opportunities to stand both here and across Europe and ultimately who knows the levels they might reach.”

ENDS

Picture credit: Martin Gray (www.guernseysportsphotography.com)