

To the members of the MSL,

The management committee of the league have received a number of communications after our meeting on Thursday evening. Some have been positive, some constructive, some negative and some unfortunately abusive and disrespectful towards our volunteers who give many hours of their own time to enable your club and players to play cricket.

This abuse and disrespect is uncalled for and will not be tolerated by the management committee who are working extremely hard in difficult circumstances with the increase in Covid Cases now impacting our member clubs causing more games than anticipated to be cancelled, unfortunately it has proved impossible to find a perfect solution when trying to ensure that clubs are not risking people health and balance the integrity of the competition. It is disappointing that personal accusations have been made to members of the management committee of "favouritism", "lacking impartiality" and "looking after some clubs and others" when our committee are trying to make decisions which we feel are in the best interests of all our member clubs. We appreciate that not everyone will be happy with every decision made but some clubs and their officials have overstepped the mark since the announcement.

As a league we always welcome feedback but please keep it respectful to our volunteers.

This evening (19th July), we have met to discuss observations from the committee the communications we have received from member clubs. Having now seen the tables in full after the adjustments it has become clear that the method has had an undesired effect on the table by taking all cancellations (rain and covid) out of the tables some teams have jumped up because they had rained off games and other who haven't have significantly dropped in the table which was not the intended outcome, and on reflection in our 2.30 hour meeting wasn't fully considered when weighing up the many options and scenarios that were discussed for matches that were Covid affected.

With this in mind, under rule 10 the committee have the power to make the following decisions as Covid is not covered in the league rules:

10. OTHER. (a) Matters not covered by the Rules. In the event of any question arising which is not specifically covered by these Rules, the Management Committee shall have the power to deal with it and inflict such penalties as may be considered necessary.

Therefore, the following amendment will be made:

Average points will be introduced to determine League positions across all divisions.

This method will include completed, abandoned/drawn, rain cancellation and conceded matches, along with any penalty points incurred or carried forward.

For clarity, **cancelled games for Covid will not be included, and must be recorded as cancelled.**

Any rained off game must be recorded as a drawn match.

This amendment would also mean that if a division has no covid cancellations the positions would be same regardless of if it was decided on points average or points aggregate as normal but doesn't penalise any party if a game is off due to Covid by awarding arbitrary points amount to either side for a game that there are no guarantees over the result. This is in line with the method the ECB has used to determine the T20 Blast North Group.

We fully appreciate the hard work that clubs are doing to get sides out during this difficult period, but we are also aware that clubs are having to deal with large numbers of isolations/infection (in excess of 7 or 8 in some clubs) and the detrimental effect this has on their ability to field sides.

Any club that must cancel for Covid must inform the registration secretary on amandacounsel@yahoo.co.uk

Edward Martin

Chair of Monmouth Scientific League

On behalf of the committee.