

To all contacts in the Somerset Cricket League

1. Strengthening Issues. There have been a number of reports regarding strengthening of lower level teams in a variety instances. The rules regarding strengthening are shown on the League's website (somcl.play-cricket.com). Go to the 'Rules & Tariffs' section and highlight "Pre-season Circular". The Committee will take action against any club that fails to follow the rules.

2. Umpires course. Derek Hicks, the League's umpires' representative on the Committee has given me the following note regarding Umpires Courses. I apologise for the short notice of this course, but it may still be of interest to some. Notice of an introductory umpiring course to be held at Taunton Deane CC on Thursday August 29th start time 7.00pm. The booking link for the course is <http://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/fyqcgk> **Introduction To Umpiring 2018 Template** This short stand-alone course will give any cricket enthusiast curious about becoming an umpire a taste of what the role entails, and outlines what lies ahead if you would like to pursue your interest. booking.ecb.co.uk

3. Return of Trophies

Trophies won in Season 2018. I wish to remind clubs that won a trophy in 2018 that they should now make arrangements to return them. Rule 9 applies – **9.**

TROPHIES. *Perpetual trophies shall be returned to the Honorary Secretary by 31st August each year. Trophies are to be returned in the same condition as received and any loss or damage to such trophies shall be borne by the club holding the trophy.*

Trophies can be returned to me or any other member of the Management Committee or to the Centre of Excellence (SCB Office) at the County Ground, Taunton. **Please advise by telephone** if you plan to leave the trophy with a Committee member.

4. Cancelled Games. There have been some occasions when the home captain has failed to contact the opposing captain, by telephone, to discuss the case of adverse pitch and weather conditions. At the AGM last year, a rule was passed to address the situation of cancelled games by the home team without reference to the opponents. This rule, along with all other SCL rules, can be found on the League's website (somcl.play-cricket.com). Go to the 'Rules & Tariffs' section and highlight **Rule 5. MATCHES. (b) Championship Points. ii. ii) No match may be called off before 4pm on the day of the match without the agreement of both Captains.** Teams that fail to fulfil this rule will lose the 12 points gained for a 'weather/pitch' affected draw. The away team will retain the 12 points for the draw.

5. Start times in August. I wish to remind all clubs of the start time for matches at this time of year. These details are set out in the SCL rules (somcl.play-cricket.com). **Rule 5.**

MATCHES (c) Rules for Match Play

i) All Matches start at 1.30 pm. Except that by agreement between both teams, any match may start at any earlier time in the day, but for the final THREE matches of the Season they must start at 1.00 pm. However, all matches in Divs. 6, 7 & 8 should start at 1.30 pm **throughout the season**

Ray Hancock
Hon. Secretary SCL
23 August 2019