

The Monte Carlo Club Cricket Club Newsletter 3 Season 2006

Welcome everyone, new and old members, to the 2006 cricket season. We are now mid way into the season and are currently sitting in second position on the League table. Our most important fixture of the season is looming. We have to beat Entrecasteaux on July 23rd if we are to finish at the top of the table.

Results for June

Game Played Sunday June 11th

Monte Carlo lost the toss and had to unfortunately field first, on a hot dry and dusty day. They managed to achieve 3/289, unfortunately we didn't distinguish ourselves bowling or fielding at all during the game. Our best bowler was Nick Thomas once again who secured 2/53 of his 8 overs.

When it was our turn to bat, we didn't have anyone who was able to get a big score which would have enabled us to launch an attack on the big total. Ed Porter (28) and Shea Parnell managed (34) managed to get starts, Neil Savage 46* and Mark O'Brien 46 pushed the score upwards, however we fell short by 60 runs, making 8/229.

Upcoming Fixtures July

Sun, 23 rd July	League	Monte-Carlo vs. Entrecasteaux @ Entrecasteaux
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Can all players who are available for this game please contact our Captain Shea Parnell at either shea.parnell@hotmail.com or on his mobile 0680762416.

The LEAGUE TABLE [points]: [after 3 matches]

	Games	Wins/Pts	Bat pts	Bowl pts	Total pts
Entrecasteaux	2	(2) 40	5	8	53
Monte Carlo	2	(1) 20	6	5	31
Riviera [Cabris]	2	(0) 0	1	4	5

Fees 2006

The Club needs the valued and continued support of its membership. For locals subs it will remain at Euro 50.00 for the year. If you are unable to get to the AGM and pay then, would you kindly send a cheque made out to "Monte Carlo Cricket Club" for 50 Euro.

UK based members should please make out a cheque for £15.00 payable to Ed Porter.

Cheques should be sent to:-

Ed Porter (edward.porter@catellacfo.com) or + 377 93104275
Treasurer, Monte Carlo Cricket Club
Le Roqueville,
20 Boulevard Princesse Charlotte,
MC 98000.Monaco.

Website

We have a website now, any information that you may require you can find on the website including all upcoming fixtures and social events. If you have any information that you would like to add to the website or any information you think would add value please feel free to contact the Club with your suggestion. The website can be found at the following address:

<http://www.mccricket.com>

Training

Yes, training happens every Wednesday night... The venue is at Terry Allen's place. If you need further details on how to get there please feel free to contact him at terry@leviathanmarine.com.

Venue for next Game on 23rd July – How to get there and what to expect

Entrecasteaux: is the venue for our next fixture. The ground that we play at is situated 25km northeast of Brignoles. From A8 Take route D562, then turn left onto D31 after Carces. Allow 1h 45 mins from Monaco. It is located in the green valley of Bresque and surrounded by wooded hills; this typical Provençal village has kept its original charm that goes all the way back to the 11th century. History lovers will love it. The most important building is the castle in the centre of the village. It was built in the 16th c. on the ruins of an 11th c. Fort and was transformed in the 17th and 18th centuries. It has been perfectly kept and restored. It was the residence of many Provençal nobles and boasts a garden designed by Le Notre. The Cricket pitch is beneath the castle alongside the fast running river. It is a great place for a day out. The whole village has been classified as a historical monument, with its ancient houses and the fortified church St. Sauveur. Entrecasteaux is one of the prettiest towns of the region. There are lovely 16th c. houses, decorated lintels, vaulted passages and mounting streets. These old paved streets, lined with tall and narrow facades complete the picture of a medieval village.

MCCC v Entrecasteaux, 11th June 2006 - An alternative look at the game.

Families picnicking, children, dogs, horses and footballs, the outfield at Entrecasteaux, one hour and 45 minute drive into the hills North West from Monaco, was looking as unLords like as can be imagined. But with stumps installed and men assembled in whites on this very hot and dusty day, much to the bemused look of the locals, the game was about to begin.

This could not be further from the traditional colonial outpost cricket clubs such as in Hong Kong or Singapore, but with a pitch nestling in the foothills of the Alps Maritimes and with snow capped mountains in the distance ...well, a long way off... it must rank as one of the more attractive grounds in continental Europe. The ground is a very large, open park of green grass with space for families to play ball and throw Frisbees, and large horse chestnut trees for picnics in the shade surround it. A playground and tennis courts are located in the far-right corner of the open park. There are plenty of shops here, hotels and several gas stations, not quite Lords but a sensational setting for a game of cricket.

With much the same side that saw off Cabris in the last fixture, MCCC approached the game with cautious optimism. The new recruits from Nice University were in the side again and Entrecasteuax, reportedly stronger than in recent years, knew they were in for a fight. Skipper Shea Parnell lost the toss and we were invited to field. Great was the feeling amongst many of the players. Reportedly the hottest day of the year and unfortunately no wind. Several of the MCCC team were less than overjoyed as sore heads and lack of sleep from the night before began to take their toll...

We opened with Gilbert Clark, off his long run. Gilbert's predilection for maiming batsmen appeared as strong as ever, and he seemed as determined as ever not to disabuse any theories that insanity was a prerequisite for membership of the fast bowlers club. At the other end Marc O'Brien marked out his run up. Having spent the summer/winter in the Caribbean, Marc was back again in Monte Carlo colours. Good news for the club both on and off the pitch.

Catches win matches or so they say. Well, we dropped several. Coupled with a less than over impressive fielding performance we allowed the enemy to gather a huge score.

It was our turn to bat, in front of a growing crowd, many though French and absolutely confused about what 22 men dressed in their whites would be doing running around chasing a little red ball in 35 degree heat. After a reasonable start we managed 8/229 with Mark O'Brien, 46, Neil Savage 46 *, Shea Parnell 34 and Ed Porter 28. All good scores but not good enough. Game over. Defeat. But we are still in with a chance of the championship. We now have to beat them on the return leg on 23rd July. Someone needs to score a big hundred, and fast. Watch out Entrecasteaux

A wonderful day enjoyed by all, not quite England but certainly a game of cricket in a strange part of the world.

New Members and Players

If anyone has any information regarding future members, whether they are none or playing members, please feel free to contact myself with their details. We are always happy to welcome them into our club.

MCCC Committee