



HUDDERSFIELD

CRICKET LEAGUE

Rule Additions and Amendments Proposals for Season 2024 CLUB PROPOSALS

ITEM 1:

Scorers should have a private space to score, which they should both use together.

Rule L4.6.9

Rewrite the Rule to reflect the above.

Club Comment: One of our scorers, having scored in a very public area in front of the bar found it difficult to concentrate. There were lots of people congregating around the scorers and it was very distracting. We are therefore proposing that the umpires shall ensure that both scorers should score together in a private scoreboard or private area.

Executive Comment: The Executive support this proposal which not only spells out that scorers should have their own private area to score in, but should work together at all times.

ITEM 2:

Home teams to provide teas in Premiership; Championship and Conference.

Rule L8.20.4

Rewrite: Home teams to provide teas in top 3 divisions, optional in remaining divisions.

Club Comment: None

Executive Comment: The Executive do NOT support this proposal, and believe the current rules provides enough flexibility for clubs to make their own decisions whether to provide teas at the interval between innings. Should they wish to clubs can also provide their own catering at a time to suit themselves. We believe that the current position meets the needs of the vast majority of our clubs.

ITEM 3:

Increase time lost due to stoppages in line with DLS.

Rule L8.18.1.4

Change: 3 minutes to 3.5 minutes.

Rule 8.18.2

Change: "every full 6 minutes" to "every full 7 minutes".

Rule L8.18.3

Change: "every full 6 minutes" to "every full 7 minutes".

Club Comment: None

Executive Comment: The Executive do NOT support this proposal, and point out that this increase from 6 minutes to 7 minutes is not only inconsistent with time lost for any pre match delays (which reduces a game by 1 over per team for every 6 minutes lost), but would also be in conflict with the League's decision to use 30 minutes waiver time before implementing DLS.

ITEM 4:

Failure to score on play cricket.

Rule L4.6.14.1

Add Clubs to be fined £10 if they fail to do so. This fine will be doubled for repeat offences.

Club Comment: None

Executive Comment: The Executive do NOT support this proposal, and feel that the vast majority of clubs are scoring on line, or doing their best to do so, and should not be fined when things don't go to plan.

ITEM 5:

Turn on DLS prior to the start of the match.

New Rule L4.6.14.2

DLS to be turned on for all games prior to the start of all matches.

Club Comment: None

Executive Comment: *The Executive do NOT support this proposal. This will give a false indication that the match may have been decided by DLS, and recommend that DLS is only turned on after the first suspension break when its use will be completely necessary.*

ITEM 6:

12 noon start times for ALL Senior League and Cup fixtures.

Rule L7.3

Delete: "Premiership; Championship and Conference matches -12.30pm.

All Alliance matches – 1.00pm"

Insert: 12noon for 12.30pm and 12noon for 1.00pm.

Club Comment: None

Executive Comment: *The Executive do NOT support this proposal, and feel that the current start times in line with the Experimental Rules are perfectly adequate – See Item 22. We do however, recommend a change to a 12 noon start time for 50 over games in September – See Item 13.*

ITEM 7:

Change Sykes Cup Format to include the use of coloured clothing and an orange ball.

Delete, add and rewrite Cup Rules as appropriate:

Coloured clothing to be made mandatory, along with the use of an orange ball in all Sykes Cup ties.

Club Comment: *Change the Sykes Cup rules to make it a different challenge and different game to standard league games. As already done in ECB Premier Leagues (Yorkshire Leagues Knock Out Cup)*

Executive Comment: *The Executive support this change to the Sykes Cup rules which they believe would promote more interest in the competition.*

Although the proposal for coloured clothing is mandatory, should this we voted in be would expect to initially take a lenient view if some of our clubs found this difficult to comply with.

ITEM 8:

Change the Sykes Cup Format by reducing the number of overs to a maximum of 40 overs per innings.

Delete, add and rewrite Cup Rules as follows and as appropriate:

Change the length of innings to 40 overs per innings and adapt all associated rules – including power plays and bowling restrictions.

Club Comment: *Change the Sykes Cup rules to make it a different challenge and different game to standard league games. As already done in ECB Premier Leagues (Yorkshire Leagues Knock Out Cup)*

Executive Comment: *The Executive are divided on this change to the rule, and although they acknowledge that a shortened format could heighten the level of competition, will be guided by the clubs on this proposal.*

ITEM 9:

Earnshaw Cup to become an optional competition.

Rule L1.5.2

After " T20 competitions" **Add** ",and Earnshaw Cup....."

Club Comment: *Since the Earnshaw Cup started, the first round of the competition has had a significantly high concession rate. It is evident that due to a variety of reasons, some clubs find it difficult to fulfil fixtures, especially in the early stages of the competition. We are therefore asking that clubs can have the option of opting out of the competition, should they wish to do so.*

Executive Comment: *Since this is a subsidiary competition to the Paddock Shield, and understanding that involvement in one of the two 1st X1 Cup competitions could stretch a club's playing resources, the Executive acknowledge support for this potential opting out of the competition. However, we also fully recognise that the Earnshaw Cup, as an important competition for those clubs qualified to enter, and acknowledge the success of competition to date.*

ITEM 10:

Slow Over Rate Penalty

Add to Rule L8.14.2 "for each full over which remains to be bowled one additional fielder will be required to remain within the 30-yard fielding circle".

Club Comment: *An example of the rule change would be:*

If 47.5 overs have been bowled when 3 hours 10 minutes of playing time in a 50 over game has been completed, the fielding side would be required to have at least 5 fielders and a wicket keeper within the circle from the start of the 48th over. Any infringement of this restriction would be called 'no ball'.

Our rationale for this proposal is to incentivise the completion of games within the scheduled time. The current fine regime (which this rule would be added to and not replace) does not provide sufficient motivation for captains to keep the game moving. On field and cricketing penalties should provide a greater incentive and avoid games over-running

Executive Comment: *The Executive support this proposal which offers a gentle on field reminder to teams, and may also have an immediate impact on the playing of the game. This is also in line with the T20 Competitions Rule.*

ITEM 11:

Slow Over Rate Penalty

Add to Rule L8.14

If a team infringes Rule L18.14.1 more than once, during a season, the captain of the fielding side on that day of the infringement will be suspended from playing the following fixture for the club.

Club Comment: *Our rationale for this proposal is to incentivise the completion of games within the scheduled time. The current fine regime (which this rule would be added to and not replace) does not provide sufficient motivation for captains to keep the game moving. On field and cricketing penalties should provide a greater incentive and avoid games over-running.*

Executive Comment: *The Executive do NOT support this proposal. We feel that captains now have a lot more on field responsibilities to deal with, and especially with the extra accountability for player/team behaviour. We feel that this proposal is an extra unnecessary burden on team captains.*

ITEM 12:

Slow Over Rate Penalty

Add to Rule L8.14

If a team infringes rule 18.14.1 more than once, during a season, a penalty of one point will be imposed. This penalty will be increased by a further one point for each subsequent infringement.

(For clarity a second infringement would incur a one point penalty, a third two points and a fourth three points etc)

Club Comment: *Our rationale for this proposal is to incentivise the completion of games within the scheduled time. The current fine regime (which this rule would be added to and not replace) does not provide sufficient motivation for captains to keep the game moving. On field and cricketing penalties should provide a greater incentive and avoid games over-running.*

Executive Comment: *The Executive feel that this deduction of points would give more teeth to the rule, and more incentive for the completion of the overs in the allotted time. However, in view of the nature of the sanction the Executive are neutral on this proposal, and will be guided by the votes of the clubs.*

EXECUTIVE PROPOSALS

ITEM 13:

Earlier Start times in September for 50 over games.

Rule L7.3

Adapt the appropriate League Rules to reflect a 12 noon start for the two Premiership; Championship and Conference matches during September.

Executive Comment: *With a sunset time of prior to 7.30pm on the last games of the season, the Executive believe that a 12 noon start for all 50 over games would ensure that every chance is given to getting games completed before the onset of poor light.*

ITEM 14:

Fine for failure to respond for request for Annual Dinner/Awards Presentation Evening Tickets.

New Rule 13.1.4: All clubs will be informed of the Dinner arrangements at least 6 weeks before the event, with a response date for ticket orders 4 weeks prior to the event. Any club who fails to meet this deadline will be fined £10, with an additional fine of £10 for each further week/s or part week/s that the details are not received.

Executive Comment: *The Executive feel that the inclusion of this rule, along with a small fine as a deterrent, may remind clubs of their responsibilities for meeting such deadlines. It should not be for the event organisers to constantly remind clubs of their duties.*

ITEM 15:

Increase the level of fine for not attending Council Meetings.

Rule L3.4.3.4

Delete £5

Insert £10

Executive Comment: *The current fine for non-attendance at Council Meetings has been in the League Rules since 1996, and in current terms equates to approximately £11.55. The Executive feel that the increase to £10 is more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 16:

Increase the level of fine for not attending the AGM.

Rule L3.1.5

Delete £10

Insert £20

Executive Comment: *The current fine for non-attendance at the AGM has been in the League Rules since 1996, and in current terms equates to approximately £23.10. The Executive feel that the increase to £20 is a more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 17:

Increase the level of fine for the failure to vote on Rule Proposals at AGM or SGM.

Rule L12.4.2

Delete £20

Insert £40

Executive Comment: *The current fine for not voting on Rule Proposals has been in the League Rules since 1994, and in current terms equates to approximately £49.00. The Executive feel that the increase to £40 is a more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 18:

Failure to submit TMRF on time.

Rule L8.22.8

Delete £10

Insert £20

Executive Comment: *The current fine for not submitting the TMRF on time has been in the League Rules since 1998, and in current terms equates to approximately £21.70. The Executive feel that the increase to £20 is a more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 19:

Playing an unregistered player.

Rule L6.2.2

Delete £20

Insert £40

Executive Comment: *The current fine for playing an unregistered player has been in the League Rules since 1994, and in current terms equates to approximately £49.00. The Executive feel that the increase to £40 is a more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 20:

Slow over rate.

Rule L18.14.2

Delete in line three **£5 plus £3.**

Insert £10 plus £5

Executive Comment: *The current fine for a slow over rate has been in the League Rules since 1992, and in current terms "£5 plus £3" equates to approximately "£12.75 plus £7.65". The Executive feel that the increase outlined above is a more realistic deterrent, and would like the backing of the clubs in supporting this change.*

ITEM 21:

New Rule added to Rule 12.

The League Executive reserve the right to add new rules or amend existing rules, if doing so improves the smooth administration of the league or enhances the future of the league.

These new or amended rules will not be placed before an AGM for clubs to vote upon, but any changes will be circulated to clubs prior to the season where at all possible.

Executive Comment: *The Executive believe that a mandate from clubs to revise and amend current rules as appropriate, would not only help to increase and improve the efficient running of the League, but would give an added vote of confidence in those who have been elected to administer the affairs of the League on behalf of the clubs.*

EXPERIMENTAL CONDITIONS OF PLAY RULES

We would encourage all clubs who do NOT have direct experience of, or specific involvement/interest in the "experimental" playing conditions used during the 2023 season to use the abstain option when voting on ITEMS 22 - 26 to allow a reasoned outcome.

*The outcomes of each item will be based on all Votes cast **For and Against**. A two thirds majority on votes cast "For" will be needed for each of these items to be adopted into the rules of the League.*

Should any rule NOT be incorporated into League Rules it will be subject to any other rule change proposals included in this set of proposals directed at the relevant rule.

ITEM 22:

All 50 over cricket to start at 12.30pm.

Delete Rule L7.3 (2022) Line 3 – "1st XI Competition: April to August 1.00pm and September 12.30pm."

New Rule L7.3 (2023 & From 2024) Line 3 "Premiership, Championship and Conference matches – 12.30pm."

Executive Comment: *This start time of 12.30pm is in line with many other Leagues of our standing, and in particular ECB Premier Leagues. Recent ECB surveys, also supported by our Players' Forum, have highlighted that many players are keen on earlier start times in order to free up extra evening social time. Adopting this experimental change to a full change to rule is fully endorsed by the Executive.*

ITEM 23:

Alliance 3 & Alliance 4 to play 40 overs instead of 45 overs.

Delete Rule 9.4.1 (2022)

New Rule L8.10.3 (2023 & From 2024)

Executive Comment: *This is also in line with ECB Policy with a view to encouraging participation especially for younger players, and especially in our lower divisions.*

Adopting this experimental change to a full change to rule is fully endorsed by the Executive.

ITEM 24:

Bowling limits in the Alliance Division to be increased to 12 overs per bowler.

Delete Rule 9.4.1 (2022) which allows a maximum of 9 overs per bowler in the fourth division from seven.

New Rule L8.11.2 (2023 & From 2024) "*In Alliance matches, no bowler may bowl more than 12 overs in an innings.....*"

Executive Comment: *In the new seven tier league structure, the Executive feel that since we now have the potential for the fourth division of seven to include several 1st teams with Conference Level experience and above, that this division should more reflect the previous 1st XI Competition rather than the old*

Premiership 2. This also prepares teams who gain promotion to the Conference for the playing conditions they will experience in the forthcoming season.

Adopting this experimental change to a full change to rule is fully endorsed by the Executive.

ITEM 25:

Leg Side wides to be introduced into the Alliance Division.

Add to Rule L8.12 (2022) ".....Alliance....."

New Rule L8.12 (2023 & From 2024) "In Premiership, Championship, Conference and Alliance matches deliveries passing wide of the leg stump, and outside the line of the batsman's body, that do not come into contact with the bat or any part of the batsman's person, shall be called WIDE."

Executive Comment: *In the new seven tier league structure, the Executive feel that since we now have the potential for the fourth division of seven to include several 1st teams with Conference Level experience and above, that this division should more reflect the previous 1st XI Competition rather than the old Premiership 2. This also prepares teams who gain promotion to the Conference for the playing conditions they will experience in the forthcoming season.*

Adopting this experimental change to a full change to rule is fully endorsed by the Executive.

ITEM 26:

No more than 5 fielders on the Leg Side introduced into the Alliance Division.

In Rule L8.13.3 Delete "In all 1st XI Competition matches....."

New Rule L8.13.3 Insert "In Premiership, Championship, Conference and Alliance matches, at the instant of delivery, there shall be no more than 5 fielders on the leg side. In the event of any infringement the umpire at square leg shall call and signal "no ball".

Executive Comment: *In the new seven tier league structure, the Executive feel that since we now have the potential for the fourth division of seven to include several 1st teams with Conference Level experience and above, that this division should more reflect the previous 1st XI Competition rather than the old Premiership 2. This also prepares teams who gain promotion to the Conference for the playing conditions they will experience in the forthcoming season.*

Adopting this experimental change to a full change to rule is fully endorsed by the Executive.
