



From the Secretary's Desk 22nd March 21

Good Morning All,

Here's your regular update on what is happening and what needs doing. Please read through carefully this week as with the season fast approaching, there's a lot going on.

Return to Cricket Update

A few of you have been asking us questions about the R to C pathway along the lines of, "How many people can we have working on the ground, when can we start nets, are we doing teas or not?" etc, etc. We're not trying to be unhelpful and we understand why you are asking, but the CCL will not give you any advice that is not quoted verbatim from the ECB guidance which you can access [here](#). This was updated this weekend, so is about as contemporary as you can get. The ECB guidance should be your ONLY point of reference for what you as a club can or cannot do. I have attached two of the main documents, but these and all other guidance can be accessed at the link.

NEW STUFF

Website

New Cherwell League = New Cherwell League website. The new look website is in beta testing at the moment and will be going live sometime around the first week in April. You can continue to load information (player registrations, club details etc) on to the existing site as we will transfer all data across. The HMI on the new site is similar to the old (you won't need a 6 week intensive course to use it), but with some exciting new features added. More details to come.

UPDATES

Captain's Meetings

IMPORTANT, PLEASE MAKE SURE THIS IS FORWARDED TO ALL CAPTAINS

Even if it was technically allowed, gathering 186 people together in one place would be entirely incongruous in the current circumstances so the captains' meetings will be held by zoom on the 27th April at 7pm (Tiers 6-8) and 8pm (Tiers 1-5). The links for the meetings will be sent out separately but will also be available on the website home page.

Attendance at these meetings is important for all captains and mandatory for all teams (i.e. if your skipper can't make it, there should still be a representative of the team there). There will be a roll call and non-attendance may incur a fine for your club. Due to the numbers attending, we will be asking everyone to remain muted throughout the meetings and post any questions in the chat.

Umpires will be contacted directly about their meeting.

Ball Collections

This is a bit of advance notice for now, but as you can imagine, distributing in excess of 4,000 cricket balls to 84 destination points is going to require an operation of military style precision. Throw in the back end of a pandemic and the associated requirement for social distancing and you're not far off the perfect storm.

When the delivery date is confirmed, we will give you more information in the form of a date, time and location for you to collect your balls. Please make every effort to accommodate this and be of a mind that it is your responsibility to get them, not ours to get them to you.

NB. The following clubs have Hampton balls they said they wanted to return. We need these back **before** the distribution date so please contact your nearest committee member and get the balls back to them asap. **Coombe, Faringdon, Garsington & Cowley, Marsh Gibbon, Stanton Harcourt, Wooton & Boars Hill**. All returns are being redistributed, so bringing them when you collect your order is going to cause complications, hence the reason we need them in advance.

Umpire Nominations

We are making progress here but there are still plenty to come so if you have not sent in yet please do so as soon as possible. To avoid confusion, we need every club to inform the umpires' secretary of their plans via the nomination form, even if you do not plan to provide an umpire. There has been some questions, so below is a potted version of what is required.

Tiers 1-3

All teams are required to nominate an umpire to the panel for each week of the season (it doesn't have to be the same person every week) who will be appointed to a game as a neutral (or as a stand-by). Failure to do so will incur a 5 point penalty for every week missed.

Tiers 4-5

All teams are required to nominate an umpire for each week of the season (it doesn't have to be the same person every week). If nominated as a panel umpire, they will be appointed as above and a neutral panel umpire will be appointed to your match (to whom you will have to pay a £45 match fee). If nominated as a club umpire, they will stand for your club in the match, but we need both types of nomination in now please. If you don't nominate, you may have an umpire appointed, whom you will be required to pay and will stand in place of anyone you may have found on the day. Failure to nominate will incur a 5 point penalty for every week missed.

Tiers 6-8

Teams that provide an umpire will gain 1 bonus point for each match that they do. If your umpire wishes to officiate neutral games (panel umpire), we need their nomination as soon as possible in order that they can be appointed accordingly, and for each week they are nominated, your club will be appointed a neutral panel umpire in return (to whom you will have to pay a £45 match fee). If they are going to stand in your own match (club umpire) you do not need to nominate them before the week of the match.

Notes.

A club umpire must not have any other involvement in the match (i.e. can't be a player).

In a case where there is only one umpire present, who is a neutral panel umpire he will stand at both ends (and is entitled to a £30 match fee from each team).

In a case where there is only one umpire present, who is a club umpire, he will stand at both ends (and is entitled to a £15 match fee contribution from the team that failed to provide an umpire).

If there is one panel and one club however, each will take an end as normal.

Note on the notes: The use of the masculine pronoun is for brevity and indicative of nothing.

Teas

We are aware that the HCPCL have sent out a message regarding the provision of food at matches. The CCL stance for now is as in the Return to Cricket Update above.

REMINDERS

County Board Affiliation

We're almost ready to take this one off the reminders as most of you are sorted, but if you haven't started the process of affiliating to your County Board, let me make this one simple for you. Start now! Non-affiliated clubs cannot play in the Cherwell League (or any ECB affiliated league for that matter).

Ground Facilities

If we have not got this from you yet, please get it on your agenda. 5 minute job.

Player Registrations

Remember that all pre-season registrations are FOC, but after the 30th April, they will cost you £2 per player. At the last time of writing, you had 2 months to get these in. Now you've got just over 1 (can you see the trend there 😊).

I appreciate that was quite a long one, but that's it for now. As always, I will publish this update on the CCL website so feel free to point your club members there. Please keep your eye on the ECB website for further guidance on what you can do re pre-season prep.

Ian Murdoch
General Secretary
Cherwell Cricket League