

Highlights and Headlines from the Captains' Meeting

Firstly, as this will affect you in week 1, we have agreed to put up the umpires' fee to £50 per match. This decision was taken in light of the current sharp rise in fuel prices and brings the CCL fee up to parity with the TVCL. As regards mode of payment, the default method of payment remains cash, however if you would prefer to pay by BACS, you must contact the umpire in advance to arrange this and the payment should be made before the match. If there is doubt about the match (weather) the day after is acceptable (with the recipient's agreement), however if an umpire has not been paid by Monday morning, the League committee will take a very serious view of this and clubs can expect sanctions.

In all tiers, the use of saliva to shine the ball is still NOT allowed (sweat is OK). This will become part of the Laws of Cricket in October and the League has decided to adopt it immediately. All other law changes (MCC has laws, CCL has rules) begin in October.

In Tiers 1-4, there are no rule changes, but captains should be aware that with Covid restrictions lifted (for now at least) all Covid variations are now lifted. In particular, the over rate rules will be applied. In W/L every full over not bowled by the cut off time will incur a 6 run penalty and in W/L/D, a 1 match point deduction.

For the tiers below, T5 will now be a 90 over game (was 100 last year) and T8 remains 80. In W/L/D, the side batting first has the option to bat on to 53% (rounded down) of the overs available at the beginning of the match. In 5-7 therefore, a maximum of 47 overs and in 8 a maximum of 42. The team batting second gets the balance of the overs in all cases (max batted, declared or bowled out).

As ever, we would commend the rules document (on the website) to all captains. One point to note, some earlier downloads may have T5 start times as 12.30pm. This is incorrect. All 90 over games start at 1pm apart from the last 2 weeks.

We wish you all a tremendously enjoyable and successful season (however you measure your success) and would add just one point for captains.

You set the tone of the match and you are responsible for your players. Last season we had just 15 disciplinary hearings from over 1500 matches, which we regard as an excellent achievement by the players and in particular by the captains. We would be delighted however to see this drop further.

Good luck, just 7 days to go!!

Ian Murdoch
General Secretary
Cherwell Cricket League