



## **SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT  
THE RULES MEETING OF  
THE SHRUBBERY HOTEL - SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE  
WILL BE HELD AT  
UPHILL CASTLE CRICKET CLUB, WESTON SUPER MARE  
ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> 2017 STARTING AT 7.30pm.**

**All clubs should try to attend this important meeting.**

### **Arrangements for the Meeting**

1. Apologies.
2. Chairman's Welcome.
3. The aims and objectives of a "RULES MEETING". Culminating in the process to be used for voting and announcement of results.
4. The proposals that have been submitted will need a seconder before any discussion can take place at the Rules Meeting. Three proposals have already received a seconder and others may have done so by the date of the Rules Meeting if any club wishes to advise me of their support for a particular proposal. If a proposal does not receive a seconder either before or at the Rules Meeting, then it will fail for lack of a seconder and will not be discussed.
5. Discussion on the various proposals, which are listed at the end of this document. These, will have taken place previously 'back at base' hopefully led by the representative(s) who intend to attend the Rules Meeting.
6. Club representatives, who will be attending the rules meeting, should make notes so that they are able to share the points which were raised with their club membership or club committee upon return to their clubs.
7. There will be no voting at the Rules Meeting. Club voting using the secret ballot sheets that will be issued with the AGM notice should take place between the Rules Meeting and the AGM. The voting slips should then be returned by club representatives to the AGM where they will be posted in ballot boxes and then counted by the committee.
8. **NOTE.** The secret ballot sheets must be brought to the AGM by the club representatives and be deposited in the appropriate ballot box between 6.45 pm and 7.30 pm on December 11 2017. Counting will take place immediately the boxes close at 7.30 pm. and results will be announced at the end of the meeting.

**Ray Hancock. (Hon. Secretary).**

## Proposals for Rule Change.

The proposals outlined below will be discussed at the 'Rules Meeting' on November 13 and the same list will accompany the official notice giving details of the AGM. They will be sent to clubs 21 days before the AGM (ie. by November 20). After the Rules Meeting has taken place, clubs must discuss the proposals, vote on the ballot sheets that are attached to the AGM notice (Proposal 1 to Proposal 11 inclusive) and deposit the ballot sheets in the SCL Ballot Boxes at the Shrubbery Hotel between 6.45 and 7.30 pm on Monday December 11 2017

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### Proposal 1 – Burnham on Sea CC

Proposed by Burnham on Sea CC  
Seconded by Winscombe CC

#### 7. PLAYERS

##### (d) Overseas Players

i) Only one 'Overseas Player' \* shall be permitted to play for each club per season in the Somerset Cricket League. This player must be registered with the Hon. Secretary 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May.

**If proposal 1 is lost, then proposal 2 goes to meeting.**

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### Proposal 2 – Winscombe CC

Proposed by Winscombe CC  
Seconded by Burnham on Sea CC

#### 7. PLAYERS

##### (d) Overseas Players

i) Only one 'Overseas Player' \* shall be permitted to play for each club per season in the Premier Division and Division 2 in the Somerset Cricket League. This player must be registered with the Hon. Secretary 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May. **The voting on this this proposition will be open to representatives of the Premier division and division 2 clubs only.**

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### Proposal 3 – Horrington CC

Proposed by Horrington CC  
Seconded by

#### 9. MATCHES

##### (c) Rules for Match Play

vi) In Divisions 6, 7, 8 a game will consist of a maximum of 40 overs per side for matches except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter.

vii) **No bowler shall bowl more than 9 overs in any one innings.** Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one **fifth** of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

**Rationale** “To change the allocation of bowlers’ overs from 8 to 9 in 40 overs matches. This will effectively mean that a fifth (or more) bowler would have to bowl the remaining 4 overs of the innings”.

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## **Proposal 4 – Staplegrove CC**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by Staplegrove CC

Seconded by

#### **7. PLAYERS**

**(g) Team Strengthening by higher level Players**

**If there is a rearranged fixture of a lower level team, then no players from higher level teams should be allowed to play in that match. However, if both teams are playing on the same day then no restrictions shall be applied.**

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## **Proposal 5 – Wembdon CC**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by Wembdon CC

Seconded by

#### **5. MATCHES**

**(e) Four cancellations. Should a side concede 4 fixtures in any one season they are withdrawn from the league with immediate effect.**

#### **Notes.**

##### **a) Rationale**

*Sides which are withdrawn can still play the scheduled fixture as a friendly should they be able to raise a side that week.*

*Wembdon CC.*

##### **b) Reverse rationale**

*P St. J has noticed that the "3 strikes and out" proposal has arisen once again, personally we think if this rule is carried then it will be detrimental to the league. Our Sunday division has this rule and that is one of the main reasons we decided to leave that league and enter a 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in the SCL. Cricket as a whole is on the decline, and to 'kick teams out' for not being able to fulfil a certain amount of fixtures will only lead to pushing teams / players away from the sport. It's OK for the clubs with 3 or 4 teams who can fulfil their fixtures, but for smaller clubs it will only end one way, a smaller league with less teams.*

*Peasedown St John CC*

*PS. It's just our opinion of the Sunday league, they have gone right down to only 3 divisions and seem to think it's working, but they are far too focused on the WEPL rather than their own league, R.S Peasedown St John CC*

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## **Proposal 6 – Lympsham & Belvedere C C**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by Lympsham & Belvedere CC

Seconded by

#### **ALTERATIONS TO RULES**

**Rule 4 (b) The SCL uses play-cricket systems for the 2018 Season league operation, as opposed to using the SCL Website in Rule 5j(ii).**

## **Rationale**

*95% of SCL clubs have a Play-Cricket statistical presence. This information is input directly or indirectly (by opposition team) during the season. This means that currently club administrators have an onerous task each playing weekend to duplicate their effort and enter results into two different systems, SCL and play-cricket.com*

*Well over half of SCL clubs are active ECB sponsored play-cricket users due to them also having teams in WEPL, NSCL and other Leagues using the 'Play-Cricket' system for their league operation, using both statistical information and website functionality.*

*In line with item 10 of 12 July 2017 SCL Management Minutes;*

*10. Website. It was noted that there was an increasing need to use a number of the statistical aspects of play-cricket. The ECB had invested heavily in play-cricket and was offering 'no costs' installations for some aspects. It was suggested that some 'technically minded' committee members carry out further investigations. It was conceivable that some form of an integrated package could be the solution.*

*As per Rule 4 (2017 rule book) we propose that SCL urgently work toward solely using play-cricket for 2018 season league operation, as opposed to using the SCL Website in Rule 5j(ii).*

*The benefit is this would significantly reduce member club administration and also improve SCL efficiency. Through direct centralised creation of fixtures, and collation of more detailed statistics in a standard format for national ECB team/player analysis, we believe this will assist the game nationally. There may also be a financial saving as there will be no need to continue existing independent internet ISP website hosting for club websites and domain name fees, as play-cricket offers statistical and website capabilities for free from ECB. Clubs are of course free to continue to use their independent historic websites should they wish.*

*Lympsham & Belvedere CC*

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## **Proposal 7 – Hardington & West Coker C C**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by Hardington & West Coker CC

Seconded by

#### **5.MATCHES**

##### **(b) Championship Points**

**(x) A losing team which scores within 10% of the opposition's total if batting last, or takes 9 wickets if bowling last, should receive 5 points in addition to any bonus points.**

**Hardington & West Coker CC.**

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## **Proposal 8 – Management Committee**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by the Management Committee

Seconded by

#### **No. 3 ADMINISTRATION**

##### **(j) Cancelled matches.**

**If a match is cancelled for any reason and/or at any time during the 48 hours before the agreed start time, then this cancellation MUST ONLY BE made through a telephone conversation involving officials of both clubs. Cancellations by emails, texts, twitter and other social media are not permitted. Fines will be applied at the discretion of the Management Committee.**

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## Proposal 9 – Peasedown St. John CC

### New Rule

Proposed by Peasedown St. John CC  
Seconded by Huntspill & District CC

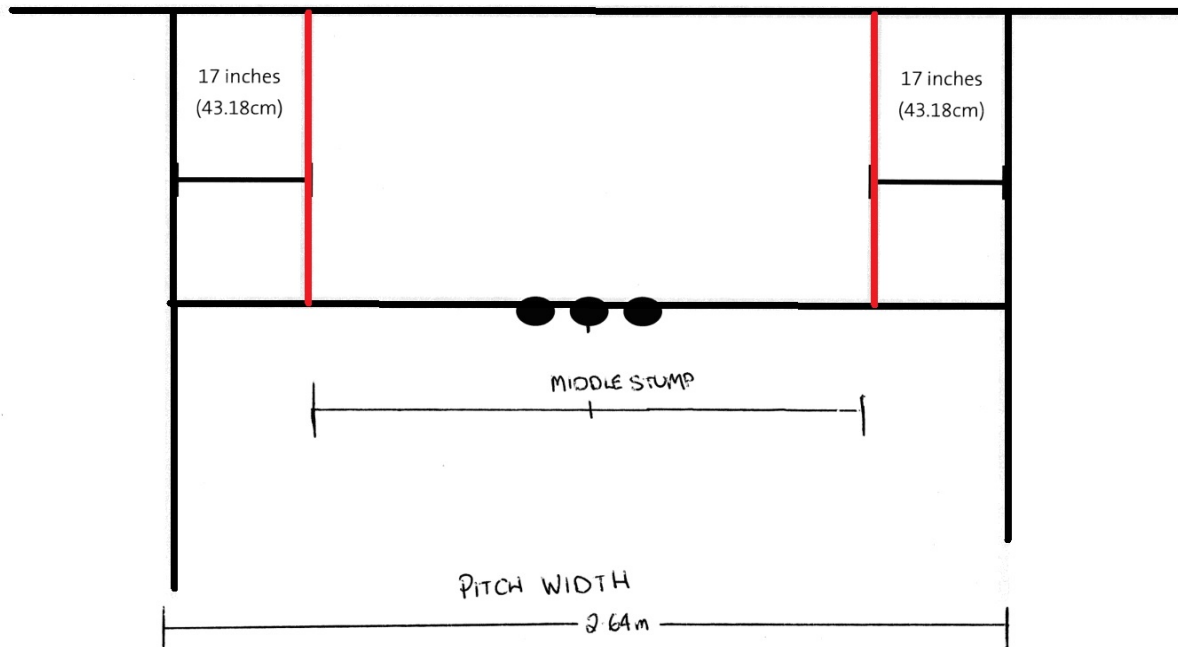
#### 5.MATCHES

##### (0) Wides – Pitch Markings

Wide lines to be painted in blue or red 17 inches inside the edge of the crease lines. This is a guideline for wides and can be deemed not wide in an instance where the batsman moves enough to warrant the ball being called a legal delivery,

##### Rationale

This is to stop any arguments on what people consider wide and will help the game where bowlers get brought up on a wide ball that could be considered harsh, it will make it fair as there is a clear guideline in place. as per picture below. Peasedown St John CC



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## Proposal 10 – Churchill CC

### New Rule

Proposed by Churchill CC  
Seconded by

#### Rule 6 (c) – Umpires

Where a team wishes to provide its own non-playing umpire for a match, that umpire may only stand during the opposition's batting innings with the consent of the opposing Captain.

##### Rationale

Most matches in the mid to lower divisions are played with team players umpiring their own batting innings. Whilst this is not ideal, there is at least a balance between both sides. A small number of teams provide their own non-playing umpire and usually they are the only team in the match with

*such an umpire. If in these circumstances the non-playing umpire is automatically allowed to stand during both innings, 75 percent of the balls are umpired by one team, and 25 percent by the other.*

*Our view is that this scenario is inequitable and potentially disrupts the balance of trust between the two teams. Captains may be keen to take up the offer of support from an opposition umpire, for example where their team contains a high number of juniors, but they should not be obliged to accept such an inherently unbalanced situation.*

*Churchill CC.*

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## **Proposal 11– Cranmore CC**

### **New Rule**

Proposed by Cranmore CC

Seconded by

#### **Rule 10.Other**

**(d) The Don Crouch marking system should record the number of LBW decisions given in the affirmative, together with a note of the batting position recorded.**

#### ***Rationale***

*We would like to propose a rule change to allow Don Crouch award marking to include the number of LBW decisions given every game with their batting position indicated. It is clear that some teams have habitual umpires who refuse all decisions and greatly influence games and their positions in the league. This information could then be collated and used to see if teams are clearly cheating. The law of averages over a season would indicate an amount of LBW decisions which should be in a reasonable range and clubs outside of this range could be given penalty points at the end of the season. It could also be noted if there were a surge of decisions given towards the end of the season or in less important games and to lower order batsmen, in order to manipulate this rule.*

*We accept LBW decisions are always a contentious item within the game, but we are sure this information would highlight an issue many teams feel frustrated over during a season. We are also sure that discussion may encourage further fine tuning of this proposal.*