



THE BEST WESTERN SHRUBBERY HOTEL
SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE
PRE SEASON CIRCULAR FOR 2015
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BS 8599 – 1st Aid Kits

BS 8599-1 Compliant Statutory First Aid Kits

These re-designed kits are compliant with the latest British standard BS 8599-1:2011 and contain many items that were previously omitted from most first aid kits. The BHTA (British Healthcare Trade Association) removed the previous standard in December 2011, making older kits obsolete.

- Conforming to the latest British standard ([BS 8599-1:2011](#))
 - Re-designed kits with a broader range of contents
 - Complete with "First Aid in an Emergency" booklet
 - Kits available in three sizes:
 - Small - Suitable for up to 25 persons in low risk environments
 - Medium - Suitable for up to 50 persons in low risk environments
 - Large - Suitable for up to 100 persons in low risk environments
- Kits are fully stocked and ready for any emergency

NEW RULES FOR 2015

The Ball. For all divisions, home sides must provide two new balls, one to be used for each innings.

All Matches start at 1.30 pm. A full match of 90 overs cannot start after 2.00 pm. and no match can start after 4.00 pm.

Player Transfers

Players may be transferred on receipt by the League's Results Secretary of a fully completed 'Transfer Form' which must be completed by both clubs. This form must be signed by club secretaries or chairmen or treasurers or league representatives and the player concerned. The transfer must be in the hands of the League's Transfers Representative by 12 noon on any match day to be eligible for that match. No transfers will be accepted after the first Saturday in August each year. Note. Transfer forms are available on the League's website and there is also a copy at the end of this circular on pages 14/15. This also applies to any player transferring from the SCL to any club in the WEPL

Each team is responsible for putting the names of all players, with ages if under 19 at the previous August 31st, on the Team Card that was supplied at the start of the season and hand it to the umpire, or in his absence, the opposing captain prior to the match commencing.

Problems with inputting and verifying. If club representatives have a problem either inputting or verifying a result through a computer problem or other similar problem then they **MUST** contact the monitor immediately, by telephone, who is responsible for their division. Failure to contact the monitor in this way will result in a fine of £10 and 6 points being levied. Each monitor will also be responsible for the processing and issuing of fines related to the failure of a club to input or verify results on time. Club submissions/appeals should be made to the divisional monitor. **If the details displayed by the home team are incorrect, then the appropriate monitor must be advised that the verifier is unable to verify until such time as the details have been corrected. The verifier MUST also contact the home team inputter to agree the correction**

REPEAT of RULE for REFUND of MONIES for a CANCELLED GAME

Any match cancelled after 8.00 pm by the visiting team on the day preceding the match for reasons other than the weather/pitch conditions shall be fined £30 in addition to the fines levied in Rule 5 (b) (iv), (v). This sum will be passed to the home team to help defray expenses.

Order of Cancellation Process.

Cancellations BEFORE 8.00 pm on preceding day

i) **Away team** must contact home team by telephone before 8.00 pm **AND** both teams must also notify appropriate monitor by telephone/email before 8.00 pm to confirm cancellation has taken place within the time limit. The communication with the monitor will be time & date stamped by monitor (see page 5 for monitor's contact details). The person cancelling must leave their name. This will avoid a fine.

Cancellations AFTER 8.00 pm on preceding day

ii) Cancellations by **away team** after the 8.00 pm deadline **must also be reported** to the monitor, **who will date/time stamp communication.** The monitor will confirm with the Treasurer and the club at fault will be fined £30 on a later invoice. The home club will receive the £30 payment from the Treasurer at the end of the season.

Note. The reclaim forms are available on the League's website.

1. The Handbooks. The handbooks went to print with all clubs having returned their Club Details sheet. However, I do know that there are already some changes to this information and there may be some inaccuracies from the Form submitted by the club. Clubs must update the Club Details Information by using their unique username and password on the website. Each club will be supplied with handbooks in the ratio of:- 10 for 1 team; 15 for 2 teams 20 for 3 teams. Please ensure that each of your captains has a copy. Additional copies are available from the League Secretary at £1 each + (£1.50 p&p if not collected at the EGM), while stocks last. Clubs wanting more copies should advise me, Ray Hancock, so that they can be available at the EGM.

NOTE. You should check the details of your Club in the new handbook and advise Ray Hancock, The Hon. Secretary, Somerset Cricket League, The Jays, Moss Lane, Ruishton, Taunton (Tel/Fax. 01823 444779 or E-mail raysomcricket@btconnect.com) of any changes immediately. These amendments should also be corrected on your club page on the website – BY YOU!.

2. Club Unique Username and Password. All clubs have usernames and passwords that were devised for each club to access their pages on the system. These codes **must be used** to access the club page and keep the club **personnel details and email addresses** up to date. All clubs need to ensure that they have accessed their site between **January 1st and May 1st 2015** to check that their records are correct and up-date them accordingly. The Hon. Secretary and the Monitors have access to the whole system and can see the exact time and date that a club page was last opened for updating and corrections made! Any club failing to check their club details, and bring them up to date as necessary will be fined £30 after the first check (**just after May 1**) and £30 on subsequent checks after a warning has been issued. The Chairman and Management Committee need to see that the electronic administrative system is working properly before the season commences on **May 2**.

3. Rule Changes for 2015. There were a number of adjustments to the rules. The relevant ones are shown on page 2 of this document.

4. Players.

a. Registration of Players. The data base of registered players from Season 2014 has been deleted so all clubs **MUST** register **ALL** players **including junior players** on the appropriate club pages on the website – see “Player Registration (all clubs)” in the Section 5 b that follows in this document. **Note.** Children in Years 7 and below **will again not be** allowed to play in the Somerset Cricket League in the 2015 Season. **The exception to this ruling is :- U12 county players** (minimum age 11) can play open age cricket with parental consent. The latest guidance is to be found in :- <http://static.ecb.co.uk/files/ecb-guidelines-for-junior-players-in-open-age-group-cricket-12678.pdf>. See also note 4c. below.

No player shall play for more than one club in the Somerset Cricket League or any other club in the West of England Premier League (WEPL) pyramid during the season without being correctly transferred as shown in Handbook Rule 7(b). A transferred player’s record (batting /bowling) will remain with his first club, but he will also appear in his second club’s statistics.

b. Contract Players. In the case of a **contract player** written permission **MUST** be obtained from the Hon. Secretary. The Club should give all relevant details of the contract player on Club Headed Paper and this request should be sent to the Hon. Secretary at least 7 days before they intend to play their first match for the club. This player may not play for the club until written authority has been received from the Hon. Secretary. This will enable the Hon. Secretary to check out the registration with the appropriate members of the Management Committee. **Note:- A contract player is a player with a professional contract for any club outside the League. This category of player may only play with the permission of the Management Committee.**

c. Young Players. Minimum age of players. A directive from the ECB has banned Year 7 children and below playing in ‘All Age Cricket’ again in 2015. As a result, children who were under the age of 12 at August 31st of the previous year will **not** be permitted to play in the SCL during the current season. ie. Year 7 age group. *Note. This will allow those children who are in Year 8 or upwards in the senior/middle school in the current season to play in the SCL.* However, any

player in the Under 13 age group – Year 8 (ie. under the age of 13 at August 31st of the previous year) must have explicit written consent from a parent or guardian before participating in league cricket. Clubs must put consent procedures in place to ensure that a letter is obtained for players in this age group before they play their first game for the club.

- d. Young Players (Under 18s) in the Somerset Cricket League.** The Management Committee of the Somerset Cricket League has ruled that in ALL league matches any person under the age of 18 must wear a helmet with a faceguard or grille when batting or standing up to the wicket as wicket keeper. The Management Committee will not permit under 18s to play in League matches without an appropriate helmet, even with the written consent of parents.
- e. Transfers of players.** Players may be transferred on receipt by the League’s Results Secretary of a fully completed ‘**Transfer Form**’ which must be completed by both clubs. This form must be signed by club secretaries or chairmen or treasurers or league representatives **and the player concerned**. The transfer must be in the hands of the League’s Transfers Representative by 12 noon on any match day to be eligible for that match. No transfers will be accepted after the first Saturday in August each year. **Note. Transfer forms are available on the League’s website and there is also a copy at the end of this circular on pages 14/15. This also applies to any player transferring from the SCL to any club in the WEPL**

f. Overseas Players.

(d) i) Overseas Players shall not be permitted to play in the Somerset Cricket League unless specified in the sections below.

ii) An ‘Overseas Player’ * is defined as an overseas national who is not a holder of a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport. Any person who falls into this category and wishes to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League may ask the Management Committee for permission to play at least 7 days before his first game and no later than 31st May. (Form OP 2 applies – obtainable from the Hon. Secretary). **Clubs will only be given permission for this kind of player if he is already resident in the UK on a permanent basis and his reason for being here is not primarily cricket. The player must be able to show that he has resided permanently in the UK for the SIX months prior to the season commencing.**

iii) Any player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport shall be deemed a ‘home player’. A player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (or Eire) Birth Certificate shall be declared a ‘home’ player. **Note.** To avoid confusion any overseas national who also holds a current UK passport should forward a copy of the passport page to the Hon. Secretary for record purposes.

* For the purposes of the Somerset Cricket League Rules, an ‘Overseas Player’ is defined in No. ii) above.

In the special case of an overseas player seeking to play for a club he (and his club) **must complete Form OP2 2015** and also give a separate detailed explanation of the reasons for breaching the Rule 7 (d) i). - **Note the comments from Form OP2.** *Permission will only be given if the club can give a satisfactory explanation to its reasons for the need to breach the SCL Rule 7(d) i).*

iv) *Clubs will only be given permission for this additional player if he is resident in the UK on a permanent basis and his reason for being here is **not primarily cricket**. Players who have come to the Club (and this Country) initially to play cricket and have stayed on afterwards will not be considered for approval under Form OP2. An example of approval may be someone who has moved to the club’s local community for employment/marital/family reasons. However, even this category will require a detailed explanation of the reasons for approval within the SCL Rules regarding ‘Overseas Players’* **The player must be able to show that he has resided permanently in the UK for the SIX months prior to the season commencing.**

*The detailed explanation to seek approval for registration purposes under Form OP2 should be made on club headed paper and should include as much information as is available to the club administration to allow the Management Sub-Committee of the Somerset Cricket League to have a full picture of the reasons to grant special approval under Rule 7 (d) iii). **Note.** Any person who falls into this category and wishes to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League may ask the*

Management Committee for permission to play at least 7 days before his first game. (Form OP 2 applies – obtainable from the Hon. Secretary).

Failure to provide the correct information or provide misleading information or incomplete information could seriously affect the status of the club and involvement in any matches by 'illegal' players could result in stringent penalties being imposed by the Committee.

5. Results.

- a. Notification.** The result of all games must be input on SCL Website. This will include the 'Don Crouch' score from **BOTH** teams. The home team is responsible for entering the result and full details of the scorecard of the match on the SCL website using the prescribed procedure before **midnight on the day following the match**. The away team must verify this result and the full scorecard details before midnight on Monday following the match (most matches are played on Saturdays, but in the case of Sunday games the verification must take place before midnight on Tuesday) using the prescribed procedure. Any team that fails to input/verify the result by the due time will be fined the sum of £10.00 and 6 points on each occasion.
- b. Problems with inputting and verifying.** If club representatives have a problem either inputting or verifying a result through a computer problem or other similar problem then they **MUST** contact the monitor immediately, by telephone, who is responsible for their division. Failure to contact the monitor in this way will result in a fine of £10 and 6 points being levied. Each monitor will also be responsible for the processing and issuing of fines related to the failure of a club to input or verify results on time. Club submissions/appeals should be made to the divisional monitor. If the details displayed by the home team are incorrect, then the appropriate monitor must be advised that the verifier is unable to verify until such time as the details have been corrected. The verifier **MUST** also contact the home team inputter to agree the correction. Failure to contact, Amanda, Toby or David in this way will result in a fine of **£s and points being levied**.

Divisions 1 – 4 = Amanda Counsell 01278 785324

Divisions 5 – 7 = Toby Strang 01458 272191

Divisions 8SE & NE; 9SE & NW = David Derrick 01823 660687

c. ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2015 are as follows:

Amanda Counsell (amandacounsell@yahoo.co.uk) will be the monitor and contact for Divisions 1 – 4 inclusive

Toby Strang (toby@strang35.freeserve.co.uk) will be the monitor and contact for Divisions 5 – 7 inclusive

David Derrick (david230275@googlemail.com) will be the monitor and contact for the two division 8s and the two division 9s

Each monitor will also be responsible for the processing and issuing of fines related to the failure of a club to input or verify results on time. Club submissions/appeals should be made to the divisional monitor.

- d. Don Crouch Trophy 2015.** As in past seasons, both teams are required to record a score for the Don Crouch mark in 2015. The club captain/club representative must give a score for each of the five criteria out of 20 points. These scores must be recorded on the WEBSITE. **Note.** As last year, **both teams MUST** record their marks for the opposing team on the website at the inputting/verifying stages. The mark will be completely secret and will not be seen by anyone accessing the results etc. Only the Hon. Secretary and monitors will have access to these facts. Defaulting clubs will be fined £10 per failure. *Rule 5. (k)*. This will also enable the Committee to monitor that the criteria for 'sportsmanship' is being upheld and this information could also be used in cases of disciplinary complaints.

Note: Don Crouch Marks will not be visible anywhere or at any time to another team.

Don Crouch Marking System

1. Consider whether the team captain, was proactive in controlling his team on and off the field, was setting a positive example on how to behave and was respectful of umpiring decisions.
2. When marking your opponents conduct, consider how teams behave both on and off the field, looking at their language, actions and the respect shown towards your team.
3. Did all individuals in your opponent's team behave appropriately? Consider their language, actions and the respect shown towards your team.
4. Were your opponents respectful of umpire's decisions? Did they excessively challenge decisions or put unnecessary pressure on umpires?
5. **Please use a starting Baseline of 80%, this should be given if the match was played in the manner that you would expect**

Captains Conduct	Teams Off Field Conduct	Teams On Field Conduct	Acceptance of Umpires Decisions	Individuals Conduct
/20	/20	/20	/20	/20

Important: Please note if you score a team less than 55 out of 100 you must email Matt Counsell- matthew.counsell@somersetcricketboard.org with a brief summary of the reasons for the low score so the league can take appropriate action accordingly.

- e **Results input** Please note that **ALL PLAYERS** must be listed on the scorecard on the website - even if some players have not batted. All players who were under 19 on 31st August 2014 must have their exact age at 31.8.14 marked **on the Team Card that was supplied at the start of the season** and hand it to the umpire, or in his absence, the opposing captain prior to the match commencing. Any player over 19 on 31.8.14 need not have age disclosed! The clubs must retain the details of all league matches in their scorebooks for the remainder of the season.
- f. **Full Service of Results and League Tables.** These will be available for all interested persons and the local papers by midnight on Sundays (the day after the match). Press Reporters will need to download these statistics from the League website (www.somerset-cricket.com). It will always give the most up to date information.

6. Ties, Promotion and Relegation

- a. **If more than one team ties on points at the end of Season.** Rule 1 THE LEAGUE (g) In the case of two or more clubs tying for promotion or relegation the club with the most wins will be declared the 'highest', should they still be equal then the club with the least losses will be declared the 'highest', should they still be equal then the club with the greatest number of runs per wicket lost throughout the season will be declared the 'highest'.
- b. **Promotion/Relegation** shall be on a two up/two down basis, except that promotion within Divisions 8 – (S/E and N/E) shall be two teams per division and relegation from Division 7 to Division 8 shall be four teams, put into the most appropriate regional division, subject to amendments by the Management Committee; any such amendments to be notified to all member clubs as necessary. Positions are to be determined by the aggregate number of points obtained during the season. A club's 2nd XI (or lower level team) must be in a lower division than its 1st XI (or higher level team), and promotion will be denied to the 2nd XI (or lower level team) or relegation enforced on the 2nd XI (or lower level team) to ensure this so that a club shall have no more than one team in any one division. The team that wins the 1st Division will be promoted initially to the Somerset Division of WEPL and at this point in time there will **still be only one promoted team** at the end of the Season.
Note. Rule 1. (c), (d), (f) applies

7. The Procedure for Inputting/verifying Results & Scorecards

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ON-LINE SUBMISSION OF RESULTS & SCORECARD

From the League web site menu **CLICK** on 'Club Details' & using your pre-designated username and password log into your Club Update Page.

PLAYER REGISTRATION (ALL CLUBS).

All players should be registered before a match. ('Late additions' must be added immediately after the match or correct input of the Scorecard is not possible.

On Club Update Page **CLICK** on 'Register a new player'. **INPUT ONE initial and surname.**

If the player is under 19 years of age **TICK** the box and **INPUT** the date of birth as indicated. **CLICK 'Add'** to add more players or **CLICK 'Forms Menu'** to return to Club Update Page.

To correct an error in a registered player's details **CLICK 'Update Player Details'**.

After making a correction **CLICK** the 'U' button next to the player being updated.

When finished, **CLICK** on the 'Forms Menu' link to return to Club Update Page.

RESULTS AND SCORECARD SUBMISSION (HOME TEAM)

DEADLINE MIDNIGHT ON THE DAY AFTER THE MATCH (Usually Sunday, but will be Monday for Sunday matches).

RESULTS SUBMISSION (Care in Correctly Keying Data Will Save You Time On Corrections Later)

On Club Update Page **CLICK** either 'Group A Results & Stats Maintenance' or 'Group B Results & Stats Maintenance' as applicable. **NOTE** that - Group A = Divs. 1 – 6; Group B = Divs. 7 – 10

Results Maintenance Page

The top section lists your Home matches for entering the match details and the bottom section lists your away matches for verifying the data input by the home team.

CLICK on the 'Results Update' button next to the relevant match date.

INPUT the score, wickets and points for your team and **CLICK** the appropriate radio button indicating Win, Lose, Draw, Tie or Cancelled. **REPEAT** the process for the away team.

INPUT Opposition's Don Crouch Trophy marks by **CLICKING** the relevant radio buttons.

Note: Don Crouch Marks will not be visible anywhere or at any time to another team.

'Result not verified' will continue to be displayed until verified by the Away team.

CLICK the 'Update Record' button.

Your data will now be available to view on the main web site both on the results page and the table pages. You can always return to the page to correct any mistakes.

Cancelled Matches – Weather/Pitch Conditions

Result **MUST STILL** be entered **AND** verified. **INPUT** 12 Points for both teams.

CLICK 'Cancelled' radio button for both teams. **INPUT** Don Crouch Trophy marks 'Good' **MUST** be **SELECTED** in ALL 5 radio button options. **NO SCORECARD INPUT IS REQUIRED.**

Cancelled Matches – For Reasons Other Than Weather/Pitch Conditions.

The result **MUST STILL** be entered **AND** verified. **INPUT** 30 points for the non-offending team and minus 30 (-30) for the team that cancelled. **CLICK 'Cancelled'** radio button for both teams.

Input Don Crouch Trophy marks as below:

For the non-offending team 'Good' **MUST** be **SELECTED** in **ALL** 5 radio buttons.

For the team that cancelled 'Non-Acceptable' **MUST** be **SELECTED** in **ALL** 5 radio buttons.

NO SCORECARD INPUT IS REQUIRED

SCORECARD SUBMISSION (Care In Correctly Keying Data Will Save You Time On Corrections Later).

From Club Update Page **CLICK** either **Group A or B Results Maintenance** as applicable.

Note. Group A = Divs. 1 – 6; Group B = Divs. 7 – 10.

The scorecard section is divided into 4 columns. The first 'Add' is where you input new data, and the other 3 'Updates' are where you can return later to make any corrections.

CLICK the 'Add' button next to the relevant match date to enter the **Score Card Update Page**. **The Home Team Batting Card is listed on the left and the Away Team on the right.**

Click the top Home 'Select batsman' (Opening batsman) and from the resulting drop down list of players (alphabetical order by surname) **CLICK** the correct name to input. Repeat this procedure for each batting position taking care over players with the same or similar surnames.

INPUT each batsman's runs and **CLICK** one box Out, Not Out or D.N.B. Repeat this procedure for the Away Team. If a team has played with less than 11 players leave bottom position(s) blank.

PLAYER NOT ON DROP DOWN LIST. For omissions on your Home Team list you MUST go to the Player Registration Page and input that player's details in order to properly complete your team's Scorecard. Failure to do this will incur a fine. For omissions on the Away Team list leave that position blank but **STILL** input the runs and check the radio button Out, Not Out or D.N.B. as though the name was there. **Click** the 'Insert Record' button when complete.

Batting statistics are now updated on the main web site.

YOU ARE NOW TAKEN TO THE 'EXTRAS UPDATE' PAGE.

INPUT the total extras for each team and **CLICK** the 'Insert Record' button.

YOU ARE NOW TAKEN TO THE BOWLING STATS. PAGE.

INPUT this section using the same procedure as for the Batting scorecard.

In the overs box you may use a decimal point to record the number of balls in incomplete overs.

CLICK on the 'Insert Records' button to return to the Results Maintenance page.

When complete, if you need to check your data you can return to Results Maintenance and click the relevant 'Update' button next to the appropriate match. If you receive an error indication this may be due to a slow Internet connection. Return to Club Update page and try again.

If you make a change in the Update page **CLICK** the 'U' button next to the appropriate record.

The Score Card can now be viewed / printed by clicking on the icon on the right of the results page on the main web site.

* * * * *

RESULT AND SCORECARD VERIFICATION (AWAY TEAM)

DEADLINE MIDNIGHT MONDAY AFTER MATCH (Usually Monday, but will be Tuesday for Sunday matches).

Result verification. From Club Update Page **CLICK** either **Group A or B Results Maintenance** as applicable. **Note. Group A = Divs. 1 – 6; Group B = Divs. 7 – 10.**

CLICK on the 'Verify Results' button next to the appropriate match date.

Check all details are correct. **(If not, contact the home team for corrections).**

When correct **TICK** the 'Click To Verify' Box. **INPUT** Opposition's Don Crouch Trophy marks.

CANCELLED MATCHES: See Results Submission above for both the correct points and the stipulated Don Crouch Trophy marks. **CLICK** the 'Update Record' button to complete.

'Result verified' will now be displayed on the home team's results update page.

Scorecard verification. From Club Update Page **CLICK** either **Group A or B Results Maintenance** as applicable. **Note. Group A = Divs. 1 – 6; Group B = Divs. 7 – 10.**

CLICK on the 'Verify Score Card' button next to the appropriate match date. Check that the

SCORES details are correct. **(If not, contact the home team for corrections).** If a player's name is missing from your team's scorecard you probably need to update your Registrations. Failure to do this will incur a fine. Late registrations will not update a current scorecard.

When correct **TICK** the 'Verify Score Card' box. **CLICK** the 'Update Record' button.

8. The Restructure of WEPL & SCL

Preamble.

1. At the end of the 2015 season, the WEPL Board will make the promotions and relegations in the same way that it has done in previous seasons. (Note. At this point at the start of the 2015 Season it is not possible to 'guess at' which teams will remain in the WEPL and which will return to feeder leagues.
2. However, at the end of the 2015 season, any 1st XI team in Premier 1 & 2 can guarantee WEPL membership in 2016. However, as only two teams will be relegated from Tier 3, and there are four feeder leagues to receive them, two feeder leagues will get a team while two won't!
3. At the end of the 2015 season most 1st XI teams in tier 4 of WEPL will remain in WEPL 2016, but some that finish at the bottom of Bristol, Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wilts divisions will return to their feeder league.
4. The top FOUR 2nd XIs from Premier 1 (2nd XI Comp.) will remain in the WEPL structure in the appropriate new Tier 3 division (ie Bristol or Somerset or Gloucester or Wiltshire).
5. Currently, there are 80 teams in the 1st XI structure of the WEPL. In 2016, these 80 x 1st XI teams will be reduced to 66 teams due to the change of the WEPL format and the retention of 4 x 2nd XIs.
6. As a result of No. 5 above, 14 x 1st XIs currently in the Tier 4 of WEPL will be returned to their feeder leagues. This averages out at 3½ teams per feeder league. So each feeder league can anticipate anything from 2 – 5 of these teams returning dependent upon the geographical factor.
7. Added to this number of 1st XIs, three of the four feeder leagues (not Somerset) will get back 10 x 2nd XI teams from Tier 4 of the defunct WEPL 2nd XI competition. It is their problem to cope with these teams. Fortunately, Somerset teams were never involved in Tier 4 of the 2nd XI competition of WEPL. The exercise of integration of 2nd XIs into the linear SCL was carried out a few years ago and these teams currently sit in SCL divisions between Div. 3 to Div. 7.
8. The total number of 2nd XIs to be returned from Tiers 1, 2 & 3 of the WEPL 2nd XI competition will be 36 (ie 40 teams less the 4 teams retained in the new structure). On this basis, each feeder league can expect about 9 2nd XIs, but this will clearly depend on the geographical make up, particularly from Premier 1 & 2.

The Somerset Scenario.

9. We anticipate that we will receive back 3 or 4 x 1st XIs and 10 x 2nd XIs. (Note. Andy's survey showed that Bath, Midsomer Norton & Lansdown have decided to play in the B & D. This is not surprising for travelling and time constraints.
10. Currently, the SCL has 11 divisions comprising 10 teams in each (in theory, but a few less in reality) as there are only 107 teams signed up for the 2015 season.
11. The SCL will put any 'relegated 1st XI team from WEPL' into the top SCL division.
12. The SCL will put any 're-allocated 2nd XI team from:-
 - a) WEPL' Prem. 1 (2nd XI comp.) into SCL Div. 1
 - b) WEPL' Prem. 2 (2nd XI comp.) into SCL Div. 2
 - c) WEPL' Tier 3 (2nd XI comp.) into SCL Div. 3
 - d) WEPL' Tier 4 (2nd XI comp.) into SCL Div. 3
13. The final decision relating to 12.a), b), c), d) will be made later when a whole raft of other factors are known and taken into account. The SCL Management Committee will make this decision in the best interest of the teams concerned and the league as a whole.
14. These additions will inevitably mean that throughout the Somerset Cricket League more teams than usual will be relegated, some will be promoted only to find that they finish up in the same numerical division and some may seem to go even two divisions lower. However, hopefully every team will be playing alongside teams of a similar standard.
15. The SCL Management Committee will make these decisions (points 11 & 12 above) without reference to the WEPL or other feeder leagues' strategies at the end of the 2015 season.
16. The outcome of these movements will make the SCL a league of approximately 120 teams.

17. The SCL Management Committee will publish this document on March 11 as agreed by the working group.
18. The SCL Management Committee will give these details to its member clubs both in writing and through discussion at the EGM on April 13.
19. The message that the SCL will be giving to its membership is:-
 - a) It cannot foresee the exact number of 1st and 2nd XIs that will join the SCL for the 2016 season, but it is likely to be about 13.
 - b) The SCL Management Committee will follow the criteria set out above to the best of its ability and in good faith. However, the complexities of promotion and relegation are such that too many permutations exist for the SCL to be able to guarantee placements for 2016 until all issues from the 2015 season have been finalised.
 - c) Many teams will be placed in a lower numerical division after the re-structure.
 - d) As there is uncertainty about the number of “new arrivals”, every team should ‘play its heart out’ to finish as high as possible in its appropriate division!

9 Laws of the Game.

- a. **A Guide to the Common Laws of Cricket.** You will find this set of advice in the 2015 Handbook. **We recommend that all captains and club umpires read these pages.**
- b. **No Balls and Wides.** a) No Ball - Any run(s) scored from a ‘no ball’ will be added to the single run awarded for the ‘no ball’. eg. A boundary scored from a ‘no ball’ will score a total of 5 runs. b) Wide – Any run(s) made from a ‘wide’ will be added to the single run awarded for the ‘wide’. eg. Two runs made when the wicket keeper misses the ‘wide’ will score a total of 3 runs.
- c. **New Law.** The umpire must call and signal ‘No Ball’ if a bowler, who in his final delivery stride, knocks one or both bails from the stumps with his leg or arm. The batting side will be awarded one run and there will be an additional ball in the over. **If the bowler does not release the ball, the umpire will call "dead ball."**
- d. **The Fast Bowling Directives of the ECB covering players in the Under 19 age group and younger.** The Management Committee of the Somerset Cricket League requires that Club Committees ensure that their captains are made aware of this directive. The ECB fast bowling directives are set out below.

Under these directives, which came into effect at the start of the 2011 season, bowlers at under-16 and under-17 level were permitted to bowl an extra over per spell, but those in the under-18. The fast bowling directives are designed to raise awareness of the need to nurture and protect young fast bowlers through their formative years. Research has shown that fast bowlers are by far the most likely players to be missing playing and training time due to injury. Fast bowling directives (based on 31st Aug last season)

Age	max overs per spell	max overs per day
Up to 13	5	10
U14-U15	6	12
U16,U17,U18,U19.	7	12

Under 18 spin bowlers can bowl their full quota of overs.

For these purposes a fast bowler should be defined as a bowler to whom a wicket keeper in the same age group would in normal circumstances stand back to take the ball

Having completed a spell the bowler cannot bowl again, from either end, until an equivalent number of overs to the length of his spell have been bowled from the same end. Interruption in play shall reduce this requirement by one over at each end for every 7 minutes of interruption.

Captains, Team Managers and Umpires are required to ensure that these directives are followed at all times.

e. **Bouncers, Beamers and No Balls.** It was agreed by the EGM in April '06 that guidance to the use of high pitched balls should be adopted by the Somerset Cricket League. This code was successfully used for the 2006 - 14 seasons and it will continue to operate for this season. The code reads as follows:-

A ball that passes the batsman, standing in a normal upright batting stance at the crease, above waist height without pitching must be called 'No Ball' at the first instance. See further details in the Handbook, page 40 under the section 'No Ball'.

A ball that pitches and then passes the batsman, standing in a normal upright batting stance at the crease, above head height must be called 'No Ball.'

A ball that pitches and then passes the batsman, standing in a normal upright batting stance at the crease, between the shoulder and the top of the head may only be bowled **once** per over and the umpire should indicate that this ball has been bowled for that over. If the bowler bowls another similar delivery in the same over then that ball must be called 'No Ball.'

These bowling regulations should be read in conjunction with '**A Guide to the Common Laws of Cricket**' published in the Somerset Cricket League Handbook on pages 47/48.

The 'bowlers end' umpire may ask for help from the square leg umpire if he feels that it will help reach the correct decision.

f. **Weather, Ground and Light Conditions**

The umpires shall be the final judges of weather, ground and light conditions.

While both umpires consider that conditions are suitable for play it will continue.

When, in the opinion of the umpires, conditions become unsuitable then they must:-

Advise the batsmen at the wicket (batting captain's representative) and the fielding captain that conditions are unsuitable for play to continue and the players must leave the field.

When, in the opinion of the **same** umpires, conditions become playable again they must inform the captains and play will resume.

When, in the opinion of **both** umpires, the light conditions deteriorate to a level that is unsuitable for play the players must leave the field.

When, in the opinion of the **same** umpires, the light level improves sufficiently for play to take place they must inform the captains and play will resume.

g. **Umpires.** Where a game has only one official umpire provided either by the League or by a club, that umpire **may** stand at the bowlers' end for the whole match, **providing that he is prepared to do so and that both captains are in agreement that he should** - a player standing as umpire should stand at square leg under these circumstances. If captains fail to agree then this umpire should stand at one end only. . **The Committee is keen to enlist more neutral umpires onto the League list and would ask all clubs, but particularly those from Division 1, to try and find more people to join the panel.**

At the AGM in November 2012 the members unanimously agreed that a club umpire should stand throughout the match. This was basic cricket etiquette and was a long-standing, unwritten aspect of the game. Club captains are remind that a club umpire must be accorded the courtesy of standing throughout the match without any question or comment.

10. Other.

- a. **Cancelled games:-** i) due to weather - please make every effort to play even if a late start is necessary. Consult opponents before cancelling. If it is possible, switch the venue or play at an alternative venue.
- ii) other reasons - Try to avoid cancellations because a loss of points and a heavy fine will follow. **In all cases of cancelled matches, an entry of the cancellation on the website must be made and verified. Ian Latchem must also be informed.**
- iii) **Any match cancelled after 8.00 pm by the visiting team on the day preceding the match for reasons other than the weather/pitch conditions shall be fined £30 in addition to the fines levied in Rule 5 (b) (iv), (v). This sum will be passed to the home team to help defray expenses. See earlier note on page 2 of this document. Clubs that wish to claim should complete the "Tea Cost Reclamation Form for Season 2015" which can be found on page 16 of this circular.**

b. Strengthening of Second and Other Teams by Regular players from Higher Teams.

It is the responsibility of clubs, selection committees and captains to ensure that the situation of strengthening 'lower level' teams is not abused, particularly when 'higher level' teams have no fixture.

The Management Committee reminds clubs that it is contrary to the regulations set out in the pre-season circular and the spirit of the Somerset Cricket League for clubs to strengthen their 2nd. XIs; 3rd. XIs; and even 4th. XIs when they have a free 1st XI (or other 'higher level' team) date as a result of fixture changes or a vacant date. **All** results sheets will be scrutinised by the monitors to check against this practice, but the non-offending clubs are encouraged to bring this practice to the notice of the Committee if they believe that it has taken place.

A 'higher level' batsman playing in a 'lower level' team for the reason of choice to play at home or for his own convenience or a cancellation of the higher level game or due to the lack of players available for selection should not bat higher than No. 7. However, if the individual in question has sustained a bad run of form (note – this can be verified by the Results Secretary and the monitors for Management Committee purposes) in the 'higher level' team then he should be allowed to bat wherever in the batting order, without any restriction.

A 'higher level' bowler playing in a 'lower level' team for the reason of choice to play at home or for his own convenience or a cancellation of the higher level game or due to the lack of players available for selection should not bowl earlier than 3rd change (5th bowler) or after 25 overs have been bowled, whichever is the latter. However, if the individual in question has sustained a bad run of form (note – this can be verified by the Results Secretary and monitors for Management Committee purposes) in the 'higher level' team then he should be allowed to bowl wherever it is deemed appropriate in the sequence of bowlers, without any restriction.

On the occasions when 'higher level' players are *helping out due to the lack of the normal players* then the maximum number of such players shall be 3 players. (Note – this will be verified by the Results Secretary for Management Committee purposes)

The practice of **unfair strengthening of lower level teams** on days when higher level teams are without a fixture, or when situations that are contrary to the guidelines set out above are contravened, will be dealt with as a disciplinary action. The Management Committee will take a very firm stance by the imposition of monetary and points fines if a team is found to have breached these regulations.

The Results Secretary and monitors will be particularly vigilant in respect of the games where a higher team has a vacant date. Should a team believe that opponents are unfairly strengthening teams then they should raise the complaint with the Hon. Secretary or the Results Secretary.

- c. Fines.** These will be incurred for late results posted on the website (initial input, verification, score-sheet input and score-sheet verification) and late receipt by Ian Latchem (Results Secretary).
- d. League Website.** All the weekly information concerning the Shrubbery Somerset Cricket League will be found on the Website at www.somerset-cricket.com and clubs can also contact me by E-mail at raysomcricket@btconnect.com

11. Club/Ground, Pavilions and Support Facilities

The Grounds Sub Committee - Working to Improve Standards – A Shared Responsibility

The SCL's Grounds Sub-Committee - comprising Toby Strang, Martin King and Derek Hicks has drawn up a set of standards for grounds and facilities. The Committee has based its work on the ECB Strategy that outlines the need to bring such facilities up to at least a basic standard and encourage investment where it will act as a catalyst for junior development. The SCL Grounds Sub-Committee will continue to review the facilities used at home grounds. The Committee has drawn up a document that sets out **Ground/Facilities Standards for clubs in the SCL**, together with a **timescale that required implementation by the start of the 2015 season** or as soon as is feasibly possible after that date for clubs to reach the required standard. The Committee will make visits to grounds and these visits will not necessarily be pre-warned.

A list of the minimum standards that has been adopted by the SCL has now been drawn up and this will form the **future benchmark** and is shown below.

The Committee has focused on four key areas, namely: i) Fit for purpose : ii) Health, Hygiene and Safety : iii) Hospitality : iv) Duty of Care (with special reference to young players)

The following provisions are considered to constitute a revised **Minimum Standard** as detailed below:-.

1. **Players Changing Room(s)**: To offer adequate and clean changing facilities within the immediate or very close proximity to the playing area. (Min requirement a portable covered area such as a gazebo)
2. **Toilet Facilities**: To be in proper working order – either unisex or differentiated where possible, within easy access from the playing area. To be clean and supplied with paper and with hand wash facility supplied with soap, clean towel(s) or other hand-drying facility.
3. **Shower Facilities**: (In situ) to be in working order.
4. **Seating / Cover**: Adequate seating for the batting side and scorer(s) **table must be provided**. Temporary (if not permanent) shelter for players, scorer(s) to provide protection from sun and rain when either play is continuing or for shelter to be taken when play is temporarily interrupted.
5. **Tea Interval**: To make available adequate and sufficient seating.
6. **Access**: Clubs to arrange adequate parking with clear area to allow for quick and easy access by emergency vehicles.
7. **First Aid Kits All Clubs must have a FIRST AID KIT in place. See on PAGE 1 for details of this Kit**. To be in place at the ground of play on match days supplied by the Home club with visiting teams made aware of its location. The FAK to meet the minimum requirements to deal with the most common sports-related injuries (see BS 8599).
8. **Consideration of Youth Members**: Evidence of the club's attention to its 'Duty of Care' should be available. The name and contact details of the **Club's Welfare Officer** (this post is a statutory League requirement) should be clearly displayed and evidence available on request that 'Safe Hands' accreditation has been issued and is currently valid.
9. **Grass pitches** to be made available when ever possible

NOTE. The Committee is very much aware that there are teams hiring the use of school grounds and council pitches, many of which are inadequate. Sometimes there is little that clubs can do to rectify the situation. Please advise the Committee if your hired ground falls within this category. Where at all possible, please do your utmost to offer the most basic requirements if only on temporary basis on match days

SCL is committed to assisting clubs meet and maintain these standards and asks that clubs work in tandem with league officers to achieve our aim of meeting – and, ideally exceeding, the minimum standards at all the grounds used by members.

SCL Grounds Sub-Committee members would welcome any comment, queries or concern that member clubs have about their own or their opponents' facilities. Committee members can be contacted as shown below.

Toby Strang. Tel.01458 272191 toby@strang35.freeserve.co.uk

Derek Hicks. Tel. 01823 289531 hicksy59@hotmail.co.uk

Martin King. Tel. 01823 432392 martinking2@btinternet.com

Ray Hancock - Hon. Secretary Somerset Cricket League. April 2015



**THE BEST WESTERN SHRUBBERY HOTEL
SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

Dual Player Registration Form for Season 2015

Name of Player

.....

Parent Club

.....

I wish to be loaned to play in a fixture for another SCL Club, which is (enter name of Club)

.....

I confirm that this loan agreement complies with all the relevant criteria as laid down by the Somerset Cricket League.

Signed (Loan Player)

.....

Date

.....

This form is to be submitted electronically to Ray Hancock (raysomcricket@btconnect.com) or David Derrick (david230275@googlemail.com) within two days of the match in question being completed. Original hard copies of the form need not be submitted.



**THE BEST WESTERN SHRUBBERY HOTEL
SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

Transfer Form for Season 2015

I,

am currently registered to play for

.....CC

and wish to transfer my registration to

.....CC

with effect from.....

Signed (Player).....

I confirm that the above named player can be transferred to

.....CC

and owes no monies or anything of material value to

.....CC

Signed

.....

Position held in Club

.....

I confirm the transfer of

.....

to

.....CC

Signed

.....

Position held in Club

.....

This form must be received by either Ray Hancock, David Derrick or Ian Latchem by 12 noon on the day of any match involving this player when wishing to play for their new Club.

Ray and David can received scanned copies at either raysomcricket@btconnect.com or david230275@googlemail.com (scans need to be in .pdf format only please) and Ian can receive faxed copies on 01761 436454.

Original hard copies of this form with all relevant details need to be sent to Ray Hancock, Hon. Secretary, Somerset Cricket League, The Jays, Moss Lane, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset, TA3 5LJ within seven days of the date stated on the form.

David Derrick will receive hard copy forms in Ray's absence at 2 Park Villas, Waterloo Road, Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8JG within the same timescales.

For season 2015 all transfers must be made by 2359 on Friday 7th August.



**THE BEST WESTERN SHRUBBERY HOTEL
SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

Tea Cost Reclamation Form for Season 2015

Club Submitting Claim

Fixture Claim Relates to

Date of Fixture.....

Division.....

**Details of
Claim**.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Signed.....

Position held within Club.....

Scanned copies can be accepted initially by either Ray Hancock (raysomcricket@btconnect.com) or David Derrick (david230275@gmail.com), but original hard copies must be submitted to Ray Hancock, Hon. Secretary, Somerset Cricket League, The Jays, Moss Lane, Ruishton, Taunton, Somerset, TA3 5LJ within seven days of the match in question.