



CLUB FOUNDED 1839



**Plumpton College**

## **Groundsperson Apprenticeship – Information for Applicants**

Sussex Cricket, in partnership with Plumpton College, are offering a unique opportunity to train as a Groundsperson and gain an NVQ qualification. This apprenticeship would initially cover a two-year period starting in April 2010.

### **About us**

Sussex County Cricket Club is a proud club with a rich history and has been by far the most successful County Cricket team of recent years. We won the County Championship for the first time in the Club's history in 2003, and then again in 2006 and 2007, as well as winning several one day competitions, the last of which were T20 and the Pro 40 competitions in 2009.

The Grounds Team play an essential and integral part in the success of the cricket team. As well as preparing the wicket and the ground for match days at Hove, we are also responsible for providing First Class quality practice facilities. In addition to the main ground at Hove, we are responsible for the maintenance of the two playing facilities at Allfield Ground, Blackstone (our prestigious Youth Academy) and for the playing surfaces at Preston Nomads, a club side who's ground sits amongst beautiful scenery just the other side of the Downs north of Hove. At the moment there are 8 full time groundstaff within the department and we are looking to boost this number with an additional apprentice.

### **The Role**

This is an exciting time to join the Groundstaff at Sussex County Cricket Club. As well as gaining experience of all forms of wicket preparation, the day to day maintenance of First class Playing surfaces and the carnival atmosphere of televised Twenty20 cricket, at the end of the 2009 season we began to re-lay the square, meaning that you will gain hands-on experience of cricket wicket construction and will also play a role in the rejuvenation of the playing surfaces at Hove. During the next three years the County Ground will also be undergoing an £8,000,000m re-development.

Working hours during the cricket season can be long and therefore a flexible approach is needed. Working weekends is also often necessary. College attendance will be for one day per week, dependant on the level of NVQ being undertaken.



**Plumpton College**

CLUB FOUNDED 1839

Working hours outside of the cricket season are more flexible and on a reduced basis.

As well as working as a groundsman during the Cricket season, during the winter months the candidate will spend much of their time helping the maintenance staff to get the ground ready for the following year.

While we are an equal opportunities employer, this particular role is physically demanding and so the candidate must be physically fit and able to perform the duties required.

### **Training**

As well as the experience gained whilst working for Sussex County Cricket Club the candidate will be required to attend Plumpton College one day a week during term times as part of the NVQ training. On completion of the apprenticeship the candidate will have a minimum of an NVQ level 2, Pesticide application NPTC certificates as well as two years hands-on experience at a First Class Cricket ground. Where possible, we would hope to be able to provide on-going employment at the end of the initial 2 year contract.

### **Remuneration**

Pay will be £95 per week initially. This will rise slightly as training progresses.

### **The Application Process**

If you would like to be considered for this opportunity, please complete the enclosed application form in full and return it to:

Rose Read, HR Manager, Sussex County Cricket Club, The County Ground, Eaton Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 3AN

If you have completed the application form on-line you may email it back to:  
[Rose.read@sussexcricket.co.uk](mailto:Rose.read@sussexcricket.co.uk)

The closing date for completed applications is **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010**.

Interviews will be held at Sussex County Cricket Ground week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010. Successful candidates from the first round interviews will be asked to attend a further interview at Plumpton College.