

Hall of Fame



Barry PETTY

Thirsk

1975 – 78; 1984 – 85; 1991 - present

Sheriff Hutton Bridge - 1989 - 1990

Cleckheaton C.C. – 1979 - 1981

Yorkshire Bank C.C. – 1982 - 1983

Batley C.C. – 1986 - 1988

Barry Petty is generally regarded as the most successful bowler in the history of the York Senior League due to his consistent performances at the top level over many years. The statistics show that he is second to none in terms of workload, strike rate and, above all, a miserly rate of runs conceded which, in a documented career covering 24 seasons has never passed three runs per over and, in fact, has only exceeded two and a half runs per over on one occasion since 1984.

Barry's first appearance in the league averages was in 1975 when he was second in the Division 2 bowling averages and conceded a mere 2.13 runs per over. This set a trend for the rest of his career which has seen him occupy a top three place on 16 occasions and earn a career average run rate of 2.22.

The early eighties saw Barry operating in the Bradford League before he returned to Thirsk for a two year spell in 1984 and 1985 which earned him 124 wickets and the first two of six eight wicket hauls. Another three years absence, in the Central Yorkshire League, ended when he was recruited to Sheriff Hutton Bridge ranks where, in his first season he topped the bowling averages with 71 wickets and played a major part in helping the Bridge retain the league title they had lifted in 1988. Barry repeated his average topping feat in 190 with 61 wickets at an even better average and, remarkably, exactly measured his previous year's run rate of 2.23 per over. However the Bridge failed to make it three titles in a row and, in 1991, Barry returned to his roots with Thirsk even though they were at that time operating in division two.

Whilst he more than maintained his own standard and, in fact emerged as something of an all rounder with a 7th place in the batting averages, his club found themselves relegated to division three where, in 1993, he had a record breaking season which ensured immediate promotion. His 444.4 overs was, at that time, the most bowled by any bowler in a season whilst his 164 maidens remains a league record. In taking 85 wickets, Barry recorded his highest wicket tally whilst his eleven five-wicket hauls was also a new record. Similarly his run-per-over rate of 1.68 has never been bettered by a bowler taking 50 or more wickets.

Barry went on to bowl over four hundred overs in each of the next three seasons but his real marathon efforts coincided with the introduction of the premier division in 1998 when he bowled in excess of 450 overs in the first four years of the new division including an unbelievable 484.1 overs in 1999 which represents an amazing 88.03% of the overs available even if every opponent batted their full 50 overs. During this time he recorded the best premier division figures of 9-22 against Woodhouse Grange and also the highest wicket aggregate of 84 wickets at 11.89. Additional records include most maiden overs in premier division (149) and most five wicket hauls in the division (10). Barry is the only player to take 450 wickets in the premier division, his tally at the start of the current season being 460.

Season 2007 saw him make limited appearances for Thirsk II in order to help his talented daughter Rochelle further her cricketing career. Playing alongside his daughter, Barry snapped up 32 wickets and easily topped the fifth division averages. However he has resumed his role in the premier division and the opening game of the 2008 season saw him get through a marathon 25 overs and add 3 further wickets in his quest to reach 500 premier wickets.

Rochelle has progressed to appearing for England Ladies Under 21s and the Yorkshire Ladies Senior XI for which Barry is the current Bowling Coach

York Senior League Records held by Barry Petty

- Leading wicket taker in Premier Division 463 @ 14.59
- Most five wicket hauls in Premier Division 36
- Best Bowling in Premier Division 9-22 v Woodhouse Grange 1998
- Most wickets in a season in Premier Division 84 @ 11.89 2000
- Most five wicket hauls in a season in Premier 10 2000
- Most five wicket hauls in any division by non-overseas player 11 Div.3 1993
- Most overs in a season – any division 484.1 Premier Division 1999
- Most maiden overs in a season – any division 164 Division Three 1993
- Most maiden overs in a season in Premier Div. 151 2000
- Most maiden overs in career 2425
- Most economical bowling when taking 50 wkts 1.68 Division Three 1993
- Most economical bowling when taking 50 wkts 2.11 Premier Division 1998
- Most times topping divisional bowling averages 7 3 x D.1/Premier 2 x D.2 1 x D.3 1 x D.5
- Most times leading wicket taker in division 12 inc. 6 in succession in D.1/Premier and 10 successive seasons 1992-2001
- Most times winner of League Bowling Award 7 inc. 5 years out of six between 1999 and 2004

