

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CRICKET PANEL

With the 2023 season fast approaching, we welcome a panel of guests from Gloucestershire Cricket. The structure for the 2023 domestic season will have been confirmed after going to print, but however it is put together this evening we can talk about many facets of the current first class game with a range of guests in positions of authority.

Among those who we hope can join us are:

David Lawrence

The current President of the club, David first played for Gloucestershire as a 17 year old and went on to take more than 500 first class wickets. A powerfully built fast bowler, Gloucester born Lawrence formed a formidable new ball partnership with Courtney Walsh in the 1980's and played the first of five Tests for England at Lord's in 1988. His international career was cruelly halted in New Zealand in 1992 when he fractured his knee cap at Wellington.

David Jones

Appointed as Chairman in 2021, David had served on the Executive Board for the previous seven years and enjoyed a long and successful career with the John Lewis Partnership. Along with CEO Will Brown, he fronts the senior leadership group at the club.

Dale Benkenstein

Named as Head Coach in November 2021, Harare born Dale has brought a wealth of County cricket experience to Gloucestershire. Although not a Test player, Benkenstein was capped 23 times by South Africa in ODI cricket and joined Durham in 2005 and stayed until 2013, winning the Championship twice. A batting all-rounder, Dale made more than 15,000 first class runs and was one of Wisden's Cricketers of the Year in 2009. He moved from Chester-le-Street to Southampton in 2014 to become Hampshire's Head Coach, steering them to promotion from Division 2 in his first season.

Graeme van Buuren

Installed as captain for the 2022 season in both the Championship and 50 over cricket, South African born Graeme joined Gloucestershire in 2016. He has now played more than 50 first class matches for the club, batting chiefly in the middle order. A key one day player due to his left arm spin and fielding skills, van Buuren has also been a regular in Gloucestershire's white ball team in both formats.

Chris Dent

A former England Under 19 international, Chris is one of the club's longest serving players having made his debut back in 2010. A left handed opening batter, Dent passed 10,000 first class runs whilst making an unbeaten double hundred against Surrey in 2022. An occasional left arm spinner and wicket keeper, he captained the team for four seasons until 2021.

Ian Randall