



From the Secretary's desk, Jan 21 2022.

Hello everyone and a very happy new year to those I have not already spoken to.

The committee met for the first time this year on Thursday and we are now starting in earnest with the planning for this season. Lots discussed and plenty that you need to be aware of so I will try to make each point as concise as possible.

#### Balls

We have all your orders. Thank you. An invoice for these will be raised and put on your club web page on the CCL site at the beginning of Feb. This will include your subscription for the year and any fines due for non-attendance at the AGM. We need your payment for this by the Captains' meeting, where you will be able to collect the balls (currently scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup>). You are welcome to pay before that if you like and bank details and an address to send cheques to are on the invoice. This will give you over 10 weeks to arrange payment and as such we see no reason why we should be chasing late payments (as we had to do last year). We have discussed a sanction for late payment and made the following decision.

If the invoice has not been paid by the Captains' meeting, there will be an automatic fine of £50 added to it. If it has still not been paid by 12.30pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> May (start of the first League games), all teams in the offending club will be deducted 5 league points for week 1 and a further 5 points for every subsequent match day that starts without payment being received. If for any reason your club is unable to make the payment, please contact us at the earliest opportunity to discuss. Any other arrangements made and then broken will result in the same penalties.

#### Other points

Affiliation to your local County board is required under the Cherwell League rules (as it was in the OCA). This is mandatory for this season. If you need any assistance, please contact us via this address in the first instance. Please also note that all umpires must be DBS checked.

The first round of all cup competitions will take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> May. Please indicate your intentions regarding entry as soon as possible. We would also be interested to hear from any individuals who would be willing to assist in the organisation of the cup competitions.

We are hopeful that we will be able to start the season with no (or very few) Covid restrictions. As such and as things stand now, the Covid rules variations will be dropped this season. More details to follow but worth pointing out now that all teams in the top 4 tiers will now be required to provide a scorer every week, not just the home team. Penalty for failure to do so is 5 points. You should also expect that the leniency on slow over rates will be withdrawn and the penalties as written in the rules applied consistently.



As last season, registration of players pre-season will be FOC. All your currently registered players will automatically be re-registered (unless we receive a transfer request). The window for pre-season registration will close at the end of April. After this point, each new registration (or move up to higher divisions) will be charged at £2 per player. We are removing the Paypal link for this and will invoice you when the registration window for the season closes (post game 12).

Finally (for now), we were unable to organise a dinner last year for obvious reasons, but would very much like to do so in 2022. To assess how much support there would be for this, can we ask you to indicate via a web poll (on the website shortly) whether your club would be likely to support the event. We would also like to recruit a (or some) volunteer(s) to run the organisation of this event. If you or anyone at your club is prepared to get involved, please come back to this address.

That's it for now. The text of this mail will be available in the minutes section of the website if you want to refer anyone to it. Please keep checking the website periodically as things will start to move quickly and we will flash reminders on the home page. It may be darkest January now, but this time next week it will be less than 100 days until the shout of "Play"

Ian Murdoch

General Secretary

Cherwell Cricket League