**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION ONE**

**CONSTITUTION AND ADMINISTRATION**

**1. Title**

The League shall be called “The Glossop Glass and Glazing Derbyshire and Cheshire Cricket League”, referred to hereinafter as “The League”.

**2. Membership**

(a) The League shall comprise of clubs who shall fulfil criteria for membership as agreed by the League Management Committee.

(b) Member clubs shall agree to abide by all the rules of the League.

(c) A club may be expelled from membership for any reason accepted by three quarters of the clubs represented at a General or Special Meeting properly convened. The notice convening such a meeting must state the name of the club against which the motion of expulsion is directed.

(d) Clubs resigning or having been expelled from the League are precluded from participating in any of the assets of the League.

(e) If any club retires from, or is disqualified from, taking part in the competitions, all matches such club has played shall be considered void.

(f) Member clubs shall pay the following dues as recommended by the Management Committee and sanctioned by the Executive Committee:-

(i) an annual subscription, which includes an affiliation fee between all member clubs. Payment must be made by 31st March.

(ii) such levies as shall be deemed necessary. Late payments will be subject to fines.

**3. Officers**

The Officers of the League shall be as follows:- The President, Vice President, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, to be elected at the Annual General Meeting, all of whom shall without nomination be eligible for re-election.

**4. Executive**

The League shall be governed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Management Committee and a representative from each club.

Twelve clubs will constitute a quorum.

Each Club shall have one vote and the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote. Any club not being represented at a properly convened meeting of the Executive Committee will be fined.

**5. Management**

(a) The League shall be managed by a Management Committee consisting of:

(i) the Officers of the League

(ii) a maximum of nine members elected at the Annual General Meeting, all of whom, shall without nomination, be eligible for re-election. Any vote necessary shall be by ballot.

(iii) the Umpires Secretary

(iv) the Junior Committee Chairman and Secretary

(b) Seven members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

(c) The League Management Committee reserve the right to co-opt additional members as and when required.

**6. Management Powers**

The Management committee shall have power to:-

(a) Arrange all fixtures. No alteration of fixtures may be arranged between clubs except with the sanction of the Committee.

(b) Adjudicate in all disputed matters in the League Competitions or in the affairs of the League and their decision shall be final.

(c) Bring at its discretion any relevant matter for discussion and settlement before the Executive Committee

(d) Amend the rules of play for all competitions.

(e) Deal with any breaches of the League Rules by deducting points and/or imposing a fine.

(f) Investigate and take action on any question relating to misconduct by any club, club member or umpire in connection with any match or any other matter affecting the interests of the League, in such a manner as they see fit and may suspend, fine or otherwise penalise any such person or club as it may deem expedient.

(g) To create from time to time such other sub-committees that may be deemed expedient.

**7. Fixtures**

(a) A Club failing to fulfil a senior engagement shall forfeit a sum, decided from time to time, by the League Management Committee, to their opponents to cover expenses and loss of income.

(b) In addition to the provisions of (a) above, where a Club fails to fulfil a Cup fixture, that Club shall take no further part in that competition and the opposing team shall progress, by default, to the next round.

(c) In addition to the provisions of (a) above, where a club fails to fulfil a Senior League Fixture they will concede maximum bonus points in addition to the 10 points for conceding the match.

**8. General Meetings**

(a) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than November 30th each year, each club of the League being represented, twelve clubs constituting a quorum.

The business of the meeting will be as follows:

(i) to receive the Secretary’s report:

(ii) to receive the Statement of Accounts:

(iii) the election of Officers and Management Committee.

(iv) appointment of Press Secretary

(v) appointment of Hon. Auditor.

Written notice of any proposed nomination with seconder, to be given to the Secretary at least 28 days before the Annual General Meeting, failing which nominations may be taken at the meeting.

Any nominee must have given their approval in writing, or verbally if present at the Annual General Meeting. (vi) to consider proposed new rules or alterations to existing rules

(vii) such other business as may be sanctioned by the Chairman of the meeting. Each club will have one vote and the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting shall be allowed a casting vote. A club not represented at the Annual General Meeting will be fined.

(b) A Special General meeting shall be called by the Management Committee or on a requisition to the Secretary signed by eight clubs, such requisition to state fully the object of the Meeting.

Notices concerning the Meeting shall be sent to clubs. Only the object stated on the requisition can be considered. A club not represented at a Special General Meeting will be fined.

(c) No alterations to the rules in this section shall be made except at an Annual or Special General Meeting called for the purpose and then only by a majority of the clubs represented. Written notice of any proposed alterations must be given to the Secretary at least 42 days before such meeting.

Notice of any amendment to such proposed alteration of rule must be forwarded to the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the meeting and will be circulated to clubs by the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the meeting.

**9. General Provisions**

(a) (i) Each club must forward to the Secretary, before Apr 10th each year, a list of registered Senior players. Each club must forward to the Junior Statistics Secretary, before 10th Apr each year a list of its’ registered junior players.

That list should clearly identify the date of birth and PIP status for each junior member registered. The list should not include players who will or intend to play senior cricket in any other League(s) for any other club(s)

(ii) When a player is signed from another club, his application must indicate that he is free of all obligations from his previous club.

This applies to clubs both within and outside the League, but shall not apply to any junior player below the age of 15 on 1st September of the previous year

(iii) The playing of an incorrectly or unregistered player may lead to one or more of:

Fine

Points Deduction

Reversal of result

Replay of knock-out competition Exclusion from a knock-out competition

(iv) All players transfers must be supported by a fully completed transfer form, which are available on request from the League Secretary, Statistics Secretary and Junior Statistics Secretary. Forms are also available for download on the League website

(v) New players to play senior cricket must be registered with the Statistics Secretary, at least four days before they take part in a match.

(vi) No player should be registered for more than one club during any one season unless a transfer is mutually agreed and sanctioned by the Management Committee.

(vii) No application for a transfer will be considered if the player is in arrears with the club from whom he seeks a transfer.

(viii) No registration of players for 1st XI will be accepted after 31st July each session. (b) (i) All clubs will be allowed to register one overseas amateur player (i.e. an individual who is not normally resident in the United Kingdom).

(ii) The overseas amateur player must be resident in the United Kingdom from Apr 1st onwards preceding the season.

(iii) It shall be the duty of all member clubs to ensure that the requirements of the relevant Government Immigration Department(s) are complied with. If they are not, any such player shall be deemed ineligible for registration.

(iv) The League Management Committee will have the final decision re-registration of overseas players and therefore any Club wishing to register an overseas amateur, must supply to the League Management Committee before 20th March each year details of the overseas amateur they wish to register. Such details to include name, copy passport, reason for trip to UK, details of past playing standard and current club in place of birth/ residence.

(v) Any applications to the League Management Committee after 20th March, should be submitted in writing, with the prescribed deposit, to the League Secretary for adjudication.

(vi) For the purpose of this rule, any foreign national who is a permanent resident in the United Kingdom, will be deemed a United Kingdom national.

(c) Junior players playing senior cricket in other Leagues for other clubs shall be eligible to play in DCCL league and cup matches at Junior level ONLY.

Specific cases may be submitted in writing, with prescribed deposit, to the League Secretary for adjudication by the League Management Committee.

(d) No player in the League shall receive any payment/collection whatsoever in money or kind. No Testimonial Fund or Benefit Match shall be arranged for any player unless permission has been granted by the Management Committee.

Any recognised professional shall not be eligible to play in the competitions and any player accepting a professional engagement during any season shall NOT be eligible to play in any of the competitions during the same season.

(e) Umpires shall be appointed by the Umpire’s Secretary for all senior matches. Their relevant expenses shall be paid equally by the contesting clubs at each game. The HOME club will be responsible for ensuring payment. Such expenses are to be fixed by the Management Committee.

An Umpire unable to fulfil an engagement must inform the Umpire’s Secretary as early as possible so that a substitute may be appointed.

(f) If an official Umpire fails to attend a match for which he has an appointment, the Captains must agree upon a substitute, giving preference to any League Umpire present.

The substitute, will for the period of his duty, have full power of a League Umpire and will be entitled to receive the current relevant expenses.

(g) Complaints against Umpires will only be considered when made officially, in writing, by a club. They must be sent to the League Secretary within ten days.

Such complaints shall be dealt with by the Management Committee treated as confidential except when accumulated complaints against an Umpire render action necessary.

(h) Umpires have the right to make complaints regarding misconduct or all aspects of unfair play. Such complaints to be made in writing to the Secretary within ten days. Team Captains must furnish to the Umpires the names of any player or players alleged to be guilty of misconduct.

(i) (i) ANY CLUBS FAILING TO PROVIDE A SCORER MUST PAY THE SOLE SCORER THE FEE THAT IS USUALLY PAID BY THEIR OWN TEAM

 (ii) Both Captains will sign the sheet before presenting it to the Umpires for their approval.

(iii) The home club is responsible for the immediate dispatch of the completed score sheet, to reach the relevant Statistics secretary within four days of the finish of the match.

(iv) To enable the Results Secretary to publicise the results, along with newspaper reports and League tables, the home club must provide him, by telephone or other electronic mail, on the evening of the match, with brief match details of all senior games. Clubs failing to comply with any part of this rule will be fined.

(j) An undertaking for safe custody of League trophies must be given by the clubs entitled to hold them. All trophies must be returned clean and in good condition, on or before October 1st each year, or on request. Clubs will be responsible for the cost of repair of any trophy damaged whilst in their possession.

(k) All fines are prescribed by the League Management Committee are payable to the Treasurer by the Executive meeting following notification. Persistent offenders and late payers may incur additional fines.

(l) All clubs will receive statistics sheets with separate senior and junior batting and bowling averages. Clubs must register, in writing to the relevant Statistics Secretary, any discrepancies within 14 days, or the said statistics will stand.

(m) All clubs must have a copy of the current League rules available at all matches.

**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION TWO**

**GENERAL RULES FOR SENIOR LEAGUE & CUP COMPETITIONS**

1. The clubs engaged in the League Competition must play such fixtures as listed by the Management Committee during the season in accordance with current rules of play.

The club scoring the most points will be considered Champions of the Division for that year and will be entitled to hold for the following year any trophies presented by the League for their Division.

If two or more clubs at the head of their respective table have equal points, then the outright winner will be decided by reference to the procedures in para 2(i) (ii) and (iii) below:

2. The number of teams to be relegated and promoted from the relevant divisions will be decided by the Management Committee prior to the commencement of each season .For promotion and relegation, where clubs have equal points, the team deemed to have finished higher will be decided by the following sequence:

(i) Most wins or if still equal

(ii) Most points in respective matches against each other during the current season, or if still equal

(iii) Most points in the second half of the season

(iv) NO two teams from the same club can play in the same division.

3. All matches must be played under the current laws of the M.C.C. except as otherwise provided for in these rules.

4. All clubs failing to fulfil an engagement will forfeit the match and maximum points shall be awarded to the opponents.

5. All clubs shall have League approved sight screens at both ends, with suitable board or rope across the front wheels, which shall be in place at the start of the match.

6. Full pitch covers may be used before the start and during the course of each match. Umpires are the SOLE arbiters of their use. Both clubs are responsible for the prompt movement of the covers both on and off the pitch at the Umpire’s request.

7. Umpires are the SOLE judges of fitness of ground, weather & light.

8. All players are to appear in normal, white cricket attire.

9. In all matches the fielding side shall provide their own ball, which must have been supplied by the League, for use during their opponent’s innings. Both match and spare balls must be approved by the Umpires before each innings commences.

The spare should be such that it is suitable for use at any stage without changing its condition.

10. The Home side shall be responsible for the clear indication on the score board of the number of overs remaining during the innings in progress.

11. If the team of a competing club is not ready to commence on time, or after the interval, or any other stoppage, the club will be fined.

Umpires may note the reason for late starts on the League score sheet.

12. No player shall take part in more than one official match in one day.

13. No players who has played more than 50% of the league matches in the First Team will be eligible to play for the second team in the last two games without the prior approval of the League Management Committee.

14. The incoming and outgoing batsman must cross between the pavilion and the pitch.

15. Captains must toss for choice of innings not later than 15 minutes before the scheduled time for the commencement of play. The captain of the team taking first innings may have the pitch rolled for a maximum of seven minutes provided the start of play is not delayed.

The Captain of the team taking second innings may have the pitch rolled for a maximum of seven minutes during the interval between innings.

16. As a minimum, the score shall be updated at the end of each over and at the fall of a wicket. When the second innings of the match is in progress and the score is within 20 runs of the first innings score, each run must be displayed on the scoreboard until the end of the match.

17. The tea interval of 20 minutes will be taken at the close of the innings of the team batting first, or at a time agreed by the Umpires during an interruption in play. If tea is not taken between innings, the interval shall not exceed 10 minutes.

18. Umpires will notify both sides 5 minutes before play is due to commence (either verbally or by the ringing of a bell if necessary).

19. Boundary markings must always be defined in such a way that the sightscreens lie outside the boundary (a board or rope shall be maintained both in front and at the sides of the sightscreen).

20. Umpires and Captains shall check the official score sheet carefully, between innings and at the end of each match before signing. The score sheets must indicate the start and finish times of both innings, the result and the points awarded for the match. Time lost during each innings and the cause thereof, must also be recorded, thus enabling the average number of overs per hour to be determined.

21. To discourage slow play, the Management Committee will keep the bowling rates under review and clubs deemed responsible for slow play may be fined.

22. Any club disputing the result of a match must lodge with the League Secretary a duplicate notice within seven days of the match. The notice must be accompanied by a deposit of £75.00, which may be refunded in due course. No protest will be considered unless accompanied by the deposit. In all cases of protest or appeal to the Management Committee, representatives of the club concerned shall leave the room during discussion of the protest or appeal, if this is requested by the Management Committee.

23. To assist the judging of Off-Side Wides, a line shall be drawn, preferably in blue, 0.89mtrs (35”) from the middle stump. All leg-side wide deliveries shall be deemed a wide ball in FIRST DIVISION CRICKET only.

23a. To signify the danger area, suitable marks must be made 5 feet in front of the popping crease on the edge of the 10 foot wide cut pitch, with two further marks 1 foot either side of the middle stump on the bowling crease.

24. If a bowler commits a third cautionable offence under MCC law 42, having already been cautioned twice, or received a first caution and final warning for any offence under law 42, the Umpire at the bowler’s end shall implement the suspense procedure described under M.C.C. law 42.7 and 42.8

25. Penalty runs other than for a no ball or a wide ball will ONLY be awarded under the 2000 M.C.C. Code of laws as follows:

Law 2.6 Fielder returning to the field of play without permission.

Law 41.2 Illegal fielding.

Law 41.3 Fielder’s protective helmets when not being worn.

26. Sawdust may be used to dry the ball as long as it does not alter the condition of the ball in any other way. 27. The E.C.B. bowling directive must be adhered to in all senior matches.

**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION THREE**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR LEAGUE MATCHES**

1. Each match shall be a maximum of 90 six ball overs for Divisions 1 & 2 and 80 overs for Division 3 & 4.

2. The first innings shall consist of no more than 50% of the allotted overs.

3. If the side batting first are dismissed or declare their innings closed before they are deemed to of completed their allotted overs.

4. Starting times of matches are as published in the Annual League Rules and Fixtures Handbook.

5. Delayed Start In the event of a delayed start due to adverse conditions, for every complete 7 minutes lost, two overs will be deducted from the total number to be bowled, except for the period between 3.50pm and 4:00pm (minor adjustment necessary to ensure compliance with a rescheduled start time within the 150 minute rule and matches to consist of a minimum 50 overs).

Please note that details shown here assume a scheduled start time of 1pm but the same criteria would apply in the case of earlier scheduled start times.

Play starts at:-

1.00pm 90 over match (1st innings - maximum of 45 overs)

1:07pm 88 over match (1st innings - maximum of 44 overs)

1:14pm 86 over match (1st innings - maximum of 43 overs)

1:21pm 84 over match (1st innings - maximum of 42 overs)

1:28pm 82 over match (1st innings - maximum of 41 overs)

1:35pm 80 over match (1st innings - maximum of 40 overs)

1:42pm 78 over match (1st innings - maximum of 39 overs)

1:49pm 76 over match (1st innings - maximum of 38 overs)

1:56pm 74 over match (1st innings - maximum of 37 overs)

2:03pm 72 over match (1st innings - maximum of 36 overs)

2:10pm 70 over match (1st innings - maximum of 35 overs)

2:17pm 68 over match (1st innings - maximum of 34 overs)

2:24pm 66 over match (1st innings - maximum of 33 overs)

2:31pm 64 over match (1st innings - maximum of 32 overs)

2:38pm 62 over match (1st innings - maximum of 31 overs)

2:45pm 60 over match (1st innings - maximum of 30 overs)

2:52pm 58 over match (1st innings - maximum of 29 overs)

2.59pm 56 over match (1st innings - maximum of 28 overs)

For play to commence after 3:00pm (ie: in excess of 120 minutes after the scheduled start time), - tea must have been taken

3:06pm 54 over match (1st innings - maximum of 27 overs)

3:13pm 52 over match (1st innings - maximum of 26 overs)

3:20pm-4:00pm 50 over match (1st innings - maximum of 25 overs)

No game shall commence more than 150 minutes after the scheduled start time

**6. Interruptions in play**

a) Once a game has begun, (delayed or otherwise) aggregated time lost for adverse playing conditions up to a total of 30 minutes at any stage in the match, will NOT affect the number of overs to be bowled.

b) The number of overs to be bowled will already have been established either by the match proceeding as scheduled or by reference to the Delayed Start Rules at Para 5, if applicable.

c) Once 30 minutes playing time has been lost, any additional time lost will result in overs being deducted from the previously established allocation of overs of the team BATTING SECOND ONLY.

d) The overs deduction will be on the basis of 1 over for every complete 3.5 minutes lost. No overs are to be deducted during the time taken for the tea interval or if the stoppage is caused by problems due to the sun.

e) In games where overs have been deducted as shown above, the team batting first may declare as per Para 8 (b) below.

f) If a match, having started, is then affected by adverse weather as per (C) above, a 10 point win can still be achieved provided that the team batting second receives an equal number or more overs than the team batting first.

g) Where there is an imbalance of overs in favour of the team batting first, then a 10 point win can only be achieved if the team batting first bowl out their opponents or if it’s score is beaten by the team batting second.

h) If the scores finish level, the match is tied and each team will receive 7 points plus any accrued bonus points.

i) In all other circumstances, the match is deemed to be “incomplete” and each team will receive 7 points plus any accrued bonus points. This is usually referred to as a “Rain Affected Draw”

**7. MATCH POINTS:**

The scoring of points shall be as follows:-

10 points for a win

7 points for a tie or a draw with scores level or an incomplete game

7 points for an abandonment

**8. BOWLING RESTRICTIONS:**

In 1st and 2nd Division matches all bowlers shall be limited to a maximum of 12 overs per match. In 3rd and 4th Division matches all bowlers shall be limited to a maximum of 10 overs per match In a reduced overs game, a bowler may bowl a maximum of 30% of the allotted overs agreed APART FROM the 3rd and 4th Divisions where it is 30% of the allotted overs subject to the MAXIMUM of 10 overs.

45-40 overs 12 overs maximum

39-37 overs 11 overs maximum

36-34 overs 10 overs maximum

33-30 overs 9 overs maximum

29-27overs 8 overs maximum

26-25 overs 7 overs maximum

**9. BONUS POINTS:**

Batting:

(a) A batting point shall be secured for the first 100 runs and one additional point for each subsequent 25 runs up to a total of 200 runs.

(b) One point shall be secured by a winning side batting second for every two wickets standing at the end of the game provided that the total points awarded does not exceed 5 points. In addition, a team batting second and chasing a total of fewer than 100 runs, may lose one wicket without penalty that is, the full 5 batting points are awarded.

(c) Batting Points will remain the same, except if before the match, it reduces to 35 Overs per side. In which case Batting Points will be awarded at 65, 90, 115, 140, and 175.

(d) For clarity, once the match has started, the target for bonus points will be fixed, irrespective of any further delay which may cause a further reduction in Overs.

Bowling:

(e) A bowling point shall be secured for the first 2 wickets taken with a further bowling point for each subsequent two wickets up to a maximum of five bowling points.

NB. Bonus points secured prior to the abandonment of a game shall stand.

**10. Declarations**

(a) A team batting first may declare on or after obtaining the maximum 5 batting points without forfeiting bonus points to the bowling side. If a team batting first declares before obtaining maximum batting points the outstanding batting bonus points are converted into bowling bonus points, for that innings, to the team batting second. A team batting second cannot declare.

(b) In games, subject to a deduction of overs due to adverse weather or playing conditions during the course of the first innings, the team batting first may declare at any stage without forfeiting bonus points to the bowling side.

11. If a fielder fails to take the field with his side at the start of the match or at any later time, or leaves the field during a session of play, (a) the umpire shall be informed of the reason for his absence. (b) he shall not thereafter come on to the field of play during a session of play without the consent of the umpire. The umpire shall give such consent as soon as is practicable. (c) if he is absent thereafter for 15 minutes of playing time or longer, he shall not be permitted to bowl thereafter, subject to (i) below, until he has been on the field for at least the length of playing time for which he was absent.

(i) The time lost for an unscheduled break in play (excluding the tea/drinks intervals) shall be counted as time on the field of play for any fielder who comes on to the field at the resumption of play after the break.

(ii) N.B. Law 2.5 does not place any such restrictions on batsmen.

12. It is a requirement that teams bowl their 45 overs within a time allowance of 2 hours and 45 minutes from the scheduled start time of the match. In the event of a delayed start as per Para 5, then the adjusted time allowance is shown in the table reproduced below. Umpires should exercise discretion where there are stoppages for injuries, lost ball etc. and should, in these instances, adjust the time remaining”. If the time allowance is exceeded without good reason, then the Umpire(s) will endorse the match report sheet accordingly and ensure that a 1 point deduction is recorded.

Persistent offenders will be subject to disciplinary action in the form of a fine or a points deduction. Umpires and Captains must ensure that accurate start/ finish times are recorded on the match report sheet.

13. Fielding restrictions - At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fielders (plus bowler and wicketkeeper) must be within an area bounded by two semi circles centred on each middle stump, each semi circle having a radius of 25 yards and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch.

(i) The fielding restriction area should be marked by painted white dots at 5 yard intervals each dot to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches in diameter.

(ii) In the event of an infringement, either Umpire shall call and signal “no ball”, the usual penalty for a no ball will apply.

**No Ball Beamer Delivery**

A full pitched delivery over waist height will be called No Ball by the standing umpires but this will no longer result in an automatic warning being given. As is already the case with short-pitched bowling, the umpire will now decide whether a full-pitched delivery is dangerous, based on various factors such as the ball’s speed, direction, repetition, and the ability of the batsman.

There is no longer a ‘catch-all’, but umpires are required to use their best judgement to determine whether it is dangerous. If it is dangerous, it will lead to a first and final warning. If not, it will still be a No ball, but there will be no warning.”

(MCC Law Change from April 1st 2019)

**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION FOUR**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR BISSENDEN CUP & HAWKE TROPHY MATCHES**

1. The Bissenden Cup is for 1st XI teams & the Hawke Cup is for 2nd XI teams.

2. (a) The rounds shall be drawn by the Management Committee and the Original Dates and Reserve Dates for all the matches shall be fixed by that Committee.

(b) Up to the final, matches in the Bissenden Cup will be played on the grounds of the first drawn clubs. The same shall apply for the Hawke Trophy except where a club’s 1st XI has already been drawn at home in the Bissenden Cup, in such circumstances the Management Committee will have discretion to allocate fixtures accordingly in the Hawke Trophy.

(c) The venues for both Finals will be decided by the Management Committee.

**3. ELIGIBILITY**

(a) Only League registered DCCL players normally playing in the League will be eligible to play. (ie. Players who are playing outside the League with other clubs will be ineligible).

(b) A player having played in either of the competitions in any one season with one club, cannot play for another club in either of the competitions during that season.

(c) Any player having played in a round of the Bissenden Cup may not play in the same round of the Hawke Cup excepting the Final (see 3h).

(d) To be eligible for the Hawke Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Final respectively, a player must have played in at least 50% of all Second XI league matches.

If any doubt or uncertainty arises, a designated Management Sub Committee will make a final judgement,

(e) Any uncertainty or problems that may arise in interpreting the requirements of eligibility shall be put to the League Management by Wednesday night prior to the Sunday of the game.

NB. Failure to comply with eligibility criteria may result in a club incurring a fine, disqualification from the competition or both.

**CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

• Matches shall start at 1pm or as soon as possible thereafter as the ground and weather conditions permit.

• Each match shall be a maximum of 80 six ball overs with each side entitled to receive a maximum of 50% of the overs allotted unless previously dismissed.

• When the ground or weather conditions delay the start of the game, the following will apply:-

 If the start is delayed until:

 2pm, the game shall be 70 overs

 3pm, the game shall be 60 overs

 4pm, the game shall be 50 overs,

 4:30 pm the game shall be 40 overs.

 If no play is possible then the match shall be played on the reserve date

• In all but Finals, where on the reserve date no play is possible before 4.30pm, the match will be decided by a bowl-out. If a bowl-out cannot take place the match will be decided by the toss of a coin.

• In Finals, where on the reserve date play is not possible by 4.30pm, the game will be further postponed to a date decided by the Management Committee.

• If a fielder fails to take the field with his side at the start of the match or at any later time, or leaves the field during a session of play, (a) the umpire shall be informed of the reason for his absence. (b) he shall not thereafter come on to the field of play during a session of play without the consent of the umpire. The umpire shall give such consent as soon as is practicable. (c) if he is absent thereafter for 15 minutes of playing

 time or longer, he shall not be permitted to bowl thereafter, subject to (i) below, until he has been on the field for at least the length of playing time for which he was absent.

• The time lost for an unscheduled break in play (excluding the tea/drinks intervals) shall be counted as time on the field of play for any fielder who comes on to the field at the resumption of play after the break.

N.B. Law 2.5 does not place any such restrictions on batsmen.

NB. In such event, rule 4c(i), (ii) & (iii) shall apply and rules 4g and 4h shall not apply.

When play has commenced a match shall continue until a result is obtained or as long as the ground and weather conditions permit. Duckworth Lewis will apply in the Bissenden Cup and Hawke Trophy competitions.

On the original date of the fixture and where the match started as an 80 0ver match Duckworth Lewis will ultimately decide the outcome of match once 30 0vers of the Second Innings have been completed. On the reserve date and again where the match started as an 80 over match Duckworth Lewis will ultimately decide the outcome of the match once 20 overs of the Second Innings have been completed.

In matches where there has been a delayed start and the number of overs in the match reduced as above then Duckworth Lewis will apply when 75% of the allotted overs in the Second Innings have been bowled on the original date and when 50% of the allotted overs in the Second Innings have been bowled on the reserve date.

• When such stated number of overs has not been achieved on the reserve date the game will be decided by a bowl-out.

• MCC Law regarding substitutes shall apply; substitutes will be allowed but not to bat, bowl, captain, act as a runner or keep wicket.

• All bowlers shall be limited to 8, 7, 6 and 4 overs in 80, 70, 60 and 40 over games respectively. NB. Any part of an over counts as a full over in any bowler’s allocation.

• At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fielders (plus bowler and wicketkeeper) must be within an area bounded by two semi circles centred on each middle stump, each semi circle having a radius of 25 yards and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch.

i. The fielding restriction area should be marked by painted white dots at 5 yard intervals each dot to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches in diameter.

ii. In the event of an infringement, either Umpire shall call and signal “no ball”, the usual penalty for a no ball will apply.

• A BOWL-OUT will comprise initially of 5 players from each team with each player bowling 1 ball at the wicket; No Ball regulations will apply in the bowl-out. A wicket keeper chosen from each side shall stand behind the stumps but not within reach of the stumps and each team will bowl 5 deliveries alternately.

i. Captains must toss for choice of whether they will bowl first.

ii. The team hitting the wickets most shall be declared the winners.

iii. If the scores are equal the bowl-out will continue on an alternate basis until a winner is achieved.

iv. In the event of 11 nominated players not being available in one team, the opponents shall exclude such of their team to achieve parity in nominated players.

v. The excluded player(s) shall not take any part in the bowl out.

vi. If in the opinion of the umpires, no part of the playing area or adjacent practice areas are fit to conduct a bowl out, then the match will be decided on the toss of a coin.

**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION FIVE**

**T20 RULES & REGULATIONS**

A standard game will feature 1 innings of 20 overs per side,, which maybe adjusted for weather purposes, (details later in these rules).

No bowler shall bowl more than 4 overs, or if reduced, no more than 20% of the total numbers of overs available Irrespective of rain interruptions mid over the interrupted over must be completed on resumption of play.

A fielding restriction “circle” shall be in place as per the rules set out in Sections 3 and 4 of the handbook appertaining to League and Cup fixtures. In the T20 competition at the instant of delivery only two fielders will be allowed to field outside the circle in overs 1-6 of a 20 0ver innings. A minimum of four fielders (plus bowler and wicket keeper) must be inside the circle at the instant of delivery between overs 7-20.

In the event of a delayed start and a reduced overs match taking place the Umpires will agree with Captains the number of overs for which the initial fielding restriction will apply.

Declarations are NOT permitted.

During the interval, the Captain of the side batting second can request for the pitch to be rolled for no longer than 4 minutes. Drink intervals are not permitted.

A full innings of 20 overs, shall not exceed 75 minutes. In the event of the 20th over of an innings having not commenced prior to the elapse of 75 minutes the fielding side shall be requested by the Umpires to place a fifth fielder within the restricted circle for the remainder of the innings. Umpires will use discretion when adopting this rule taking into account such delays as injury and lost balls.

In the event of a delayed start and a reduced overs match taking place the Umpires will agree with the Captains the time in which the allotted overs have to be bowled.

If the team batting first is dismissed in fewer than 20 overs (or the agreed number of overs per side in a reduced overs match) the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for their full entitlement of overs.

If the team batting first is dismissed in fewer than 20 overs, the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for 20 overs.

The competition will (dependant on the number of teams registering to participate) consist of mini leagues, with the winners, and runners-up progressing to the Quarter Final stage and a subsequent Finals Day. The competition will be optional for all DCCL clubs.

The nominal playing day for the renationalised mini leagues will be Thursday evenings, and Saturdays. The final four teams will meet at a single finals day, agreed by the Management Committee. Three points will be awarded for a win, one point each for a tie or no-result, and no points for a loss.

If the match is conceded, the team conceding will receive no points, and their opponents 3. We ask all clubs to support each other, and thus ensure the best competition possible.

There will be a reserve date if all the games are cancelled, but a fixture can only be re-arranged once.

The final positions will be determined bye the number of points accumulated when all teams have completed their group fixtures. If two or three teams have an equal number of points then the final positions will be determined by the respective overall run rates. If still equal, then the final positions will be determined bye the points achieved in the matches between them.

All matches to start, no later than 6:15pm and clubs are encouraged to make every effort to play the game. For example, if rain is forecast by the Official and both teams are ready before 6:15, then there is no reason why play should not commence earlier than the stated time.

The Umpires will be appointed by the Management. The match fees will be £25 for each umpire if the game commences, and £10 if the game does not commence. No fee will be paid if the game is cancelled earlier in the day, resulting in the Umpires not being required to travel.

Coloured clothing can be worn if obtained by the clubs. Sightscreens MUST be white.

The approved pink match ball will be new (or nearly new) at the start of each innings. Suitable spare balls must be supplied. When playing time has been lost, the revised total number of overs for the game (time already played and time still available less any interval) should be based on a rate of 4 runs per over in the total time available to play. Any change to the overs for the game should ensure wherever possible, that both teams are given the opportunity to bat for the same number of overs.

To constitute a match, a minimum of 5 overs bust be bowled to the team batting second, unless the result has already been determined.

If both Captains agree prior to the commencement of the match, that weather is likely to intervene, they may agree to start the match at the reduced number of overs, provided a minimum of 5 overs is to be received by each club.

During the knock-out stages, if the match is tied, then the team losing the fewer wickets will be the winner. If the result cannot be decided on wickets, then the winner will be the team with the highest score after 5 overs, (then 4 or 3 etc.).

Duckworth Lewis will be activated after 5 overs of the second innings.

**LEAGUE RULES - SECTION SIX DCCL**

**DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

This League has a responsibility to maintain high standards of behaviour from all parties associated with the playing of cricket within the League and a duty to enforce such standards to ensure that the game is played and enjoyed in the right spirit upholding traditional values.

**THE DCCL SUPPORTS THE ECB CODE OF CONDUCT DIRECTIVE FOR 2023**

In 2022, the ECB introduced the General Conduct Regulations (the “**GCR**”) to set consistent standards of conduct and behaviour and provide a single set of regulations which can be applied consistently at the top end of recreational cricket. The GCR contain detailed disciplinary processes which are designed to ensure that disciplinary matters are dealt with in a fair, efficient and consistent manner by cricket organisations and provide assistance to cricket organisations when establishing and running their disciplinary processes. It is to the benefit of cricket as a whole that broadly the same process and sanctions will apply to a participant who is participating in cricket at the same level of the game, whether they are based in the North East or the South West. Conducting a fair and transparent disciplinary process will also help to protect cricket organisations from legal or reputational damage.

The GCR are currently applicable to County Cricket Boards, National Counties, ECB Premier Leagues and any other cricket organisation which has voluntarily adopted the GCR and the ECB did consider applying the GCR more widely within the recreational game for the 2023 season. However, the ECB has reflected on the feedback it has received in respect of the GCR, both by cricket organisations that adopted the GCR for the 2022 season and cricket organisations who have not yet adopted the GCR. On the basis of that feedback, the GCR will not be applied more widely within the recreational game for the 2023 season and instead these Recreational Conduct Regulations (the “**RCR**”) shall be applicable to all leagues within recreational cricket (and within the jurisdiction of the ECB) which are not covered by the GCR (the **“Relevant Cricket Leagues**”).

The RCR mirror the GCR as follows:

1. The RCR cover both on-field offences and off-field offences (such as inappropriate comments on social media). As cricket organisations will be well aware, there has been (and will no doubt continue to be) an increase in cases involving off-field offences.

2. The RCR also contain sanction guidelines, which will ensure there is more consistency across recreational cricket.

However, the main difference between the GCR and the RCR is that the RCR contain simpler procedural requirements to be applied to disciplinary cases than the GCR (albeit that the procedural requirements in both the GCR and these RCR are based on the same principles). As the administration of the vast majority of recreational cricket which is not covered by the GCR is carried out exclusively by volunteers, Relevant Cricket Leagues do not necessarily have the scale of systems and processes in place to implement the GCR in full (for example, at some levels official umpires are not typically appointed to fixtures (with matches instead being officiated by club or player umpires)). As such, the ECB did not feel that the detailed procedural requirements of the GCR were feasible for the 2023 season. However, the ECB will continue to consider and keep under review whether to either roll out the GCR more widely in the recreational game or implement a single set of regulations which apply throughout the recreational game going forwards.

**SUMMARY**

1. Relevant Cricket Leagues must adopt the RCR for the 2023 season.

2. Disciplinary processes conducted by Relevant Cricket Leagues must comply with the procedural requirements for disciplinary cases, which are set out in Regulations 12 and 14. However, Relevant Cricket Leagues can supplement these principles with more detailed provisions if they so wish, provided those provisions are consistent with the procedural requirements set out in these RCR.

3. Cricketers will be subject to on-field conduct obligations mirroring the Laws of Cricket and other participants present at matches (e.g. coaches, officials and representatives of other cricket organisations acting in an official capacity at the match) will be subject to more limited on-field conduct obligations (as is the case in the professional game).

4. Participants will be subject to off-field conduct obligations which either relate to their participation in recreational cricket or occur outside their direct participation but are of a sufficiently serious nature to justify disciplinary action being taken in relation to recreational cricket (e.g. discriminatory comments being made on social media). There is reduced scope for bringing disciplinary action against representatives of cricket organisations, as opposed to cricketers, coaches and officials, given the role they play within cricket.

5. Relevant Cricket Leagues shall appoint an individual or group of individuals to take responsibility for any disciplinary matters and appeals arising in relation to cricketers or clubs participating in the Relevant Cricket League.

**DEFINITIONS**

“**Appeal Body**” means the body appointed by a Relevant Cricket League under Regulation 14**Error! Reference source not found.** which is responsible for dealing with appeals.

“**Club”** means a club which participates in a Relevant Cricket League.

“**Club Official**” means any official of a Club, as listed on their website or official Club documentation, acting in an official capacity at a match.

**“County Cricket Board”** means a body designated as a County Cricket Board or County Club by the ECB which is responsible for the organisation of recreational cricketing activity and the development of cricket generally within a county and such other areas (if any) as may be agreed by the ECB.

“**ECB**” means the England and Wales Cricket Board.

“**ECB’s Anti-Discrimination Code**” means the ECB’s anti-discrimination code in force from time to time which can be found on the following ECB webpage, along with guidance on the ECB’s Anti Discrimination Code: https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies-and-regulations/regulations/non-first class-county.

“**Effective Date**” means 1 March 2023.

“**Disciplinary Officer**” means an individual (who may be one of a group of individuals) appointed by a Relevant Cricket League to have responsibility for the disciplinary process under these Regulations when that Relevant Cricket League is acting as the Relevant Disciplinary Body and/or Appeal Body.

“**GCR**” means the ECB’s General Conduct Regulations in force from time to time. “**Off-Field Breach**” means an alleged breach of Regulations 8-9.

“**On-Field Breach**” means an alleged breach of Regulations 3-5.

“**Participant**” means all individuals who are under the jurisdiction of a Relevant Cricket League, including:

(a) cricketers;

(b) volunteers, officers, employees, contractors, and members of any Relevant Cricket League;

(c) match officials;

(d) coaches; and

(e) any other person under the jurisdiction of any Relevant Cricket League.

“**Recreational Cricket**” means all cricket activities carried out under the jurisdiction of the ECB which are not carried out by: (i) the England Men’s or England Women’s teams; (ii) a First-Class County in relation to men’s professional cricket; (iii) a Regional Host; or (iv) any Hundred Team.

“**Relevant Cricket Leagues**” means all leagues within Recreational Cricket (and within the jurisdiction of the ECB) which are not covered by the GCR.

“**Relevant Criminal Offence**” means any offence against a child, any sexual offence, any violent offence, any drug offence, any public order offence, any offence with an aggravated element, any offence of cruelty against animals and any offence relating to integrity.

“**Relevant Disciplinary Body**” means the body appointed by a Relevant Cricket League under Regulation 12 who is responsible for conducting disciplinary processes.

**SCOPE AND APPLICATION**

1. From the Effective Date:

(a) all Relevant Cricket Leagues are bound by and must familiarise themselves with the requirements of these RCR;

(b) all Participants must comply with the disciplinary process set out in these RCR in respect of any alleged breach of these RCR by the Participant;

(c) all Relevant Cricket Leagues must adopt these RCR and implement the requirements of these RCR in respect of the disciplinary processes they carry out;

(d) all Relevant Cricket Leagues shall appoint an individual or group of individuals to take responsibility for any disciplinary matters and appeals arising in relation to cricketers or clubs participating in the Relevant Cricket League; and

(e) all Relevant Cricket Leagues must provide the ECB with any details requested in relation to any disciplinary matters it has carried out in accordance with these RCR.

2. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed under these RCR will be separate to any sanctions imposed under a Participant’s employment contract or any action taken in accordance with a Club, Relevant Cricket League or County Cricket Board’s terms of membership.

**CONDUCT OBLIGATIONS**

***On and around the field of play***

3. Any cricketer shall be in breach of these RCR, at the relevant level of offence detailed below, if they do not conduct themselves fairly and properly on and around the field of play and otherwise in accordance with the Laws of Cricket or the Spirit of Cricket. Such conduct which will result in a breach of these RCR shall include any misconduct of a cricketer on any match day as specified in Law 42 of the Laws of Cricket, namely:

*Level 1*

a. wilfully mistreating any part of the cricket ground or any equipment or implements used in the match;

b. showing dissent at an umpire’s decision by word or action;

c. using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene, offensive or insulting; d. making an obscene gesture;

e. appealing excessively;

f. advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing; and/or g. any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 1 offence; or

*Level 2*

h. showing serious dissent at an umpire’s decision by word or action;

i. making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another cricketer; j. throwing the ball at a cricketer, umpire or another person in an inappropriate and dangerous manner;

k. using language or gesture to another cricketer, umpire, team official or spectator that, in the circumstances, is obscene or of a seriously insulting nature; and/or l. any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 2 offence; or

*Level 3*

m. intimidating an umpire by language or gesture; and/or

n. threatening to assault a cricketer or any other person except an umpire; or

*Level 4*

o. threatening to assault an umpire;

p. making inappropriate and deliberate and/or dangerous physical contact with an umpire;

q. physically assaulting a cricketer or any other person; and/or

r. committing any other act of violence.

4. A cricketer shall also be in breach of these RCR on and around the field of play if they: a. commit any breach of Law 41 of the Laws of Cricket (*Unfair Play*); or

b. act in a manner contrary to the ECB’s Anti-Discrimination Code; or

c. conduct themselves in a manner or act in a manner which is improper, or which may be prejudicial to the interests of cricket, or which may bring the ECB, the game of cricket or any cricketer or group of cricketers into disrepute.

5. Any coach, match official or Club Official shall be in breach of these RCR if they fail to conduct themselves fairly and properly at any part of the cricket ground on any match day. Conduct which is not fair and proper and will therefore result in a breach of these RCR shall include, but not be limited to:

a. making inappropriate and deliberate and/or dangerous physical contact with, threatening to assault, physically assaulting or committing any act of violence towards any other Participant (including an umpire) or any member of the public;

b. showing dissent at an umpire’s decision by language or gesture, advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing or intimidating an umpire by language or gesture;

c. using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene, offensive, insulting or seriously insulting;

d. making an obscene or seriously insulting gesture;

e. conducting themselves in a manner or acting in a manner which is improper, or which may be prejudicial to the interests of cricket, or which may bring the ECB, the game of cricket or any cricketer or group of cricketers into disrepute; and/or

f. acting in a manner contrary to the ECB’s Anti-Discrimination Code.

***Captain/Team responsibility***

6. If any cricketer commits two or more breaches of Regulation 3 or 4 (*Conduct obligations on and around the field of play)*, which take place during or immediately before or after a match, when playing for the same Club in a season it shall automatically be a separate offence of failing to ensure that the relevant cricketers have complied with their obligations for each of:

a. Any person who captained the team in all of the relevant match(es); and b. The Club the cricketer was playing for.

7. Clubs shall also be held responsible for disorderly behaviour at any part of the cricket ground on any match day by their members and spectators, unless they can show that: a. they took adequate steps to ensure that their members and spectators behaved in an orderly fashion; and/or

b. they did not or could not control entry to that part of the cricket ground by the relevant spectators and it would therefore not be fair for them to be held responsible.

***Off-field conduct***

8. A Participant shall be in breach of these RCR if they commit any misconduct as set out below which either relates to their participation in Recreational Cricket and/or is of a sufficiently serious nature to justify disciplinary action being taken in relation to their participation in Recreational Cricket:

a. making an abusive, obscene, offensive or otherwise insulting comment or gesture (in any form) in relation to any other Participant or any other person;

b. any act of violence towards another person;

c. engaging in behaviour that constitutes any form of abuse or harassment, whether physical, sexual, emotional, neglectful or bullying in nature;

d. any breach of the ECB’s Anti-Discrimination Code;

e. making any adverse public statement or comment in any form and by any means about the performance and/or decision(s) of any match official(s);

f. failing to report to their Club, any Relevant Criminal Offence for which they have been subject to investigation and/or charged with;

g. conducting themselves in a manner, or doing or omitting to do anything which is or may be prejudicial to the best interests of cricket, or which may bring or does bring the game of cricket or the ECB into disrepute;

h. engaging in any corrupt conduct in relation to cricket, in particular:

a. fixing the result, progress, conduct or any aspect of a match;

b. ensuring the occurrence of a particular incident in a match;

c. accepting a bribe to conduct the activities described in (a) or (b) above; or d. receiving a custodial sentence for any of the activities described in (a)-(c) or

i. failing to comply with any decisions or sanctions validly imposed on them following due process as prescribed by these RCR.

9. Participants are considered responsible for any relevant posts on their social media accounts and may be in breach of RCR 8 for posting, repeating, commenting or supporting posts or comments by others (e.g. ‘retweeting’ or ‘liking’) on social media that amount to a conduct breach under Regulation 9.

**PROCESS**

10. Umpires shall report any On-Field Breaches or Off-Field Breaches which occur on or around the field of play to the Relevant Cricket League, irrespective of any action the umpire may have taken on the field of play.

11. Other individuals can also report On-Field Breaches or Off-Field Breaches: a. to the umpire, in which case the umpire shall report it to the Relevant Cricket League; b. to a captain or Club Official, if there is no umpire appointed to a particular match, who shall report it to the Relevant Cricket League; or

c. to the Relevant Cricket League directly.

12. A Relevant Disciplinary Body may become aware of, and may consider, a potential or alleged breach of these Regulations without an umpire or an independent individual having reported the matter to the Relevant Disciplinary Body.

13. Relevant Cricket Leagues must ensure that any disciplinary processes conducted under these RCR comply with the following requirements:

a. Relevant Cricket Leagues shall appoint a Disciplinary Officer (or Disciplinary Officers) in respect of each case.

b. The Disciplinary Officer shall decide whether to charge the relevant Participant with a breach of these RCR, having conducted any further investigation they consider necessary.

c. The Participant who has been charged shall be informed what breach they are being charged with and given the opportunity to respond to the charge.

d. The Disciplinary Officer shall appoint an individual (or group of individuals) to consider the charge (i) on the basis of the written evidence only or (ii) at a hearing. In either case, the following principles must be complied with:

i. The Participant shall be informed who will be making the decision and given the opportunity to object to their appointment on the basis of any conflict of interest.

ii. If the charge will be considered at a hearing, the Participant shall be given the opportunity to attend and make representations to the decision-maker(s).

iii. The decision-maker(s) may seek further information about the charge from the Participant or the Disciplinary Officer (or any other third party they deem necessary, including the umpire or reporting party) before making a decision.

iv. In exceptional cases, the decision-maker(s) may suspend a Participant from participating in cricket until the case has been considered. Before doing so, the decision-maker(s) will consider whether that is appropriate in the

circumstances of the case (including the seriousness of the alleged breach and whether the Participant is contesting the charge).

v. The decision-maker(s) will consider the charge and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, there has been a breach of these RCR. A decision made by a group of individuals shall be made on the basis of a majority vote.

vi. If there has been a breach of these RCR, the decision-maker(s) will impose a sanction in accordance with the sanction guidelines which appear in Appendix 1.

vii. The decision, including any sanction, shall be clearly communicated to the Participant and the Participant’s Club as soon as reasonably possible.

14. The Participant shall have the opportunity to appeal any decision. Relevant Cricket Leagues must ensure that any appeal processes conducted under these RCR comply with the following requirements:

a. Decisions may only be appealed on one of the following grounds:

i. the decision-maker(s) came to a decision to which no reasonable body could have come;

ii. there was a serious procedural irregularity, which includes the decision maker(s) not following the principles set out in Regulation 12, which significantly impacted the Participant’s rights and caused the decision to be unjust;

iii. there is fresh evidence which could not be presented before the decision was made but is material to the decision; and/or

iv. the sanction imposed was manifestly excessive.

b. The Disciplinary Officer shall appoint an individual (or group of individuals) to consider the appeal (i) on the basis of the written evidence only or (ii) at a hearing. No individual who has previously been involved with the case shall be appointed to consider the appeal.

c. The process for the appeal shall comply with RCR 12(d)(i)-(iv).

d. The decision-maker(s) shall consider the appeal and determine whether, on the balance of probabilities, the appeal shall be allowed (in whole or in part). A decision made by a group of individuals shall be made on the basis of a majority vote.

e. If the appeal is allowed, the decision-maker(s) shall decide whether to disapply the sanction previously imposed or issue a new sanction in accordance with the sanctions guidelines which appear in Appendix 1.

f. The decision, including any sanction, shall be clearly communicated to the Participant and the Participant’s Club as soon as reasonably possible.

g. Any decision in respect of appeal is final and binding and there is no further right of appeal.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

15. Relevant Cricket Leagues must immediately recognise, give effect to and fully enforce any penalties which have been imposed under these RCR or the GCR and which they have been notified about.

16. If the Relevant Cricket League is aware that a Participant participates in multiple leagues or competitions, the Disciplinary Officer must communicate any sanction imposed under these RCR to the relevant competition organiser(s).

17. Relevant Cricket Leagues must maintain a record of all disciplinary decisions and, where applicable, sanctions imposed.

Appendix 1

Sanction Guidelines

1. **The table below sets out recommended sanctions to be applied on Participants in respect of On-Field Breaches. However, the decision-maker(s) shall not be limited to imposing the recommended sanctions and can impose greater or lesser sanctions as appropriate in the circumstances of the particular case.**

2. Unless the decision-maker(s) stipulate otherwise, bans shall apply to all cricket, be effective immediately and, for the purpose of totting up the number of breaches within a specified period, shall remain on the Participant’s record for 24 calendar months from the date of the breach.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Level of On field breach** | **First On-Field breach** | **Second On-Field Breach (within 24 months)** | **Third On-Field Breach (within 24 months)** |
| Level 1  | 1 match ban  | 2 match ban  | 3 match ban |
| Level 2  | 2 match ban  | 4 match ban  | 12 match ban |
| Level 3  | 6 match ban  | 12 match ban  | 24 match ban  |
| Level 4  | 10 match ban  | 20 match ban  | 40 match ban |

3. If decision-maker(s) prefer, they can stipulate that bans cover:

a. a specific time period, e.g. one week; and/or

b. a specific number of days of cricket.

4. The decision-maker(s) shall take into account all aggravating and mitigating factors when determining the appropriate sanction. The decision-maker(s) shall determine whether, and to what extent, to depart from the standard sanctions and/or to impose additional or lesser penalties as they deem fit, including (but not limited to) the following, which may be suspended (in full or in part):

a. Caution or reprimand

b. Letter of apology

c. Fine of no more than £500

d. Ban of a period of matches or weeks

e. Expulsion of the cricketer from a Relevant Cricket League or competition

5. The decision-maker(s) shall give consideration to the following aggravating and mitigating factors, as appropriate, to include but not limited to:

**Aggravating factors**

a. The ages of the Participant and any victim at the time of the offence, particularly where the victim was a minor and the Participant was not.

b. The profile of the Participant, including whether they hold a position of responsibility within their Club (e.g. Club captain, Chair or member of senior management). c. Poor previous disciplinary record.

d. Failure to co-operate with the Disciplinary Officer and/or Relevant Disciplinary Body. e. Any attempt to conceal the breach.

f. The extent of any premeditation or planning.

g. The level of harm and/or distress incurred.

h. The public nature of the offence (such as commission of the offence in a public place, via broadcast media or a social media platform).

i. Use of discriminatory language or conduct, or any other behaviour that breaches the ECB’s Anti-Discrimination Code, whilst also carrying out a separate offence under the RCR.

**Mitigating factors**

a. Good previous disciplinary record.

b. The age of the Participant at the time of the offence.

c. Admission at the earliest opportunity, where the factual conduct forming the basis of the charge would be capable of being disputed.

d. Demonstration of genuine remorse.

e. Co-operation with the Disciplinary Officer and/or Relevant Cricket League. f. Inexperience of the Participant by reference to their age or background at the time of the offence.

g. In respect of social media posts, the age of the post and the Participant’s age at the time of the post.

**FINES & CHARGES for SEASON 2024**

 **Description Fine**

Non attendance to an AGM or EGM £50

Unregistered or incorrectly registered player £100

All other fines that are attached to clubs for Breach of League rules will be reviewed by Management.

**Process of Adopting ECB RCR Regulations within the DCCL**

Any report from either an umpire or other individual must be put in writing to the Secretary of the Disciplinary Panel within ten days of the offence taking place. The report should be sent either via email to karl.iwilliams@yahoo.co.uk or by post to 24 Cravenwood Road, Reddish, Stockport SK5 6PQ.

Following receipt of a report/s the Secretary of the Disciplinary Panel will issue the report/s received to the appropriate club/s and the clubs shall have ten days in which to investigate the complaint/s. At the expiry of ten days the club/s must report back to the Secretary of the Disciplinary Panel setting out the result of the investigation and any sanctions imposed.

The clubs response will be considered by the Disciplinary Panel which is made up of senior members of the League (including members of the Management Committee). If the panel is content with the sanctions imposed then the clubs will be informed accordingly, if however the panel feels that a Disciplinary Hearing is required then a date will be set for a hearing to take place.

At a hearing the Disciplinary Panel will be constituted by three senior members of the League (including members of Management) and the Secretary to the Panel will act as Secretary to the meeting. The meeting will hear verbal evidence as required by the panel as well as the consideration of any written evidence submitted. The panel will make a decision following the hearing and reading of evidence and the decision will either be conveyed on the day of the hearing or in writing within seven days.

The right of appeal from the hearing is open to either the complainant or the respondent but any appeal must be accompanied by full written evidence relating to the grounds of appeal and an appeal fee of £75.00 which may be refunded in due course. The appeal notice must be issued in writing to the Secretary of the Disciplinary Panel within seven days of the result of the initial hearing having been provided with the relevant fee being paid to the League Treasurer within the same seven day period.

Any appeal will be heard by the Management Committee (excluding members of the Management Committee who sat on the original panel). The Secretary to the Disciplinary panel will act as Secretary at the appeal hearing. The decision made by the Management Committee in relation to the appeal will be final and not be subject of further appeals.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION ONE**

**GENERAL RULES FOR JUNIOR CRICKET**

(Junior Cricket is managed by the League Management Committee)

**1. ELIGIBILITY**

All players shall not have reached the age specified for the particular competition before September 1st of the preceding year and shall have registered for the current season as a Junior player within the League. Nor shall a player play in the same knock-out competition in the same season for another club. A completed match shall be one in which the results determined wholly by match play. An abandoned match whether or not it is to be replayed shall not be deemed to be a complete match for the purpose of eligibility.

The decision of the League Management Committee on eligibility is final.

**2. REGISTRATION**

a) Each club must forward to the Junior Statistics Secretary, before 1st May each year a list of its registered junior players. That list should clearly identify the date of birth and PIP status for each junior member registered.

b) When a player is signed from another club, his application must indicate that he is free of all his obligations from his previous club.

This applies to clubs both within and outside the League, but shall not apply to any junior player below the age of 15 on 1st September of the previous year.

No player may play within a Junior Competition unless he is registered.

c) The failure of a club to register a player(s) or forward documentation in accordance with Rule 2 above or the playing of an ineligible or incorrectly registered player will lead to one or more of:

(i) Fine

(ii) Points deduction

(iii) Reversal of result

(iv) Replay of knock-out competition match

(v) Exclusion from a knock-out competition

d) All players transfers must be supported by a fully completed transfer form, which are available on request from the League Secretary, Statistics Secretary and Junior Statistics Secretary.

e) No player should be registered for more than one club during any one season unless mutually agreed and sanctioned by the League Management Committee.

f) With the exception of 2(e) above, if a player seeks pre-match registration, immediately preceding an U17 match, the opposing Team Manager must countersign the Registration form.

g) No application for a transfer will be considered if the player is in arrears with the club from whom he seeks a transfer

h) No transfer or pre-match registration will be allowed after 30th June.

i) Juniors playing senior cricket in other Leagues, for other clubs, shall be eligible to play in DCCL games, league or cup,matches at junior level ONLY.

**3. MATCH ORGANISATION**

a) Clubs shall provide for each team, a team manager, an umpire and a scorer.

b) The home Cub is responsible for the communication of the result by email to the Junior Secretary within 48 hours of the finish of the match. Notification must be given in similar manner of abandoned or incomplete matches

Failure to make such returns within the prescribed time limits will lead to an automatic fine.

c) All matches must be played on the specified dates unless otherwise determined by the League Management Committee and advised by the Junior Secretary in writing to all clubs so as to be received with a minimum of fourteen days notice.

d) Any club failing to fulfil an engagement will forfeit the match.

In the Junior league matches, points for a win will be awarded to the opponents. A club failing to fulfil an engagement or failing to field a full registered team may lead to one or more of a fine or points deduction or the reversal of the result or replay of a knock-out competition match.

In the Junior league and for the purpose of any Group Match Ratio under Rule 4 below in the event of a team failing to play a full registered team, where the opposing team.

 (i) win the match, the opposing team will be deemed to have taken one extra wicket per missing player; and

 (ii) lose the match, the club failing to play a full team will be deemed to have lost one wicket more per missing player

(iii) The normal Rules will apply at the Under 11 and Under 13 age groups

e) All matches must be played under the current laws of the M.C.C. and relevant senior local rules except as otherwise provided for in these rules.

f) League approved artificial pitches may be used.

g) Full pitch covers may be used before and during a match to cover the playing pitch.

h) All players are expected to appear in normal white cricket attire and to wear appropriate protective equipment as determined by the League and/or club committee

i) In all matches the fielding side will provide their own ball which must have been supplied by the League.

j) The home club will be responsible for the clear indication on the scoreboard of the numbers of overs remaining in any one innings.

k) In league matches, the visiting team will bat first. In cup competitions, or in knock-out stages of a league competition, the teams shall toss for choice of innings.

l) Any club disputing the result of a match must lodge with the Junior Secretary a duplicate notice in writing, within seven days of the match.

 The notice must be accompanied by the prescribed deposit, which may be refunded in due course. No protest will be considered unless it is accompanied by the deposit.

 In all cases of protest or appeal to the League Management Committee, representatives of the clubs concerned shall leave the room during discussion of the protest or appeal, if this is requested by the League Management Committee.

**4. Junior League Competitions**

a) Where, according to age, Junior league competitions are split into geographical or other divisions, the winner of each group together with any runner(s)-up, as determined by the League Management Committee, will contest a knock-out stage(s) to determine a league winner.

b) (i) In determining the group winner and any group runner- up, teams will first rank in order of the highest number of points obtained. If one or more teams are level on equal points, the Group Match Ratio at 4(d) below, will apply.

 (ii) In determining the best runner-up from two or more groups, the Group Match Ratio at 4(d) below will apply irrespective of the number of points gained by each contender within its group.

c) The team with the higher or highest Group Match Ratio will take priority ranking. In the event of a tie, the team(s)

(i) scoring the higher or highest aggregate runs, then

(ii) losing the lower or lowest runs, then

(iii) conceding the lower or lowest runs, then

 (iv) taking the higher or highest number of wickets shall take priority ranking.

 Any indecision thereafter shall be settled by decision of the Junior Committee. d) The Group Match Ratio will be the percentage obtained for any team by dividing (i) the team’s total runs scored per wicket lost BY (ii) the team’s total runs conceded per wicket taken in all its completed League matches NB: For Under 11’s total runs & wickets will be actual runs & wickets

e) Subject only to the hours of play which shall be stipulated in an annual programme for the knock-out stages of all competitions issued to all clubs by the Junior Secretary,

 (i) The rules governing the Under 17 and Under 15 League competitions are found in Sections Junior 2 and 3.

 (ii) The Under 17 Knock-out Competition - The Compstall Cup - will follow the Rules of Play for the Bissenden Cup except as otherwise allowed for in Section Junior 6.

 (iii) The Rules of Play for Under 13s and Under 11s will follow those shown in Sections Junior 4 and 5.

f) Common sense should always be used, especially with the younger age groups and abilities when adjudicating on wides and no balls for “ball rolling or bouncing more than twice before popping crease”.

g) Helmets must always be worn.

(h) Only League approved cricket balls shall be used.

AGE LIMITS – 2022 SEASON

U19 – 18 or under on 1st September 2021

U15 – 14 or under on 1st September 2021

U13 – 12 or under on 1st September 2021

U11 – 10 or under on 1st September 2021

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION TWO**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR THE UNDER 15’s COMPETITION**

1. Each match shall be a minimum of 40 six ball overs. Each Under 15 side shall comprise 11 players. Under 15 matches shall commence at 6:15pm for a Monday evening match except for the first two matches of the season which shall commence at 6:00pm. Only League approved cricket balls shall be used.

2. The first innings shall consist of not more than 50% of the allotted overs.

3. If the side batting first are dismissed or declare their innings closed before they have completed their allotted overs, the side batting second will receive the balance of the remaining overs in the match.

4. Games shall consist of one innings per side with an interval of 10 minutes between innings.

5. If, for any reason, a match does not start by 7:00pm (6:45 pm for a 6:00 pm start) the match becomes a 30 over game. No match shall start after 7:00pm (6:45 pm for a 6:00pm start) If a League match does not commence or cannot be completed because of adverse weather conditions, it shall be regarded as an abandoned match and shall not be replayed. It may be replayed as a friendly but any result will not count towards League standings.

6. In a 40 over game, no player shall bowl more than 4 overs and for a 30 over game no more than 3 overs.

7. A batsman shall retire following the scoring stroke which takes his score to, or past, 30 runs and may not return.

8. The points shall be as follows:

3 points for a win

2 points for a tie

1 point for an abandoned game

9. League Finals Day.

A final shall be held on the date specified by the League Management Committee between the winners of each area league. The venue is to be decided by the toss of a coin between the two clubs in question. The Junior Secretary should be informed of the venue and start time as soon as it is known.

The final will be played in the 40 over match format as for the weekly league matches. The Final will have a tea break between innings or at a time decided by the umpires should there be an interruption in play.

If the match is abandoned the final shall be replayed on a mutually agreed date by both teams. If the match ends in a tie, then the league title will be shared between the competing finalists.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION THREE**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR THE UNDER 13’s COMPETITION**

1. In Under 13 games, the pitch shall be 19 yards in length.

2. The ball shall weigh 4.75 ounces and only League approved cricket balls shall be used.

3. Each Under 13 team shall comprise of 10 players. If a team has 9 players, the opposition shall choose 1 player from the first 4 pairs to make up the fifth pair with points awarded in the normal manner.

If a team has 8 players, the match will be played with the fifth pair made up in similar fashion but the points will be forfeited to the opposition. Normal Group Match Ratio applies.

4. Each game shall consist of one innings per side, each innings shall be of 20 overs duration. Play shall commence at 6:15 pm for Wednesday evening games except for the first two matches of the season which will commence at 6:00 pm.

5. If, for any reason, a match does not start by 7:00 pm (6:45 pm for a 6:00 pm start) the match becomes a 30 over game. No match shall start after 7:00 pm (6:45 pm for a 6:00 pm start)

If a League match does not commence or cannot be completed because of adverse weather conditions, it shall be regarded as an abandoned match and shall not be replayed. It may be replayed as a friendly but any result will not count towards League standings.

6. An Under 13 batting side shall be divided into pairs, each pair batting for 4 overs.

Pairs shall change at the end of the 4th, 8th, 12th and 16th over.

For a reduced overs Under 13 match, each pair will change at the end of the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th over.

7. Each team shall commence its innings with a score of 150 runs.

8. Batsmen shall have unlimited “lives” but each life lost shall result in 5 runs being deducted from the total. Batsmen shall change ends at the fall of a wicket with the exception of the last ball of an over.

9. Each player of the fielding side must bowl (including the wicketkeeper if this position is rotated). No player shall bowl more than 4 overs in a full match or 3 overs in a reduced overs match.

Umpires should use common sense when adjudging wide balls and no over should exceed 8 deliveries, legal or otherwise.

10. In all matches, no fielder, except the wicketkeeper, shall be allowed to field nearer than 11 yards measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the “off” side.

11. The winning team shall be the team scoring the greater number of runs after the deductions for the fall of each wicket.

 In the event of the scores being equal, the result shall be a tie and both teams receive two points. 11. The points are as

follows:

3 points for a win

2 points for a tie.

1 point for an abandoned game.

12. League Finals Day.

(a) Finals Day will be held at a venue to be decided on the basis of bids received before the season opens. The finalists will be the two divisional winners plus the two best runners up. There will then be two semi finals based upon the 40 over per match format and thereafter a League Final again in the same 40 over per match format. The conditions of play for the semi finals and the Final will be the same as for the weekly League matches.

The day will commence at 10:00 am and each semi final will be played as outlined with a 10 minute break between innings. The Final will have a tea interval of 25 minutes between innings or at a time decided by the Umpires should there be an interruption in play. If tea is not taken between innings, the interval shall not exceed 10 minutes.

The semi final order of play will be decided through a random draw undertaken prior to the day by the junior league secretary. Competing teams will be advised of their opponents and match time before Finals Day.

(b) Under normal circumstances, the 1st semi final would commence at 10:00 am and the 2nd semi final shortly after the end of the 1st semi final. If, however, a semi final cannot commence as scheduled due to the prevailing conditions, the following shall apply: For every complete 9 minutes lost, 2 overs will be deducted from the total number of overs to be bowled. If a semi final can start before 45 minutes have elapsed, then the match will proceed with reduced overs as above.

If no play is possible before 45 minutes have elapsed or a game having started cannot continue to a conclusion, then the match is deemed as abandoned and the result shall be decided by a bowl out – See Page 55 –Section Four Para 4(L) In the event of a tied match in a semi final, the result shall be decided by a bowl out.

If the start of the Final is also delayed, the same overs reduction and time limitation will apply. If the match is subsequently abandoned it shall be replayed on a mutually agreed date by both teams. If the match ends in a tie, then the League title will be shared between the competing finalists.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION FOUR**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR THE UNDER 11’s COMPETITION**

1. In Under 11’s games, the pitch shall be 17 yards in length.

2. The ball shall weigh 4.75 ounces and only League approved cricket balls shall be used.

3. Each Under 11 team shall comprise of 8 players. If a team has 7 players, the opposition shall choose 1 player from the first 3 pairs to make up the fourth pair with points awarded in the normal manner.

If a team has 6 players, the match will be played with the fourth pair made up in similar fashion but the points will be forfeited to the opposition. Normal Group Match Ratio applies.

4. Each game shall consist of one innings per side, each innings shall be of 16 overs duration. Play shall commence at 10:00 am for Sunday games.

5. If any Under 11 match does not start or cannot be completed because of weather conditions,a new date shall be mutually agreed and the match replayed within 7 days.

 If this does not happen, the match shall be treated as an abandoned game. If for any reason, the original Sunday match does not start by 10:35 am, the match becomes a 24 over match (maximum 12 per side) and no match shall start after 10:50 am.

6. An Under 11 batting side shall be divided into pairs, each pair batting for 4 overs.

Pairs shall change at the end of the 4th, 8th and 12th over.

For a reduced overs Under 11 match, each pair will change at the end of the 3rd, 6th and 9th over.

7. Each team shall commence its innings with a score of 150 runs.

8. Batsmen shall have unlimited “lives” but each life lost shall result in 5 runs being deducted from the total. Batsmen

shall change ends at the fall of a wicket with the exception of the last ball of an over.

9. Each player of the fielding side must bowl (including the wicketkeeper if this position is rotated).

No player shall bowl more than 3 overs in a full match or 2 overs in a reduced overs match. Umpires should use common sense when adjudging wide balls and no over should exceed 8 deliveries, legal or otherwise.

10. In all matches, no fielder, except the wicketkeeper, shall be allowed to field nearer than 11 yards measured from the middle stump, except behind the wicket on the “off” side.

11. The winning team shall be the team scoring the greater number of runs after the deductions for the fall of each wicket.

 In the event of the scores being equal, all players from each team shall throw the ball once at the wicket from the bowlers end and the team scoring the most “hits” shall be the winner.

12. The points shall be as follows:

 3 points for a win

 2 points for a tie

 1 point for an abandoned game

13. League Finals Day.

(a) Finals Day will be held at a venue to be decided on the basis of bids received before the season opens. The finalists will be the two divisional winners plus the two best runners up. There will then be two semi finals based upon the 32 over per match format and thereafter a League Final again in the same 32 over per match format. The conditions of play for the semi finals and the Final will be the same as for the weekly League matches.

The semi final order of play will be decided through a random draw undertaken prior to the day and supervised by the League Management Committee. Competing teams will be advised of their opponents and match time before Finals Day.

The day will commence at 10:00 am and each semi final will be played as outlined with a 10 minute break between innings. The Final will have a tea interval of 25 minutes between innings or at a time decided by the Umpires should there be an interruption in play. If tea is not taken between innings, the interval shall not exceed 10 minutes.

 (b) Under normal circumstances, the 1st semi final would commence at 10:00 am and the 2nd semi final shortly after the end of the 1st semi final. If, however, a semi final cannot commence as scheduled due to the prevailing conditions, the following shall apply: For every complete 9 minutes lost, 2 overs will be deducted from the total number of overs to be bowled. If a semi final can start before 45 minutes have elapsed, then the match will proceed with reduced overs as above.

 If no play is possible before 45 minutes have elapsed or a game having started cannot continue to a conclusion, then the match is deemed as abandoned and the result shall be decided by a bowl out – See Page 53 –Section Four Para 4(L) In the event of a tied match in a semi final, the result shall be decided by a bowl out.

If the start of the Final is also delayed, the same overs reduction and time limitation will apply. If the match is subsequently abandoned it shall be replayed on a mutually agreed date by both teams. If the match ends in a tie, then the League title will be shared between the competing finalists.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION FIVE**

**RULES OF PLAY FOR THE UNDER 19’s COMPETITION**

In general Last Man Stands is played under the same rules as ICC T20, however there are extra rules that are unique to the DCCL U19s

1. All games are 15 overs per side

2. All games are 8 players per side

3. Bowlers are limited to a maximum of 3 overs per bowler

4 Last Wicket Stand, all 8 wickets are needed to bowl a team out. When the seventh wicket falls, the Last Man Stands (on his own). The Last Man can only score 2, 4 or 6 of any ball. The ball is only dead when the batsman is behind the batting crease at the strikers end of the pitch. When the Last Man Stands, he/she can only be run out at the batting crease (keepers end). If a batsman is run out under this rule he/she will not get any runs for completing the first run(in other words it’s two if he completes the two and zero if he/she does not).

5. Home Run - If a player clears the ropes (i.e. hits a six) of the last available ball of the innings it is worth 12 runs. This rule applies to both the first and second innings. If a bowler bowls a no ball off the 6th ball of the last over and is hit for 6 its a Home Run i.e. 12 runs + 1 run. If he then hits a six of the 6th ball of the last over it is also a home run i.e. 12 runs. However if a bowler bowls a No Ball or wide before the 6th ball is bowled (balls 1-4)

 a Home Run can only be hit of his LAST ball of the over . E.G. if a bowler bowls 2 wides and 2 no balls, the batsmen can only hit a Home Run on the 10th ball of the over as that is the LAST ball of the innings. If the side batting seconds needs 4 to win, in the 15th over and the batsmen hits a six, again it is not a Home Run.

6. Batsmen Retire at 50 - Once a batsman has 50 runs to his/her name, they must retire. They can return to bat should all other wickets fall OR if only retired batsmen are to come in after the current batsmen reaches there 50 runs (then the current batsmen will proceed to retire and then previously retired batsmen waiting will resume there innings). When returning to the crease he must take up the crease position of the leaving batsmen. If there are multiple retired batsmen, then they must return to the crease in the order they retired. The Last Wicket Stand play rule only comes into play once 7 wickets have been taken.

6a. Batsmen may not retire before 50. Players are not allowed to retire before they reach 50 runs unless otherwise agreed by the opposition captain. If it is obvious a player has a serious injury then the opposing captain and umpire may consult and permit the player to retire (and hopefully common sense from both parties will prevail).

6b. Batsmen deliberately hits wicket. - If a player hits his wicket or stands on his wicket, the fielding captain has the right to challenge the fall of the wicket if he/ she deems the incident was a deliberate action by the batsmen to get out. In the event of the challenge, the umpire has the discretion to reverse the decision. The ball counts as a legal delivery and the player concerned must continue batting. (This rule is in place to ensure that players do not purposely hit the wicket to get a retired batsmen back at the crease).

7. Six balls per over - Overs 1-15 are 6 balls per over for overs unless 2xpenalty balls have been bowled. In this instance there will be a maximum of 8 balls per over.

8. Penalty Balls - The first penalty ball results in one extra run for the batsmen and one extra ball for the bowler. The second penalty ball in any over results in three extra runs for the batsmen. No balls will be a FREE hit for the batsmen and one extra run to the batsmen.

9. A bowlers run - The umpire may limit the run up to 10 metres or less if he feels the light is not suitable. No walking in is permitted i.e. walking and running must start from on or before the mark. The umpire at square leg may gently point this out to the LMS official once the ball is dead.

10. Square Leg Umpire - In the majority of LMS games, the square leg umpire is the responsibility of the next batsmen into bat. Only one person may stand at Square Leg Umpire at any one time. The square leg umpire only decides run outs and stumpings.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION SIX**

**SAFEGUARDING**

What has Safeguarding got to do with us? We just want to play cricket!

This is something I hear from time to time, and it does disappoint me.

Given what has been happening in football recently, with players coming forward to say that they were abused as children, I am certain everyone in sport understands the need to make sure children are safe in their sport. This means making sure we follow the guidance the ECB gives us, and especially it means making sure we carry out the basic checks on people who will have a responsibility towards children in cricket.

The ECB website provides the following information:

The England and Wales Cricket Board is firmly committed to creating a safe and enjoyable environment for children to enjoy the game.

Key to this is the recruitment and vetting of the many invaluable individuals who create many rewarding experiences in cricket.

All organisations working with children have safeguarding responsibilities and clear requirements placed upon them by legislation and guidance.

This apples whether you are a club, league panel or another organisation. It is there to ensure safe recruitment practices for individuals who work with children, including policies on when to obtain a criminal records check.

The ECB guidance on the roles in cricket that require a vetting check are available on the ECB website: https://www.ecb.co.uk/safeguarding/dbs-checks-ecb-vetting

The roles in cricket that require ECB vetting are:

• Welfare Officer (Club, League, County)

• Volunteer Co-ordinator

• Coach (volunteer or paid, assistant or lead)

• Umpire

• Scorer

• Colt/Junior Manager

• Age Group Manager

• Open-Age Team Captain

• Junior Supervisor

• First Aider/Physiotherapist/Medical Support

To obtain a DBS application form or if you have any queries regarding your application, please contact GB Group on 0845 251 3000

Or you can contact me.

There really is no excuse for us not to do what we need to do.

We know there are people who have unhealthy reasons for wanting to be around children. We know there are a number of people in Cheshire who have been banned or suspended from working with children. Some of these have served prison sentences for offences against children. One individual is currently serving 15 years.

Our children and young people need us to make sure our game is as safe as it can be. Parents are now advised by Government to ask if people at Sports Clubs are vetted, and we should be able to say – hand on heart – that everyone is vetted who needs to be. It’s easy to do – let’s do it.

Let’s make this the year where all vetting checks are completed before the start of the season, and really show that we value the safety of the children and young people who take part in cricket in our County.

**JUNIOR RULES - SECTION SEVEN**

**ECB GUIDELINES FOR JUNIOR PLAYERS IN SENIOR CRICKET & BOWLING DIRECTIVES**

ECB Guidelines for Junior Players in Open Age Group Cricket

The ECB has issued guidance covering the selection and participation of young players in open age group cricket. It is designed to help clubs to decide when to select young players in open age group cricket and how best to help their cricketing development when they play within open age groups. The ECB keeps these guidelines under review and, following feedback from clubs and leagues, has revised these guidelines for

 the 2011 season. The ECB will continue to monitor the impact of these guidelines and you are invited to feedback your thoughts and comments in writing to the ECB Non-First Class Cricket Department.

1. Making the step up from junior to open age group cricket is a significant event in any player’s cricket experience. Ensure that the player’s safety, personal development needs and overall cricket experience are considered.

2. There is no definitive age at which they should be introduced to open age group cricket but determine each case on an individual basis dependent on their ability and stage of cognitive and emotional maturity to take part at this level, however, clubs, squad coaches and managers must take into account the requirements on age at point 9 of this guidance

3. ECB Fast Bowling Directives and Fielding Regulations should always be adhered to for junior players in open age group cricket.

4. Provide an opportunity for players to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are just used as fielders will not fully experience the game.

5. Be supportive at all times for all forms of effort even when children are not successful. Try and put them in situations where they will experience some success (however small) and ensure plenty of praise and encouragement.

6. Try and involve them in all aspects of the game wherever possible i.e. socializing, team talks, practice, decision making etc. so that they feel part of the team.

7. Children will often feel more comfortable and able to perform if they have a family member or friend also playing in the side.

8. Remember, children’s early experiences will remain with them always and will often determine whether they want to remain playing the game or give up and do something else!

9. Players who are selected in a County U12 squad in Spring for a summer squad or in another squad deemed by ECB Performance Managers to be of a standard above ‘District level’ for that season are eligible to play Open Age Cricket.

 This is providing they are at least 11 years old, and in School Year 7 on 1st September in the year preceding the season and have written parental consent to play. In allowing these players to play in Open Age Cricket it is essential that Clubs and Coaches recognise the ‘Duty of Care’ obligations towards these young players.

This means that County Squad and Area Squad players, both boys and girls are able to play Open Age Group Cricket if they are in U12 Age group and are a minimum of 11 years old on 01 September of the year preceding the season. District and club players who are not in a County or Area squads must wait until they reach the Under 13 age group, 12 years old, Year 8 on 01 September of the preceding year prior to being able to play in any Open Age Cricket, again written parental consent is required for these players.

 The Duty of Care should be interpreted in two ways:

• Not to place a young player in a position that involves an unreasonable risk to that young player, taking account of the circumstances of the match and the relative skills of the player

• Not to create a situation that places members of the opposing side in a position whereby they cannot play cricket as they would normally do against adult players.

 In addition the guidelines note the need for clubs and leagues to recognize the positive experience that young players should have in open age cricket and thus clubs should provide an opportunity for players to show their talents in an appropriate way. Children who are just used as fielders will not fully experience the game. By reproducing the Guidelines in the League Handbook, the effect is that this now becomes a League rule. In addition to the details reproduced above, the League has decided to impose additional conditions as per paras 1-4 below:

 Junior Players who meet these requirements will be allowed to play in 2nd XI cricket ONLY. Such players must be endorsed by a letter not only from parents but from the County Coach/District Coach. Clubs wishing to make an Under 12 player available for selection for 2nd XI cricket must apply to the League Management Committee in writing and provide the letters of consent in (2) as evidence to the application.

 If the application is approved, the League Management Committee will supply the Club with written confirmation which can be presented to the Umpire(s). The Duty of Care obligations are paramount.

**ECB Fast Bowling Match Directives**

**Age Max. overs per spell Max. overs per day**

Up to U13 5 10

U14, U15 6 12

U16, U17, U18, U19 7 18

 For the purpose of these Directives a fast bowler is defined as a bowler to whom a wicket keeper in the same age group would in normal circumstances stand back to take the ball.

 Having completed a spell the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his\* spell have been bowled from the same end. A bowler can change ends without ending his current spell provided that he bowls the next over that he legally can from the other end. If this does not happen his spell is deemed to be concluded. If play is interrupted, for any reason, for less than 40 minutes any spell in progress at the time of the interruption can be continued after the interruption up to the maximum number of overs per spell for the appropriate age group. If the spell is not continued after the interruption the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until the equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell before the interruption have been bowled from the same end. If the interruption is of 40 minutes or more, whether scheduled or not, the bowler can commence a new spell immediately.

 In matches of 20 overs or less per team where the competition regulations only allow bowlers to bowl less than or equal to the number of overs specified as the maximum in a spell in the Directives the provisions requiring an equivalent number of overs from the same end to have elapsed before a subsequent spell can commence shall not apply (e.g. in any age group competition where a maximum of 4 overs per bowler is allowed

 these may be bowled at any time in the innings irrespective of the number of spells bowled).

 Once a bowler covered by these Directives has bowled in a match he cannot exceed the maximum number overs per day for his age group even if he subsequently bowls spin. He can exceed the maximum overs per spell if bowling spin, but cannot then revert to bowling fast until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end.

 If he bowls spin without exceeding the maximum number of overs in a spell the maximum will apply as soon as he reverts to bowling fast. Captains, Team Managers and Umpires are asked to ensure that these Directives are followed at all times.

 For guidance it is recommended that in any 7 day period a fast bowler should not bowl more than 4 days in that period and for a maximum of 2 days in a row. Age groups are based on the age of the player at midnight on 31st August in the year preceding the current season.

 \*Any reference to he/his should be interpreted to include she/her

**DCCL WOMEN’S SOFTBALL CRICKET LEAGUE**

**SOFT BALL COMPETITION PLAYING RULES 2022**

 The competition will be called the ‘High Peak Women’s Softball League’. The competition will be governed and administered by the Derbyshire and Cheshire Cricket League

**ELIGIBILITY**

The competition is open to all clubs and teams within the High Peak area of Derbyshire and Cheshire. Entries from other areas are only allowed with approval from the EMWCL management committee.

 The following players are ineligible to participate in this competition:

 • Any paid professional or paid overseas player (including ECB contracted players)

• Any county women’s team representative player

• Any player currently playing County Age Group cricket

• Any player who would in normal circumstances be playing 1st and 2nd XI cricket on a Saturday • Any player over 17 years old playing regular hard ball cricket

• Male participants

• ECB policy on Trans Players in Cricket: Trans-Playing-Policy-2021-vF-010521.pdf (ecb.co.uk)

Please note, in any one given match, a maximum of 2 players under the age of 16 per team may participate. Under ECB safeguarding regulations, all cricket team captains must hold a valid ECB DBS Certificate.

Please be reminded that this format of cricket is not designed for experienced cricketers, but as an entry level into league cricket. We ask that all players participating in these fixtures respect the developmental spirit of this competition.

**PLAYING KIT**

• Teams should wear coloured clothing and not ‘whites’.

• A team kit is encouraged but is not mandatory. As long as, all the team are in matching coloured tops/ shirts

**OFFICIALS**

• Umpires – 2 per game, both teams playing in each match must provide 1 umpire.

• Scorers –1 per game, the home team must provide a scorer. The away team can provide 1 scorer if they wish, but it is not mandatory.

• Please note that scorers may score using either the league provided paper score sheet or the Play- Cricket Scorer App.

**EQUIPMENT**

• Wooden bats may be used, although we recommend the use of a composite ECB Women’s Softball bat.

• The HOME team must provide match balls for each match. The type of ball used should be the DCCL approved full size white Readers incrediball and these should be sourced through the league.

• The league recommends a new ball should be used for every other match.

• Consider having spares on hand in case any should get lost during play.

• Stumps and bails can be plastic or wooden and must be to standard heights.

• Wooden or spring back stumps are recommended if playing on artificial wickets.

• Bails are not mandatory, indeed there will be occasions where using wooden stumps with wooden bails has meant that the softball has hit the stumps but not been able to disturb the bails.

**COMPETITION FORMAT**

Each team will be required to host games on given dates. If your club has clashes at your ground on days, you have a fixture, then please notify the league of this and the league will try to resolve this as simply as they can. All fixtures will be available to view on Play-Cricket

3 Points will be awarded for a win

2 Points will be awarded for a tie

1 Point will be awarded for a loss

0 Points will be awarded for a concession (opposing team to receive full 3 points)

If teams are tied on points in the league tables, the secondary determining factor for league placing will be determined by head-to-head results Match day timings:

• Tuesday evenings, 6:30pm start

• 16 over game

• 45 mins to bowl 16 overs

• Maximum of 10 mins interval between innings

• Alternative start time can be agreed between clubs but must be agreed to, not dictated by one team or the other

• It is both clubs’ responsibility to inform the league of any changes & re-arrangement of match days. Any changing of match day must also be agreed by both teams

**PLAYING CONDITIONS PITCH**

• 2 sets of wickets, the pitch will be 19 yards & must be a prepared surface, grass or artificial

• The boundary will be 35 metres either side of the wicket

• Please note that these are not ‘festival’ sized pitches and should be significantly larger.

• Clear batting creases should be marked out prior to the scheduled start of play by the host club.

**THE START**

• A toss of a coin decides which team has the choice of either batting or fielding first.

**THE GAME**

• Each game shall consist of one innings per team, each of 16 overs.

• Each over will consist of 6 balls only, except for the final over of both innings, in which 6 legal balls must be bowled.

• Each team for any given match will consist of 8 players.

**BATTING & SCORING**

• The batting side shall be divided into four pairs, every pair will bat for four overs

• 16 overs will constitute a full innings.

• All overs MUST be bowled despite the team batting second passing the first innings total

• Each team starts batting with a score of 200 runs.

• Each time a batter is out, 5 runs are deducted from the batting teams total score, the other batter of the pair faces the next ball. Whichever batter is out cannot face the next delivery.

• A batter may be out in the following ways:

 o Bowled

 o Caught

 o Run out

 o Stumped

 o Hit wicket

• Runs will be scored in the normal way, as will byes and leg byes.

• 2 runs will be awarded to the batting team for each wide ball and no-ball bowled, but no extra ball will be allocated, except in the final over of each innings when, in addition to the 2 runs, an extra ball will be bowled.

**BOWLING & FIELDING**

• Bowling should be legal over arm.

 • Each team must use at least 4 bowlers. Ideally everyone would bowl, but this isn’t mandatory.

• The maximum number of overs per bowler is 4, these cannot be consecutive overs.

• No fielder may stand within 10 yards of the striking batter

• Wicket keeping gloves are encouraged to be used

**RESULT OF A MATCH**

• The team with the highest net score wins.

• A tied game is acceptable. A tied game is when both teams have scored the same amount of runs once wicket penalties have been deducted.

• The result of each match must be uploaded to Play-Cricket within 48 hours, it is the responsibility of both teams to ensure all relevant information is supplied.

• Score sheets will be provided by the DCCL

**‘GETTING THE GAME ON’**

The DCCL would like to see as many games as possible completed. If you have difficulties fulfilling a given fixture, here are some options:

If a team is short

 Each team is allowed to loan 1 player in the event that they are struggling to get a full side out. If you are short, please communicate with the other teams due to play at your venue, it may be that there are spare players who would like an extra game. If you are still short, a game can be played with a team of 7 players. In this event, the last batting pair/ bowler will be 1 player who has already batted/bowled, the opposition team may select which player will bat/bowl again.

Rescheduling Matches

If a match is unable to take place due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, the league will support the rearranging of fixtures. The league urge and encourage clubs to communicate and get as many games played as possible, this could be by using an alternative date or by arranging a weekend fixtures. Please adhere to the published league fixture lists as much as possible. If teams mutually agree to rearrange a fixture, both teams must notify the league as soon as possible, who will amend the fixture accordingly on Play-Cricket. In the event of a match being unable to be completed due to weather, the points will be allocated as per a tie. If a fixture cannot be fulfilled for other reasons and efforts to rearrange have been unsuccessful, the team who were unable to play on the original date will be deemed to have conceded. The league expects both teams to make all reasonable efforts to fulfil all fixtures. All rearranged ixtures must take place by the end of August at the latest.