

# How to join the ACS

Direct Debit/Internet banking payment methods are also available online by visiting the ACS website <http://acscricket.com/> and following the link "Join the ACS" or if you prefer, please complete this form and send it, with a cheque payable to the Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians to:

## ACS Membership

36 Runton Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset BH12 1NX

Title ..... First Name .....

Surname.....

Address .....

.....

Postcode.....

Tel..... Email.....

## Please indicate type of membership required (2016/17 rates)

UK Membership ☐ £20.00

Overseas Membership ☐ £26.00

Junior Membership (under 18) ☐ £10.00

Date of Birth (if under 18) .....

Total Subscription £ .....

Signature .....

Date.....



**M.J.K. Smith OBE**  
Former England Test Captain

*While I played at Warwickshire there was always a group who would amuse each other with questions on cricket records and statistics – all good fun. There are others who take it more seriously, and get most of their answers right! They also have a lot of fun and argument – the members of the ACS (Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians). Records, statistics and biographies: they are all available through the Association, at little cost and much enjoyment. I can thoroughly recommend membership.*



ACS President



# An Invitation to join the ACS

Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians

***Who is the youngest man to score a Test match century?***

***What is the most expensive bowling analysis in List A limited-overs cricket?***

***Who is the most prolific batsman in the Indian Premier League?***

If you are intrigued by such conundrums, or if your interest is in the origins and history of the game, you will find a group of like minds in the ACS.

Founded in 1973 by a small group of avid statisticians, the Association widened its scope in 1993 to include the word 'Historians' in its title. Now an international body represented in over 20 countries, the ACS produces more cricket titles a year than any other publisher. In addition to the quarterly journal, books compiled by members and published by the ACS exceed 500.

It numbers amongst its members many of the world's leading biographers, historians, scorers and statisticians.

Its principal purpose has long been 'to promote and encourage research into the statistical and historical aspects of cricket throughout the world at all levels and to publish the findings'. However, for many members, their only involvement is to read articles in our quarterly journal or to debate issues of the day in our email forum.

<http://acscricket.com/>

## Our History and Achievements

When the ACS was formed there was no agreement on when first-class cricket began or, indeed, what criteria should be applied in classifying the status of early matches. Debate still continues – perhaps it always will – but the **ACS Match Guides** are widely accepted as the most authoritative declaration on the matter. Moreover, detailed early scores have been made more accessible through the publication of our **First-Class Cricket Matches** series and **Great Cricket Matches 1772-1800**, a significant example of recent research into 18th-century scores by ACS members who draw on modern research and a painstaking review of 18th-century newspapers and other contemporary sources to provide corrections and additional details for many long-accepted scores for the 237 matches played between 1772 and 1800.

Members of the ACS have established many hitherto unpublished dates of birth and death for first-class cricketers. Research has also covered many players taking part in the Minor Counties Championship.

In recent times we have directed our attention to classifying the status of the bewildering array of limited-overs matches with their many different formats. The concept of List A limited-overs cricket, a classification devised by the ACS, has now been accepted by the International Cricket Council, by which the Association is regarded as the leading authority on statistical aspects of the game.

On the biographical front, seven of our **Lives in Cricket** series have been long-listed for the MCC/Cricket Society Book of the Year Award in recent years.

## The Benefits of Membership

### Publications

All members receive four quarterly editions of our journal, **The Cricket Statistician**, and one other specially published free book each year.

Other regular publications available to members include:

#### **ACS Overseas First-Class Annual**

The ACS Overseas First-Class Annual has been published since 2009. Each edition provides full scores of all first-class matches played throughout the world during the previous overseas season (plus the handful of matches played overseas during the English season). This means that it is possible to maintain a complete printed record of all first-class cricket worldwide by making only two purchases each year: the Overseas Annual and Wisden.

**Lives in Cricket** is a successful series of short biographies, launched in 2007, placing a greater emphasis on understanding the cricketer behind the figures. Subjects so far include Jack Bond, F.R. Foster, Tom Richardson and M.J.K. Smith.

**First-Class Cricket Matches** is a year-by-year series which has now reached the resumption of cricket after the Second World War. Its updated and corrected full scorecards include details of close of play scores, toss, second-innings batting and bowling orders – some of which have never previously been published in book form.

**The Minor Counties Championship** series provides a wealth of historical information on each season in the competition's early years. Full scorecards are provided for every Minor County game, together with end-of-season and career averages. Detailed biographical information is given on the players who took part in these matches.

In addition to its regular series, the ACS publishes various one-off books such as Peter Wynne-Thomas' ground-breaking volume **Cricket's Historians**. This traces how writers treated the history of cricket and its related records, from Britcher and Strutt in the late 18th century, through such pioneers as Haygarth and Ashley-Cooper to the present day. The author explains the founding and development of the Cricket Society and the ACS, since both organisations have done so much to foster interest in the game's statistics and history.

### Internet Contact

While the Association remains committed to the printed word, we also have an email forum where members can join in lively debates and seek information and advice from experts on cricket history and statistics. Its website also hosts research articles, back copies of the ACS journal and out-of-print ACS publications, and new material is being added all the time.

### Social Events

There are opportunities to meet other members at the AGM, held in late March, where there is usually a distinguished guest speaker, and the Association arranges other meetings from time to time that provide further chances for members to socialise.

## Contact

The Association of Cricket Statisticians and Historians

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