

Southern Premier Cricket League

A: CONSTITUTION

1 TITLE

- 1.1 The name of the League shall be the Southern Premier Cricket League (hereinafter called “the League”). At the discretion of the Management Committee, the League Title may incorporate words or symbols referring to a sponsor or other appropriate body.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The promotion, advancement and protection of the interests of cricket in Hampshire and its environs.
- 2.2 To maintain a development fund for the benefit of Member Clubs and former Member Clubs.
- 2.3 Co-operation with the Hampshire Cricket Board, the Hampshire Cricket League and any other body having similar objectives to the League.
- 2.4 Co-operation with and the provision of assistance and advice to Member Clubs on any matter affecting the interests of the Member Club or the League.
- 2.5 Consideration of any other means for promoting the interests of the League.

3 OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 3.1 The Officers of the League shall be the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, General Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Fixtures Secretary, Honorary Results Secretary and Honorary Player Registration Secretary, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and hold Office until the next Annual General Meeting, when they shall retire but be eligible for re-election.
- 3.2 The League shall be governed by a Management Committee (hereinafter called “the Committee”) consisting of the Officers of the League and six other Committee members duly elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall be responsible for the management of the League, appoint Sub-Committees (which shall include a Discipline Sub-Committee and an Appeals Sub-Committee) and have the powers of co-option. Co-opted members shall be entitled to vote. The Committee may submit proposals to any General Meeting of the League after due notice has been given to Member Clubs. The Committee is elected to implement and interpret the Rules of the League. The alteration or suspension of League Rules can only take place with the approval of Member Clubs either at the Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary Meeting.
- 3.3 The Committee shall meet as necessary and will be responsible for the government of the League within the framework of this Constitution and the Rules and shall have the power to deal with anything not covered by the Constitution or the Rules and to decide on the interpretation of this Constitution

or the Rules in the event of any disagreement as to their meaning and such decision shall be final and binding on all Member Clubs.

- 3.4 No business shall be conducted by the Committee unless at least two officers and two other Committee members are present. Where necessary the Chairman of the meeting shall exercise a casting vote.

4 MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Membership of the League shall be open to bona fide clubs approved by the Committee. Clubs shall be affiliated to the Hampshire Cricket Board or a neighbouring County Cricket Board. They will also need to hold a level of Accreditation awarded by the Committee confirming that they satisfy the minimum requirements for ground and youth development as specified by the League Committee and, in the case of youth development, certified by the Hampshire Cricket Board Development Manager. A Club shall cease to be a member of the League after the Annual General Meeting next following the withdrawal of the necessary level of Accreditation previously granted to it, or on cessation of affiliation to the Hampshire Cricket Board or a neighbouring County Cricket Board.
- 4.2 Only a General Meeting may expel from membership any Member Club.
- 4.3 Full Membership is accorded to those Clubs playing in any division in the Southern Premier League. There shall be no Associate Membership.
- 4.4 All Member Clubs shall take out Public Liability Insurance cover at a minimum level to be agreed at each Annual General Meeting and shall produce evidence of current insurance to the Committee by 20 April each year. A Club whose insurance renewal is due after 20 April shall produce evidence of renewal not later than the renewal date. Any Club failing to meet this requirement will be suspended from membership until evidence is produced. It shall be sufficient compliance with this rule if the Member Club has produced such evidence to the satisfaction of the Committee of the Hampshire Cricket League.

5 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 5.1 The Annual General Meeting of the League shall take place in November at a venue, at a date and time to be decided by the Committee. Notice of every Annual General Meeting will be circulated to Member Clubs at least fourteen days before the date of the meeting. Proposed alterations to rules and other proposals, including nominations for the Management Committee, will be considered at the Annual General Meeting subject to written notice by two Member Clubs, certified by the Chairman and Secretary of each as having the support of the Club committees, being given to the General Secretary before the fifteenth day of September.
- 5.2 No proposal to amend the Constitution shall be deemed to be carried unless it receives not less than two-thirds of the votes cast at the meeting. At any General Meeting each Member Club shall have one vote. No Member Club shall be entitled to vote at a meeting by proxy. In the event of a tied vote the Chairman of

the Meeting or his nominated deputy shall have a casting vote. Voting shall be by show of hands unless the Chairman directs otherwise.

- 5.3 Where a motion affects the Rules of Play in a particular Division of the league, only Clubs with teams affected by the proposed change may vote. The decision of the Chairman of the meeting shall be final in determining the effects of this rule. No proposal to amend the Rules shall be deemed to be carried unless it receives not less than two-thirds of the votes cast.

6 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

- 6.1 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be convened at the discretion of the Committee or on receipt by the General Secretary of a written request from not less than one half of the Member Clubs. Notice of, and Proceedings at an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be the same as those at Annual General Meetings.

7 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PAYMENTS

- 7.1 The League's annual subscription shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting and shall be paid by Member Clubs to the Hon. Treasurer within 30 days of being so requested by him. Failure to make payment in due time shall be visited by a levy (see 12 below).
- 7.2 The Hon. Treasurer shall deposit subscriptions in a bank account approved by the Committee (and be responsible for keeping all records of the League's financial transactions).
- 7.3 Payments to the league should be made by cheque or any other financial instrument acceptable to the Treasurer of the League and made payable to the "Southern Premier Cricket League".
- 7.4 All payments made by the League by cheque or other financial instrument shall bear the signature of any two of the Hon. Treasurer, Chairman and General Secretary. However, the Hon. Treasurer shall be authorised to make payments up to £250 without another signatory.
- 7.5 Officers and Management Committee Members (including co-opted members) are entitled to claim reimbursement of travelling expenses incurred by attendance at meetings, at rates approved by the Committee.
- 7.6 Member Clubs may be required to purchase a minimum number of League handbooks, subject to conditions that the Executive Committee may impose.

8 PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS

- 8.1 The accounts of the League shall be kept by the Honorary Treasurer and such accounts shall be audited annually by the Auditors appointed at the Annual General Meeting. For the purposes of such audit, the accounts shall close on 30th September in each year.
- 8.2 All Member Clubs shall keep audited accounts of their Cricket Club affairs, and the Management Committee reserve the right to request any Member Club to make available those accounts, in full, and up to date, should the Management Committee deem it necessary.

9 PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

- 9.1 The League shall hold an Annual Dinner at which presentations will be made. The function shall be held on a convenient date in October or November; and its venue and general format shall be decided by the Committee.
- 9.2 Member Clubs will be required to purchase eight tickets for the function, or such lesser number as the Management Committee may specify.
- 9.3 The League shall provide and award 13 individual medals to the winning Club of each Division. Those Clubs may purchase additional individual medals with the consent of the Committee. The League shall also present a trophy to those Clubs. The Clubs shall hold the trophies until 1st September of the following year and return them in good order to the General Secretary. Arrangements for engraving trophies shall be the responsibility of the League. (The trophies are now displayed in a secure cabinet at the Ageas Bowl.)

10 ANNUAL KNOCKOUT CUP

- 10.1 There shall be an annual knockout competition, the jurisdiction and rules of which will be vested in the Committee.

11 RESIGNATIONS

- 11.1 Except for the jointly agreed promotion and relegation arrangement with the Hampshire Cricket League, no Member Club shall be entitled to become a member of an alternative League competition unless it has given notice in writing to the General Secretary by 1st April in the year preceding that in which it proposes to become a member of that alternative league competition.

12 DISCIPLINE

12.1 General

- 12.1.1 All disciplinary matters connected with the League or the conduct of matches played under the auspices of the League shall be dealt with in accordance with the England & Wales Cricket Board's Disciplinary Model Rules which, except as otherwise agreed by a General Meeting of the League shall be deemed to be incorporated within this Constitution and form part of the Rules and Playing Conditions of the League.

12.2 Fines

- 12.2.1 Subject to the provisions of the Model Disciplinary Rules, the following scale of fines shall apply:
- 12.3.1 Breach of Disciplinary Rules by a Club: Level 5.
- 12.3.2 Breach of Disciplinary Rules by a player: Level 3.
- 12.3.3 Failure by a Club to keep a fixture for reasons other than weather, or by order of the League: As determined and at the discretion of the Management Committee.
Any expenses incurred by the opposing Club shall be met by the offending Club.
- 12.3.4 Failure to be represented at a General Meeting: Level 3.

- 12.3.5 Failure to pay membership subscription by the due date: Level 3.
 - 12.3.6 Late start for reasons other than weather: Level 2.
 - 12.3.7 Failure to send a Result sheet, or to notify a match cancellation, to the Results Secretary on time: Level 3.
 - 12.3.7.1 Second failure for the same team in one season: Level 4.
 - 12.3.7.2 Third and subsequent failures: 5 points deduction for third failure and at the discretion of the Management Committee for further failures.
 - 12.3.8 Failure to complete a Play-Cricket submission fully and/or on time: Level 3.
 - 12.3.8.1 Second failure for the same team in one season: Level 4.
 - 12.3.8.2 Third and subsequent failures: 5 points deduction for third failure and at the discretion of the Management Committee for further failures.
 - 12.3.9 Failure to reply to League correspondence within specified times: Level 3.
 - 12.3.10 Failure to advise a proposed change of venue: Level 3.
 - 12.3.11 Failure to provide a Ground Report: Level 1.
 - 12.3.11.1 Second failure for the same team in one season: Level 2.
 - 12.3.11.2 Third and subsequent failures: 5 points deduction for third failure and at the discretion of the Management Committee for further failures.
 - 12.3.12 Failure to provide a report on Umpires: Level 1.
 - 12.3.12.1 Second failure for the same team in one season: Level 2.
 - 12.3.12.2 Third and subsequent failures: 5 points deduction for third failure and at the discretion of the Management Committee for further failures.
 - 12.3.13 Failure to notify the appointed Umpires of cancellation of a match: Level 3.
- 12.4 A fine shall be not more than the maximum amount prescribed by the following levels:-
Level 5 = £100, Level 4 = £60, Level 3 = £40, Level 2 = £30, Level 1 = £20.
- 12.5 The Management Committee may from time to time revise these figures.
- 12.6 Observance of penalties imposed by other bodies.
- 12.6.1 Suspensions imposed by other organisations affiliated to the Hampshire Cricket Board and to neighbouring County Boards and to any other ECB accredited Premier Leagues shall also apply to the League. Such organisations will also be notified of and invited to apply suspensions imposed by the League.
- 12.7 In line with the ECB Disciplinary Model Rules, Clause 6.1; a club or player has the right to appeal, which shall be submitted in writing to the General Secretary within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, together with an administration fee of £50.

13 CLUB INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

- 13.1 Member Clubs shall advise the General Secretary of all changes of Club Secretary and of Club information in the League Handbook, as soon as they occur. They shall also deal promptly with League correspondence.

14 WINDING UP

- 14.1 In the event of the League being wound up, a financial statement of accounts will be prepared and audited. If these accounts reveal a deficiency, every Member Club at the date of winding up and every Club which ceased to be a member within the year preceding the date of winding up shall contribute equally to clear

such deficiency. If a surplus is revealed, it shall be distributed in a manner to be decided by the Final General Meeting.

15 CHILD PROTECTION

- 15.1** The League will have due regard to the law on disability, discrimination and child protection and has adopted the ECB Child Protection policy “Safe Hands - Welfare of Young People in Cricket” and its successors.

16 CLUB CHARTER

- 16.1** All member clubs shall sign and adhere to the principles and behaviour defined in the CLUB CHARTER, a specimen of which is contained in this handbook for reference.
- Any Club, Player, Club Official or Club Member found to be in contravention of this Charter shall be subject to such penalty that the League Management Committee defines. In the event of a Club expulsion being defined, a General Meeting of ALL clubs will be convened to ratify the decision.
- Because of the very nature of any infringement of the Club Charter, a personal hearing will be initiated. The result of this hearing will be binding and published to aid transparency.

The following is a specimen of the Club Charter

“We, the undersigned officers of the above club, agree on behalf of that club and its members to the following important principles and behaviours relating to the Southern Premier Cricket League”.

The Club:

1. Understands and supports fully the League Constitution, Administrative Rules and Rules of Play.
 2. Understands that accreditation of Grounds and Facilities and of Youth Development is assessed and certified independently by the Hampshire Cricket Board, according to the standards set by the League.
 3. Understands the process and timetable for collecting and assessing the information required to ascertain the current accreditation status of all clubs.
 4. Accepts that failure to supply accurate information when requested could jeopardise the club’s current accreditation status.
 5. Accepts that the decisions of the independent assessors are final and that there will be no right of appeal.
 6. Understands that a review of facts only by the Hampshire Cricket Board may be requested, not later than 21 days following the Annual General Meeting of the League, in writing to the League Secretary.
 7. Undertakes not to publish through the media, including the Internet, derogatory comments about the League, its Officers and Committee, Umpires, Scorers, other Clubs or Players.
- (to be signed by Club Chairman, Secretary and Captain)

B: ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

1 LEAGUE POSITIONS

- 1.1 League positions will be based on the average number of points obtained by a team in completed matches. In all divisions, no points will be awarded to either team in a match which has been abandoned.
- 1.2 In the event of two or more teams having the same points average at the conclusion of the League programme, the higher position in the League shall be determined by the following criteria, in order, as necessary:
 - 1.2.1 the team winning the greater number of matches.
 - 1.2.2 the team with the greater number of ties.
 - 1.2.3 the team with the greater number of runs per over.
- 1.3 Averages shall be calculated to the precision necessary.

2 PROMOTION & RELEGATION

- 2.1 Between the Premier Division and Division 1:
The bottom team from the Premier Division shall be relegated to Division 1 and be replaced by the top team of that division, subject to that team holding a current overall accreditation grading of at least Silver with Gold potential.
- 2.2 Between Divisions 1 & 2:
The bottom two teams from Division 1 shall be relegated to Division 2 and be replaced by the top two teams of that division, subject to those teams holding a current overall accreditation grading of at least Bronze with Silver potential.
- 2.3 Between Division 2 & 3:
The bottom two teams from Division 2 shall be relegated to Division 3 and be replaced by the top two teams from Division 3.
- 2.4 Between Division 3 and the Hampshire Cricket League:
The bottom two teams in Division 3 shall be relegated to Hampshire Cricket League County Division 1 and be replaced by the top two teams in that division, subject to those teams holding a current overall accreditation grading of at least Bronze standard.
- 2.5 In the event of termination of a club's membership of the League in accordance with Article 4 of the Constitution, the number of relegated clubs may be reduced by a decision of the Annual General Meeting.
- 2.6 In the event of a promoted team not being eligible for membership of a Division, the Committee shall have sole jurisdiction over whether to accept the next eligible club from the division concerned or from the Hampshire Cricket League.

*Note: The Management Committee's policy will generally be as follows:
If the top team in Division 1 is not graded at least Silver with Gold potential, the second placed team (if accredited) will be promoted to the Premier Division*

instead. If neither of the top two is so accredited, there will be no relegation or promotion.

If either of the top two teams in Division 2 is not graded at least Bronze with Silver potential, the third placed team (if accredited) will be promoted to Division 1 instead. If neither of the top two is so accredited, only the third placed team (if accredited) will be promoted, with one team relegated. If none of the top three is so accredited, there will be no relegation or promotion.

Promotion and relegation between Divisions 2 and 3 shall be achieved simply by those occupying the two top and bottom positions.

If either of the top two teams in HCL County Division 1 is not graded at least Bronze, the third placed team (if accredited) will be promoted to Division 3 instead. If neither of the top two is so accredited, only the third placed team (if accredited) will be promoted, with one team relegated. If none of the top three is so accredited, there will be no relegation or promotion. No more than two teams in the Premier Division and three in Division 1, 2 and 3, will be relegated as a result of their League position or accreditation grading (see 8.2). Promotion and relegation in any other circumstances will be at the discretion of the Management Committee, whose decision will be final.

- 2.6 No club may have more than one team in a division. If necessary, to enforce this rule, the team of lower standing will be refused promotion, or relegated as necessary.
- 2.7 The accreditation grading referred to above shall be that which is current at the time of the General Meeting at which the promotion or relegation is approved.
- 2.8 Should a vacancy occur in any of the three Leagues, a team from a neighbouring League may be considered for entry into the Southern Premier League, subject to the approval of an AGM or EGM called in accordance with Clauses 5 and 6 of the Constitution. The level of entry of such a team shall be recommended by the League Management Committee, but shall be no higher than the Division in which the vacancy occurs.

3 NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS, ONLINE UMPIRES & GROUND DATA

- 3.1 **All Clubs are required to publish their scores and points through their Club's Play-Cricket site by 12 noon on the Sunday following the match.**

Note: The Play-Cricket website needs to be populated with all match data. This is both an ECB Accreditation requirement for funding and for League Registration Control. As much detail as possible should be entered for scores over 50, including the number of balls faced and boundaries.

- 3.1.1 The League will provide result sheets. They must be fully completed, be legible and then signed by both captains at the close of every match. **The home team** shall then fax or 'scan & E-mail' the result sheet to the Results Secretary, Stephen G Jones, at 01489 660044 or results@southernpremierleague.com as soon as possible after the match, and not later than **10.00pm on the day of the match**. Fax confirmation notices should be retained by the sender for verification purposes.

- 3.1.2 In the event of the match being abandoned / cancelled **BEFORE** the start of the match, the **HOME TEAM MUST notify the Results Secretary**, as soon as possible after the decision to abandon / cancel the match is made, and in any event not later than **10.00pm on the day of the match**.
- 3.1.3 In the event of the match being abandoned / cancelled **AFTER** the start of the match, the **HOME TEAM SHALL fully complete the result sheet** with the relevant details and fax or 'scan & E-mail' it to the Results Secretary, as soon as possible after the decision to abandon / cancel the match is made, and in any event not later than **10.00pm on the day of the match**.
- 3.1.4 Any club in breach of any part of the above Administration Rule 3.1 shall be liable to the following penalties (see also Constitution section 12.3):-

First offence - Level 3 fine

Second offence - Level 4 fine

Third offence - a deduction of 5 points. Any further offence - the penalty will be at the discretion of the Management Committee, whose decision shall be final.

3.2 All Captains are required to submit online forms (Ground & Umpires Reports), no later than 10.00pm on the Sunday following the match.

- 3.2.1 Any club in breach of any part of the above Administration Rule 3.2 shall be liable to the following penalties (see also Constitution section 12.3):-

First offence - Level 1 fine

Second offence - Level 2 fine

Third offence - a deduction of 5 points. Any further offence - the penalty will be at the discretion of the Management Committee, whose decision shall be final.

(see also section: 7.2 Inclement Weather)

4 ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

4.1 General Conditions

- 4.1.1 A player is entitled to play in a Southern Premier League match for the cricket section of the club of which he is a fully paid up member and is registered (See Clause 4.3.1). Category 1 players are reminded that Registration for an SPCL Club is permanent unless removed by their Club or transferred (Rule 4.3.2a), hence once registered a player may not play in the Southern Premier League, SPCL T20 Cup, Hampshire Cricket League, any other ECB accredited Premier League or a National Cup competition without a transfer. **However a player may play for another Club in the National Village Knockout.**

If a Member Club has any doubts as to the eligibility of a player, it should contact the Registration Secretary BEFORE the player takes part in a competitive match for the club.

- 4.1.2 **No player shall play for a member club while there is a debt owed to a previous club. Evidence must be available to prove such a debt. Either**

party shall have the option to request the Management Committee to conduct a hearing and/or investigation in relation to an outstanding debt. The decision reached by the Management Committee shall be final and binding.

4.1.3 **No payments shall be made to players for representing clubs in the Southern Premier Cricket League and/or T20 Cup.**

4.1.4 **All Registration and Transfer Responsibilities [NB formerly Rule 4.10.1]**

It is the total responsibility of the Club to ensure that any player they register is correctly registered and is free to sign having not played for any other club in a League or Cup competition during the current season in the Southern Premier Leagues, Hampshire Cricket League, any other ECB accredited Premier League or a National Cup competition (**excluding the National Village Championship**), see Rule 4.1, General Conditions, above. **Should it be found the player has been signed in contravention of Rule 4.1 or plays in a match contravening Rule 4.1, the offending team shall lose any points gained in matches in which the said player played, and not less than 10 points per game played.**

4.2 **Limitations**

After 31st July no club may play in a minor XI in the League, more than two players who have each played more than **six** games in a more senior Saturday XI of the club.

4.3 **Registration of players**

4.3.1 All Clubs in the Southern Premier Cricket League shall register all players as follows:-

Category 1 – Players Qualified to play for England under the current ECB Regulations or he has been resident in any of the qualifying countries for the immediately preceding four consecutive years*

Qualifying Countries - England, Wales, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.
***The player will only be treated as having been resident within a qualifying country for the relevant consecutive period if he has spent a minimum of 210 days in each year within those qualifying countries, for which purpose “year” shall mean year ending 31st March.**

Note: Players from Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are considered to be Overseas Players under this regulation.

Category 2 – Contracted players (see Rule 4.5)

Category 3 – Overseas Players (a cricketer who is not qualified to play for England under the current ECB Regulations or he has not been resident in any of the qualifying countries for the immediately preceding four consecutive years* - (see Clause 4.3.1)

Only one Category 3 Player may be registered to any one

member Club in any one season (see 4.4.2).

Category 3 – (Exempt) - Overseas players ordinarily resident in England who have been resident in one of the qualifying countries for a period of 18 consecutive months before the date of his request for registration, and he has not been out of these countries during that period for longer than 35 days consecutively nor 70 days in total.

Note: ***Category 3 (Exempt) registrations will not count towards the number of overseas players allowed by the League.***

4.3.2a Category 1 players registered on Play Cricket (see Clause 4.3.4) will remain permanently registered unless removed by their Club or transferred (See clause 4.8).

4.3.2b All Category 2; 3 and Category 3 (exempt) players will have their registrations removed following 30th September each year.

4.3.3 No Category 1, 2, 3 or 3 (exempt) player can play in the League until confirmation of that player's registration is authorised by the Registration Secretary. However, in an emergency a **Category 1 only** player can be registered on the day of the match, provided that both Umpires have countersigned the registration form as being fully completed **BEFORE** the start of the match. The Registration Secretary must receive the fully completed registration form **and the player registered on Play-Cricket before Wednesday 12 noon** following the Saturday of the match. Failure to comply will mean an automatic deduction of 5 points for the offending Team. Should it be subsequently found that any player registered was not free to register the player shall be assumed to have played illegally and the points deduction in section 4.1.4 above shall be enforced. **The form can be faxed, scanned & e-mailed, or hand delivered.**

4.3.4 **All Clubs will be required to use Play-Cricket for online player registration as directed by the Management Committee.**

Note 1. Clubs are able to download complete lists of registered players via Play-Cricket and are encouraged to do so.

Note 2. Clubs should regularly check to ensure that their player database at club level is clean and accurate.

4.4 Players from Overseas

4.4.1 A foreign national (a cricketer who is not qualified to play for England under the current ECB Regulations or who has not ordinarily been a resident* within England, Wales, the Channel Isles or the Isle of Man (see Clause 4.3.1), may play for a member club, **but must be registered as a Category 3 player.**

Note: Players from Scotland, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland are considered Overseas Players under this regulation.

4.4.2 Clubs may register only one overseas player during the season.

Such a player shall have previously attained a Certified Coaching Certificate from his country of origin or a UKCC2 coaching qualification and have evidence of a current and relevant Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check or equivalent. Should the coaching certificate from his country not be accepted by the ECB as equivalent to the UKCC2, he may coach only with supervision of a suitably qualified coach.

The currency question regarding a DBS or equivalent check is for the Club to prove. It is usual for the Registration Secretary to receive a document that describes DBS clearance or its equivalent, as being authorised within the preceding three months.

Proof of the player's coaching qualification certificate and DBS check or equivalent, along with a scanned copy of the player's visa or passport and a signed "ECB non-ordinarily resident player registration form", must be lodged with the Registration Secretary. All necessary documentation must be provided prior to the player's electronic registration application being made via the Play-Cricket website.

Overseas players are expected to play a full and an active part in club junior activities.

4.5 Contracted Players (this includes Development Contracts)

- 4.5.1 No Contract player (**Qualified to play for England**) who received emoluments as a cricketer from a First Class County in the preceding 12 months or who has played First Class cricket overseas in the 12 months prior to the start of the League season, may play for a member club unless he is registered with the League as a **Category 2 player**. Only one such player may be registered by each Club during the playing season unless he qualifies via Clause 4.5.2 or 4.5.3. However a young Contract or Development Contract Player (**Qualified to play for England**) under the age of 24 at the commencement of the season who loses his Contract within the previous 12 months may be registered as a **Category 1**

An Overseas Player whether he has or has not received emoluments or played First Class Cricket in the 12 months prior to the start of the League season shall be registered as a **Category 3 only**. Only one such player may be registered by each Club during the playing season.

Note: For limitations & playing restriction see Clauses 4.5.1a; 4.5.1b; 4.5.2; 4.5.3 & 4.5.4

- 4.5.1a **In the Premier Division only**, a Contracted Player (Category 2), **who is qualified to play for England**, may play in the same match as an Overseas Player (Category 3) and Contracted Player (Players) who qualify under Clause 4.5.3a.
- 4.5.1b **In Divisions 1, 2 & 3**, a Contracted Player (Category 2), may **not** play in the same match as an Overseas Player unless the said Contracted Player qualifies under Clause 4.5.2 or 4.5.3.

4.5.2 **In Divisions 1, 2 & 3**, a contracted young player in further education during that season may play for a Club in the League provided that:-
The individual concerned is the product of the Hampshire Development system or the Youth Section of any Southern Premier League Club that is situated outside Hampshire and no more than one such player can play in the same game as either a full Professional or Overseas Player.

4.5.3a **In the Premier Division only**, a Contracted Player or First Class Professional who has been a full member and played for a member club for the three seasons immediately prior to obtaining a contract, (the three years may include the time a young player called up by and plays for the Hampshire Academy providing, during that period that player was registered by his home Club), may continue to play for that club at the same time as an Overseas Player (Category 3) and a Contracted player as in Clause 4.5.1a. Should a member club have two such Contracted Players, those Contracted Players may continue to play for that member club in the same match as **either** an Overseas Player (Category 3) **or** a Contracted player as in Clause 4.5.1a .

Should a member club have three or more such Contracted Players, those Contracted Players may continue to play for that member club in the same match. But not at the same time as an Overseas Player (See Clause 4.5.4a)

4.5.3b **In Divisions 1, 2 & 3**, a Contracted Player or First Class Professional who has been a full member and played for a member club for the three seasons immediately prior to obtaining a contract, (the three years may include the time a young player called up by and plays for the Hampshire Academy providing, during that period that player was registered by his home Club) may continue to play for that club at the same time as an Overseas Player (Category 3).

Should a member club have two or more such Contracted Players, those Contracted Players may continue to play for that member club in the same match but only one Contracted Player may play at the same time as an Overseas Player.

4.5.4a **In the Premier Division only**, a member club with three or more Contracted Players qualified to play for that club under Rule 4.5.3 shall not register another Contracted Player or First Class Professional covered by Rules 4.5.1

4.5.4b **In Divisions 1, 2 & 3**, a member club with two or more Contracted Players qualified to play for that club under Rule 4.5.3 shall not register another Contracted or First Class Professional Player or Contracted Young Player covered by Rules 4.5.1 and 4.5.2

4.5.5 Should any player obtain a contract after the start of a season, he may continue to play for the member club for which he is registered, for that season, without penalty to that club.

4.6 All Category 2 and 3 players must be registered no later than 1st July. (See 4.3.2b above)

Category 3 (exempt) players may be registered at any time during the season providing there is no Transfer involved. (See 4.3.2b above & 4.8.7 below)

Category 1 players may be registered at any time during the season providing there is no Transfer involved. (See 4.3.2a above & 4.8.7 below)

4.7 No transfers will be permitted for Category 2 or 3 players.

4.8 Transfers

4.8.1 **All Category 1 players now registered on Play Cricket are considered permanently registered. Therefore to change Club during or out of season will require a Transfer. This includes transfers to any ECB Accredited League or any Club within the Hampshire Pyramid.**

4.8.2 Transfers may be arranged using either of the following methods:

4.8.2a An email from the present club's chair or secretary, confirming the present club is happy to release the player, no monies or playing kit etc. owed to the present club; see Clause 4.8.4 below **OR**

4.8.2b An approved transfer form, available from the registration secretary, to be completed and signed by the player concerned and signed by chair or secretary of both clubs. This may be posted or scanned and emailed to the registration secretary.

4.8.3 On **confirmation of receipt by the Registration Secretary** of an email or completed transfer form from the present club, the player ceases to be eligible to play in a league or cup competition for his present club and **immediately** becomes eligible to play for his new club – providing he is not cup-tied (see clause 3.2 T20 cup rules)

4.8.4 If the player's present club objects to the transfer and refuses to sign section 2 of the Transfer Request Form, the reasons must be stated separately. Normally the only reasonable objection is that the player has unpaid debts or other unfulfilled obligations to that club.

No player shall be permitted a transfer at ANY time or be permitted to play for another club within the Pyramid should he have an outstanding debt with his present club.

4.8.5 The transfer of Category 1 or Category 3 (exempt) players will not be permitted within the SPCL after 1st July. The transfer window will reopen at the end of each playing season.

4.8.6 The transfer of any player to a SPCL Club will not be permitted after midnight 1st July in any season.

4.8.7 No transfers will be permitted for Category 2 or 3 players.

4.9 Special Regulations for the Hampshire CCC Academy

4.9.1 All players shall be registered in accordance with Clause 4.3 above. The Academy shall not be permitted an Overseas Player.

- 4.9.2 Before the commencement of the season Hampshire CCC will register a squad comprising a maximum of 14 Academy or prospective Academy players from the Hampshire pyramid, who shall be registered a minimum of 14 days prior to the first match of the season.
- 4.9.3 Full Contract or Development Contract players Cat 2 shall be registered in accordance with Clause 4.3.
- 4.9.4 All Contract and Development Contract players Cat 2 shall be registered no later than midnight 1st July.
- 4.9.5 Any additional Prospective Academy players not registered prior to 14 days before the first match of the season that may be required during the season would not come from clubs in the Hampshire Pyramid unless mutually agreed between Hampshire CCC and the clubs concerned. No Player will be approached without the prior consent of the player's home* club and would not play against his home* club without agreement of the home* club.
- 4.9.6 The Limitation of Full Contract and Development Contract Players playing in any one game shall be as follows:
1. No more than one Full Contract player over 24[†] years old and one Full Contract player under 24[†] years old, plus two Development Contract players. Or
 2. Two Full Contract players under 24[†] years old, plus two Development Contract players. Or
 3. One Full Contract player over 24[†] years old, plus three Development Contract players. Or
 4. One Full Contract player under 24[†] years old, plus three Development Contract players. Or
 5. Four Development Contract players
- Note † 24 years old on 1st May of the current season.
- 4.9.7 Any Academy or prospective Academy player not chosen in the team 12 for any match will be available to play for his home* club for which he must be registered, hence he will have dual registration. This Clause and Clause 4.9.8 shall apply to any County Academy.
**Home club being the club to which he was playing at the time of joining the Academy*
- 4.9.8 Should an Academy or prospective Academy player wish to have dual registration with a SPCL Club other than his home* club he may do so providing he has registered for that Club prior to midnight 1st July of the season and where necessary obtained the required transfer.
- 4.9.9 All full or development contract players may register with another club in the League in accordance with Rules 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 and play for that club when not required by their County or Academy
- 4.9.10 No Contract or Academy player shall be paid to play in a League match.

5 SCORERS

- 5.1 Each team shall supply a competent scorer, who preferably shall have passed the Level 2 Scorer Membership of the ECB ACO. The scorer shall not in normal circumstances (see 5.2 below) be a player in the match. Regular failure to comply with this provision shall result in a penalty at the discretion of the Management Committee.
- 5.2 If no scorer is available then the Captain will nominate one of his team players to undertake the scoring. No substitute shall be allowed for this player who may however, resume his place in the nominated side, with any resultant penalties under the Laws, if a scorer is subsequently provided.

6 DISPUTES & COMPLAINTS

- 6.1 Disputes and complaints shall be made in writing to the General Secretary within seven days of the incident or occurrence to which they refer. The General Secretary shall refer these matters to the Committee and the decision of the Committee shall be final.

7 CANCELLED FIXTURES

- 7.1 Any member Club failing to honour a fixture for reasons other than weather shall advise the reasons in writing to the General Secretary as early as possible, and not later than the Monday after the fixture was due. If the opponent club wishes to claim any expenses in regard to the cancelled match, it shall lodge its claim with the General Secretary within seven days of the fixture date.

In the event of a member club having more than one Saturday team and being unable to fulfil all its fixtures on any day, the playing of Southern Premier League matches shall take precedence. Any club failing to comply with the above shall be subject to a penalty laid down in the Constitution (see Article 12 of the Constitution).

7.2 INCLEMENT WEATHER – Postponed & Abandoned Matches

No match is to be postponed due to adverse ground conditions without a prior ground inspection by a Member of the South Coast Panel.

The decision to abandon any game shall be the responsibility of the umpire(s). However, the result sheet must still be provided and Play-Cricket updated as directed (see clause 3.1 above).

Online forms (see clause 3.2 above) are not required in an Abandoned match.

- 7.3 Where a club withdraws from all its fixtures, whether before or during the relevant season, the Management Committee shall take such action as it considers necessary in order to best serve the needs of the club concerned, the League, other Leagues and club cricket in general.

8 GROUND STANDARDS & MINIMUM FACILITIES CRITERIA

- 8.1 The minimum facilities requirements for ground and youth development shall be specified by the Committee and certified by the Hampshire Cricket Board. The requirements shall vary by division, with basic criteria applying to Division 3 and incrementally more stringent criteria applying to Division 1 and the Premier Division respectively. Variation of these criteria shall be at the sole discretion of the Committee. Any such variation shall not normally take place following commencement of the playing season.
- 8.2 For the removal of doubt, should the accreditation of a side fall below the minimum level required to compete in a particular division, the side shall be relegated to the division or League appropriate to its accreditation. (see also Note to Clause 2.5)

9 CLOTHING

- 9.1 Cricket Wear. Other than for Premier Division Limited Over White Ball Cricket, where all teams shall wear coloured clothing and coloured pads, all clothing shall be white. The current ECB Regulations on advertising insignia shall apply to all items of clothing and equipment worn or used on the field.

Teams may have named and or numbered shirts providing all eleven players are similarly attired. Names will be surnames only and numbers shall be 2 digits maximum.

10 REFRESHMENTS

- 10.1 The Home side shall provide lunches and teas (as appropriate) without cost to the visiting side.

C: RULES OF PLAY

Time Games – Premier Division only

1 LAWS

- 1.1 Except as stated in section 1.2 and otherwise provided for hereinafter, the Marylebone Cricket Club code of the Laws of Cricket (2017 Code), together with any subsequent amendments, shall apply in all matches.
- 1.2 For the 2018 League season, the new Law 42 (Players' Conduct) will not apply. Player discipline will be treated separately and as covered elsewhere in this handbook.

2 DURATION

- 2.1 All matches shall be played on the day designated by the Management Committee.
- 2.2 In a full day's play a minimum of 120 overs shall be bowled (see Note to 3.1). No overs shall be deducted for a change of innings.

- 2.3 The minimum over rate to be achieved by both teams is 17 overs an hour (for penalties, see 13.4).
- 2.4 The side batting first shall not bat for more than 64 overs in a minimum 120 over game.

Note If the first innings ends in the middle of an over, that over shall not count as one of the minimum 120 overs to be bowled in the day.

Delayed starts and interruptions

- 2.5 In the event of the start being delayed or time being lost after the scheduled start of the match due to inclement weather or other cause, the minimum number of overs to be played in the day shall be reduced by one for every full 3.5 minutes lost.
- 2.6 The side batting first shall not bat for more than the number of overs available multiplied by 64 and divided by 120. The result of this calculation shall be rounded down to the nearest over, e.g. for a minimum 114 overs match:
First innings overs = $114 \times 64 \div 120 = 60.8$, therefore maximum = 60 overs.

Loss of two hours or more playing time

- 2.7 Should the match be delayed or interrupted for a total of 2 hours of playing time or more, but there is time for a minimum of 50 overs to be bowled, a new straight win/loss Limited Over Match shall be played. The Umpires shall calculate the remaining overs to be played at 3.5 minutes per over of the time remaining from the anticipated start of the new match and 7.00pm, reduced by 20 minutes for tea between innings and 10 minutes for two drinks intervals, one per innings. The drinks and tea intervals may be forfeited subject to the agreement of both Captains. If this agreement is made, 10 minutes shall be allowed between innings. The number of overs left to the nearest even number shall be shared equally between both sides and the following shall apply:

- 2.7.1 A new toss shall take place.
- 2.7.2 The Captain of the fielding side shall have the choice of two new (red) balls. The home team shall supply a second new ball as required. Each innings will be played with one new (red) ball.
- 2.7.3 The players originally named shall play - there will be no change of players.
- 2.7.4 **Limited Over Clauses 7.1 & 7.2 including Power Plays shall apply throughout**, and the interpretation of the Wide Ball and the bowling of fast short-pitched balls shall apply as in the Rules of Play for Limited Over Cricket.

Note: This Clause will require the 30-yard circle (Diagram 1) and additional offside wide guideline (Diagram 2) being set up prior to the start of all Time Games.

- 2.7.5a In a 50 overs match, bowlers will be limited to 12 overs per bowler. In a match limited to less than 50 overs at the start of the new match, the overs per bowler

shall be pro rata to the lower number of overs calculated.

Examples: 42 Over Match – Limit = $42/50 \times 12 = 10.08 = 10$ overs per bowler.

36 Over Match – Limit = $36/50 \times 12 = 8.64 = 8$ overs per bowler.

- 2.7.5b In the event of a reduction of overs after the commencement of the new match, the maximum number of overs allowed per bowler shall remain as at the start of the new match.
- 2.7.6 Should time be lost due to inclement weather or other cause after the commencement of the Limited Over game, then the number of overs to be played shall be reduced by one over for every full 3.5 minutes lost. **Limited Overs Regulation Clause 2.6 (ignoring first 30 minutes of stoppage time) shall not apply.** The team batting first shall complete its initial allotted number of overs and the number of overs received by the team batting second shall be reduced. Should this result in less than 25 overs being available to the side batting second, the game shall be abandoned.
- 2.7.7 The Umpires shall be the sole judges of the fitness of the ground, weather and light for play.
- 2.7.8 The tea interval shall be taken between innings.
- 2.7.9 Declarations are not permitted.
- 2.7.10 RESULT - This shall be as **section 11** within the Rules of play for Limited Overs Cricket.

3 HOURS OF PLAY AND INTERVALS

- 3.1 Scheduled hours of play shall be **11.00am - 7.00pm** (or until the allotted overs are completed, whichever be the later).

*Note: Laws 12.6 and 12.7 (Last Hour) shall not apply. However, if at **6.00pm** 16 overs or less remain to be bowled, the Umpires shall indicate that play shall continue until a minimum of a further 17 overs have been bowled or until **7.00pm**, whichever is the later, provided a result has not been reached before.*

- 3.2 Lunch - **1.15pm-1.45pm**

Note: Law 11.5 (Luncheon Interval) will apply, except that, where an innings concludes or there is a break in play within 10 minutes of the scheduled lunch interval, the interval will commence at that time and play will recommence 30 minutes after leaving the field.

- 3.3 Tea - **4.20pm-4.40pm**

Note: Laws 11.4, 11.6 and 11.7 and 11.9 (Intervals) shall apply.

- 3.4 Drinks Interval. Law 11.8.4 (No drinks interval in the last hour) shall apply.

- 3.5 Should the game be reduced so that a Limited Over match is played (see 2.7), the tea interval of 20 minutes shall be taken between innings.
- 3.6 In a `Time Game` only following an interruption, the game shall be abandoned, with the agreement of both Captains, if the team batting second will not have the opportunity of batting for at least 25 overs, unless they have previously scored more runs than the team batting first or have been bowled out. However, should either Captain wish to play the remaining overs, the match shall continue until the number of overs remaining have been bowled, or 7.00pm, whichever is the later, unless a result is obtained before. The decision to continue shall only be reconsidered should weather or light intervene.

Umpires shall be the sole judge of weather, light and ground conditions.

The game shall be considered abandoned only if the overs remaining could not be completed due to weather, light or ground conditions.

4 UMPIRES AND CAPTAINS

- 4.1 Umpires shall be appointed in accordance with arrangements approved by the Management Committee. They shall report to the ground 45 minutes prior to the start of play at the latest.
- 4.2 Before the toss for innings, each Captain shall nominate his players who may not thereafter be changed without the consent of the opposing Captain.
- 4.3 The current ECB Fast Bowling Directives will apply to all matches. Captains, Team Managers and Umpires shall be responsible for ensuring that the Directives are followed. The Captain of each side shall inform the Umpires, prior to the commencement of the match, of the names and relevant age group of any player under the age of 19 on 31st August of the previous year.
- 4.4 For the purposes of the Directives, the Luncheon Interval of 30 minutes shall be considered to be 40 minutes.
- 4.5 The current ECB guidance on the wearing of helmets by players up to the age of 18 shall be followed.

5 THE BALL

- 5.1 All matches shall be played with identical new cricket balls nominated and supplied to the Member Clubs by the League, with two new balls being used in each match and with one new ball being taken at the start of each innings. Each Club shall provide a ball with which they will field.

6 COVERS

- 6.1 The whole pitch shall be fully covered as required to keep the pitch, and as far as possible bowlers' run-ups, dry both during the match and in the preceding days, as appropriate.

7 DECLARATIONS

7.1 The batting side may declare at any time, except in a Limited Over game (see 2.7.9).

8 WIDE BALL

8.1 Law 22 (Wide Ball) shall apply, except that the “one day wide” interpretation (see Rules of Play for Limited Over Cricket) shall be used for bowlers whom Umpires consider to be bowling down the leg side as a negative tactic. The Umpires shall notify the bowler and the fielding Captain of his intention to invoke the “one day wide”.

9 THE BOWLING OF FAST SHORT PITCHED BALLS (THE BOUNCER)

9.1 In addition to Law 41.6 (Bowling of Dangerous and Unfair Short Pitched Deliveries) the following shall apply:

9.1.1 A bowler shall be limited to two fast, short pitched balls per over (the Umpire at the bowler’s end shall make it clear to both the bowler and the batsman when a short-pitched ball has been bowled).

9.1.2 A fast, short pitched ball is defined as a ball which passes or would have passed above the shoulder of the batsman standing upright at the crease. This ruling shall apply even though the striker has made contact with the ball with his bat, person, or equipment. Note: A ball passing above head height being called No Ball by the Umpire, Law 21.10, shall count as ‘one for the over’ in the context of this regulation. (Law 41.6.1 and 41.6.2 shall also apply, in full).

9.1.3 If this limit is exceeded the Umpire at the bowler’s end shall call and signal ‘No Ball’ on each occasion. If a bowler exceeds his limit of short-pitched deliveries in an over, not only must the Umpire call “No Ball” but he must invoke the procedures of caution, final warning and reporting as set out in Law 41.6.3, 41.6.4 and 41.6.5.

10 OVERS PER BOWLER

10.1 In addition to compliance with the ECB Fast Bowling Directives (see 4.3) no bowler shall bowl more than 18 overs in any innings. In the event of a bowler starting but being unable to complete an over, another eligible bowler will bowl the remainder of the over provided the replacement bowler does not exceed the number of overs permitted. This part over shall count as a whole over against the allocation of both the replacement and injured bowler.

11 RESULT - TIME GAME

11.1 Law 16 shall apply.

12 POINTS - TIME GAME

12.1 **Result**

Win	15 points
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Tie	8 points
Loss	0 points
Draw (team with higher run rate)	8 points
Draw (team with lower run rate)	3 points

The run rate shall be calculated for each team by dividing the number of runs scored by the number of overs received, any incomplete over being treated as the relevant fraction of an over (excluding any wides or no balls) calculated to two decimal points.

NB; 1 ball = 0.17; 2 = 0.33; 3 = 0.50; 4 = 0.67; 5 = 0.83.

If the team batting first is bowled out the run rate for that team shall be calculated by dividing the number of runs scored by 50% of the total number of overs scheduled for the match at the end of the innings of the team batting first, (i.e. for a 120 over game, divide by 60 overs), **or** the number of overs actually received, whichever is the greater. The run rate of the team batting second shall be the runs scored divided by the number of overs received including any relevant fractions as noted above.

In a drawn match, if the run rates are level to 2 decimal places, then both sides shall be awarded 8 points, and bonus points earned shall be retained.

12.2 Bonus points shall be awarded as follows:

12.2.1 Bowling

2 - 3 wickets taken	1 point
4 - 5 wickets taken	2 points
6 - 7 wickets taken	3 points
8 - 9 wickets taken	4 points
10 wickets taken	5 points

Note i) Should the batting side play with less than eleven players due to either a player or players being absent, or leaving the field through illness, injury or other cause so that his/their innings cannot be completed and the remainder of the side are dismissed before the last ball of the day, then the batting side shall be considered 'all out' and the bowling side shall receive maximum bowling points.

Note ii) See Law 25.4.2 (Batsman leaving the field) "Retired - Not Out"

12.2.2 Batting

150 - 174 runs scored	1 point
175 - 199 runs scored	2 points
200 - 224 runs scored	3 points
225 - 249 runs scored	4 points
250 or more runs scored	5 points

For the team batting first, batting bonus points are only available in the first 60 overs of their innings.

12.2.3 The team batting second and winning will receive the following additional batting points (up to a maximum combined total of 5 batting points):

Winning by 9 or 10 wickets	5 points
Winning by 7 or 8 wickets	4 points
Winning by 5 or 6 wickets	3 points
Winning by 3 or 4 wickets	2 points
Winning by 1 or 2 wickets	1 point

12.3 The maximum points a team can be awarded in any match shall be 25.

12.4 In an innings lasting 34 overs or more, the minimum over rate to be achieved by either side shall be 17 overs per hour. The following penalty point deduction shall apply if this is not achieved:

Fewer than 17 and at least 16 overs per hour	1 penalty point
Fewer than 16 and at least 15 overs per hour	2 penalty points
Fewer than 15 and at least 14 overs per hour	4 penalty points
Fewer than 14 overs per hour	6 penalty points

12.4.1 The Umpires shall consider any time allowance to the fielding side for lost ball, injuries, obvious time wasting by the batting side or other reasonable cause and shall confirm this to the fielding Captain and the batsman at the wicket at the time of delay. 5 minutes shall be allowed for each drinks interval, plus 1.5 minutes for each wicket that falls in an innings. Time allowance will not be subject to retrospective negotiation. The Umpires shall notify both scorers of any points to be deducted and the Umpires decision shall be final. The points shall be deducted from the total points awarded. The maximum prior to deduction shall be 25 (see section 12.3).

13 RESULT AND POINTS - LIMITED OVER GAME (see 2.7, 2.7.10)

13.1 The result and points awarded shall be as in the Rules of Play for Limited Over Cricket.

14 ABANDONED MATCH (see 2.7, 2.7.6)

14.1 No points will be awarded to either team in an abandoned match

D: RULES OF PLAY

Limited Over Cricket – All Divisions

1 LAWS

1.1 Except as stated in section 1.2 and otherwise provided for hereinafter, the Marylebone Cricket Club code of the Laws of Cricket (2017 Code), together with any subsequent amendments, shall apply in all matches.

1.2 For the 2018 League season, the new Law 42 (Players' Conduct) will not apply. Player discipline will be treated separately and as covered elsewhere in this handbook.

2 DURATION

- 2.1 All matches shall be played on the day designated by the Management Committee and commence at **12.30pm**.
- 2.2 There will be a tea interval of 30 minutes between innings, although this may be varied at the discretion and agreement of both Captains in the case of an interrupted match.
- 2.3 Each match shall consist of a maximum of 50 overs per innings save where time is lost after the scheduled (12.30pm) commencement due to inclement weather or other unavoidable cause, when the number of overs shall be reduced as hereinafter provided.
- 2.4 Unless bowled out earlier, the team batting first shall bat for the full number of overs allotted prior to the commencement of the match; declarations are not permitted. Should the side batting first be dismissed before the overs to which it is entitled have been bowled, the team batting second shall be entitled to bat for 50 overs or as reduced due to inclement weather or other cause.
- 2.5 Should the match start later than the scheduled (12.30pm) commencement time due to inclement weather or other cause, the Umpires shall reduce the number of overs per team by one over for every completed 7 minutes of time lost. However, see Clause 2.6 below.
- 2.6 **When calculating the overs lost the Umpires shall ignore the first 30 minutes of stoppage time.**
- 2.7.1 In the event of time being lost after the commencement of the match due to inclement weather or other cause during the innings of the team batting first, then the team batting first will receive 50 overs or as reduced prior to the start of the match.
- 2.7.2 The team batting second will then have their maximum number of overs reduced by one over for each completed 3.5 minutes of play lost during the first innings or prior to the commencement of the second innings.
- 2.7.3 Should there be more than one interruption to play during the first innings, the times lost shall be aggregated and a single calculation performed to determine the overs lost to the team batting second prior to the commencement of their innings.
- 2.7.4 However, should the team batting first be **bowled out** in less than their allotted overs, then the number of overs lost due to inclement weather or other causes shall be reduced by the number of full overs not used by the team batting first. The number of overs the team batting second receives shall not be more than their allocation at the start of the match.
- 2.8 Should time be lost due to inclement weather or other cause during the innings of the team batting second, then the number of overs which that team would have been entitled to receive shall be reduced by one over for each completed 3.5 minutes of playing time lost. Should there be more than one interruption to play the calculation for each interruption shall be considered separately

- 2.9 Drinks intervals shall be agreed with the Umpires by the fielding Captain prior to the start of each innings. This time will not count as time lost.
- 2.10 Should the loss of time result in less than 25 overs being available to the team batting second, the game shall be abandoned.
- 2.11 The Umpires shall be the sole judges of the fitness of the ground, weather and light for play.

3 UMPIRES AND CAPTAINS

- 3.1 Umpires shall be appointed in accordance with arrangements approved by the Management Committee. They shall report to the ground 45 minutes prior to the start of play at the latest.
- 3.2 Before the toss for innings the Captains shall nominate their players who may not thereafter be changed without the consent of the opposing Captain.
- 3.3 The current ECB Fast Bowling Directives will apply to all matches. Captains, team managers and Umpires shall be responsible for ensuring the Directives are followed. The Captain of each side shall inform the Umpires, prior to the commencement of the match, of the names and relevant age group of any player under the age of 19 on 31st August of the previous year.
- 3.4 The current ECB guidance on the wearing of helmets by players up to the age of 18 shall be followed.

4 THE BALL

- 4.1 All matches shall be played with identical new cricket balls nominated and supplied to the Member Clubs by the League, with two new balls being used in each match and with one new ball being taken at the start of each innings. Each Club shall provide a ball with which they will field. **In the Premier Division only**, white balls supplied by the League shall be used.

5 COVERS

- 5.1 **PREMIER AND DIVISION 1** - The whole pitch shall be fully covered as required to keep the pitch, and as far as possible bowlers' run ups, dry both during the match and in the preceding days as appropriate.
- 5.2 **DIVISION 2 & 3** - Where covers are available, the whole pitch shall be fully covered as required to keep the pitch, and as far as possible bowlers run ups, dry both during the match and in preceding days as appropriate.

6 NUMBER OF OVERS PER BOWLER

- 6.1 In a 50 overs match, no bowler may bowl more than 10 overs in an innings. In a match where the start has been delayed and the innings of both teams are reduced prior to the commencement of the match to less than 50 overs, no bowler may bowl more than one fifth of the total overs allowed. Where the total overs are not divisible by 5, an additional over shall be allowed to the minimum

number of bowlers necessary to make up the balance e.g. in a 43 over match, 3 bowlers may bowl 9 overs and no other more than 8 overs.

- 6.2 In the event of a reduction in overs after the commencement of the match, the maximum number of overs allowed per bowler shall remain as at the start of the match.
- 6.3 In the event of a bowler being incapacitated or suspended and being unable to complete an over, the remaining balls will be bowled by another bowler providing that bowler did not bowl the previous over or part thereof. Such part of an over shall count as a full over only insofar as each bowler's limit is concerned.
- 6.4 The ECB Fast Bowling Directives may affect the above over limitations (see 3.3).

7 LAW 28 – THE FIELDER

- 7.1 Law 28 shall apply subject to the following:

Law 28.1 – Protective equipment

The following shall apply in addition to Law 28.1:

The exchanging of protective equipment between members of the fielding side on the field shall be permitted provided that the umpires do not consider that it constitutes a waste of playing time.

7.2 RESTRICTION ON THE PLACEMENT OF FIELDSMEN

7.2.1 At the instant of delivery, there may not be more than 5 fieldsmen on the leg side.

7.2.2 In addition to the restriction contained in clause 7.2.1 above, further fielding restrictions shall apply to certain overs in each innings. The nature of such fielding restrictions and the overs during which they shall apply are set out in the following paragraphs.

7.2.3 The following fielding restrictions shall apply:

Two semi-circles shall be drawn on the field of play. The semi-circles shall have as their centre the middle stump at either end of the pitch. The radius of each of the semi-circles shall be 30 yards (27.43 metres). The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines drawn on the field (see Diagram 1). The fielding restriction areas should be marked by continuous painted white lines or 'dots' at 5-yard (4.57 metres) intervals, each 'dot' to be covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches (18 cm) in diameter.

At the instant of delivery:

- a) Powerplay 1 – no more than two (2) fieldsmen shall be permitted outside this fielding restriction area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 1 to 10 inclusive.
- b) Powerplay 2 – no more than four (4) fieldsmen shall be permitted outside this fielding restriction area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 11 to 40 inclusive
- c) Powerplay 3 – no more than five (5) fieldsmen shall be permitted outside this fielding restriction area. In an innings of 50 overs, these are overs 41 to 50 inclusive

7.2.4 In circumstances when the number of overs of the batting team is reduced, the number of overs within each phase of the innings shall be reduced in accordance with the table below. For the sake of clarity, it should be noted that the table shall apply to both the 1st and 2nd innings of the match.

Innings Duration	Powerplay 1 (Max Out 2)	Powerplay 2 (Max Out 4)	Powerplay 3 (Max Out 5)
25	5	15	5
26	5	16	5
27	6	16	5
28	6	17	5
29	6	17	6
30	6	18	6
31	6	19	6
32	7	19	6
33	7	20	6
34	7	20	7
35	7	21	7
36	7	22	7
37	8	22	7
38	8	23	7
39	8	23	8
40	8	24	8
41	8	25	8
42	9	25	8
43	9	26	8
44	9	26	9
45	9	27	9
46	9	28	9
47	10	28	9
48	10	29	9
49	10	29	10

7.2.5 If play is interrupted during the second innings and the table in 7.2.4 applies, the Powerplay takes immediate effect. For the avoidance of doubt this applies even if the interruption has occurred mid-over.

Illustrations of 7.2.5

A 50 over second innings is interrupted after 8.3 overs and reduced to 32 overs. The new phases are 7+19+6. Therefore, the Powerplay 2 (middle phase) fielding restrictions take immediate effect when play resumes and last for a further 17.3 overs. The Powerplay 3 (final phase) begins after 26 overs have been bowled.

A 40 over second innings is interrupted after 18.5 overs and reduced to 25 overs. The new phases are 5+15+5. When play resumes, the Powerplay 3 (final phase) fielding restrictions begin after 20 overs have been bowled.

7.2.6 At the commencement of the Powerplay 2 (middle phase) and Powerplay 3 (final phase) of an innings, the umpire shall signal such commencement to the scorers by rotating his arm in a large circle.

7.2.7 In the event of an infringement of any of the above restrictions, the square leg Umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball'.

7.2.8 Where possible the scoreboard shall indicate the current Powerplay in progress.

8 WIDE BALL

- 8.1 In addition to Law 22, Umpires are instructed to apply a very strict and consistent interpretation in regard to this Law in order to prevent negative bowling wide of the wicket.

The following directive should be adopted as a guide to umpires regarding leg side wides:

Deliveries passing down the leg side behind the body of the striker (not touching the batsman's bat or any part of his body or clothing) and wide of the leg stump, whether he moves or not, shall be interpreted as negative bowling and 'Wide Ball' shall be called by the bowlers' end umpire.

*Should a batsman attempt a switch hit or reverse sweep, for the purposes of considering **WIDE BALL ONLY, both sides of the wicket shall be considered as the off side.***

A penalty of one run for a Wide shall be scored. This penalty shall stand in addition to any other runs which are scored or awarded.

8.2 ADDITIONAL PITCH MARKINGS

The following shall apply in addition to Law 7:

As a guideline to the umpires for the calling of wides on the off side, the crease markings detailed in Diagram 2 shall be marked in white at each end of the pitch

9 FREE HIT AFTER NO BALL

The delivery following a no ball called (all modes of no ball with the exception of a short-pitched delivery that passes or would have passed clearly over head-height of the striker standing upright at the popping crease) shall be a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.

If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery (any kind of no ball or a wide ball) then the next delivery will become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it.

For any free hit, the striker can be dismissed only under the circumstances that apply for a no ball, even if the delivery for the free hit is called wide ball.

Field changes are not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker or the No Ball was the result of a field restriction breach in which case the field may be changed to the extent of correcting the breach. However, in all

circumstances, any fielder within 15 yards of the striker may retreat to a position on the same line no more than 15 yards from the striker.

The Umpires will signal a free hit by (after the normal No Ball signal) extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

10 THE BOWLING OF FAST SHORT PITCHED BALLS (THE BOUNCER)

10.1 In addition to Law 41.6 (Bowling of Dangerous and Unfair Short Pitched Deliveries) the following shall apply:-

10.1.1 A bowler shall be limited to two fast, short pitched balls per over (the Umpire at the bowler's end shall make it clear to both the bowler and the batsman when a short-pitched ball has been bowled).

10.1.2 A fast, short pitched ball is defined as a ball which passes or would have passed above the shoulder of the batsman standing upright at the crease. This ruling shall apply even though the striker has made contact with the ball with his bat, person, or equipment.

Note: A ball passing above head height being called No Ball by the Umpire, Law 21.10, shall count as 'one for the over' in the context of this regulation. (Law 41.6.1 and 41.6.2 shall also apply, in full).

10.1.3 If this limit is exceeded the Umpire at the bowler's end shall call and signal 'No Ball' on each occasion. If a bowler exceeds his limit of short-pitched deliveries in an over, not only must the Umpire call "No Ball" but he must invoke the procedures of caution, final warning and reporting as set out in Law 41.6.3, 41.6.4 and 41.6.5.

11 RESULT

11.1 A result can only be achieved if both teams have had the opportunity of batting for at least 25 overs, unless the team batting second has scored more runs than its opponents or has achieved its target score as hereinafter defined.

11.2 Save as hereinafter provided a match shall be won by the team which has scored the most runs.

11.3 Where a team batting second does not have the opportunity of batting the same number of overs as the team batting first due to time being lost after the commencement of the match, the result shall be determined as follows:-

11.3.1 The '2nd innings run rate' shall be determined immediately prior to the start of the innings of the team batting second using the following formula:

$$(100 + \{d \times 1.2\}) \times (1\text{st innings run rate}) \div 100$$

Where d = difference in overs to be played at the commencement of the innings of the team batting second.

(1st innings run rate) = (1st innings score) / (number of overs allocated to the team batting first)

Note: i) The run rate of both the first and second innings shall be calculated to two decimal places.

Note: ii) The run rate shall be agreed by both scorers and umpires prior to the start of Innings and once agreed shall be final.

Note: iii) Once the run rate for the second innings has been calculated it shall remain as the run rate for that innings even though a later interruption may reduce the number of overs the team batting second can receive.

Note: iv) If the second innings commences with the same number of overs allocated to the team batting first the run rate shall remain as the first innings run rate even though a later interruption may reduce the number of overs the team batting second can receive.

11.3.2 The run rate shall be multiplied by the lowest reduced number of overs which the team batting second shall be entitled to receive after making allowance for time lost after the commencement of the match. The resulting figure shall be the “**target score**”.

11.3.3 If the score of team batting second surpasses the “target score” at any time prior to the conclusion of its innings then the match shall be won by the team batting second but if bowled out earlier the match shall be won by the team batting first.

11.3.4 A match shall be tied if the scores are equal at the end of the match. In a match interrupted after the commencement, where the revised target score involves a fraction of a run, then the final scores cannot be equal and the result cannot be a tie.

EXAMPLE OF REDUCED OVER RATE CALCULATION						
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1 st innings Runs scored	Overs allotted at start of match	Run Rate = $A \div B$ (to 2 decimal places)	Overs allocated to side batting second at commencement of second innings	d = Difference in overs (B - D)	d × 1.2	Run rate for team batting second = $(100 + F) \times C \div 100$
221	50	4.42	42	8	9.6	4.84
<p>Target Score = Overs allocated to side batting second x G (Example above Target score = $42 \times 4.84 = 203.28 = 204$ to win) Overs reduced again after start of second innings: New Target score = Revised number overs allocated to side batting second x G (Example further reduction after start of 2nd innings of 4 overs New Target score = $38 \times 4.84 = 183.92 = 184$ to win)</p>						

12 POINTS - OVERS GAME

12.1 Result

Win 12 points

Tie	6 points
Loss	0 points
No result	0 points – and shall not count as a match played in determining the points average

12.2 Bonus points shall be awarded as follows:

12.2.1 Bowling

2 - 3 wickets taken	1 point
4 - 5 wickets taken	2 points
6 - 7 wickets taken	3 points
8 - 9 wickets taken	4 points
10 wickets taken	5 points

Note i) Should the batting side play with less than eleven players due to either a player or players being absent, or leaving the field through illness, injury or other cause so that his/their innings cannot be completed and the remainder of the side are dismissed before the last ball of the day, then the batting side shall be considered 'all out' and the bowling side shall receive maximum bowling points.

Note ii) See Law 25.4 (Batsman leaving the field) - "retired - not out"

Note iii) Bowling bonus points in either innings will only be available in the first 2 hours 55 minutes for a 50 over game after the Umpires have taken the drinks interval and extended delays for injury etc. into account. Where either innings is reduced, the 2 hours 55 minutes shall be reduced by 3 minutes for every over less than 50 (i.e. innings reduced to 35 overs time available - 2 hours 10 minutes) the time shall change every time the number of overs to be bowled changes. The umpires shall inform the Captain of the fielding side and the Batsman at the wicket, together with the Scorers of each change when they take the field. (Umpires decision to be final) 5 mins shall be allowed for each drinks interval.

12.2.2 Batting

125 - 149 runs scored	1 point
150 - 174 runs scored	2 points
175 - 199 runs scored	3 points
200 - 224 runs scored	4 points
225 or more runs scored	5 points

12.2.3 In matches where the over limit is reduced, there shall be a lessening of the targets to achieve batting bonus points (see reduced target table).

12.2.4 Additional Batting Points

The team batting second and winning will receive the following additional batting points (up to a maximum combined total of 5 batting points):

Winning by 9 or 10 wickets	5 points
Winning by 7 or 8 wickets	4 points
Winning by 5 or 6 wickets	3 points
Winning by 3 or 4 wickets	2 points
Winning by 1 or 2 wickets	1 point

12.3 The maximum points a team can be awarded in any match shall be 22.

Bonus Points - Reduced Target Table

The following table is referred to in section 12.2.3 of the Rules for Limited Over Cricket.

Overs Available	1 st Point Runs Scored	2 nd Point Runs Scored	3 rd Point Runs Scored	4 th Point Runs Scored	5 th Point Runs Scored
50	125	150	175	200	225
49	123	147	172	196	221
48	120	144	168	192	216
47	118	141	165	188	212
46	115	138	161	184	207
45	113	135	158	180	203
44	110	132	154	176	198
43	108	129	151	172	194
42	105	126	147	168	189
41	103	123	144	164	185
40	100	120	140	160	180
39	98	117	137	156	176
38	95	114	133	152	171
37	93	111	130	148	167
36	90	108	126	144	162
35	88	105	123	140	158
34	85	102	119	136	153
33	83	99	116	132	149
32	80	96	112	128	144
31	78	93	109	124	140
30	75	90	105	120	135
29	73	87	102	116	131
28	70	84	98	112	126
27	68	81	95	108	122
26	65	78	91	104	117
25	63	75	88	100	113