

NOTE FOR THE SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP AGM 2019

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION AND PLAYING CONDITIONS

Due to the volume of changes to be made to the Constitution and Playing Conditions, particularly with the proposed introduction of Tier 4 Playing conditions, this note provides only a brief summary of those changes that are more for house-keeping and focusses on the more substantial changes proposed for 3rd, 4th and 5th XI cricket in the county. Copies of the Constitution and Playing Conditions are attached to this note, with all proposed changes marked, so that those who wish to consider all proposed amendments in more detail are able to do so. Please note that all paragraph numbers and cross-references will be checked and updated once the amendments have been voted upon, so we know which changes are accepted and which are not.

CONSTITUTION

Rules

R3 – Composition

We propose to delete the requirement in 3(b) for a club to have a 1st XI in one of the 1st XI Leagues, so as to allow clubs with teams in lower XIs to be able to vote on matters that affect them. This proposed deletion is linked to the proposed amendments to R7 (see below).

R4 – The Form of the Championship

Since the Constitution includes certain provisions on how games shall be played, at Appendix 1, we propose adding the words 'and this Constitution' to R4(a).

We propose amending R4(b) concerning the composition of the Championship to take into account the proposed changes to the structure for cricket below 3rd XI First Division. If the proposed changes to the structure are not agreed, then this amendment falls away.

R5 - Administration

We propose to draw all matters of governance into R5, so that the provisions previously set out in R11 concerning the appointment of the Rules and Playing Conditions Sub-Committee and the Disciplinary Sub-Committee will be set out in the same Rule that provides for the election of the Executive Committee.

R7 – Voting

Linked with the proposed change to R3(b) above, the amendments proposed to R7 are intended to allow any club that would be affected by any change to the Constitution or any set of the Playing Condition to be entitled to vote on that proposed change.

R9 – Finance

We propose changing the deadline for payment by clubs set out in R9(d) from a fixed date (15 May) to 'within 7 days of the start of the season', to reflect the fact that the date on which each season starts can vary significantly from year to year.

R11 – Discipline, Disputes and Breaches

We propose to rename this Rule "Discipline, Disputes, Breaches and Appeals", to make it clear that the provisions for appeals are set out in this Rule.

A number of the amendments proposed follow from the proposed amendments to R5(d) above, so that we are deleting provisions that now fall in Rule 5. The rest of the amendments are intended to clarify the appeals process: which decisions fall within the Rule; and to separate each stage of the appeal process into a separate sub-rule, for ease of reference. Finally, we propose changing the word 'deposit' to 'payment', since the sum to be paid is non-refundable irrespective of the outcome of the appeal. Other than this minor amendment, we do not propose to make any substantive changes to the appeals process.

Appendix 1

PC9 – Promotion and Relegation

We propose substantial amendments to this Playing Condition so far as it applies to teams playing in the proposed Tier 4 and for relegation from Tier 3 to the proposed Tier 4. All other provisions remain as before, so the proposed changes do not affect any 1st or 2nd XIs, or the 3rd Premier Division.

PC11 – Cancelling and Conceding Matches

In order to address the concerns that have been raised about teams who persistently concede games, we propose to remove the limit of this Playing Condition 11(c), so that all teams that concede 5 matches within a season can be required to withdraw from their respective division. As with the original draft, the Executive Committee still has an overriding discretion to waive, suspend or modify the sanction, in appropriate circumstances. We also propose a minor amendment to 11(f) to reflect the changes proposed to the playing structure below 3rd XI First Division.

PC14 - Artificial Pitches

We propose a minor amendment to reflect the fact 5th XIs may also be playing on artificial pitches, so the original wording of 'Third and Fourth XI games' was too restrictive.

PC15 – Special provisions

We propose to remove the words 'the application of' from this rule, as the words are not necessary.

Appendix 2 – Code of Conduct

3 – Disciplinary Committee

We propose to amend the reference to Rule 11 to Rule 5, to reflect the changes proposed above.

As above, we propose to amend the word 'deposit' to 'payment', since the sum to be paid is non-refundable irrespective of the outcome of the appeal.

PLAYING CONDITIONS – TIERS 1 AND 2

Over Rates and Points Deductions – Timed Games

The only substantive amendment proposed to these Playing Conditions is to provide that the Rules and Playing Conditions Sub-Committee shall write to any club that is subject to such a penalty to confirm the position within 7 days of the relevant match, but that the club cannot appeal the imposition of the penalty.

PLAYING CONDITIONS – TIER 3

The amendments proposed to these playing conditions fall into 3 categories:

- 1 Amendments relating to the fact that the Playing Conditions no longer apply to any teams below the First Division of the 3rd XI.
- 2 Amendments relating to the timing of matches.
- 3 Administrative amendments.

Amendments relating to the fact that the Playing Conditions no longer apply to any teams below the First Division of the 3rd XI.

We propose amending all headings to reflect the changes to the teams to which these Playing Conditions will apply.

Schedule 8, Rule 1 - Duration

With the removal of teams below the First Division of the 3rd XI, all games will: start at 12pm, in all rounds; consist of 50 overs per innings; and shall be subject to the application of the Golden Half Hour.

Schedule 9

With the removal of teams below the First Division of the 3rd XI, all games will: start at 12pm; last a minimum of 100 overs; and finish either at 6.50 or when the minimum allocation of overs has been bowled.

Amendments relating to the timing of matches

From the data we have gathered over the last 2 seasons, it is clear that the target of 17 overs per hour is simply unrealistic. That is already reflected in Rule 1(c) to Schedule 8, which provides that captains should ensure that their overs are bowled at an average of 16 overs per hour. This equates to one over every 3.75 minutes, and we propose to amend all references to timing and duration to reflect this over rate, as follows:

Schedule 8, Rule 1 – Duration

We propose that Rule 1 shall provide that matches should finish at 6.50, but will have a scheduled finish time of 7.20, to take into account the fact that, if the match is delayed, the Golden Half Hour must be taken into account when calculating the time by which a game must be completed.

We propose to amend the timing in Rule 1(e) from one over per innings for every 7 minutes lost to one over per innings for every 7.5 minutes lost, to reflect the amendment from 17 overs per hour to 16 overs per hour.

In the rules relating to suspended matches, all reference to time per over shall read '3.75 minutes' rather than '3.5 minutes'

We propose an amendment to provide that the time taken for drinks breaks in each innings shall not be taken into account when calculating the time for completion of a match. Only the tea break must be included in any calculations.

Schedule 9

Again, in the rules relating to delayed or interrupted matches, the reference to time per over shall read '3.75 minutes' rather than '3.5 minutes' and the overs will be reduced at a rate of 2 per 7.5 minutes, rather than 7 minutes.

Administrative amendments

Schedule 8, Rule 1(d)

We propose to add 'in accordance with Rule 1(e) herein' to make it clear on what basis the umpires may reduce the number of over.

PLAYING CONDITIONS - TIER 4

Clubs are referred to the Note circulated in November for full details of what is proposed for the playing structure of all XIs below the First Division of the 3rd XI, which will be governed by the new Tier 4 Playing Conditions. Full details of the proposals can be found here: <http://www.surreychampionship.com/3rd-4th-xi-cricket-in-2019-53799> .