

Further to our telephone conversation, I have discussed the situation with a few members on the committee and have come up with some temporary recommendations as follows:  
Due to the current restrictions involving Covid-19, Somerset Association of Cricket Officials would advise their members of the following additional recommendations when umpiring in the Monmouth Scientific Cricket League, in order to maintain the flow of the game and to reduce the possibility of a late finish:

1. Whenever possible, and with the agreement of both captains, games should be started as soon as possible after 1.00pm, with arrangements being made before the day of the game;
2. Sanitisation breaks should be taken at the fall of each wicket or every six overs, whichever is earlier, and should last no longer than two minutes, and should not be considered as additional drinks breaks;
3. A formal drinks break of up to five minutes should be taken after 22 overs and this should also include a Sanitisation break;
4. Two bottles of hand gel should be placed either at the stumps or behind the stumps (in the position a fielder's helmet would be placed), with no penalty runs being awarded should the ball hit either bottle and the ball not becoming dead;
5. Umpires should continue to monitor the timing of each innings and keep the fielding captain aware, to ensure that each innings does not exceed the stipulated 2 hours and 45 minutes time limit, plus the time for Sanitisation breaks mentioned above.

We will be forwarding this to our members and would be grateful if you could do the same for the clubs involved.

Once again, many thanks

Bernard