

Neon Cricket Wiltshire County Cricket League

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Circular to NCWCCL Clubs 5th March 2021

Plans for the Season

As was stated at the AGM, the league is planning for a normal season, albeit with running lanes, sanitation breaks, etc, as in 2020. The release of the government roadmap confirms that we are very likely to be able to go ahead on this basis, but we are waiting for the ECB follow-up clarifications to confirm the details.

Teas

The roadmap also makes it clear that, at least for the first part of the season, it will not be possible to have cricket teas. The league have therefore decided that clubs will not be required to provide teas at any point during the season, even once it does become possible once again. However, once teas are allowed to be provided, home teams may contact their opposition beforehand and offer to provide them. If this is done, the league rule 34a will not apply, the teams should agree beforehand as to how much the away team will contribute towards the cost of providing teas.

The subject of teas in 2022 will be discussed after the 2021 season.

Umpires

As announced at the AGM, for the 2021 season the league will once again be awarding points for umpires, using the same points structure as 2019.

A player/umpire will be considered to be Forum-trained if they complete any of the following courses:

- Umpire Introductory
- Umpire Stage One
- Umpire Stage Two

They will be considered to be ACO-Trained if they have completed Umpire Stage One and Umpire Stage Two. As ever, any player/umpire who was previously considered to be Forum-Trained or ACO-Trained will continue to be so.

Umpire Stage One is currently available as a free online course. Bookings can be made via <https://booking.ecb.co.uk/c/express/f34d46f4-afe5-4459-94d7-4ab66ab0235c>

We are also currently investigating whether/when the other courses will be available.

Once courses have been completed, please email me the certificates and I will update the records on the WCCL website to reflect this so that the correct points are awarded.

More Umpires

Most teams in divisions 1 and 2, and some teams in lower divisions provide an umpire to stand each week. We know that in a lot of cases, the umpires like to stand for their own club. However, we are also aware that some umpires would prefer to officiate in a match where they are neutral. To this extent, the league is considering creating an umpires pool. Each week, clubs could choose

to put an umpire into the pool, and would receive a neutral umpire from the pool in return. The scheme would be completely voluntary – we are well aware that many umpires who currently stand would not be prepared to do this – and the pool would only be for ACO-Trained umpires. The scheme would start in 2022.

As a first step, the league would like to know how many clubs have an umpire who would be interested in umpiring neutral matches through this route. Obviously this will only work if there is enough interest. **Division 1 and 2 clubs: response required.** Division 3 and below, please let me know if you have an umpire who would be interested.

Spring Meeting and Ball Delivery

The league will not be holding a Spring Meeting this year. Therefore as in 2020, match balls and score books will be delivered to club officers by the league. I will be in touch nearer the time to confirm delivery dates and addresses.

The league are working with the Wiltshire Youth Cricket League and Wiltshire Cricket to deliver all cricket balls through a single delivery.

Invoices

Clubs will be receiving the invoices for their league fees and match balls at the end of March. Please make sure these are paid before the season starts.

Club Officers and Contact Details

Please make sure your club officers are up to date on the league website. At the time of writing, the following clubs need to provide/confirm their details for 2021: Biddestone CC, Bradford on Avon CC, Lacock CC, Marshfield CC, Spye Park CC, Warminster CC, and the following have provided some details but still have some missing: Great Bedwyn CC, Hinton Charterhouse CC, Marlborough CC, Ramsbury CC, Trowbridge CC, Wroughton Wranglers CC. **Action required by all clubs listed.**