



## Garby on top



The League had worked extremely hard in publishing the youth cricket directory.

Frustratingly though, despite strong support from the Norfolk Cricket Board, an insufficient number of clubs have taken advantage of this free resource to publicise their youth development opportunities. Many thanks to those that did include their details but regrettably the directory pages have now been taken offline.



The zipleague has again been well supported this winter with ten teams competing for a place in the super 4s. In group A both title holders Gt.Melton and number 3 seeds, Hethersett and Tas Valley remain unbeaten with pressure behind from Gt.Ellingham and Cringleford Lodge. Group B is still wide open with four out of the five teams, Garboldisham, Rocklands, Old Buckenham and Topcroft still in the hunt for qualification. The competition restarts after the Christmas break on January 12th. [See full details of the competition here.](#)

## RULES

The biggest changes to the rules ahead of 2015 will be the introduction of compulsory retirement at U11 (30 runs) & U13 level (40 runs). Other adjustments include penalties for no result games; these only to be levied at the discretion of The League in exceptional circumstances, and the definition of U17 county players being those that competed at this level (at any age) during the previous season.



## Colin is back...

...with his forthright views on the game after a long absence. He originally wrote a series of diary entries for the (now defunct) Norfolk Youth Cricket Website and has agreed to pen occasional articles for the SNCL. Please note that his opinions are not necessarily those of the League. Welcome back Colin.

*Ho, Ho, Ho – the sound of Santa on his merry sleigh? Sorry...but probably not. More likely the resonance of hollow laughter at the ECB's attempt to address the haemorrhaging of youth players from the game after their recent survey revealed that many leaving no longer wish to spend almost an entire day of the weekend playing cricket. That's about as surprising as learning that many families will be eating sprouts this Christmas.*

*And so the proposal of an U19 League burdened with an excess of rules is another well-meaning but misguided initiative assuming that any problem can be solved if you throw money at it. It can't, and while many clubs continue to soldier on with diminishing resources, until a more appropriate form of the game is provided on weekend mornings, before the main event in the afternoon, as opposed to an offering shoehorned into weekday evenings, the exodus of young (and older) players from our wonderful game will continue.*



## 2015 Entry

Entry for the 2015 summer leagues closes on January 31st and clubs are invited to submit their entries as soon as possible. Please note that a separate form must be completed for each age group. [The online form can be accessed here.](#)

Merry Christmas  
and a Happy  
New Year to you  
all from the  
SNCL

