

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE & HUNTINGDONSHIRE PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

League Title

1. The League shall be known as the Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire Premier Cricket League and the name of the sponsor may be added as necessary.

Management of League

2. The League shall be governed by an annually elected Management Committee consisting of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Fixture Secretary, Registration Secretary and one nominated Representative from each member club. A representative from the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association, Huntingdonshire County Cricket League and Umpires Association shall also sit on the Management Committee.
3. The Management Committee shall meet at least three times per annum on a date to be decided by the Secretary.
4. The Management Committee shall have the power, by majority, to co-opt additional members at any time without ratification by the Annual General Meeting.
5. The quorum for a Management Committee Meeting shall be seven.
6. Clubs will be expected to attend Management Committee Meetings. A fine of £20 shall be levied against a club failing to attend two consecutive Management Committee Meetings and/or the AGM, such fine to be applied at the discretion of the Treasurer.

7. The annual subscription shall be fixed annually at the Annual General Meeting and shall be payable by 31st May for the forthcoming season.
8. All monies due to the League shall be paid by the required dates. If there are any outstanding on the 30th June, a fine of £50 will be levied on the defaulting club. Any fine not paid within 14 days of invoice will be doubled and if not paid within a further 14 days (28 days from date of invoice) it will be doubled again.

Annual General Meeting

9. The League Annual General meeting shall be held between the end of the season and the 31st December each year.
10. Proposals and nominations for officers for the Annual General Meeting must be received by the League Secretary by 31st August. Details must be sent to all member clubs with notice of the Annual General Meeting.

Extraordinary General Meeting

11. An Extraordinary General Meeting may be held at any time at the written request to the Secretary, by the Chairman of five Member Clubs. An Extraordinary General Meeting may discuss and amend, or add to, if necessary, any matters appertaining to the League including the constitution and/or playing rules.

Notice of AGM / EGM

12. Notice of 28 days in writing shall be given.

Voting at AGM / EGM

13. One vote per member team and league representatives. The League Chairman shall have a casting vote. The quorum at an AGM / EGM shall be at least two-thirds of member teams.
14. Except where otherwise stated a simple majority of those attending will decide voting issues.

Eligibility of Membership

15. The League shall be open to cricket clubs from Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and surrounding counties. Each Club must appoint a trained Child Welfare Officer. All clubs must be affiliated to the ECB via a County Cricket Board.

Membership of the League

16. The Management Committee shall determine the number of teams permitted membership of the League and the number of divisions, subject to ratification at the AGM.

Election of new Member Clubs

17. New teams, once approved by the Management Committee, may be elected by gaining support of a simple majority of those voting at the AGM.

Termination of Membership

18. An AGM / EGM shall have the power by gaining the support of two-thirds of those voting at the AGM / EGM to terminate the membership of any club.
19. The termination proposal must be received in writing by the Secretary signed by the Chairman of five member clubs prior to notice of an AGM / EGM being sent.

Playing rules

20. The Playing Rules shall be printed in the Handbook as agreed at the previous AGM / EGM.

Protests, Disputes and Appeals

21. All matters relating to disciplinary issues will be progressed in accordance with the Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire Joint Disciplinary Committee's adopted procedure as detailed in Appendix 1.

Independent Verifier

22. The League's year-end accounts shall be verified by a person elected at the AGM for the following year.

Sponsorship Monies

23. Any sponsorship monies decided at an AGM / EGM will be made available to member clubs and divided into equal parts.

**THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE & HUNTINGDONSHIRE
PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE
PLAYING RULES**

Fixtures

1. All clubs shall play each other twice per season once at home and once away. Matches shall begin on the first Saturday after 15th April and shall end on the last Saturday before 18th September each year. The League Fixture Secretary's decision shall be final. No club or team may change their home ground without the prior consent of the League Fixture Secretary. If permission is granted their opponents must be notified by the Monday prior to the match.

Player Registration

2. No player may be registered for more than one club within the East Anglian pyramid structure. However, a player qualified to play in the under 16 or younger age groups may register for a second club but cannot play for more than one team in the same division. Any player playing in another ECB Premier League without a full transfer taking place (subject to rules 7, 8 and 9 regarding player transfers) will have to serve a seven day qualifying period from the date of the transfer before being eligible to play.
3. A Category 1 player must be registered on play-cricket.com before their first league match of the season. In addition, all Category 2, 3 and 3E players must complete a Registration Form; once the League Secretary has confirmed receipt of this form the player shall be eligible to play. Any club found guilty of playing an unregistered player shall be deducted any points gained in the match and fined £20 per player.

4. Additional players may be registered on play-cricket.com during the season. No player may be registered after 31st July of each season unless he has previously been registered as a playing member of the club in a feeder league in the current season.

The feeder leagues are the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association and the Huntingdonshire Cricket Leagues.

Player Restrictions

5. Category 1 No Restrictions

- Category 2 Maximum one per team unless a playing member of the club for more than two years and shall be required to re-register each season. Must have been playing in this country continuously for the previous four years.

- Category 3 Maximum one per team and shall be required to re-register each season.

- Category 3E Maximum one team and shall be required to re-register each season.

Category 3E Definition

A player not qualified to play for England under the current ECB regulations; who is ordinarily resident in this country for a period of 18 consecutive months prior to the date of request for registration; and has not been out of the country for more than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in the total during the previous 24 months. Any remuneration received from playing cricket must not be the main source of his income. The definition of “ordinary resident” shall be in the absolute discretion of the League Management Committee.

In relation to the registration of Category 3E Players

Clubs must satisfy themselves by checking evidence of any such player's continuous residence in the UK eg utility bills, council tax bills, entry and departure dates on passport. In addition, every category 3E player must sign a declaration, as follows:

"I confirm I have been resident in the England and Wales for the past two years and during that period, I have not been outside England and Wales for longer than 35 days consecutively or 70 days in total. I also confirm that any payment that I receive for playing cricket is not my main source of income. I understand that the punishment for making a false declaration in this regard shall be severe and shall most likely result in a lengthy ban, which shall apply to all forms of recreational cricket in England and Wales."

In the event of a player making a false declaration, the club shall also be liable to disciplinary action if it has failed to carry out all reasonable checks on the player's documentary evidence. Clubs shall therefore be expected to keep all record of all such checks.

As there is a continuing need to verify that the criteria are met, clubs must re-register all category 3E players each season, providing evidence of their continuous residence in this country, otherwise they shall be deemed category 3 players.

If a category 3E player has unavoidably due to personal reason had to leave England and Wales for longer than the permitted period, the League Secretary along with three League Management Committee members shall consider each such player's application for continued Category 3E status and their decision shall be final.

A player who has a home in England or Wales and has been granted "Exempt" status, who subsequently accepts a temporary work unconnected to cricket in another country, may apply to re-instate his "exempt" status immediately on his return. Approval is at the discretion of the League Chairman and Secretary and may not be automatic. A student may be granted Category 3E status subject to the production of documentary evidence that he/she is a full-time student to production of documentary evidence that he/she is a full-time student attending a three year course of study in a bona-fide educational establishment.

The League shall consider all EU passport holders qualified to play First Class Cricket and those qualifying to play for England as category 3E players.

Note: If clubs do not have a category 3 player it is permissible to play two category 3E players.

6. Issues and protests arising from the eligibility of players to play for a club within the league shall be dealt with by a panel comprising of three elected representatives of the league. The same panel shall deal with transfer disputes between a club and a player

Player Transfers

7. A player wishing to transfer between league clubs within the league season shall need the agreement in writing of the Registrations Secretary. Transfers shall not be allowed after 31st July.
8. No overseas player shall be permitted to transfer from one member club to another member club in any one season.
9. A player may leave any one club and join another during a season provided he has discharged all liabilities to his original club.

Playing Times

10. All league matches shall commence at 12.30pm, with the exception of matches played in September, which shall commence at 12 noon. Match start times may be varied with the agreement of both clubs and the League Chairman or Secretary, who shall inform both the Umpires involved in the match.

The Toss

11. The Captains or nominated deputies shall toss for the choice of innings on the field of play not earlier than 30 minutes, nor later than 15 minutes, before the scheduled or rescheduled time for the match to start. In the event of a Captain or nominated deputy not being available to toss during the stipulated time period, the opposing team shall be awarded the toss for choice of innings.

Match Duration

12. Each match shall be 50 overs per side unless reduced by the Umpires. Any overs unused by the team batting first shall be disregarded.

Teas

13. The tea interval shall be 30 minutes in duration and shall normally be taken between innings. The Umpires are empowered to change the timing and length of the tea interval, or to forgo the tea interval altogether, depending upon match circumstances.
14. The home team shall be responsible for providing teas and shall meet all costs.

Ground, Weather and Light

15. The Captains may agree to reduce the available overs in a match at any time before play commences; subject to a minimum of twenty overs per side and the limitations as set out in Appendix B.
16. In all cases of time lost, the first 30 minutes of the delay or interruption shall be disregarded. This time is to be cumulative. If less than 30 minutes have been lost in total, no overs are deducted, but the end times of both innings are extended pro-rata accordingly.
17. In the event of a delayed start or a delay in the first innings, for every interruption one over shall be deducted from both sides for every full seven minutes of time lost.
18. In the event of time being lost in the second innings, one over shall be deducted for every full 3.5 minutes of time lost.
19. The par score shall be decided by multiplying the average run rate per valid ball of the team batting in the first innings by the number of valid balls received by the team batting in the second innings, ignoring fractions of a run. If the team batting first is bowled out, their full overs allocation applies.
20. A minimum of 20 overs must be played in the second innings to obtain a result. Should there be insufficient overs remaining after a stoppage to play 20 overs in the second innings, the match shall be immediately abandoned.

Match Balls

21. For all matches, two new balls shall be made available as approved by the League Management Committee. Each team shall provide one ball for each innings. The Umpires shall report any club failing to provide an official match ball. A fine of £25 shall be imposed for each offence and reimbursement shall be made to the club providing a new ball where the other team fails to supply one.
22. Match spare balls must be of the League standard and shall be supplied by the home team.

Bowling Restrictions

23. No bowler shall be allowed to bowl more than $\frac{1}{5}$ of the overs available in an innings, rounded up to the nearest full over as described in Appendix 2. If the bowling allocation is reduced, any overs already bowled surplus to the amended allowance shall stand. An over in progress at the start of an interruption shall be completed by the same bowler after the interruption regardless of this rule.

Free Hits

24. For all deliveries that are called as No-Balls, the Umpire shall award a free hit for the next ball to whichever batsman is facing it. If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery, then the next delivery shall become a free hit for whichever batsman is facing it, and so on. For any free hit, the striker can be dismissed only under the circumstances that apply for a no ball, even if the delivery for the free hit is called a wide ball.
25. No field changes are permitted for a free hit delivery unless there is a change of striker or there are safety issues for close fielders, either in front or behind the wicket.

26. The Umpire shall signal a free hit by extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.

Fielding Circle

27. Two semi-circles shall be marked on the field of play with their centres the middle stumps at either end of the pitch and their radii 30 yards. The semi-circles shall be linked by two parallel straight lines and marked with dots or disks at 5 yard intervals.

Power Plays

28. The Power Play shall consist of one block of 15 overs at the start of each innings of an uninterrupted match.
29. In a reduced overs innings, the powerplay shall be adjusted pro-rata to be 30% of the available overs, rounded down as described in Appendix 2. If an interruption occurs during a powerplay and causes the powerplay overs to be reduced, the powerplay is recommenced immediately upon resumption of play. If an interruption occurs during a powerplay that would cause the powerplay to end, the powerplay is ended immediately upon resumption of play and shall not apply to any remaining balls in that over.

Fielding Restrictions

30. At no time shall there be more than five fielders on the leg side, not including the wicket-keeper.
31. During the Power Play overs, only two fielders are permitted to be outside the fielding circle, not including the bowler and wicket-keeper.
32. When there is not a Power Play in progress, no more than five fielders are permitted outside the fielding circle, not including the bowler and wicket-keeper.

Penalties for contravention

33. If any fielding restriction is contravened, either Umpire shall immediately call and signal No-Ball.
34. If the Umpires fail to notice the contravention, provided the ball has not come in to play for the next ball or time has not been called; and upon being made aware, the Umpires shall confer. If they agree that the contravention has been missed, a retrospective No-Ball shall be called and the current ball shall be treated as a No-Ball.

Bouncers And Beamers

35. A bouncer is defined as a delivery that pitches and passes, or would have passed, above shoulder height of the striker stood upright at the crease. In addition, any ball that pitches and passes over head height of the striker stood upright at the crease will be called a no-ball as per Law 21.10.
36. A bowler shall be permitted one delivery as described above per over. The Umpire shall indicate to the bowler and to the striker when such a ball has been delivered. Upon any repetition of such a delivery in the same over, the Umpire shall implement Law 41.6.
37. A beamer is defined as a delivery which passes or would have passed on the full above waist height of the striker standing upright at the crease and the Umpire shall call and signal No-Ball for each delivery. If the Umpire deems such a delivery not to be slow-paced or to be dangerous, in the first instance Umpire shall call and signal No-Ball and indicate that this is a caution. Upon repetition of the offence, the Umpire will implement Law 41.7.

Wide Balls

38. Any delivery, which in the opinion of the Umpire, does not give the batsman a reasonable opportunity to score runs shall be called a wide. A line shall be marked 17 inches inside the return creases between the bowling and popping creases. Any delivery that passes either outside this line on the off side or outside the line of the leg stump of the striker shall be called a wide irrespective of the position of the striker.
39. A delivery passing between the legs of the striker and the wicket shall not be called a wide.

Declarations

40. Neither team shall be allowed to declare their innings closed.

Over Rates

41. Fielding sides are expected to have bowled the first ball of their allocated last over within their allocated time period as indicated by Appendix 2. For example, in a normal 50 over innings, this will be 3 hours 15 minutes. No extra time allowances shall be made for wickets taken, drying a wet ball, extras bowled, sightscreen movement or drinks intervals. Exceptional circumstances (as decided by the Umpires alone) shall be treated as time lost and shall have either over reductions or the innings end time extended as appropriate.
42. In shortened matches, the calculated time for the innings shall be 3.5 minutes per over, rounded up to the nearest minute, plus 20 minutes as described in Appendix 2.
43. The penalty for not having bowled the first ball of the allocated last over in the allocated time is six runs for every over that is short, ignoring part overs. This penalty shall be awarded immediately the allocated time expires, and shall be recorded under "penalty runs".

44. If the above penalty is awarded in the second innings and results in the team batting second achieving their target or exceeding a par score, the match is immediately at an end.

Grounds

45. A Grounds Sub-Committee shall be appointed by the League Management Committee to determine suitability of clubs entering the League from the feeder competitions. It shall comprise of a minimum of three individuals and shall also deal with pitch reports from Umpires. Failure to meet the Ground Criteria at the start of a season will result in a 50 point deduction, unless a valid reason for dispensation is granted by the Grounds Sub-Committee.
46. All clubs will nominate a home ground before the start of the season. A 50 point deduction will be imposed if the nominated ground is not used for any League game, unless two adverse umpires reports are received for a ground being unfit.
47. All clubs must completely cover the pitch during interruptions. Every reasonable effort must be made to ensure the pitch is fully covered 24 hours prior to the commencement of the match unless permission is given by either the League Chairman or Secretary. Upon failure to do so, and a report being received from the Umpires, the guilty party shall be fined £50 and shall be given a 20 points deduction.
48. A procedure for pitch reporting shall be agreed between the League Management Committee and Umpires Associations.
49. All creases shall be remarked during the tea interval by the home team. Failure to do so shall result in an Umpires report and a fine of £10 for each occasion.

Sight Screens

50. All clubs must have sightscreens at both ends.

51. It is the responsibility of the batting side to move sightscreens. By convention, the fielding side shall assist the first time a sightscreen needs to be moved at each end. After that, not having a sightscreen in place shall not be regarded by the Umpire as a valid reason for a batsman not to be ready to receive a delivery. Umpires shall monitor sightscreen movements closely and award penalty runs as appropriate.

Umpires and Scorers

52. Umpires shall be appointed by the League to officiate at matches and they shall be empowered to exercise their authority to uphold the Laws of Cricket and these match rules.
53. No match shall be cancelled without the agreement of a member of the League Umpires Panel. A fee of £10 is payable to an Umpire requested to assess the condition of the ground.
54. The Umpires shall take control of the ground 30 minutes before the scheduled start of play and shall be the sole judges of ground, weather and light conditions thereafter.
54. Umpires shall optionally mark clubs on the quality of the ground, playing surface and facilities. These forms shall be submitted to the League Secretary whenever deemed necessary.
56. Each team shall be responsible for paying an Umpire's expenses of £40 before the start of the match. £60 shall be payable (£30 each side) if only one Umpire is present. If no play is possible Umpires shall be entitled to half expenses. If the Umpires are still present at 3.45pm (3.15pm in September) and no play has taken place, the Umpires shall be entitled to full expenses.

57. For the purposes of these rules, “the Umpire” denotes the Umpire at the bowler’s end; “the Umpires” denotes both Umpires acting together.
58. All clubs must have separate Umpire changing facilities.
59. All Captains, Umpires and Scorers must have valid DBS certificates.
60. Apart from the rules stated here, the Umpires shall apply the Laws of Cricket.

Scorers

61. All teams must provide a non-playing competent Scorer. Any team failing to do this shall pay the opposing Scorer £40, if one is present. If neither team provides a non-playing competent Scorer, both clubs will be fined £40.

Points

62. A team shall win if
- it scores the most runs in an uninterrupted match, or
 - it exceeds the par score in a reduced match, or
 - the opposition does not achieve at least the par score in a reduced match.

Winning teams shall be awarded 25 points plus a 5 points if they bowl out the opposition.

63. The match is a tie if

the scores are level at the conclusion of an uninterrupted match, or

the team batting second achieves exactly the par score in a reduced innings match,

- regardless of wickets taken.

Tied teams shall be awarded 18 points and no bonus points.

64. If a match is cancelled or abandoned both sides shall be awarded 7 points.

65. Bonus points for a losing team shall be awarded as follows

125 runs scored	1 point	2 wickets taken	2 points
150 runs scored	2 points	4 wickets taken	4 points
175 runs scored	3 points	6 wickets taken	6 points
200 runs scored	4 points	8 wickets taken	8 points
225 runs scored	5 points	10 wickets taken	10 points

Any batting points shall be doubled for a team batting first.

In addition, bonus points shall be awarded to both teams as above if the first innings is completed and the match is subsequently abandoned; or if the first innings is still in progress three hours after the scheduled start time.

League Positions

66. Positions in the league table shall be determined by total number of points. In the event of two or more teams finishing on equal points, the league shall be determined in the following order: most wins, fewest defeats, highest number of bonus points, results in the two matches between the two teams, then runs/ wickets scored and taken in those matches. If still level, the League Management Committee shall arbitrate and, if necessary, arrange a play-off match.

Failure to Fulfil Fixtures

67. In the event of a member club failing to fulfil a fixture for any reason other than inclement weather, they shall be deducted 50 points and fined £100. The team available to play shall be awarded 25 points.
68. All matches are to be played on the date set by the Fixture Secretary. The higher teams in the club must always take priority on all occasions. Seven players must be present and able to take the field for the match to take place.

Match Result Reporting

69. All home clubs must report the full scores of a match or report the match was abandoned or cancelled to the League Secretary on 07760 222487 by 10 pm on the evening of the match. Failure to do so shall result in a fine of £20 per occasion.
70. Prior to the start of the match both Captains shall complete a card detailing the players representing their team and give them to the Umpires. The result and points gained shall be entered after the match, and then the Umpires shall sign the completed result card.

71. All score sheets must be entered on play-cricket.com by the home team within 48 hours of the match. Failure to do so shall result in a £20 fine.

ECB Directives

72. All ECB directives shall apply, and are to be strictly enforced by the Umpires.

Code of Conduct

73. A Code of Conduct shall be applied regarding player behaviour and breaches shall be progressed in accordance with the League's adopted procedures.
74. In addition to the disciplinary procedures described, any disciplinary offences deemed to be Levels Three and Four of Laws 42.4 and 42.5 shall not be implemented. They shall be treated as Level Two offences under Law 42.3 and shall be progressed in accordance with the League's adopted procedures.

Promotion and Relegation

75. The team finishing first in Division One shall, subject to rules and criteria laid down by the East Anglian Premier Cricket League, be eligible to participate in the competition for a place in that League.
76. The League shall adopt an active promotion and relegation policy. The 2019 season will feature three divisions of ten teams. At the end of the 2018 season, three teams will be relegated from Division One and one promoted from Division Two; four teams from Division Two will be relegated to Division Three, and three teams will be invited from each of the top divisions of the feeder leagues into Division Three, provided they wish to participate and meet the entrance criteria.

77. For the 2019 season onwards, the teams finishing in the bottom two positions of Division One shall be relegated to Division Two and the top two teams in Division Two shall be promoted to Division One, and similarly for Divisions Two and Three. Two teams will be relegated from Division Three back to their respective feeder leagues.
78. For the 2019 season onwards, The League shall invite the winners of the top divisions of the two feeder leagues into the competition for the following season provided they wish to participate and meet the entrance criteria.
79. Unusual circumstances may occur, and in such instances the League Management Committee are empowered to determine the promotion or relegation strategy.

Other Actions

80. In case of failure to comply with any of the above rules, or in any other exceptional circumstances, the League Management Committee shall have the authority to take such action as necessary in the best interests of the League.

APPENDIX 1

DISCIPLINARY REGULATIONS

1. AIMS AND JURISDICTION

1.1. The Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire Joint Disciplinary Committee (C&HJDC) will deal with all disciplinary matters involving clubs, players and officials competing in :-

- The Cambridgeshire & Huntingdonshire Premier League
- The Cambridgeshire Cricket Association
- All Cricket under the Cambridgeshire Cricket Board

1.2. To this end, these discipline regulations has been adopted by all the Leagues and Cup Competitions.

1.3. The regulations shall be complied with by all those who participate under the jurisdiction of any of the Leagues or Cups Management Committees. The regulations shall apply to any player, at any club, at any level, under the auspices of any of the listed Leagues and Cup Competitions.

1.4. The regulations are intended to provide assistance and uniformity to all clubs in dealing with any alleged breach of the Code of Conduct and The Spirit of Cricket.

1.5. Any club which fails to take all reasonable steps to ensure the proper conduct of its players, officials and/or members in all matters for which the club or its committee is responsible, or acts in any way which is prejudicial or detrimental to the interests or reputation of the League breaches this Code of Conduct.

1.6. There is nothing in this Code preventing or discouraging clubs from applying additional or stronger sanctions against offenders than those appearing within the Code, whether or not they are the subject of a discipline report. To this end, it is important that clubs have their own code of conduct and disciplinary procedures in place.

1.7. For the purposes of these regulations, the expression 'player' shall throughout this document be deemed to mean and include not only any player, whether professional or otherwise, but also any member or official of any club or any other person involved in any incident of alleged misconduct occurring on any part of a cricket ground or building and not merely the field of play.

2. CODE OF CONDUCT AND SPIRIT OF CRICKET

2.1. Code of Conduct

2.1.1. All Competitions as shown in 1.1 are committed to maintaining the highest standards of behaviour and conduct at cricket matches both on and off the field. All clubs and players, by virtue of their registration with their respective League and cup competitions, explicitly agree to abide by this Code of Conduct, which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket, and are bound by the provisions in these Regulations.

2.1.2. The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of Cricket as well as within the Laws.

2.1.3. Players and club officials must at all times accept the umpire's decision. Players must not show dissent at the umpire's decision or react in a provocative or disapproving manner towards another player or a spectator.

2.1.4. Players and club officials shall not intimidate assault or attempt to intimidate or assault an umpire, another player, a club official or a spectator.

2.1.5. Players and club officials shall not use crude and/or abusive language (known as "sledging"), nor make offensive gestures or hand signals, nor deliberately distract an opponent.

2.1.6. Players and club officials shall not use language or gestures that offend, insult, humiliate, intimidate, threaten, disparage or vilify another person on the basis of that person's race, religion, sexual orientation, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin.

2.1.7. Players and club officials shall not use or in any way be concerned in the use or distribution of illegal drugs.

2.1.8. Players and club officials shall not make any public or media comment which is detrimental to the League, clubs, umpires or the game in general. In this instance, media shall include press, radio, television, external websites, club websites, social networking sites and club match programmes.

2.1.9. Players and club officials shall not disclose or comment upon any alleged breach of this Code or upon hearing any report or decision arising from such breach.

2.1.10. Clubs must take adequate steps to ensure the good behaviour of their players, officials, members and supporters.

2.2. Spirit of Cricket

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains.

2.2.1. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.

2.2.2. The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

2.2.3. In the event of any player failing to comply with the instructions of an umpire, criticising his decision by word or action, showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, requesting the latter to take action.

2.2.4. Captains and umpires together set the tone for the conduct of a cricket match. Every player is expected to make an important contribution to this.

2.3. Fair and Unfair Play

2.3.1. According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play.

2.3.2. The umpires will intervene at any time, and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.

2.4. The umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:

2.4.1. Time wasting.

2.4.2. Damaging the pitch.

2.4.3. Dangerous or unfair bowling.

2.4.4. Tampering with the ball.

2.4.5. Any other action that they consider to be unfair.

2.5. The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:

2.5.1. Your opponents.

2.5.2. Your own captain and team.

2.5.3. The role of the umpires.

2.5.4. The game's traditional values.

2.6. It is against the Spirit of the Game:

2.6.1. To dispute an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture.

2.6.2. To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire.

2.6.3. To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice.

2.6.4. To appeal knowing the batsman is not out.

2.6.5. To advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing.

2.6.6. To seek to distract an opponent either verbally or by harassment with persistent clapping or unnecessary noise under the guise of enthusiasm and motivation of one's own side.

2.7. Violence

There is no place for any act of violence on the field of play.

3. BREACHES

3.1. A breach of the disciplinary regulations occurs when

3.1.1. Any player who offends against the Code of Conduct or acts at any time to prejudice the good name or interests of the Leagues.

3.1.2. Any club fails to properly control or discipline its players or acts in a manner prejudicial to the good name or interests of the Leagues.

3.2. Any player or club committing such a breach shall be liable to penalties in the manner prescribed in this document.

3.3. A breach of the Code of Conduct will normally be categorised as Level One, Two, Three or Four as set out in section 9.

4. PROCEDURE

4.1. Reporting of Breaches.

4.1.1. For a first offence of a Level One severity in a match, the umpire(s) should warn the player as to his future conduct and advise him and his captain that any repetition in the match will result in a formal report.

4.1.2. If any player receiving such a warning then commits a further offence in the match, the umpire(s) will advise him and his captain that they will be submitting a formal report.

4.1.3. Should the umpire(s) consider that the first offence is sufficiently serious, they have the authority to decide to submit a formal report without having previously issued any warning. The player and his captain will be advised accordingly.

4.1.4. Notification that a report is to be submitted following any alleged breaches must first be advised by the umpire(s) to the player and his captain or the executive of the player's club on the day of the alleged offence prior to leaving the ground. Where no appointed Umpire is present, the complaint may be lodged by a club.

4.1.5 All reports and complaints must be received by the relevant League Secretary within 72 hours of the alleged incident.

4.1.6 All reports and complaints may be made via letter or preferably email in plain text. Umpire(s) are free to use the official ECB report forms if they wish.

4.2. On receipt of a report or complaint

4.2.1. The relevant League Secretary will act as Disciplinary Secretary for that case.

4.2.2. If it is deemed by the Umpire(s) in their report (or the Panel in the case of a complaint) to be a Level One offence, the League Secretary will write to club within 72 hours and request information as to what action the club has taken.

4.2.3. The club will reply to the Secretary within seven days of receipt of the letter.

4.2.4. If the Panel decide that the action taken is sufficient, a letter to that effect will be sent to the relevant club within 72 hours of the decision and no further action will be taken. However, the Panel may decide to refer the report to a full Panel Hearing.

4.2.5. The Panel will automatically hear offences deemed to be above Level One.

4.3. Suspensions imposed shall be advised in writing to the relevant club's County Board. Match bans will apply to all cricket played under the auspices of ECB.

4.4. In the case of an incident involving a player under the age of 18 years old, the County Board Welfare Officer will immediately be informed. In such circumstances, the incident will be regarded as a welfare and child protection case. If the incident is being investigated by another organisation the Panel will await the outcome of that investigation before taking any further action.

5. DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS

5.1. If a hearing is required, then the relevant League Secretary will be responsible for arranging the hearing.

5.2. Format of the Disciplinary Committee

5.2.1. Each League shall nominate 3 people to sit on the Disciplinary Committee at the commencement of each season. No other persons will sit on the commission apart from these appointed people in that season. The nominated persons shall not be the League Chairmen nor their deputies.

5.2.2. The nominated person will act as the Chairman for their League's hearings on a case-by-case basis.

5.2.3. A member from two other Leagues would also be in attendance. An Umpires' representative will be present at all hearings, with full voting rights. Where it is deemed necessary, the relevant League Child Welfare Officer will be present but have no voting rights. The relevant League Secretary would act as the Panel Secretary but have no voting rights.

5.2.4. No member of the Panel should be connected with the player, the club or their opponents at the time of the alleged breach, or a club which might directly benefit from any disciplinary action.

5.3. Dates of Hearings

The Panel will convene monthly during the season on the last Wednesday of the month if required. Appeals will be heard on an ad-hoc basis, but may be heard on the same night as a Panel meeting if appropriate.

5.4. The accused player or club shall be entitled:

5.4.1. To submit written statements ahead of the hearing.

5.4.2. To attend the hearing.

5.4.3. To state his case (in the case of a club, by a club official).

5.4.4. To be supported by a colleague and to call witnesses.

5.4.5. To have legal representation. If the player or club is to have representation present at the hearing then the details of that representation must be given to the Panel Secretary not less than 48 hours before the date of the hearing. A club or player involved in disciplinary proceedings will be solely responsible for meeting such costs or expenses as it or they may incur, including the cost of any legal or other representation.

5.5. The standard of proof shall be on the balance of probabilities rather than the criminal standard of beyond reasonable doubt.

5.6. Decisions of the panel shall be by simple majority vote. Where necessary the Disciplinary Panel Chairman will use an extra casting vote.

6. APPEALS

6.1. A notice of appeal setting out the grounds must be given in writing to the hearing Secretary within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary Panel, together with a deposit of £50 if the appeal is by a player or £150 if the appeal is by a club.

6.2. If a notice of appeal is given, the penalty shall not take effect pending the hearing of the appeal, which shall take place as soon as is practicable and in any event within 14 days of receipt of notice of the appeal.

6.3. The player or club shall have the same entitlements as set out for the original hearing.

6.4. The relevant League Chairman or his nominated deputy will act as the Appeal Chairman on a case-by-case basis.

6.5. The Appeal Panel members will be constituted in the same manner as the original Hearing Panel. None of the original Hearing Panel members bar the Panel Secretary and the League Child Welfare Officer (if required) will sit on an appeal panel.

6.6. The only grounds for appeal will be

6.6.1. Mistaken identity.

6.6.2. Mistakes in procedure.

6.6.3. Production of new evidence.

6.6.4. Mitigating circumstances.

6.7. The appeal shall take the format of a complete re-hearing, taking regard to any extra evidence produced.

6.8. The appeal panel may

6.8.1. Dismiss the appeal for invalid grounds.

6.8.2. Waive or increase any penalties imposed by the original hearing.

6.9. Non-attendance at a hearing of the Appeals Panel by the club or person that submitted the appeal without good and valid reason for such non-attendance will automatically result in forfeiture of their right of appeal.

6.10. The decision arrived at by an appeal panel, or if no appeal is lodged within the proscribed time limit, of the hearing panel shall be final and binding on all parties.

6.11. Any decisions will be conveyed to the clubs and umpire(s) involved within seven days of the hearing date.

6.12. Decisions of the panel shall be by simple majority vote. Where necessary the Disciplinary Panel Chairman will use an extra casting vote.

7. PENALTIES

7.1. The following penalties should be expected to be imposed for any report or complaint found proven at a disciplinary hearing. The levels are as listed in section 9.

7.1.1. Level One Suspended for one to two weeks.

7.1.2. Level Two Suspended for two to six weeks.

7.1.3. Level Three Suspended for four to twelve weeks.

7.1.4. Level Four Suspended for a season or more.

7.1.5. More severe penalties will be incurred for repeat offences and offences involving Captains.

7.2. Where applicable, penalties will be carried over to apply in the following season.

7.3. Additional penalties

7.3.1. To record a reprimand and to give a warning as to future conduct to a player and/or a club.

7.3.2. To impose a fine and/or hearing and/or appeal costs.

7.3.3. To deduct League points from a club. If required, this may be at the start of the following season.

7.3.4. To expel the player or club from the League or Cup competition for any period of time.

7.3.5. To relegate a club one or more divisions.

7.4. Panels will take the following factors into account when determining the penalties to be imposed

7.4.1. If the accused player or club has pleaded guilty.

7.4.2. The player or club's previous disciplinary record.

7.4.3. If the player is also the captain.

7.4.4. The conduct of the player subsequent to him being warned and/or told that he will be reported

7.4.5. If an appeal is considered to be frivolous.

7.5. In addition, where an individual or their representative and/or witnesses behave inappropriately or fail to respect the formality of any hearing, the panel has the right to impose further penalties as it sees fit.

7.6. The panel shall have the power to suspend the operation of any part, or all, of any penalty it imposes for such period and subject to such terms and conditions it deems appropriate.

8. NON PAYMENT OF FINES

8.1. Any fine levied under these procedures or imposed for the breach of any match rule must be paid to the Treasurer of the League within 14 days of the Club being notified of such fine.

8.2. Any fines still outstanding at the end of that period shall be increased by 100% of the original fine, whence the Secretary or Chairman of the offending Club shall be notified to the effect that the fine is outstanding. They will be given a reminder that if after a period of fourteen days from that reminder, the fine is still outstanding, a deduction of five points shall be made from the points gained by the side that received the fine or in respect of a player or Club fine the player or the Club will be suspended until such time as the fines are paid.

8.3. In respect of other payments owed these shall be treated as if they were a fine, except that points shall not be deducted. Such payment shall continue to increase by 100% for each further twenty-eight day period that the payment remains outstanding.

9. BREACHES OF DISCIPLINE

Certain conduct, whether on or off the field of play of play, amounting to a breach of the Laws of Cricket and/or the Spirit of Cricket has been categorised into four levels which are set out in Law 42.2 and summarised below:-

Level 1

- a) wilfully mistreating any part of the cricket ground, equipment or implements used in the match.
- b) showing dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action
- c) using language that, in the circumstances, is obscene, offensive or insulting
- d) making an obscene gesture
- e) appealing excessively
- f) advancing towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
- g) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 1 offence

Level 2

- a) showing serious dissent at an umpire's decision by word or action
- b) making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with another player
- c) throwing the ball at a player, umpire or another person in an inappropriate and dangerous manner
- d) using language or gesture to another player, umpire, team official or spectator that, in the circumstances, is obscene or of a serious insulting nature
- e) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 2 offence

Level 3

- a) intimidating an umpire by language or gesture
- b) threatening to assault a player or any other person except an umpire.
- c) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 3 offence

Level 4

- a) threatening to assault an umpire
- b) making inappropriate and deliberate physical contact with an umpire
- c) physically assaulting a player or any other person
- d) committing any other act of violence
- e) any other misconduct, the nature of which is, in the opinion of the umpires, equivalent to a Level 4 offence

APPENDIX 2

REDUCED OVERS CALCULATIONS TABLE

Overs	Powerplay Overs	Mins to Complete	Overs Per Bowler
50	15	195	10
49	14	192	10
48	14	188	10
47	14	185	10
46	13	181	10
45	13	178	9
44	13	174	9
43	12	171	9
42	12	167	9
41	12	164	9
40	12	160	8
39	11	157	8
38	11	153	8
37	11	150	8
36	10	146	8
35	10	143	7
34	10	139	7
33	9	136	7
32	9	132	7
31	9	129	7
30	9	125	6
29	8	122	6
28	8	118	6
27	8	115	6
26	7	111	6
25	7	108	5
24	7	104	5
23	6	101	5
22	6	97	5
21	6	94	5
20	6	90	4