

## Derbyshire County Cricket League – Electronic Mail Guidelines

At the June 2000 meeting of the Derbyshire County Cricket League Executive Committee, it was agreed that guidelines for communication by electronic mail (email) should be introduced, in order that this medium be properly utilised both by clubs and League. These guidelines shall apply immediately to all email communication by the League and its clubs, and will forthwith form part of the League Code of Conduct; as such, breach of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action under Rule 9.

All email communications between clubs and the League should be made via the addresses officially supplied to the League by clubs. The League and its clubs should respect the principle that the email addresses supplied have been given on the basis that they are to be used for communication regarding League business. The following guidelines should be applied:

### 1. Club to Club.

Email communication between clubs is acceptable for matters concerning fixture changes, registration, and general day-to-day matters concerning those clubs in receipt of the communication ONLY. Where appropriate, the League Secretary and/or Fixture Secretary/Registrar should be copied.

### 2. Club to League.

Email communication between club and League is acceptable for matters concerning fixtures, registration (but not transfers), changes of officials, and protests and claims (subject to the appropriate League Rules). Such communication shall be sent SOLELY to the League Secretary and/or Fixture Secretary/Registrar, as appropriate, and may be dealt with under clause 3 below. Items of a general nature, which may be of interest to other clubs, shall be sent SOLELY to the League Secretary who may forward them to ALL other clubs either by email or other means as appropriate.

### 3. League to Club.

The League may communicate by email, to all clubs that have notified them of an email address, matters regarding changes of officials, both club and League, fixtures, registration, meetings and notices of a general nature. Replies to items notified or received via clauses 1 and 2 above may also be communicated to the club(s) concerned. Clubs may also receive details of results, League tables and averages as appropriate during the season.

Clubs should NOT:

- Use email communication to disseminate material likely to bring the League or its clubs, officers or players into disrepute.
- Use email communication to make general notifications to clubs regarding items covered by clause 2 above.
- Use email communication to clubs other than those directly involved regarding items covered by clause 1 above, unless such communication is personal between the sender and recipient and not concerning the League or its clubs, officers or players.
- Use email communication for the purpose of advertising goods or services for sale by commercial enterprises.

The League should NOT:

- Use email communication to disseminate material likely to bring the League or its clubs, officers or players into disrepute
- Notify or reply to any club, other than those involved, regarding any communication received under clauses 1 and 2 above (other than general items), unless such exclusion may directly or indirectly conflict with the best interests of the League or its clubs, officers or players.

The League and its clubs should take due care in sending and forwarding email communication that any mail and/or attachment does not contain any virus or other item which may harm or otherwise disrupt any computer equipment used by the League or its clubs, officers or players.

In all instances above, the term 'email communication' shall refer to all items sent directly, including those forwarded or sent as copies, and to all attachments to and links from such items. The terms 'sender' and 'recipient' shall apply to the person nominated by the club or League as its official email address.

When posting material to official club websites, the over-riding principle should be 'do not put anything about another club or individual on your web-site that you would not wish to see written about yourself or your own club'.

**ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD (ECB) CODE OF CONDUCT**

The ECB is committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct. This code of Conduct incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, as set out below. It applies to all matches played under the auspices of the ECB and may be applied to cricket in general.

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws.

Players and Team Officials must at all times accept the Umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the Umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards an Umpire at any time. Players and Team Officials shall not intimidate, assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an Umpire, another Player or a Spectator. Players and Team Officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as 'sledging') nor make offensive gestures or hand signals nor deliberately distract an opponent. Players and Officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.

Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their members and supporters towards Players and Umpires.

**THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET**

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it is played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the Captains.

1. Conduct - There are two Laws, which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the Captain.

Responsibility of Captains - The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

Player's Conduct - In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising his decision by word or action, showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the Umpire shall in the first place report the matter to the other Umpire and to the Player's Captain, requesting the latter to take action.

2. Fair and Unfair Play - According to the Laws, the Umpires are the sole judges of Fair and Unfair play. The Umpires may intervene at any time, and it is the responsibility of the Captain to take action where required.

3. The Umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:

· Time wasting · Damaging the pitch · Intimidatory bowling · Tampering with the ball · Any other action they consider to be unfair

4. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

· Your opponents · Your own Captain and team · The role of the Umpires · The game's traditional values

5. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

· To dispute an Umpire's decision by word, action or gesture · To direct abusive language towards an Umpire or opponent

· To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance:

a) appeal knowing the batsman is not out

b) advance towards an Umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing

c) seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

6. Violence - There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

7. Players - Captains and Umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

8. Racism - Players and Team Officials shall not make racially abusive comments nor indulge in racially abusive actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters. Clubs must operate an active open door membership policy whilst respecting player qualification regulations and welcome players and members, irrespective of ethnic origin.

## DERBYSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE CODE OF CONDUCT

## Introduction

1. The Code of Conduct set out below defines standards that are expected of clubs and players (see General Rule 9) within the league.

## Acceptance of League Rules

2. All clubs and players must uphold the properly constituted rules of the league.

3. All clubs and players should

- a. Accept that cricket within the league should be played in a competitive manner at the highest possible level of conduct and sportsmanship thereby providing enjoyment and comradeship for all concerned.
- b. Accept that they are responsible for ensuring that the spirit and laws of the game are upheld. Prime responsibility rests with the captain, particularly on the field of play, in the pavilion, and in any other connection with the game. In addition, positive action is required by the club to set the standards of behaviour expected of players. For this reason clubs and captains may be liable to disciplinary action for offences committed by club players.
- c. Positively discourage the following examples of bad sportsmanship/ill-discipline:
  - i. Showing dissent at decisions by the umpires (whether league-appointed or club nominees). Verbal dissent will not be tolerated and if proven will always result in at least suspension. Other forms of dissent (e.g. gesture, look or action) are equally unnecessary.
  - ii. Making disparaging remarks about the umpires. Again such proven incidents will result in at least suspension.
  - iii. Fielders making ridiculous appeals.
  - iv. Sledging. In this context, sledging is defined as any disparaging remark made to or about, players of the opposite side on the field of play. Particular care is necessary with remarks intended to encourage the bowler.
  - v. Unruly behaviour on and off the field of play.
  - vi. Foul or obscene language, or spitting.
  - vii. Any action that could be construed as unfair play.

4. In certain circumstances the captain may be required to take action against a player or players, particularly if requested to do so on the field of play by an umpire.

In dealing with reported incidents of indiscipline, clubs will be expected to follow the ECB Model Disciplinary Rules for clubs within a league or the DCCCL Disciplinary procedure.

5. Clubs, nor anyone connected with a club, should not make any attempt to approach players of other clubs without first approaching the appropriate club executive.

6. Clubs should aim to select players for all teams on merit. It is not within the spirit of the league to artificially strengthen or weaken teams to achieve promotion, avoid relegation, or gain other advantage.

## Club Grounds and Facilities

7. Clubs should strive to attain the highest possible standards of excellence in respect of grounds and facilities.

**OUR LEAGUE IS COMMITTED TO UPHOLD THESE CODES OF CONDUCT.  
ANY PROVEN TRANSGRESSION OF THESE CODES OF CONDUCT WILL  
RESULT IN PENALTY.**

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**(N.B. Rule changes for the 2006 season are in bold italics)**

**NB All references to the male gender within these rules shall apply equally to the female gender.**

## **(1) NAME**

- 1:1 The League shall be known as the DERBYSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE and shall consist of as many clubs as shall be decided by the League Executive Committee.
- 1:2 All clubs must be members of their County Cricket Board.
- 1:3 ***The League, and all of its clubs, shall embrace the ECB Safe Hands policy on Child Welfare. Every Club shall appoint a Club Welfare Officer who is CRB cleared and who will obtain the necessary training.***

## **(2) COMMITTEE**

- 2:1 The League shall be governed by an Executive Committee (hereinafter referred to as the E.C.) comprising sixteen elected **members** (from whom a Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be elected), Life Members and appointed Officers.
- 2:2 Four of the elected **members** shall retire annually, when they may seek re-election.
- 2:3 The appointed Officers, namely the Secretary, Treasurer, Umpires Secretary, Fixtures Secretary/Registrar and Press Officer shall be appointed annually by the E.C.
- 2:4 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be elected annually by the E.C. at its first meeting after the Annual General Meeting.
- 2:5 Life membership shall be at the invitation of the E.C.
- 2:6 Any **member** who fails to attend three consecutive meetings without reasonable excuse shall forfeit his seat.
- 2:7 Any **member** who fails to attend 50% of E.C. meetings (including General Meetings) in any year (A.G.M. to A.G.M.) without reasonable excuse shall forfeit his seat.
- 2:8 Should any vacancy occur, for any reason other than retirement at the end of a four year term of office, the E.C. shall have the power to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the four year term of office, at which time the **member** so appointed may seek re-election.
- 2:9 E.C. members may exercise their individual votes at all General Meetings of the League.
- 2:10 Ground Consultants may be appointed by the E.C.
- 2:11 A quorum for any meeting of the E.C. shall be nine voting members.
- 2:12 Nominations for elections to the E.C. must be submitted to the League Secretary in writing by the 30th September each year and such nominations to be included on the agenda for the Annual General Meeting. ***Nominations must be accompanied by a seconder. All new nominations and seconding must be made either by member clubs of the League, EC members or the County Board.***
- 2:13 The E.C. may remunerate any official such sum as it may from time to time think fit.
- 2:14 The E.C. shall be empowered to deal with any matter not provided for within these rules and its decision shall be final.

## **(3) RULES**

- 3:1 These rules may not be changed except by resolution of a General Meeting supported by a straight majority of the votes cast.
- 3:2 Authority to determine the rules of the League shall lie with the members of the League and not with any external body. Decisions on any proposed amendments to the rules shall be taken by the members at General Meetings in accordance with Rule 15.
- 3:3 In the event that the League receives a communication from the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) or the Derbyshire Cricket Board (DCB) that is described as a directive, the EC shall take the following action:
- As soon as is reasonably practical, the EC shall consider the "directive" and decide whether it should be followed in the League.
  - In the event that the EC concludes that the "directive" should be followed, it shall have the authority to introduce an immediate change to the rules without reference to the membership, giving formal effect to the "directive" on a temporary basis. Clubs must be advised of any such amendment and how it will be implemented, before the changes take effect.
  - Any amendment made in this way shall be temporary in nature, lasting for a maximum of one cricket season. The "directive" shall then be put to the membership for a decision at the subsequent Rules Revision or Annual General Meeting.
  - The league membership shall have the power at a General meeting to accept, amend or set aside the "directive" that has been received.
- The above procedure shall apply to all "directives" that are received from the ECB/DCB. The EC may, at its own discretion, apply the procedure to other communications of an advisory nature that are received from the ECB/DCB.

- 3:4 All proposals for rules amendments and/or new rules to be received by the League Secretary in writing not later than the 30th September each year.
- 3:5 Clubs proposing amendments to the rules must attend the Annual Rules Revision Meeting to explain their proposals to the meeting.
- 3:6 Should they fail to attend, their proposals will be considered to have been withdrawn.
- 3:7 At the Annual Rules Revision meeting, minor word changes in any proposed rule changes can be accepted at the meetings discretion.

**(4) CLUB OFFICIALS**

- 4:1 Clubs shall notify the League Secretary of all their appropriate club officials etc. on the form provided each year by the League.
- 4:2 Failure to do so by the 31st December or failure to notify the League Secretary of any subsequent changes of officials etc. shall incur an automatic fine of £20.00.

**(5) SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DEPOSITS**

- 5:1 The Annual subscriptions to be paid by each club are as follows:

Division 1	£36
Division 2 <b>N and S</b>	£30
Division 3 N and S	£26
Division 4 N and S	£23
Division 5 N and S	£20
Division 6 <b>N, C and S</b>	£17
Division 7 N, C and S	£14

- 5:2 Clubs with three or more teams in membership shall pay a deposit of £70.00, those with two teams £55.00, Those with one team £35.00.
- 5:3 The deposit to remain in the hands of the League until such club withdraws its membership and all such deposits shall remain separate within the League finances.
- 5:4 Club Accounts will be rendered to the 13th September and will be forwarded to clubs during September, to include the following years subscription and DCB Subscription.
- 5:5 If the account is not paid by the 21st October each year, the offending club will be fined £20.00 and will forfeit all voting rights at any General Meeting until so paid.
- 5:6 Clubs settling accounts with cheques that are not honoured by their banks shall be liable for any charges incurred.
- 5:7 Clubs wishing to resign from the League must notify the League Secretary in writing by the 30th June of the year prior to the intended cessation of their membership of the Derbyshire County Cricket League.
- 5:8 Failure to do so means the loss of their deposit.
- 5:9 New clubs shall, in addition to the subscription and deposit, pay an entrance fee of £24.00 payable at the time of admittance.

**(6) AWARDS**

- 6:1 The League shall provide prize money, or equivalent, to the Champions and runners-up in each Division and for the winners and runners-up in the Knock-Out Cup Competitions.

**(7) PROTESTS AND CLAIMS ETC.**

- 7:1 Any club lodging a protest or claim must do so in writing, enclosing a £20.00 deposit for each protest or claim.
- 7:2 ***The letter and deposit must be received by the LEAGUE SECRETARY WITHIN SEVEN DAYS of the match concerned.*** Failure to meet this deadline or submit a deposit will render the protest or claim invalid.
- 7:3 Any such protest or claim must be submitted by the Chairman or Secretary of the club making the complaint, except where an individual is in dispute with his own Club as per Rule 8.
- 7:4 All protests and claims shall be dealt with according to the Procedure for Handling Discipline.

**(8) DISPUTE BETWEEN PLAYER / CLUB / LEAGUE**

- 8:1 ***Each club shall have a formal disciplinary procedure, preferably based on the model ECB procedure for discipline within clubs, or on the DCCL disciplinary procedure.***
- 8:2 ***Should a player have a grievance with the outcome of a club disciplinary process (hearing AND appeal), then he may ask the League to act as an independent arbiter using the Grievance Procedure laid down.***

**(9) DISCIPLINE**

## 9:1 MAJOR OFFENCES

9:1:1 All cases of misconduct must be reported both by the umpires and the clubs and be dealt with according to the Procedure for Handling Discipline.

9:1:2 Clubs failing to report another club for any infringement of any rule shall render themselves liable to the findings of the E.C.

9:1:3 It shall be a disciplinary offence:

(a) For any player in the course of, or in connection with a match, to misconduct himself contrary to the Code of Conduct or act at any time in a manner which could prejudice the good name or interests of the League and;

(b) For any club to fail properly to control or discipline its players or act in a manner contrary to the Code of Conduct which could prejudice the good name or interests of the League and the player or club committing the offence shall be liable to penalties in the manner as described in the Procedure for Handling Discipline.

9:1:4 For the purposes of these rules, the expression "The player" shall throughout these rules be deemed to mean and include not only any player, whether Professional or otherwise, but also any member or official of any club, or if appropriate, any other person involved in any incident of possible misconduct occurring on the field of play, or on the premises of the club, as may be appropriate in the particular circumstances.

9:1:5 Notice of appeal, setting out the grounds, must be given in writing to the Secretary of the League according to the Procedure for Handling Discipline and be accompanied by a deposit of £20.00.

9:1:6 The Appeals subcommittee shall have the power where they consider the appeal to be without merit, to order that the deposit be forfeited.

9:1:7 Where the penalty imposed (whether it be player or club) is one of expulsion, the E.C. in exceptional circumstances may set aside the expulsion when subsequent and genuine regret has been expressed and in the opinion of the E.C. the interests of the League would no longer be served by the continuance of such expulsion.

9:1:8 Reinstatement to the League by the E.C., however, may not take place within 12 months of the original expulsion.

## 9:2 MINOR OFFENCES

9:2:1 Where an umpire decides that the Code of Conduct has been broken, or an act of unfair play has taken place, but does not consider the matter serious enough to warrant a full disciplinary hearing under Rule 9:1, he should follow the procedure below:

a. Issue an informal warning to the player, and inform the player's captain.

b. Should the informal warning prove ineffective, issue a formal warning to the player and inform the player's captain and the other umpire that a formal warning has been issued. The formal warning should be recorded on the result sheet, giving the player's name and the offence committed, and signed by the umpire and the player's captain.

In more serious cases, but where the misconduct is still considered to be minor, the umpire has the authority to issue a formal warning without having previously issued an informal warning.

9:2:2 A player receiving a total of two formal warnings during **any 12 calendar month period** will be automatically suspended from the next two matches in which he is eligible to play for his club under the auspices of the League.

9:2:3 A player, having been suspended under Rule 9:2:2, who receives a **further formal warning during the following 12 calendar month period will be automatically suspended from the next two matches** in which he is eligible to play for his club under the auspices of the League, and shall attend a full disciplinary hearing as constituted under Rule 9:1.

9:2:4 The player's club shall be given seven days notice of the start of any suspension implemented under Rules 9:2:2 and 9:2:3.

9:2:5 The captain of any team that has received **four** formal warnings during **any 12 calendar month period** shall attend a full disciplinary hearing as constituted under Rule 9:1.

NB The reporting of minor offences on the result sheet may only be made by League-appointed umpires i.e. those numbered below 200 in the League handbook.

NB Any suspension imposed upon a player or club will be upheld by ALL other member organisations of the League Cricket Conference, of which this League is a member.

**(10) HOURS AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY**

10:1 Matches shall be conducted in accordance with the M.C.C. Laws of Cricket except for matters specially provided for in these rules.

## 10:2 STARTING TIME

10:2:1 In Division 1 matches shall commence in May June and July at 1.30pm, in April and August at 1.00pm and in September at 12.30pm.

- 10:2:2 In all other divisions, matches shall commence in May, June and July at 2.00pm, in April and August at 1.30pm and in September at 1.00pm.
- 10:2:3 Late starts are to be reported by the umpires on the Result Sheet, showing the reasons.
- 10:2:4 The umpires shall also inform both captains that they are making the report.
- 10:2:5 Except in cases of adverse weather conditions, late starts will be subject to the following fines:
- (a) Up to 10 minutes late start £5.00.
  - (b) Up to 15 minutes late start £10.00.
  - (c) Over 15 minutes late start, at the discretion of the E.C.
- 10:2:6 Both clubs will be fined if there is no obvious offender reported by the official umpires.
- 10:2:7 As both umpires and the home team official sign the Result Sheet there should be no necessity to appeal against the fines imposed.
- 10:3 DURATION OF PLAY
- 10:3:1 WHERE THE START IS NOT DELAYED BY WEATHER OR LIGHT
- 10:3:1:1 In Division 1 there shall be a maximum of 100 scheduled six ball overs. In all other divisions there shall be a maximum of 92 scheduled six ball overs.
- 10:3:1:2 The tea interval shall be of 30 minutes duration unless it does not fall between innings, in which case it shall be of 20 minutes duration.
- 10:3:1:3 Tea should be taken between innings wherever practical subject to availability.
- 10:3:1:4 The side batting first shall be allowed a maximum of half the scheduled overs (an unfinished over to count as one over).
- 10:3:1:5 The second innings shall occupy the remainder of the unused overs, unless a result is achieved first.
- 10:3:1:6 In Division 1, a time limit of 3 hours shall be allowed for each side to bowl 50 overs.
- 10:3:1:7 In Division 2, Division 3 North and Division 3 South, a time limit of 2 hours 45 minutes shall be allowed for each side to bowl 46 overs.
- 10:3:1:8 A variation of 3 and a half minutes per over shall be made if more or less than the scheduled overs are to be bowled.
- 10:3:1:9 Umpires shall make due time allowance for one drinks interval per innings if taken, and for unavoidable stoppages caused by injury or other extenuating circumstances.
- 10:3:1:10 The umpires shall record and report on the result sheet all overs started by the fielding side after the time allowed, and a team shall subsequently forfeit one league table point for each 'late' over.
- 10:3:1:11 The counting of overs on the scoreboard must be carried out on the basis of overs completed and not the number of overs still to be bowled.
- 10:3:1:12 The term scheduled overs shall mean 92 overs (100 overs in Division 1), or as in 10:3:2 below, the adjusted number of overs after overs have been deducted for time lost.
- 10:3:1:13 It shall be the responsibility of the captain of the team batting second to confirm the number of overs to be bowled before the start of the innings and to convey this information to his team.
- 10:3:2 WHERE THE START IS DELAYED BY BAD WEATHER OR LIGHT FOR 15 MINUTES OR MORE
- 10:3:2:1 Two overs shall be deducted for every seven minutes or part thereof, and the remaining overs shall be divided as in 10:3:1:5 above, with the side batting first retaining the right to occupy half the overs.
- 10:3:2:2 If more than 46 overs are lost (i.e. 181 minutes, which includes a tea interval of 20 minutes) (in Division 1 50 overs/195 minutes including tea interval) the match shall be declared NO RESULT.
- 10:3:3 WHERE THERE IS DELAY OF 30 MINUTES OR MORE AFTER THE START
- 10:3:3:1 Where there is such a delay after the game has started it shall become a TIME MATCH and play shall cease six and a half hours (in Division 1 seven hours) after the scheduled start.
- 10:3:3:2 Any time lost at the commencement of the game or after the interval must be made up if it was not due to bad light or weather.
- 10:3:3:3 Lost time shall be reckoned from the scheduled time of start or restart up to the commencement or re-commencement of play.
- 10:3:3:4 When a match becomes a TIME MATCH the team batting first may declare at any time after 30 overs have been bowled.
- 10:3:3:5 If they do so, the team batting second will be allowed a maximum of the same number of balls as those received by the team batting first, provided that they are bowled within the hours allowed for a TIME MATCH.
- 10:3:3:6 If all rescheduled overs are bowled then a normal win draw or tie will stand.
- 10:3:3:7 If the overs are not completed and a win or tie has not been achieved, the match shall be declared NO RESULT.
- 10:3:3:8 In a TIME MATCH, if 17 or more overs remain to be bowled at the start of the final hour of play, a minimum of 17 overs must be bowled, weather or light permitting.
- 10:3:3:9 If further time is lost during the last hour due to bad light or weather, or the interval between innings occurs, one over shall be deducted from the mandatory 17 overs for every 3 and a half minutes or part thereof lost.

- 10:3:3:10 If 46 overs (50 overs in Division 1) cannot be completed in a TIME MATCH it shall be declared NO RESULT (overs already bowled plus the time left divided by 3 and a half minutes).
- 10:4 DECISION REGARDING FITNESS OF THE GROUND AND PITCH
- 10:4:1 If the captains cannot agree on fitness to start, the umpires will arbitrate, in consultation if possible with the groundsman.
- 10:4:2 Any question arising as to bad light, etc. also time of drawing stumps, is to be decided by the umpires in charge.
- 10:4:3 The umpires are the sole arbiters of play regarding weather, ground and light, after the game has commenced.
- 10:5 CANCELLATION OF MATCHES
- 10:5:1 No match shall be cancelled, except with permission of both clubs concerned.
- 10:5:2 All personal contacts concerning the cancellation of matches must be made at least 2 hours before the scheduled time of starting and all clubs must have a point of contact up to that time.
- 10:5:3 Should the home club, when wishing to cancel a match, be unable to contact the visiting club, then the match cannot be cancelled until the visiting club arrive, and agree to the cancellation. The home team must be in attendance. If the two clubs cannot agree on cancellation Rules 10:5:4, 10:5:5 and 10:5:6 shall apply.
- 10:5:4 ***Should the home club fail to adhere to this procedure, the away club travel to the game and the home side do not attend, then the home club shall automatically be deemed to have forfeited the fixture. The penalties for this shall be:***  
***a. For a League match, those laid down in Rules 13:2 and 17:8:11***  
***b. For a Cup match, loss of the tie and the penalty laid down in Rule 23:5***
- 10:5:5 If the ground is unfit for play and the visiting club, having been advised of the fact, refuse to accept the cancellation, they shall be responsible for the cost of all teas and the full umpires expenses, if the appointed umpires subsequently confirm the ground unfit for play.
- 10:5:6 Should there be no appointed umpires, either club shall have the right to request an official League umpire to inspect the ground to make a decision.
- 10:5:7 The cost of teas and umpire's expenses to be met by the club against whom the decision goes.
- 10:6 ARTIFICIAL PITCHES AND COVERS
- 10:6:1 If a grass pitch is unfit an artificial pitch may be used, providing both captains agree.
- 10:6:2 Covers may be used at any time at the request of either captain or the umpires.
- 10:6:3 ***The permanent use of artificial pitches is not permissible above the lowest tier of the League. Clubs wishing to make permanent use of an artificial pitch for League and Cup matches must apply to the EC for permission to do so, in writing to the League Secretary by August 31st of the previous season.***
- 10:6:4 ***It is the responsibility of any club using an artificial pitch on a permanent basis to notify their opponents of this, and of any restrictions on footwear which may apply as a consequence.***
- 10:7 CRICKET BALLS
- 10:7:1 Each team shall provide their own ball to bowl with and the umpires shall collect them before the toss is made.
- 10:7:2 The following named types of balls only may be used throughout the League: Readers Sovereign County "A", Gunn & Moore Special Super County "A", and Dukes Special Match "A". Clubs using other types of ball will be liable to a fine of £5.00 per offence.
- 10:7:3 Only the Readers Sovereign County "A" ball is to be used in Divisions 1 & 2 of the League.
- 10:7:4 A new ball to be used for each innings in all Division 1 & 2 and Castlemaine XXXX Trophy games.
- 10:7:5 Member clubs must participate in the League Cricket Ball bulk purchasing scheme.
- 10:7:6 Each club will be required to purchase a minimum number of balls, Clubs with one team, 12 balls, and with two or more teams 18 balls.
- 10:7:7 Clubs failing to comply will incur a surcharge of £10.00 on their annual account.
- 10:7:8 The E.C. shall have the right to vary the type of ball to be used.
- 10:7:9 The official form on which the balls are ordered must be completed and returned to the LEAGUE SECRETARY by December 31st. Clubs failing to comply will incur an automatic fine of £20.00.
- 10:8 SIGHTSCREENS
- 10:8:1 If sightscreens are available it shall be the responsibility of the batting side to provide any required adjustments.
- 10:8:2 Play shall not be delayed to allow such adjustment.
- 10:9 PLAYERS DRESS
- 10:9:1 All players shall wear normal, ***predominantly white***, cricket clothing; this may be relaxed in the case of a substitute, in which case he shall not bowl (having become a player under rule 11:8) or field immediately in front of the striker.
- 10:9:2 No advertising by word or logo shall be allowed on clothing worn on the field of play other than:

(a) The logo (if any) of the clothing manufacturer

(b) The logo (or similar) of a clubs sponsor and only then if within the size and shape limits set by the ECB for first class cricket (see below).

#### Commercial insignia

A maximum of two identical commercial logos plus one club badge are permitted. The maximum aggregate area of the club badge shall not exceed 10 square inches. One commercial logo may appear centrally on the front of players' shirts. The maximum aggregate area shall not exceed 32 square inches. One additional commercial logo may appear in one of two positions on shirts (leading arm or collar) provided that no more than two commercial logos are visible when sweaters are worn. The maximum aggregate area for this additional commercial logo shall not exceed 10 square inches or the following external dimension: Rectangle: 5 inches x 2 inches.

#### 10:10 RESTRICTIONS ON BOWLERS OVERS

10:10:1 Overs in each innings

10:10:1:1 No bowler shall bowl more than 30% of the total scheduled overs for the innings, rounded to the nearest whole over (see table below).

10:10:1:2 In the event of the team batting first being bowled out, the number of overs available to each bowler in the second innings shall be the same as that at the start of the first innings.

10:10:1:3 In the event of the team batting first declaring its innings closed in a game NOT subject to rule 10:3:3:4-5, the number of overs available to each bowler shall be calculated from the table below, based on the number of overs to be bowled in the second innings.

10:10:1:4 In the event of the team batting first declaring its innings closed under rules 10:3:3:4-5, the number of overs available to each bowler in the second innings shall be the same as that at the start of the first innings.

10:10:2 The current ECB Directives for Young Fast Bowlers shall apply to all cricket played under the auspices of the League.

10:10:3 In the event of a bowler, for whatever reason, being unable to complete an over, then another bowler, other than the bowler who bowled the previous over, shall complete the over. Either such bowler will not be permitted to bowl the next over. Any part overs bowled under these circumstances shall count as a whole over towards a bowler's allocation under Rule 10:10:1, or Rule 27 in League Cup matches.

SCHED OVERS	max overs	SCHED OVERS	max overs	SCHED OVERS	max overs	SCHED OVERS	max overs
23	7	35	11	47	14	59	18
24	7	36	11	48	14	60	18
25	8	37	11	49	15	61	18
26	8	38	11	50	15	62	19
27	8	39	12	51	15	63	19
28	8	40	12	52	16	64	19
29	9	41	12	53	16	65	20
30	9	42	13	54	16	66	20
31	9	43	13	55	17	67	20
32	10	44	13	56	17	68	20
33	10	45	14	57	17	69	21
34	10	46	14	58	17	70	21

#### 10:11 PENALTY RUNS.

10:11:1 The award of penalty runs under any clause of Law 42 (Fair and Unfair Play) shall apply only in Divisions 1 and 2 and the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy.

#### 10:12 THE BOWLING OF FAST SHORT PITCHED BALLS

10:12:1 The provisions of Law 42:6 (a) (i) and (ii) shall apply.

#### 10:13 WIDE BALLS (DIVISIONS 1, 2 North & 2 South, 3 North & 3 South ONLY)

10:13:1 Umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to Law 25.1 Wide Ball, in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket.

10:13:2 As a guide if the ball passes either side of the wicket sufficiently wide to make it virtually impossible to play a 'normal cricket stroke' from both where he is standing and from where he should be standing at the crease, the umpire shall call and signal 'wide ball'.

## (11) PLAYERS ELIGIBILITY & REGISTRATION

11:1 Teams shall comprise eleven players, who are bona-fide members of their respective Clubs, having been registered as hereinafter provided for.

11:2 Professional and Overseas players are eligible to play and be registered subject to the restrictions listed below.

- 11:3 REGISTRATION
- 11:3:1 All players must be registered on the official form, which must be delivered to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR not later than 48 hours before playing.
- 11:3:2 No player shall be registered concurrently with more than one club in the League.
- 11:3:3 No player registered or transferred after the last Saturday in July may play in the League during that season, subject to the exceptions listed in Rule 11:5:2:4 below.
- 11:3:4 The fee for registration shall be £2 for each player registered, payable with the club's annual account.
- 11:3:5 All details requested shall be stated on the registration form, and no registration will be accepted until the form is complete.
- 11:3:6 Any registration subsequently found to be deliberately or negligently inaccurate or incomplete will be cancelled immediately, and the club may be subject retrospectively to Rule 11:10.
- 11:3:7 A club may cancel the registration of any of their players at any time. This must be effected via the official registration form.
- 11:3:8 A player whose registration has been cancelled during the playing season, having played League or Cup cricket during that playing season for the club which holds his registration, shall not be eligible to re-register as a new player with another club in the League during the same playing season, and if he wishes to do so, will be subject to Rules 11:5:2 and 11:5:3.
- 11:3:9 Players under the age of 16 on 31st August of the previous year need not be registered and may play for any club, except that they may only play for one club per season in cup matches.
- 11:4 PROFESSIONAL & OVERSEAS PLAYERS
- 11:4:1 A Professional is a player contracted to a First Class County.
- 11:4:2 An Overseas Player is a person who is not a citizen of the European Community.
- 11:4:2 Clarification – EC Citizen  
A citizen of the EC is defined as follows:  
(a) a person born in the EC; or  
(b) their father or mother was born in the EC; and that person is residing, and has been resident for the preceding four consecutive years, within the EC; or  
(c) that person is residing, and has been resident for the preceding seven consecutive years, within the EC; or  
(d) that person is residing, and has been resident, both for the preceding four consecutive years and since the day before their fourteenth birthday, within the EC.
- 11:4:2:1 A non-European Community citizen who is ordinarily resident in this country is exempt from rule 11:4:3 if he fulfills ALL the following conditions:  
i) he has been resident in the European Community for a period of twenty-four consecutive months before the date of his request for registration  
ii) he has not been out of the European Community for longer than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in total during the previous twenty-four months  
iii) any remuneration he receives from playing cricket is not the main source of his income
- 11:4:2:2 If an Overseas Player is contracted with a First Class County, he will still be deemed to be an Overseas player.
- 11:4:3 ***Registration of Professionals and Overseas players***
- 11:4:3:1 ***Players in either category must be specifically registered each season on the appropriate form, which will bear the signature of the player and the Secretary of the Club concerned, and not more than one such player may be registered with a club.***
- 11:4:3:2 ***Such forms to be received by the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR no later than 48 hours before the official start of the League season.***
- 11:4:3:3 ***Overseas players must comply with current ECB/DCB Child Welfare requirements unless granted exemption by the County Welfare Officer.***
- 11:4:4 Players thus registered are not eligible to play in their club's second, third, fourth or fifth XI.
- 11:4:5 A registered Non-Professional who becomes contracted to a First Class County during the course of a season shall maintain his Non-Professional status for the remainder of the season provided that he has played 4 County League matches prior to his signing of the contract with the First Class County.
- 11:4:6 Once a contracted Professional has played 6 First Class matches for the first XI of a First Class County during the current season he may play in the Derbyshire County Cricket League during that season if he has played a minimum of 33% of that club's League and Cup matches during the current season.
- 11:4:7 If he has not played the minimum of 33%, permission for him to play must be obtained from the EC, who will consider each application on its merits.
- 11:4:8 Professionals are eligible to play in Divisions 1 and 2 only.
- 11:4:9 Club members who have been registered with the DCCL for a minimum of 3 years who become contracted to a First Class County may retain their DCCL amateur status for the first season of their First Class contract.
- 11:4:10 Any players covered by Rule 11:4 or its Premier League equivalent may not be transferred during the current season.

**11:5 MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS****11:5:1 FROM OUTSIDE THE LEAGUE**

11:5:1:1 Any player not currently registered with the Derbyshire County Cricket League, must have written clearance from his previous club prior to playing. For the purposes of this rule, 'previous club' shall be defined as the last club for which the player played during the current and previous three seasons.

11:5:1:2 Clearance may only be denied on the grounds of outstanding debt or disciplinary action. Should the club refuse permission on other grounds the player may appeal under Rule 8.

11:5:1:3 Any player playing Saturday League cricket for a club outside the Derbyshire County Cricket League is not eligible to play on an occasional basis and must satisfy all the requirements of Rule 11.

11:5:1:4 A player who has been playing for a club outside the Derbyshire County Cricket League during the current season may be registered in the League, but he will not be eligible to continue playing after the last Saturday in July unless he has played in at least 33% of his club's County League matches. If he has not played the minimum of 33%, permission for him to play must be obtained from the EC, who will consider each application on its merits.

11:5:1:5 No player joining a club from outside the Derbyshire County Cricket League shall make his initial League appearance of the season after the last Saturday in July.

**11:5:2 WITHIN THE LEAGUE**

11:5:2:1 Any player currently registered with the Derbyshire County Cricket League must have written clearance from his current club prior to joining another County League club.

11:5:2:2 The Secretary of the player's current club must sign the clearance section of the registration form and return the registration form to the League Fixture Secretary/Registrar within seven days of receipt from the club wishing to register the player. Failure to return the form within this limit will result in a fine of £5.00.

11:5:2:3 Clearance may only be denied on the grounds of outstanding debt or disciplinary action. Should the club refuse permission on other grounds the player may appeal under Rule 8.

11:5:2:4 No player joining a club from a club within the Derbyshire County Cricket League, or who is not covered by Rule 11:5:1, shall make his initial League appearance of the season after the last Saturday in July. This shall not apply to a club's registered juniors, improving members, and bona-fide amateur club members who have previously been long serving club members and since ceasing to play for that club have not played competitive cricket for another club.

**11:5:3 TRANSFERS**

11:5:3:1 A player having played League or Cup cricket with a Derbyshire County Cricket League club during the current season may only join another club within the League by means of a transfer.

11:5:3:2 All transfers must be completed on the official League Registration Form, in accordance with Rules 11:3 and 11:5:2, and delivered to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR not later than 48 hours prior to the player being allowed to play in League matches for his new club.

11:5:3:3 Clubs are allowed two inward transfers of players registered with the Derbyshire County Cricket League during the playing season. Players transferred in are not allowed to come from the same club.

**11:6 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH ELEVEN LEAGUE AND CUP GAMES****11:6:1 DEFINITIONS.**

11:6:1:1 A senior player is a player 16 years of age or more at midnight on 31st August of the previous year.

11:6:1:2 A junior player is a player under 16 years of age at midnight on 31st August of the previous year.

11:6:1:3 The term 'match', when used below, includes both, and only, League and League Cup matches. An appearance in a League Cup match shall be deemed to have taken place in the division occupied by the team in which the player appears.

11:6:1:4 Only matches which are commenced shall count towards eligibility for all sections of this rule.

11:6:1:5 For the purposes of this rule, the Derbyshire Premier Cricket League and its Cup competition constitute a higher division and League Cup.

11:6:1:6 When a team withdraws from the League, ALL its subsequent fixtures are deemed to have been removed from the schedule.

**11:6:2 SECOND XI.**

11:6:2:1 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play in matches for the club's 2nd XI if he has played a total of 17 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 2nd XI during the current season.

11:6:2:2 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play for a club's 2nd XI after the second Saturday in August if he has previously played a total of 10 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 2nd XI during the current season on or before that date, and he has not played in the same or a lower division than the 2nd XI on or prior to the second Saturday in August.

11:6:2:3 Exemption: Any player ineligible under Rule 11:6:2:1 or 11:6:2:2, will be eligible to play in League and League Cup matches for the clubs 2nd XI, provided that all the players in the teams higher than the club's 2nd XI on that day are themselves ineligible under Rule 11:6:2:1 or 11:6:2:2, or registered under Rule 11:4 or its Premier League equivalent. Such players shall not play any lower than one team below the lowest team that they are ineligible for. This exemption does NOT exempt a player from the provisions of Rule 11:6:2:4 or 11:6:2:5.

- 11:6:2:4 No senior player will be eligible to play in a 2nd XI match when his club's 1st XI have no scheduled match, if he has played more than one match more in any division(s) higher than the club's 2nd XI in the previous 45 days, than he has in the same or lower divisions than the club's 2nd XI in the previous 45 days.
- 11:6:2:5 No junior player will be eligible to play in a 2nd XI match when his club's 1st XI have no scheduled match, if he has played in any division(s) higher than the club's 2nd XI in the previous 45 days, and has not played in the same or a lower division than the club's 2nd XI in the previous 45 days, save that if the only match he has played in the previous 45 days was in a higher division he shall be eligible. For the purposes of this rule, appearances made as an 'exemption' player under rules 11:6:2:6, 11:6:3:6 or 11:6:4:6 shall NOT count as appearances in the same or a lower division.
- 11:6:2:6 Exemption: Either one senior player only who exceeds the limit defined in rule 11:6:2:4, or one junior player who is ineligible under rule 11:6:2:5, may be included in the 2nd XI when his club's 1st XI have no scheduled match, provided that not more than one third of the matches in which he has played in the current season have been in a higher division than the clubs 2nd XI, and, for senior players only, he has played at least one match in the previous 45 days in the same or a lower division than the club's 2nd XI.
- 11:6:2:7 **There are additional eligibility criteria applicable to cup matches only – please refer to rule 11:6:6**
- 11:6:3 THIRD XI.
- 11:6:3:1 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play in matches for the club's 3rd XI if he has played a total of 17 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 3rd XI during the current season.
- 11:6:3:2 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play for a club's 3rd XI after the second Saturday in August if he has previously played a total of 10 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 3rd XI during the current season on or before that date, and he has not played in the same or a lower division than the 3rd XI on or prior to the second Saturday in August.
- 11:6:3:3 Exemption: Any player ineligible under Rule 11:6:3:1 or 11:6:3:2, will be eligible to play in League and League Cup matches for the clubs 3rd XI, provided that all the players in the teams higher than the club's 3rd XI on that day are themselves ineligible under Rule 11:6:3:1 or 11:6:3:2, or registered under Rule 11:4 or its Premier League equivalent. Such players shall not play any lower than one team below the lowest team that they are ineligible for. This exemption does NOT exempt a player from the provisions of Rule 11:6:3:4 or 11:6:3:5.
- 11:6:3:4 No senior player will be eligible to play in a 3rd XI match when his club's 1st or 2nd XI have no scheduled match, if he has played more than one match more in any division(s) higher than the club's 3rd XI in the previous 45 days, than he has in the same or lower divisions than the club's 3rd XI in the previous 45 days.
- 11:6:3:5 No junior player will be eligible to play in a 3rd XI match when his club's 1st or 2nd XI have no scheduled match, if he has played in any division(s) higher than the club's 3rd XI in the previous 45 days, and has not played in the same or a lower division than the club's 3rd XI in the previous 45 days, save that if the only match he has played in the previous 45 days was in a higher division he shall be eligible. For the purposes of this rule, appearances made as an 'exemption' player under rules 11:6:3:6 or 11:6:4:6 shall NOT count as appearances in the same or a lower division.
- 11:6:3:6 Exemption: Either one senior player who exceeds the limit defined in rule 11:6:3:4, or one junior player who is ineligible under rule 11:6:3:5, may be included in the 3rd XI, when his club's 1st or 2nd XI have no scheduled match, provided that not more than one third of the matches in which he has played in the current season have been in a higher division than the club's 2nd XI.
- 11:6:3:7 **There are additional eligibility criteria applicable to cup matches only – please refer to rule 11:6:6**
- 11:6:4 FOURTH XI.
- 11:6:4:1 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play in matches for the club's 4th XI if he has played a total of 17 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 4th XI during the current season.
- 11:6:4:2 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play for a club's 4th XI after the second Saturday in August if he has previously played a total of 10 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 4th XI during the current season on or before that date, and he has not played in the same or a lower division than the 4th XI on or prior to the second Saturday in August.
- 11:6:4:3 Exemption: Any player ineligible under Rule 11:6:4:1 or 11:6:4:2, will be eligible to play in League and League Cup matches for the clubs 4th XI, provided that all the players in the teams higher than the club's 4th XI on that day are themselves ineligible under Rule 11:6:4:1 or 11:6:4:2, or registered under Rule 11:4 or its Premier League equivalent. Such players shall not play any lower than one team below the lowest team that they are ineligible for. This exemption does NOT exempt a player from the provisions of Rule 11:6:4:4 or 11:6:4:5.
- 11:6:4:4 No senior player will be eligible to play in a 4th XI match when his club's 1st, 2nd or 3rd XI have no scheduled match, if he has played more than one match more in any division(s) higher than the club's 4th XI in the previous 45 days, than he has in the same or lower divisions than the club's 4th XI in the previous 45 days.
- 11:6:4:5 No junior player will be eligible to play in a 4th XI match when his club's 1st, 2nd, or 3rd XI have no scheduled match, if he has played in any division(s) higher than the club's 4th XI in the previous 45 days, and has not played in the same or a lower division than the club's 4th XI in the previous 45 days, save that if the only match he has played in the previous 45 days was in a higher division he shall be eligible. For the purposes of this rule, appearances made as an 'exemption' player under rule 11:6:4:6 shall NOT count as appearances in the same or a lower division.

- 11:6:4:6 Exemption: A maximum of two players, either senior who exceed the limit defined in rule 11:6:4:4, or junior ineligible under rule 11:6:4:5, may be included in the 4th XI when the club's 1st, 2nd, or 3rd XI have no scheduled match, provided that not more than one third of the matches in which each of them has played in the current season have been in a higher division than the club's 3rd XI.
- 11:6:4:7 **There are additional eligibility criteria applicable to cup matches only – please refer to rule 11:6:6**
- 11:6:5 FIFTH XI.
- 11:6:5:1 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play in matches for the club's 5th XI if he has played a total of 17 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 5th XI during the current season.
- 11:6:5:2 No player, junior or senior, will be eligible to play for a club's 5th XI after the second Saturday in August if he has previously played a total of 10 or more matches in any division(s) higher than the club's 5th XI during the current season on or before that date, and he has not played in the same or a lower division than the 5th XI on or prior to the second Saturday in August.
- 11:6:5:3 Exemption: Any player ineligible under Rule 11:6:5:1 or 11:6:5:2, will be eligible to play in League and League Cup matches for the clubs 5th XI, provided that all the players in the teams higher than the club's 5th XI on that day are themselves ineligible under Rule 11:6:5:1 or 11:6:5:2, or registered under Rule 11:4 or its Premier League equivalent. Such players shall not play any lower than one team below the lowest team that they are ineligible for. This exemption does NOT exempt a player from the provisions of Rule 11:6:5:4 or 11:6:5:5.
- 11:6:5:4 No senior player will be eligible to play in a 5th XI match when his club's 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th XI have no scheduled match, if he has played more than one match more in any division(s) higher than the club's 5th XI in the previous 45 days, than he has in the same or lower divisions than the club's 5th XI in the previous 45 days.
- 11:6:5:5 No junior player will be eligible to play in a 5th XI match when his club's 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th XI have no scheduled match, if he has played in any division(s) higher than the club's 5th XI in the previous 45 days, and has not played in the same or a lower division than the club's 5th XI in the previous 45 days, save that if the only match he has played in the previous 45 days was in a higher division he shall be eligible. For the purposes of this rule, appearances made as an 'exemption' player under rule 11:6:5:6 shall NOT count as appearances in the same or a lower division.
- 11:6:5:6 Exemption: A maximum of two players, either senior who exceed the limit defined in rule 11:6:5:4, or junior ineligible under rule 11:6:5:5, may be included in the 5th XI when the club's 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th XI have no scheduled match, provided that not more than one third of the matches in which each of them has played in the current season have been in a higher division than the club's 4th XI.
- 11:6:5:7 **There are additional eligibility criteria applicable to cup matches only – please refer to rule 11:6:6**
- 11:6:6 CUP GAMES ONLY (INCLUDING FIRST XI).
- 11:6:6:1 A player having been transferred from another County League club during the current playing season must have been registered with his new club for four weeks before being allowed to play in any Cup Competitions.
- 11:6:6:2 No player, including those under 16 years of age on 31st August of the previous year, may play for more than one club in any Cup Competition.
- 11:6:6:3 A player who has played in one round of a higher League Cup competition, but who has played 50% or more of his League and League Cup matches in the current season in the lower team(s), may still play in the lower team(s) League Cup matches. A player eligible under rules 11:6:2-5 may still be ineligible under this rule.
- 11:6:6:4 Playing in more than one round of a higher League Cup competition automatically disqualifies any player from playing in the lower team(s) League Cup matches.
- 11:6:7 STATUS.
- 11:6:7:1 Clubs in doubt as to the status of any player shall apply to the League Fixture Secretary/Registrar before the day of the match and his decision shall be final.
- NB For the avoidance of doubt, compliance with Rule 11:6 shall satisfy the requirements of clause 5b of the Code of Conduct. Clubs who select players in accordance with this rule shall be considered thereby to have complied with the relevant section of the Code of Conduct.
- 11:7 TEAMS ARRIVING SHORT OF PLAYERS
- 11:7:1 A team regularly comprising fewer than eleven players may forfeit their membership of the League.
- 11:7:2 A team comprising fewer than nine players at the halfway point of the scheduled overs of the first innings shall forfeit the match to the opposition.
- 11:7:3 A team with fewer than seven players present 30 minutes after the scheduled starting time shall forfeit the match to the opposition. A match shall not start until a team has this number, and that team shall be liable for the full penalty for any late start. The EC may adjudicate upon exceptional circumstances.
- 11:7:4 A SUBSTITUTE may be played up to the halfway point of the scheduled overs of the first innings.
- 11:7:5 He can then become a player, provided he is qualified under Rule 11.
- 11:7:6 A player arriving after the above limit has been reached may take part in the match, but only as a substitute.
- 11:7:7 A player arriving late may only take part in the match as a full player if he is on the ground, changed and available to take the field before the above limit is reached.

- 11:8 PRIORITY FOR LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE SIDES
- 11:8:1 No player who has declined an invitation to play with a County League Representative side shall be allowed to play any County League cricket on the same day.
- 11:9 SANCTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THESE RULES
- 11:9:1 LEAGUE MATCHES.
- 11:9:1:1 Clubs playing ineligible player(s) will forfeit any points gained in that game and be fined £20.00 for each ineligible player.
- 11:9:1:2 On appeal, and at the discretion of the E.C., points may be awarded to the non-offending team. Such appeal must be submitted in writing by the Chairman or Secretary of the non-offending team, and received by the LEAGUE SECRETARY within seven days of notification of the offence.
- 11:9:2 CUP MATCHES.
- 11:9:2:1 Clubs playing ineligible player(s) will be expelled from the competition in which such player(s) appeared and be fined £20.00 for each ineligible player.
- 11:9:2:2 In instances where both teams in a League Cup game play ineligible player(s), the EC shall at their discretion either order the game to be replayed, or order the result to stand. Any fines levied under rule 11:9:2:1 shall stand in either circumstance.
- 11:9:3 NOTIFICATION AND APPEAL.
- 11:9:3:1 The club(s) involved shall be notified in writing of such a decision and be given the right to appeal.
- 11:9:3:2 Any appeal will be considered only on the grounds of dispute over the appearances actually made, and not on the basis of ignorance or individual interpretations of, or exemption from, these rules.
- 11:9:3:3 The official team card, signed by the captain, will be taken as the absolute proof that a player appeared in any given game. Any deliberate falsification on this card will result in disciplinary action being taken under Rule 9.

## (12) RESULTS

- 12:1 The home club official and umpires must report in writing on forms provided by the League the results of all matches, including scheduled matches abandoned or not played, points, times of starting, length of interval etc.
- 12:2 Both home and away clubs are responsible for checking that the correct number of points awarded are shown on the result form. Umpires, before signing the result forms, must see that they are correctly filled in with the requisite details and are signed by both club's officials. The completed form shall be presented to the away captain and umpires for signature not more than 30 minutes after the end of the game. (In circumstances where the away team do not travel, only the home team captain need sign the form).
- 12:3 The E.C. will not accept any protest from clubs complaining that they have not been awarded the correct number of points.
- 12:4 Each club's official must furnish the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR with a list of his team's players, stating first and last names, in each match started on the team card provided by the League.
- 12:5 All result forms and team cards to be posted to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR so as to arrive by the Tuesday following the match.
- 12:6 Clubs failing to fulfill this rule will be fined £2.00 for the first offence, £4.00 for the second offence, £6.00 for the third offence, £8.00 for the fourth offence etc. In addition, if the details supplied on the form or team card are incomplete or incorrect in any way, then the club for which the details are missing or incorrect shall be fined £1.00 for the first offence, £2.00 for the second offence, £3.00 for the third offence, £4.00 for the fourth offence etc.
- 12:7 In addition to result forms, the result and details of the matches and points awarded, including scheduled matches abandoned or not played, both Saturday and Sunday, are to be telephoned to the appropriate official as below no later than 7 (seven) hours after the scheduled time of start.  
 LEAGUE PRESS OFFICER - All matches in Divisions 1 and 2 and all Castlemaine XXXX Trophy matches.  
**LEAGUE ASSISTANT PRESS OFFICER - All matches in Divisions 3 and 4 and all Bayley Cup matches.**  
 LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR - All other League and League Cup matches.
- 12:8 Fine for non-fulfilment, £2.50 for the first offence, £5.00 for the second offence, £7.50 for the third offence, £10.00 for the fourth offence etc. If the result is not received within seven and a half hours, then any fine will be doubled.
- 12:9 The home club shall be responsible for the phoning in of results, and for the posting of result forms and team cards.
- 12:10 In addition, the HOME CLUB shall enter all match details on to their play-cricket website by WEDNESDAY following the match.
- 12:11 Clubs failing to fulfil this rule will be fined £2.00 for the first offence, £4.00 for the second offence, £6.00 for the third offence, £8.00 for the fourth offence etc. In addition, if the details supplied on the website are incomplete or incorrect in any way, then the HOME CLUB shall be fined £1.00 for the first offence, £2.00 for the second offence, £3.00 for the third offence, £4.00 for the fourth offence etc.  
 N.B. ALL CLUBS ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY THE APPROPRIATE LEAGUE CONTACT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER THE OUTCOME OF THE GAME IS KNOWN.

**(13) FIXTURES**

- 13:1 All clubs, weather permitting, must complete their fixtures on the dates as printed in the League handbook.
- 13:2 Fine for non fulfilment to be £20.00 in each case, unless the E.C. accepts extenuating circumstances preventing the match being played, plus normal travelling expenses to the visitors and umpires if the home club be at fault.
- 13:3 In addition, should the visitors be at fault, then they will be responsible for any expenses incurred by the home club and umpires.
- 13:4 No fixture to be altered, except by consent of the E.C., otherwise the defaulting club or clubs shall pay a fine of £10.00.
- 13:5 By mutual agreement between clubs, and with the approval of the EC, 3rd and 4th team home games may be played on days other than those published in the schedule. **However, no individual team within a club shall be permitted to re-arrange more than SIX home League games during a season. In exceptional circumstances this limit may be waived, with the approval of the EC.**
- 13:6 Clubs with more than one eleven in membership must fulfil the SENIOR eleven/elevens fixtures if more than one match is being played on the same day and one or more has to be cancelled due to lack of players, unless the E.C. intervene.
- 13:7 As soon as possible after the end of the season, the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY /REGISTRAR will provide each team with a list of fixtures for the following season.
- 13:8 Clubs must notify their receipt and acceptance of the fixtures by the 10th October to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR in writing. Failure to do so will incur an automatic fine of £10.00.
- 13:9 Clubs must notify any amendments to their fixtures no earlier than the 24th October and no later than the 31st October to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR in writing. Failure to do so will incur an automatic fine of £10.00.
- 13:10 After the 31st October fixtures, both League and Cup, may only be altered with the permission of the E.C. Such permission must be requested in writing, to the LEAGUE SECRETARY by both clubs concerned and will only be granted in extenuating circumstances.
- 13:11 Minimum penalty for withdrawing before completion of fixtures shall be £30.00.

**(14) UMPIRES**

- 14:1 Umpires will be allocated by the League and will be paid expenses of **£24.00** each (**£26.00** in Division 1 and the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy) on the day of the match.
- 14:2 Umpires shall also be provided a free tea.
- 14:3 When only one umpire is in attendance and takes both ends, expenses will be **£35.00**.
- 14:4 The payment of umpires expenses shall be shared by both clubs and shall be made during the tea interval.
- 14:5 If a match which has not been cancelled prior to the scheduled start time is subsequently not started, the umpire shall receive half of the match expenses.
- 14:6 In the event of a match not being started owing to rain or the condition of the ground, but the appointed umpires not having been informed of the cancellation, arrive at the ground at the agreed time of start, they will be paid the full expenses applicable for the game.
- 14:7 When clubs fail to provide an Umpire with a free tea, they will pay £3.00 in lieu.
- 14:8 Each team captain in Divisions 1 to 4 inclusive and the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy and the Bayley Cup, will be responsible for forwarding an Umpires Assessment Report to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR for each League and League Cup match where League umpires are appointed.
- 14:9 All reports must be received by the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR within fourteen days of the match concerned.
- 14:10 Failure to forward the report within fourteen days will result in a fine of £2.00 for the first offence, £4.00 for the second offence, £6.00 for the third offence etc.

**(15) GENERAL MEETINGS**

- 15:1 The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than January **31st** each year and the purpose shall be to:
- Receive and approve the E.C. report on the years activities.
  - Receive and approve the Treasurers report, Accounts and Balance sheet.
  - Elect a President and Vice-Presidents.
  - Elect E.C. Members.
  - Appoint Auditors.
  - Transact and vote on any other business of which notice has been given in writing to the League Secretary by November 30th.
- 15:2 The Secretary shall give all member clubs at least fourteen days notice of General Meetings together with a copy of the Agenda.

- 15:3 Each club has the power to vote at General Meetings on the basis of one vote per team and E.C. members shall be entitled to one vote each, all decisions shall be by a simple majority of the votes cast, with the Chairman having the casting vote.
- 15:4 Clubs not attending the General Meetings of the League shall be fined £20.00 on each occasion. In this context, the Pre-Season meeting for the distribution of League Handbooks etc. and the mid-season ball distribution meeting as appropriate shall be deemed to be General Meetings. No business may be voted upon at any General Meeting other than that for which notice has been given.
- 15:5 An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called by the League Secretary within twenty eight days of the receipt by him of a written request so to do, signed by ten clubs and setting out the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- 15:6 Any club failing to attend two General Meetings in a calendar year, or two General Meetings successively, will be required to attend a meeting of the League General Purposes and Disciplinary Committee to explain its actions.

**(16) LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP AND KNOCK-OUT TROPHIES**

- 16:1 All trophies are and shall remain the property of the League. They cannot be won outright.
- 16:2 The winners of any trophy shall be responsible for its safe keeping and must immediately report loss or damage to the League Secretary by telephone and to follow up in writing within 48 hours (if the League Secretary is not available, the report must be telephoned to the League Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Treasurer).
- 16:3 Should any club take any action, including failing to report as above, which invalidates the League Insurance on the trophies, they will render themselves liable for any loss or damage.
- 16:4 The League Secretary shall be kept informed of the whereabouts of the trophies at all times.
- 16:5 All trophies must be returned to the League Secretary on or before 30th June each year and MUST be in a clean and presentable condition. Failure to comply will result in an automatic fine of £20.00, with an increase of £20.00 for every subsequent 7 days delay in the return of any trophy.
- 16:6 If any action by clubs causes a claim to be made on the League Trophy Insurance, the club(s) concerned shall be liable for any Insurance excess.
- 16:7 The E.C. will be responsible for the engraving of all trophies.

**(17) COMPOSITION OF LEAGUE AND POINTS SYSTEM**

- 17:1 COMPOSITION OF THE LEAGUE
- 17:1:1 The League shall be divided into an appropriate number of divisions with a maximum of 12 teams in each.
- 17:1:2 JUNIOR CRICKET (from 2006 onwards)
- 17:1:2:1 No club shall compete in Division 1 unless they run junior sides at two different levels required for ECB Premier League accreditation (including one Under-11 Kwik team) in recognised Leagues.
- 17:1:2:2 No club shall compete in Division 2 unless they run at least one junior side at a level required for ECB Premier League accreditation in a recognised League.
- 17:1:2:3 All clubs in Divisions 1 and 2 must submit details of their junior teams, and the leagues in which they are to compete for that season, to the LEAGUE SECRETARY by April 30th each year. Failure to do so will incur an automatic fine of £20.00, and may lead to further disciplinary action.
- 17:2 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION
- 17:2:1 Promotion and relegation shall be decided by league positions at the end of the season and by pitch and ground ratings.
- 17:2:2 Promotion and relegation
- 17:2:2:1 Promotion and relegation shall take place as follows:
 

Division 1	2 Promoted, 2 Relegated
Division 2 North & South	1 Promoted, 2 Relegated
Division 3 North	2 Promoted, 3 Relegated ‡
Division 3 South	2 Promoted, 2 Relegated ‡
Division 4 North & South	1 Promoted, 2 Relegated *‡
Division 5 North	2 Promoted, 3 Relegated (2 most northerly to 6 North, other to 6 Central)
Division 5 South	2 Promoted, 3 Relegated (2 most southerly to 6 South, other to 6 Central)
Division 6 North, Central & South	2 Promoted. 2 Relegated (Central - Most northerly to 5 North, other to 5 South)
Division 7 North, Central & South	2 Promoted
- § Relegated teams entering from a feeder League via the pyramid will return to the feeder League from which they originated
- ‡ See Rule 17:2:2:3
- \* Promotion - top team plus the previous year's champions of the Derbyshire & Cheshire League, and of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire League (North section) and of the Burton & District League (South section)

All promotion is subject to satisfactory pitch and ground ratings.

- 17:2:2.2 The champions of the above named feeder Leagues shall each notify the **League Secretary** in writing, by September 30th of the current year, whether they intend to take up their place in the League for the season following the next season. Any club notifying the League of its intent to take up its place shall have its ground inspected by the League Grounds Committee as soon as possible thereafter, and must meet the appropriate League standards by the following March 31st.
- 17:2:2.3 Should a team from one of the above named feeder Leagues decline, or fail to meet ground standards for, promotion to either Division 3, then an extra team shall be promoted from one of the other feeder leagues in that leg in the following season. Should a further team decline or fail, then one fewer team shall be relegated from Division 3 in that leg in the following season. Clubs shall be notified in writing of any changes to promotion and relegation before the start of the season in which it will take place.
- 17:2:2.4 Should both the teams relegated from Division 2 fall clearly into one of the geographical regions for Division 3, then the team already in that division and closest to the other geographical region shall be moved into that region, subject to any specific and reasonable requests from other teams in that division to be placed in the other region. All such requests must be received by the League Secretary in writing before June 30th of the current season. Should there be more than one such request, then the EC shall decide which request will be granted, and their decision shall be final.
- 17:2:2.5 Should the number of teams to be accommodated in the lowest tier exceed 24, then the lowest tier shall comprise three divisions, until such time as the number falls below 25 or exceeds 36. Promotion and relegation between the bottom tier, when it consists of three divisions, and the tier above shall follow the principles outlined in rule 17:2:2.4.
- 17:2:3 League positions shall be calculated on points gained.
- 17:2:4 Should two or more teams be level on points, the team with the most wins shall be deemed to be higher placed.
- 17:2:5 If they are still level, the team losing the least number of matches shall be the higher placed.
- 17:2:6 Should they still be level, the team with the most winning draws shall be the higher placed.
- 17:2:7 The E.C. will adjudicate if teams are still level after this.
- 17:2:8 No more than four teams in any Division may be relegated in any season, except where a club or individual team has been the subject of formal disciplinary action taken by the League.
- 17:2:9 ***The lowest team of any club forfeiting more than three League and Cup matches during a season shall be subject to re-election by the EC at the Complement of League meeting.***
- 17:3 VACANCIES
- 17:3:1 If for any reason there are vacancies in any division after promotions have been decided, these will be filled alternately by teams from the top five positions from the next division down in descending order and by the relegated teams in that division in descending order, subject to the provisos at 17:4 below.
- 17:3:2 If for any reason a vacancy should arise above the regional level of divisions, then the extra place at the higher level for the following season shall be filled by the second-placed team from the highest regional level with the most points, subject to rule 17:3:3. Should the teams be level, then rules 17:2:4-7 shall apply. In the event of the divisions not having the same number of teams, then the determining factors shall be based on average rather than absolute values.
- 17:3:3 However the E.C. may, at its discretion, fill a vacancy with a new club or team under rule 18:1:4 or rule 18:2:4.
- 17:4 PROMOTION AND RELEGATION OF SECOND, THIRD, FOURTH, AND FIFTH ELEVENS
- 17:4:1 A club's lower team(s) may participate in all Divisions up to and including Division 2, except that they must play in a lower Division than their higher team(s). At the EC's discretion, the latter clause may be relaxed at the lowest tier of the league; however, no team shall be eligible for promotion from the lowest tier while there are higher teams from the same club still in that tier.
- 17:4:2 If one of a club's higher elevens is relegated into the same division as one of its lower elevens, then that lower eleven shall be relegated instead of the higher placed of the teams due to be relegated from that division.
- 17:5 CLUBS WITH TEAMS IN OTHER LEAGUES
- 17:5:1 Such clubs shall not automatically be entitled to membership of Divisions 1 & 2, even though they may have a Grade "A" rating.
- 17:5:2 Clubs withdrawing their first elevens from the League may be liable to forfeit membership of their lower elevens.
- NB Clubs with First elevens in the Derbyshire Premier Cricket League are exempt from all clauses of Rule 17:5
- 17:6 PITCH GROUND AND FACILITIES
- 17:6:1 **NOTIFICATION**
- 17:6.1.1 ***Each club with an A or B Grade rating shall, before 1st April each year, supply to the League Secretary information about their ground, pitch and facilities on the form provided including any alterations made during the previous 12 months.***
- 17:6.1.2 ***Failure to do so by 1st April shall incur an automatic fine of £20.***
- 17:6.1.3 ***Any club supplying false information shall be liable to disciplinary action under Rule 9.***

- 17:6:1.4 ***Clubs may be required to supply the League Secretary with supplementary information to assist the Ground sub-committee at any time during the year and must do so within 28 days or incur an automatic fine of £20.***
- 17:6:2 Pitch ratings will be assessed on a match to match basis by umpires and visiting captains, and entered on the result sheet.
- 17:6:3 All teams are required to average a minimum marking of 80% for each season (85% in Divisions 1 and 2). Guidance is provided in Annexe D.
- 17:6:4 GRADE A
- 17:6:4:1 To retain or attain DIVISION 1 & 2 status clubs shall, along with their League position, require:
- (a) A Pitch pass mark and
  - (b) A Ground and Facilities Grade A rating (Annexe A)
- 17:6:4:2 A Grade A rating will be presented to clubs who have been assessed by the League Executive Committee and have achieved the required standard.
- 17:6:4:3 The Grade A rating will be issued subject to standards being maintained and can be withdrawn.
- 17:6:4:4 Any failure to maintain the minimum requirement criteria by Grade A clubs for a specific match shall be reported by the visiting captain on the result sheet. Follow up action shall be taken, as necessary, by the EC.
- 17:6:4:5 The Ground Assessment form (Annexe A) lists 'Recommended Optimums' which it is hoped clubs will strive to achieve, and a 'Minimum Requirement'.
- 17:6:5 GRADE B
- 17:6:5:1 To retain or attain DIVISION 3 and 4 League status clubs, along with their League position, require:
- (a) A Pitch pass mark and
  - (b) A Ground and Facilities Grade B rating (Annexe B)
- 17:6:5:2 A Grade B rating will be presented to clubs who have been assessed by the League Executive Committee and have achieved the required standard.
- 17:6:5:3 The Grade B rating will be issued subject to standards being maintained and can be withdrawn.
- 17:6:5:4 Any failure to maintain the minimum requirement criteria by Grade B clubs for a specific match shall be reported by the visiting captain on the result sheet. Follow up action shall be taken, as necessary, by the EC.
- 17:6:6 GRADE C
- 17:6:6:1 To retain or attain DIVISION 5 and 6 League status clubs, along with their League position, require:
- (a) A Pitch pass mark and
  - (b) A Ground and Facilities Grade C rating (i.e. 74% minimum pass mark in both PLAYING CONDITIONS and FACILITIES sections of the Assessment Form) (Annexe C).
- 17:6:7 Division 7 and below will remain ungraded.
- 17:6:8 Each team in Division 5 and below must provide a ground assessor.
- 17:6:9 Assessors must submit a Ground Assessment Report to the LEAGUE FIXTURE SECRETARY/REGISTRAR for each away fixture, within 14 days of the match concerned (except where the clubs concerned already have a Grade A assessment) .
- 17:6:10 For all away teams who participate in the Ground Assessment scheme, their ground assessor must present the completed Ground Assessment form to the home captain for signature on the day of the match, after completion of the game. In all instances the home captain should sign the form and should then use the appeals procedure (Rule 17:7:3) if it is believed that the home club has been unfairly marked.
- 17:6:11 Failure to present the form for signature by the home captain will result in a fine for the AWAY team of £0.50 for the first offence, £1.00 for the second offence, £1.50 for the third offence etc.
- 17:7 FAILURE TO MAINTAIN STANDARDS
- 17:7:1 Should any club fail to obtain the required standards for pitch, ground and facilities at the end of the season they will automatically be relegated one Division, unless the club can totally satisfy the E.C in writing that the necessary standards will be achieved before the start of the next season.
- 17:7:2 Should they continue for a further season not to achieve the required standard, they will be relegated to the Division appropriate to their ground and/or facilities.
- 17:7:3 Clubs will have the right to appeal to the League Grounds Committee if they feel that their grounds and facilities are being marked unfairly.
- 17:7:4 The complaint in writing, should detail the section in the Ground Assessment form that they feel is being marked unfairly and the reason why it should be marked higher.
- 17:7:5 If after an investigation the Grounds Committee uphold the complaint, they will have the power to upgrade (not downgrade) the marks as appropriate.
- ANN:D ANNEXE D
- ANN:D:1 The following is provided as guidance: A pitch should be:
- (a) Well prepared, cut short with no excess of grass, no obvious worn patches and free of weeds.
  - (b) Of even and consistent bounce, the ball should not keep low, bounce excessively or go through the surface.
  - (c) Of good pace, giving equal chance to bowler and batsman.

**ANN:D:2 Rain Affected Pitch.**

In wet weather conditions (either before or during a match) the standards outlined above become difficult to achieve. In such circumstances the Result Sheet should be endorsed "Rain Affected" against the pitch marking, and greater importance given to (a) above. If preparation is obvious or in the case where a different pitch is prepared to allow the match to be played, it would be reasonable (but not automatic) for a marking of satisfactory or higher to be given.

**17:8 THE POINTS SYSTEM**

17:8:1 WIN - 27 points to team batting first. 22 points to team batting second.

17:8:2 DRAW - 8 points to the side scoring the most runs with 4 points to the side scoring the least runs if the run difference is 1 - 25 runs.

17:8:3 9 points to the side scoring the most runs with 3 points to the side scoring the least runs if the run difference is 26 - 50 runs.

17:8:4 10 points to the side scoring the most runs with 2 points to the side scoring the least runs if the run difference is **between 51 and 100.**

17:8:5 **11 points to the side scoring most runs and one point to the side scoring least runs if the run difference is 101 and over.**

17:8:6 In a Time Match a winning/losing draw can only be obtained if the team batting second received its full balance of overs.

17:8:7 TIE - 8 points to each team. A Tie is a match where both teams score the same number of runs irrespective of wickets lost.

17:8:8 NO RESULT - 5 points each. No result is when a match is not started or when a match remains unfinished and the teams have been unable to complete the scheduled overs as laid down Rule 10.

17:8:9 BONUS POINTS will be awarded as follows:

To the batting side on attaining:

100 runs

125 runs

150 runs

175 runs

200 runs

1 point

2 points

3 points

4 points

5 points

To the fielding side on attaining:

2 wickets

4 wickets

6 wickets

8 wickets

10 wickets

1 point

2 points

3 points

4 points

5 points

N.B.: NO BONUS POINTS AWARDED TO A WINNING TEAM.

17:8:10 When a batting side has fewer than eleven players and is all out the fielding side shall be awarded the maximum bowling points.

17:8:11 In a No Result match all bonus points gained shall stand.

17:8:12 Forfeit or conceded fixture: 27 points to the team able to play the fixture.

**(18) NEW CLUBS AND TEAMS JOINING THE LEAGUE****18:1 NEW CLUBS**

18:1:1 Applications to join the League must be submitted in writing to the LEAGUE SECRETARY by June 30th each year.

18:1:2 The EC will investigate the merits of the application ie: status, pitch, ground and facilities, after which a decision will be made on whether or not the application shall be accepted.

18:1:3 New clubs who use rented grounds must have written permission from their landlords that they have priority use of the ground they propose to use for cricket within the league.

18:1:4 New clubs joining the League may be accepted into any Division provided they can satisfy the required standards for pitch, ground and facilities.

18:1:5 Second elevens of such clubs may be accepted into any Division up to and including Division 4.

18:1:6 Third elevens and below may only enter in Division 7 and below.

18:1:7 Additional existing teams may be relegated to facilitate the acceptance of new clubs, provided that they have been notified in writing before the commencement of the season, and subject to Rule 17.2.8.

18:1:8 **New clubs joining the League shall commence their membership immediately following the Complement of League meeting.**

**18:2 NEW TEAMS**

18:2:1 Applications to join the League must be submitted in writing to the LEAGUE SECRETARY by August 31st each year.

18:2:2 The EC will investigate the merits of the application ie: status, pitch, ground and facilities, after which a decision will be made on whether or not the application shall be accepted.

18:2:3 New teams who use rented grounds must have written permission from their landlords that they have priority use of the ground they propose to use for cricket within the league.

18:2:4 New teams joining the League may be accepted into a Division appropriate to their proposed pitch, ground and facilities, and to the other teams within their club.

- 18:2:5 Second elevens may be accepted into any Division up to and including Division 4.  
 18:2:6 Third elevens and below may only enter in Division 7 and below.  
 18:2:7 Additional existing teams may be relegated to facilitate the acceptance of new teams, provided that they have been notified in writing before the commencement of the season, and subject to Rule 17.2.8.  
 18:2:8 ***When considering applications for a new team from an existing club to join the League, the EC shall also take into account the records of their existing teams during the previous and current season with regard to forfeiture of fixtures and under-strength teams.***  
 18:2:9 ***New teams joining the League shall commence their membership immediately following the Complement of League meeting.***

## **(19) TEAS**

- 19:1 Home teams must inform away teams if teas are not available.  
 19:2 Away teams to pay for a minimum of eleven teas.  
 19:3 When teas are provided, the home team shall provide the official scorer of the visiting team with a tea free of charge.  
 19:4 Where teas are provided, the home team shall not charge the away team more than the League recommended price for 12 teas (including the official scorer). This price shall be set annually by the EC and advised to the clubs prior to the start of the season. In exceptional circumstances, this price may be varied by the EC; in this case the clubs shall be given 7 days notice of such change.

## **(20) PRECEDENCE TO LEAGUE COMPETITIONS**

- 20:1 Clubs must at all times give precedence ***in playing strength*** to League matches and Cup Competitions organised by the League.

## **(21) LEAGUE HANDBOOKS**

- 21:1 League Handbooks will be supplied on the basis of fifteen per team at cost price.  
 21:2 Extra copies will also be supplied at cost.

## **(22) LEAGUE KNOCK-OUT CUPS**

- 22:1 The Cups offered for competition shall be played for in rounds drawn by the E.C.  
 22:2 ***The primary competition shall be open to teams in Division 1 and Divisions 2 North and South.***  
 22:3 ***The secondary competition, for the Bayley Cup, shall be open to teams in Divisions 3 North and 3 South plus the top six teams in Divisions 4 North and 4 South from the previous season (after promotion and relegation).***  
 22:4 ***The third level competition, for the Wright Cup, shall be open to the bottom six teams in Divisions 4 North and 4 South (after promotion and relegation), plus the teams in Divisions 5 North and 5 South.***  
 22:5 ***The fourth level competition, for the James Harwood Cup, shall be open to teams in Divisions 6 North, 6 Central and 6 South.***  
 22:6 ***The fifth level competition, for the Harry Lund Trophy, shall be open to teams in Divisions 7 North, 7 Central and 7 South.***  
 22:7 ***In each competition, the teams who finished in the lowest four places eligible for entry in each division in the preceding season (after relegation and promotion have taken place) shall, where necessary, play in a Preliminary Round.***  
 22:8 ***Should more than one team finish in the highest position eligible for the Preliminary Round in either division, the E.C. shall decide which one shall receive a bye.***

## **(23) PERMISSION TO WITHDRAW FROM KNOCK-OUT CUP COMPETITIONS**

- 23:1 Member Clubs must compete in the League Knock-Out Cup Competitions, unless permission to withdraw has been obtained from the E.C. by the 31st August of the preceding year.  
 23:2 Clubs failing to comply will be liable to a fine of up to £25.00.  
 23:3 Clubs obtaining permission to withdraw must do so in ascending order of their teams positions in the League.  
 23:4 Requests for re-entry into any League Cup Competition must be made in writing to the League Secretary no later than the 31st August each year.  
 23:5 Any team forfeiting a League Cup match shall automatically be excluded from the following season's competitions. Any lower teams from that club will also automatically be excluded. Re-admission to the competitions for the subsequent season will be by application under rule 23:4.

**(24) HOURS AND CONDITIONS OF PLAY IN KNOCK-OUT CUP COMPETITIONS**

- 24:1 Except where specified below, all conditions pertaining to League matches shall apply to Cup matches also.
- 24:2 All Cup Matches shall be overs matches, with a specific number of overs available to each side.
- 24:3 Starting times shall be 2.00pm in May, June and July; 1.30pm in April and August and 1.00pm in September. Late starts shall be subject to fines as in Rule 10:2:5.
- 24:4 The scheduled overs shall be 46 six ball overs for each side.
- 24:5 Overs not used by the side batting first cannot be added to the overs of the side batting second.
- 24:6 Where the start is delayed by weather or light for 15 minutes or more, one over shall be deducted from each teams innings for every seven minutes or part thereof lost, and the revised number of overs shall be available to each side.
- 24:7 If more than 23 overs per side are thus lost (i.e. 181 minutes, which includes a tea interval of 20 minutes) the match shall be replayed.
- 24:8 If a Cup Match is not started or completed on a specified day, the match shall be completely replayed on the next Sunday.
- 24:9 In the event of a tie not being completed on the Sunday after the scheduled date for that round, and the home club's ground not being available for the following Sunday, then the tie shall be played on the following Sunday on the ground of the away club. Should the away club's ground not be available on that date, then the tie shall be played on the home club's ground, in accordance with Rule 24:10.
- 24:10 In the event of any replayed game not being completed, the replayed game shall be decided on faster run-rate, provided that the side batting second have received at least half of their scheduled overs; any part over bowled shall not count as a whole over. For the purposes of any calculation under this rule, a team declaring or bowled out within its scheduled overs shall be deemed to have occupied all of its scheduled overs.
- 24:11 If matches cannot be completed in accordance with the above, sides shall be permitted to play as follows: On a single evening, 20 x 6 ball overs each side or on two consecutive evenings 40 x 6 ball overs each side, with no bowler to bowl more than one-fifth of the overs available. If no mutually agreeable date is available, then the result shall be decided in accordance with Rules 24:12 and 24:13.
- 24:12 Matches in all rounds up to and including the Semi-Finals MUST be completed by the Friday before the next round.
- 24:13 If a result cannot be obtained by the Friday before the next round the result shall be decided by bowling at stumps (in accordance with rules applicable at First Class level).

**THE FOLLOWING VARIATIONS SHALL APPLY TO THE CASTLEMAINE XXXX TROPHY ONLY**

- 24:3 Starting times shall be 1.30pm in May, June and July; 1.00pm in April and August and 12.30pm in September. Late starts shall be subject to fines as in Rule 10:2:5.
- 24:4 The scheduled overs shall be 50 six ball overs for each side.
- 24:7 If more than 25 overs per side are thus lost (i.e. 195 minutes, which includes a tea interval of 20 minutes) the match shall be replayed.
- 24:14 RESTRICTION OF FIELD PLACINGS
- 24:14:1 At the instant of delivery a minimum of four fieldsman (plus the bowler and wicket keeper) must be within an area bounded by two semi-circles, centre on each middle stump (each with a radius of 30 yards) and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch.
- 24:14:2 In the event of infringement, the square leg umpire shall call no ball.
- 24:14:3 The fielding circle should be marked by painted white dots at regular intervals, each dot to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (not metal) disc measuring approximately seven inches in diameter.
- 24:15 OVER RATE
- 24:15:1 Teams shall bowl their overs at a minimum average rate of 17 per hour, with an allowance of 3 hours for 50 overs. If fewer overs than this are scheduled, then this allowance shall be reduced by 3 and a half minutes for each over deducted from the scheduled overs. Umpires shall make due time allowance for one drinks interval per innings if taken, and for unavoidable stoppages caused by injury or other extenuating circumstances.
- 24:15:2 In the event of a team bowling first not bowling their scheduled overs by the time limit above then the team batting first shall complete their scheduled overs, and the innings of the team batting second shall occupy the same number of overs as the over in progress when the time limit above was reached. This reduction will not reduce the number of scheduled overs required to be bowled under Rule 24:10.
- 24:15:3 The umpires shall notify both captains of any reduction of overs under this rule during the interval between innings, and their decision shall be final. This matter shall not be retrospectively negotiable.

**(25) TIED CUP MATCHES**

- 25:1 Should a match finish with both teams having scored the same number of runs, the team having lost the least number of wickets shall be declared the winner; should the wickets lost be equal, the team having scored the most runs off the bat, ie: the total runs minus the extras, shall be declared the winner; should runs off the bat be equal, then the result of the match shall be decided by bowling at stumps (in accordance with rules applicable at First Class level).

## Clarification – Bowling at stumps

Five players from each side, one from each side alternately, will bowl over-arm two deliveries each at a wicket (conforming to Law 8) from a single stump pitched at a distance of 22 yards with, if practicable, bowling, popping and return creases (conforming to Law 9).

The side that bowls down the wicket (as defined in Law 28.1(a)) the most times shall be the winner. If the scores are equal, the same players will bowl one ball each alternately, until one team has achieved more dismissals, both teams having bowled the same number of deliveries.

Both sides shall use the same suitably acceptable ball. If a bowler bowls a no-ball (as defined in Law 24.2 & 24.3) it will count as a delivery but will not count towards the score of his team. No player shall be permitted to stand in front of or behind the wicket or tend the stumps in any way in order to act as a 'target' for the bowlers.

If the original match has commenced the five players to take part in the contest must be selected from those participating in the last attempt to play that match. Otherwise the five players may be selected from any of the clubs players eligible to play in the match on the originally scheduled date, excluding those who played for another of the club's sides on that date.

If circumstances prevent a conclusion of this nature from taking place, then the result shall be decided by the toss of a coin between the two captains.

## (26) UMPIRES FOR CUP MATCHES

26:1 Umpires shall be appointed by the Umpires Secretary, expenses as in Rule 14:1, 14:3 or 14:5, as appropriate. If an evening game is played then the expenses shall be HALF that in rule 14:1, 14:3 or 14:5, as appropriate.

## (27) RESTRICTED OVERS FOR CUP MATCHES

27:1 No player shall be allowed to bowl more than 10 overs in an innings.

27:2 In any Cup match where it becomes necessary to reduce the number of scheduled overs, the permitted number of overs per bowler will be reduced pro-rata (see below).

### Clarification – Reduction of overs

The over-riding principle is that five bowlers MUST be used. In all but the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy, if less than 5 overs are lost, then the limit proscribed in Rule 27:1 need not be reduced. If between 5 and 8 overs are lost, then that limit is reduced to 9 overs per bowler, between 9 and 12 overs lost 8 overs, and so on. At the lower limit for a reduced cup match no bowler can bowl more than 5 overs. In the Castlemaine XXXX Trophy, the reduction is made by dividing the re-scheduled number of overs by 5, rounding down the answer to the nearest whole number, and then adding one extra over to as many bowlers allowances as is needed to produce the correct number of overs; i.e. if only 37 overs are to be bowled, 37 divided by 5 gives 7 overs, and two bowlers will be allowed an extra over each to make up the deficit.

## (28) CUP FINALS

28:1 All venues for League Cup Finals shall be fixed by the E.C.

28:2 The League shall provide 13 teas, without charge, to each team in League Cup Finals.

28:3 Umpires officiating in League Cup Finals shall receive a trophy and expenses from the League.

28:4 All Cup Finals shall start at least 30 minutes earlier than the normal scheduled starting time.

28:5 In the event of a League Cup Final not being completed, the game shall be decided in accordance with Rule 24:10. If insufficient overs have been bowled to allow a decision by this means, then the game shall be completely replayed.