

LEAGUE RULES - SECTION TWO
GENERAL RULES FOR SENIOR LEAGUE & CUP COMPETITIONS

1. The clubs engaged in the League Competition must play such fixtures as listed by the Management Committee during the season in accordance with current rules of play.

The club scoring the most points will be considered Champions of the Division for that year and will be entitled to hold for the following year any trophies presented by the League for their Division.

If two or more clubs at the head of their respective table have equal points, then the outright winner will be decided by reference to the procedures in para 2(i) (ii) and (iii) on the following page:

2. Two clubs will be promoted from Divisions 2, and two clubs will be relegated from Division 1. For promotion and relegation, where clubs have equal points, the team deemed to have finished higher will be decided by the following sequence:

- (i) Most wins or if still equal
- (ii) Most points in respective matches against each other during the current season, or if still equal
- (iii) Most points in the second half of the season
- (iv) A club will NOT be promoted if the club doesn't have a 2nd Team

3. All matches must be played under the current laws of the M.C.C. except as otherwise provided for in these rules.

4. All clubs failing to fulfil an engagement will forfeit the match and maximum points shall be awarded to the opponents.

5. All clubs shall have League approved sight screens at both ends, with suitable board or rope across the front wheels, which shall be in place at the start of the match.

6. Full pitch covers may be used before the start and during the course of each match. Umpires are the SOLE arbiters of their use. Both clubs are responsible for the prompt movement of the covers both on and off the pitch at the Umpire's request.

7. Umpires are the SOLE judges of fitness of ground, weather & light.

8. All players are to appear in normal, white cricket attire.

9. In all matches the fielding side shall provide their own ball, which must have been supplied by the League, for use during their opponent's innings. Both match and spare balls must be approved by the Umpires before each innings commences.

The spare should be such that it is suitable for use at any stage without changing its condition.

10. The Home side shall be responsible for the clear indication on the score board of the number of overs remaining during the innings in progress. **OVERS WILL BE COUNTED DOWN.**

11. If the team of a competing club is not ready to commence on time, or after the interval, or any other stoppage, the club will be fined.

Umpires may note the reason for late starts on the League score sheet.

12. No player shall take part in more than one official match in one day.

13. No players who has played more than 50% of the league matches in the First Team will be eligible to play for the second team in the last two games without the prior approval of the League Management Committee. The Asst. Hon. Secretary (STATS) may deem eligible a player who has scored fewer than 250 league runs and/or taken fewer than 20 League wickets for the first team in the current season.

14. The incoming and outgoing batsman must cross between the pavilion and the pitch.

15. Captains must toss for choice of innings not later than 15 minutes before the scheduled time for the commencement of play. The captain of the team taking first innings may have the pitch rolled for a maximum of seven minutes provided the start of play is not delayed.

The Captain of the team taking second innings may have the pitch rolled for a maximum of seven minutes during the interval between innings.
16. As a minimum, the score shall be updated at the end of each over and at the fall of a wicket. When the second innings of the match is in progress and the score is within 20 runs of the first innings score, each run must be displayed on the scoreboard until the end of the match.
17. The tea interval of 20 minutes will be taken at the close of the innings of the team batting first, or at a time agreed by the Umpires during an interruption in play. If tea is not taken between innings, the interval shall not exceed 10 minutes.
18. Umpires will notify both sides 5 minutes before play is due to commence (either verbally or by the ringing of a bell if necessary).
19. Boundary markings must always be defined in such a way that the sightscreens lie outside the boundary (a board or rope shall be maintained both in front and at the sides of the sightscreen).
20. Umpires and Captains shall check the official score sheet carefully, between innings and at the end of each match before signing. The score sheets must indicate the start and finish times of both innings, the result and the points awarded for the match. Time lost during each innings and the cause thereof, must also be recorded, thus enabling the average number of overs per hour to be determined.
21. To discourage slow play, the Management Committee will keep the bowling rates under review and clubs deemed responsible for slow play may be fined.
22. Any club disputing the result of a match must lodge with the League Secretary a duplicate notice within seven days of the match. The notice must be accompanied by the prescribed deposit, which may be refunded in due course. No protest will be considered unless accompanied by the deposit. In all cases of protest or appeal to the Management Committee, representatives of the club concerned shall leave the room during discussion of the protest or appeal, if this is requested by the Management Committee.
23. To assist the judging of Off-Side Wides, a line shall be drawn, preferably in blue, 0.89mtrs (35") from the middle stump. All leg-side wide deliveries shall be deemed a wide ball in FIRST DIVISION CRICKET only.
- 23a. To signify the danger area, suitable marks must be made 5 feet in front of the popping crease on the edge of the 10 foot wide cut pitch, with two further marks 1 foot either side of the middle stump on the bowling crease.
24. If a bowler commits a third cautionable offence under MCC law 42, having already been cautioned twice, or received a first caution and final warning for any offence under law 42, the Umpire at the bowler's end shall implement the suspense procedure described under M.C.C. law 42.7 and 42.8
25. Penalty runs other than for a no ball or a wide ball will ONLY be awarded under the 2000 M.C.C. Code of laws as follows:
Law 2.6 Fielder returning to the field of play without permission.
Law 41.2 Illegal fielding.
Law 41.3 Fielder's protective helmets when not being worn.
26. Sawdust may be used to dry the ball as long as it does not alter the condition of the ball in any other way.
27. The E.C.B. bowling directive must be adhered to in all senior matches.