



## **THE EDWARDS CUP**

- **Proposal for discussion at SC Council Meeting October 2017**

## **Current organization of the Competition**

- Rounds 1-4 are played during midweek evenings from April to July.
- Finals Day (semis and final) has to occur before the date the ECB National stages start (in 2017 this was 23<sup>rd</sup> July)
- In 2017 there were 40 clubs who entered (there are 60 Clubs eligible to enter). There were 3 concessions after matches had been arranged due to Clubs not being able to raise a side

## **The Intention of this proposal**

- To increase participation – more Clubs entering
- To reduce reliance on midweek with its availability and light issues
- To create a better experience for the players – the ‘buzz’ of t20 tournament matches

## The Proposal

- To create a 'Super Monday' on the late May Bank Holiday where 8 Clubs will host 3 other teams in a playoff (effectively Rounds 2 and 3)
- To get to the 32 Clubs for Super Monday there would be midweek matches in Round 1 (in 2017 there were 8 matches in Round 1)
- Clubs would be invited to host on both a geographical basis – not necessarily Premier League grounds – and on their ability to host (changing rooms etc)
- If Clubs had two grounds then both 'semis' could take place at the same time, otherwise the format would follow Finals Day with, for example, starts at 11am, 2pm & 5pm.
- In the event of a wet day the format would change back to midweek fixtures arranged by the Clubs OR there could be bowl outs...
- Round 4 (Quarter Finals) could be arranged on a Sunday as Clubs would have about 6 weeks to find a suitable date. Because Sundays are traditionally difficult with established fixtures/juniors/academies we would not have a specified date for the Round but leave it to Clubs to find common ground. If neither Club wanted a Sunday match then it would be played in midweek by arrangement as before
- Finals day would remain the same – 2 semi finals and the Final to determine the winners of The Edwards Cup