**LG L&DCC PRE-SEASON CAPTAIN'S MEETING 2017**

*Tuesday 4th April at Bootle CC*

**Food was served from 6.30pm onwards The Meeting was from 7.00 pm to 8.30pm**

7.03 pm John Williams welcomed captains or their representatives to this meeting and set out the reasons for these evenings. Introductions round the room were carried out.

**Agenda**

1. **Rule changes from AGM 2017  -**
2. Playing Regulations
3. Cup Regulations
4. Getting Registrations done before the season starts
5. Managed Migration

**2.**    **A Refresher on Captain’s Match Day responsibilities**

2.2 DBS checks for captains

1. **Pitch and Umpires Marking 2017**
2. **Disciplinary Procedure 2017**

**5.**    **Run through of 2017 revisions to the Laws of Cricket**

5.2 Umpiring and Scoring Issues - TCS/ the ECB App

**6**.    **Representative Cricket in 2017**

**7.    Open Forum**

**1.1/1.2 CAPTAINS’ MEETING 2017 – CHANGES TO PLAYING REGULATIONS (LEAGUE & CUP MATCHES**)

The various clause changes affecting the management of fixtures, the playing of matches and the reporting of results are listed below. Those included in the Playing Regulations (pp 44 to 55 in the L&DCC Handbook) are given without page numbers, those affecting the various cup regulations are given with the page number.

1.3.3 Agreements relating to the rearrangement of fixtures must be confirmed by email.

3.1.2.1 Spare balls of either approved type may be used if there is no spare the same as the lost/damaged ball available.

4.1.1.2 Any match may commence up to two hours earlier than the scheduled start with agreement of both teams and approval a league official.

6.1 In 3rd XI matches the rule that a club must fulfil fixtures at the highest level will not apply.

7.1.4 Concerns player eligibility for 2nd XI matches rearranged for a Sunday. If the away team feels disadvantaged by the ‘locking’ rule (clause 4.1.2) it may refer the matter to the Management Committee for a ruling.

7.1.5.3 The 50% eligibility rule no longer includes cup matches in the 11-match countback.

8.1.3 The home team must advise both umpires when a match is rearranged.

8.3.3 **Any** high full pitch delivery above waist height will be called a no ball.

Appendix 2 – Team Sheets An additional paragraph has been included as follows:

I**t will be a disciplinary offence for any team sheet to include a false name or names. The team captain will be held responsible and the match defaulted as described above (Clause 6.2.6).**

The captain will be banned for 2 weeks in accordance with the precedent set in 2016.

Various Cup Competitions (pp 56 to 69)

Page 56 – 1.1 & 1.2 **The new arrangements for the 1st and 2nd XI competitions** are explained. I am sure you are all aware of the split between the top 16 teams and the rest at each level. All competitions will be more competitive and require fewer rounds, allowing them to start later in the season and so reduce conflict between County and National KOs.

 1.3 The use of Wimbledon style draws means planning for the next rounds is less hassle.

 2.1 & 2.2 Each round is given a play-on date with a reserve date one week later. All matches must be played on one or other of these dates with a result achieved even if this requires a coin toss.

Page 57 – 2.6 Reversing the venue if a team travels and the match is abandoned without a ball being bowled providing the reserve date is still available.

 3.1.2 Eligibility for 2nd XI players clarified.

 3.1.3 Eligibility for 3rd XI players clarified.

 4.3.1 MCUA to be advised as soon as possible and consequences for the home team if this does not happen.

Page 58 8.3 In accordance with changes in the LCB KO the additional time available in the event of play being suspended is reduced to a maximum of half an hour.

Page 59 8.5.1-3 Several changes to bring the ‘bad weather’ rules in line with National KO rules, also now adopted by LCB we believe. Adjustment of overs lost/remaining based on 3 min 45 secs per over. Each team must have the opportunity to bat 20 overs.

 8.5.4 If this is not possible and there is sufficient time and conditions allow, a new match of 10 overs per side shall be played.

Page 61 8.9.4 This covers the result decision in 8.5 above when a match is reduced to a minimum of 20 overs. Unfortunately, there should be a note referring to clause 8.5.4 above.

 8.9.8 Once a match has started a result must be achieved using one of the several options.

Page 63 **ECB NatWest Club t20** – inclusion in the title of the ECB U19 t20. Note that these are the ECB’s 2016 rules and we haven’t been advised of any changes other than the National Round dates.

 2 To save space in the Handbook many of the Generic Rules have been omitted but these are included in the website document.

 3 1.3 – ECB rules refer to National rounds but some of them apply to the L&DCC competition

 4 4.2 – included to cover the various County U19 t20s. Clubs not entering will not be penalised.

Page 64 11 11.1 – the date for the National Final has now been agreed – Monday September 11th at Derby CCC.

Page 68 **Chrysalis Trophy & Embee Trophy** – one major change is the removal of reference to the U16 & U21 t20 competitions which will not be held in 2017. There were some objections at the AGM to these exclusions and these rules were put in abeyance for further consultation. No club has offered a nomination for either competition and the Pre-Season SGM will be asked to confirm these rules on pages 68 and 69.

 3.1 T20 competition matches are general played on midweek evenings and so play-by dates are the norm. Adherence to these dates is vital for the competitions to run smoothly.

 3.2 Home clubs must offer a minimum of two dates, one of which must be a weekday evening. As with main cups agreement must be confirmed by email and copied to the appropriate Assistant Results Secretary. A list of these officials is on page 3 of the Handbook.

 5.1 Clarification and hopefully simplification of 2nd XI eligibility rules.

 5.3 Clarification and hopefully simplification of 3rd XI eligibility rules.

Page 69 8.1 Incorporation of ECB NatWest t20 playing conditions as above.

 8.3 Reference to the need to achieve a result once a match has started as in clause 8.9.8 of the main cup competitions (above).

# 1.3 REGISTRATION OF NEW PLAYERS FOR 2017

4th April 2017

Important information on the registration of players ready for season 2017:

In order to avoid a repeat of last year’s mad rush to get players registered to play in time for the first game  Clubs are **urged to process all new and transferred player registrations now.** This year we start with the League Fixtures on Saturday 22nd  April and perhaps that seems a long way away but cracking on with this now will take the pressure off later. Learn from experience .......!

Most Category 1 players simply need play-cricket, a registration form and a player release form.

All existing players, including Category 3 (Exempt) , of course remain registered but **all Category 3 (Not Exempt) players**i.e. players that have not been resident in the UK for more than 18 months as set out in the regulations **must be registered again from scratch.**

**All new and transferred players MUST be placed on play-cricket by their clubs by 1.00pm by Wednesday 19th April and all the other required paperwork sent to Rob Durand**

rob.durand@btinternet.com **07803 722 171 by that time/date.**

**Any player not on the play-cricket system will not be eligible to play irrespective of paperwork submitted.** **There will be no exceptions.**

The 2017 Registration Regulations in full may be found here:

<http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/Master_Doc_17_-_Player_Registration_2017_-_Handbook.doc>

**and any documents needed may be found via**

<http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/admin_docs.php?id=10>

If too many new registrations arrive at the last moment some players will probably not be able to play in the first game, as registrations will be treated in strict chronological order.

All enquiries to

Rob Durand

Registration Secretary

rob.durand@btinternet.com

**07803 722 171**

**1.4 IMPORTANT NEW ECB VISA INFORMATION FOR LEAGUES AND CLUBS IN 2017**

*John Williams ran through an overview of the current position as it was currently understood by the L&DCC.*

**Date:** 22nd February 2017

The ECB had written to say that:

" We know that understanding visa requirements for overseas players joining your club can be a tricky web to untangle. The difference between ‘professional sportspersons’ and ‘amateurs’ can seem blurred and knowing what you need to do legally, can therefore seem too difficult to bother with.

Following discussions with the Home Office, we’ve created a document with their approval that we hope makes it easier for clubs to understand - [**Home Office Immigration Rules for Cricket.**](http://ecb-comms.co.uk/2SWP-EGS4-3CNRPP-74ZWJ-1/c.aspx)

Unfortunately, we can’t provide you with legal advice directly. However, we’ll continue to do our best to explain your requirements in the simplest way possible. For more information, we recommend you visit the Home Office website or check out some useful links below as well as an FAQ sheet.

* [Temporary Sporting Visa](http://ecb-comms.co.uk/2SWP-EGS4-3CNRPP-74QC4-1/c.aspx)(Tier 5)
* [Standard Visitor Visa](http://ecb-comms.co.uk/2SWP-EGS4-3CNRPP-74QC5-1/c.aspx)
* [Non-Visa National List](http://ecb-comms.co.uk/2SWP-EGS4-3CNRPP-74QC6-1/c.aspx)
* [FAQs](http://ecb-comms.co.uk/2SWP-EGS4-3CNRPP-74QC7-1/c.aspx)(provided by the ECB)

Should you have any further queries, please email us at managedmigration@ecb.co.uk."

# ECB: MANAGED MIGRATION UPDATE JANUARY 2017

**Date:** 20th January 2017

A letter from Paul Bedford - the ECB National Participation Manager - Leagues and Competitions

Dear All,

By way of an update on conversations ECB are having with the Home Office and a few of our few Premier Leagues I can confirm the following:-

1. ECB have amended the ‘non-ordinarily residents’ registration form to accommodate requested changes. Amateur Player League Registration Form attached.

[**http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded\_files/documents/011\_Amateur\_Player\_League\_Registration\_Form\_19\_Jan\_2017\_v2\_\_(2\_files\_merged).docx**](http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/011_Amateur_Player_League_Registration_Form_19_Jan_2017_v2__%282_files_merged%29.docx)

2. We now have achieved greater clarity from Home Office on Player Pathways’ for non-ordinarily resident players seeking a visa. The Home Office are the only body that can determine eligibility but ECB, through the **managedmigration@ecb.co.uk** email address will assist clubs.

3. The Question and Answers have been updated and are attached.

[**http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded\_files/documents/012\_ECB\_Managed\_Migration\_Q\_and\_As\_19\_01\_2017.docx**](http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/012_ECB_Managed_Migration_Q_and_As_19_01_2017.docx)

It is expected that all ECB Accredited Premier Leagues will use the revised Amateur Player Registration Form. Use of this Form does not prevent the League from continuing with its own process of separating Category 3/3E Players and using Play Cricket to do so. ECB will be checking that ECB Accredited Premier Leagues are in possession of the forms from clubs that have registered non-ordinarily resident players.

Once we have decided ‘Best Practice’ with Accredited Premier Leagues we will be contacting other Leagues via their County Boards to request that, in-line with Home Office policy they adopt a similar process.

**Player Pathway definition:-**

A player may be considered to be on a “Pathway” and therefore classified as a “Professional Sportsperson”, if that person has played cricket***above***U17 at state/ province/ territory level (paid or unpaid) in any country.

Note the words, ‘**may be considered’,** as it is the Home Office that decides if a player is eligible to enter the country and play under a particular visa and not ECB. Our advice is that the closer a player is to the ‘boundary edge’ of eligibility the greater the need to gain certainty from the Home Office.

I have also pasted a set of slides that we tested with Nottinghamshire Cricket Board last night which I am sure will be of help. Once refined we will place with the Q&As on the ECB Club Support Page on the website.[**http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded\_files/documents/013\_Managed\_Migration\_Slides\_\_19\_Jan\_2017.docx**](http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/013_Managed_Migration_Slides__19_Jan_2017.docx)

A number of questions were taken

1. **Captains’ Responsibilities**

*Eric Hadfield ran through an overview of the changes***.**

Playing Regulations require the team captain to do or delegate many things.

Before the toss – provide the umpires with match balls including spares, team sheets, and payment of the match fee (£45 or £25) – umpires shouldn’t be expected to run after the captain collecting the balls and money after the toss. The toss will not be made without the team sheets.

At the toss – one umpire must be present.

Drinks intervals are to be taken 1 hour 30 mins after start of play in **each** innings unless umpires and captains **all** agree to dispense with either or both. Make sure someone knows when you as the home team captain take to the field.

Abandoned matches – the away team is entitled to travel even if the home team says conditions are unfit.

Bonus points and the toss

Win toss – bat no more than 55/45 overs – win match – 20 points plus batting bonus points

Win toss – bat more than 55/45 overs – win match – 20 points only

Win toss – bat – lose or draw match – batting bonus points at 55/45 overs plus all bowling points

Win toss – bowl – win match – 20 points only

Win toss – bowl – lose or draw match – all batting and bowling points

Lose toss – bat no more than 55/45 overs – win match – 20 points plus batting bonus points

Lose toss – bat more than 55/45 overs – win match – 20 points only

Lose toss – bat – lose or draw match – batting bonus points at 55/45 overs plus all bowling points

Lose toss – bowl – win match - 20 points plus bowling bonus points

Lose toss – bowl – lose or draw match – all batting and bowling points

Only one appointed umpire - there may be occasions when only one official umpire is present particularly in the 2nd Division. Fitness of conditions in these instances must be agreed by both captains and umpire.

Junior players – the captain is responsible for ensuring full compliance with fast bowling directives. Team sheets must show the age group of all junior players, e.g. U13 up to U19.

Reporting the result - after the match the home scorer will complete the result on the Match Result Form, get the umpires to add the match timings, hopefully without having to penalise a slow over rate. Then both captains are required to check the details and sign the form as correct. The home captain is then responsible for submitting the form and the team sheets to the ARSec, preferably scanned and emailed. Many captains delegate this to their scorer.

Other Reports

3.1 Pitch assessments - Premier Division 1st XI captains are required to rank opponents’ grounds 1 to 11 at the end of the season. You have a sample form on which each captain can record scores for how the pitch plays in the same way that umpires are required to do. This form must be sent to Alan Bristow by the end of September.

3.2 Umpire assessments – all 1st XI umpires must mark each umpire’s performance for each match on the ‘Captains Report’ card. Marks for five categories are required including communication, control of match, control of players, decision making and finally an overall mark. The form (downloadable from the website at Admin Docs>Umpires Forms) should be emailed to Kevin Wilson by Wednesday following the match. The form includes detailed guidance on points to be considered on marking. Last season, on 40 occasions, captains incurred the £15 fine for failing to produce the report in time. Clearly the longer you wait the more unreliable will be your memory but also marking too quickly may colour your judgement, for instance the overall mark shouldn’t be based mainly on decisions but should more nearly equate to the average of the other four marks.

3.3 Club & Ground assessments – as part of the Club & Ground assessments carried out by the umpires each week they also assess the teams, on their behaviour and respect for umpires and opponents, and the captains on their cooperation with the umpires and their player control. It is recommended that any issues arising during the match should be discussed by captains and umpires together in the bar after the match, not with a view to changing the marks awarded but simply so that all can leave the ground without any bad feelings. In my experience umpires are only too happy to discuss the match afterwards but too rarely get the opportunity.

* 1. **DBS Checks for captains**

*Chris Weston* made clear that all captains had to be DBS checked, it was a requirement under Clubmark. Sport is currently under a microscope over these checks, cricket is no exception.

**3.1 Premier 1st XI Captains Pitch Report Record 2017**

Attached is an example of the ground report that should be completed by the captains or their delegated person for the Premier Division only. Alan Bristow will send a proforma to each captain before the start of the season with their away games listed.

Each captain is urged to mark this proforma immediately after each away game and not wait until the end of the season. They should use the criteria shown at the top of the proforma and this criteria is exactly the same as is used by the umpires. A mark of 0 to 5 should be given in each of the 4 columns for each game so that a total out of 20 appears in the last column for each game played. A nil return should be shown if the game is abandoned.

This proforma should be sent to me to arrive no later than 24 September so that AB can collate the data and send onto the ECB by the end of September. Failure to do this might result in the League being deducted money by the ECB and this deduction might be passed onto the clubs who fail to complete the proformas properly or on time.

**3.1 LG L&DCC ECB PREMIER DIVISION - CAPTAIN’S PITCH REPORT RECORD - 2017**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
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| **BFS L&DCC ECB Premier League – Pitch Marking Table** |
| **Grading Criteria** | **Unevenness of bounce** | **Seam Movement**  | **Carry & Bounce**  | **Turn**  | **Mark** |
| Very Good | None | None/very little | Good | None/very little | **5** |
| **Good** | Little | Little | Just lacking | Little | **4** |
| **Average** | Occasional | Occasional | Lacking | Occasional | **3** |
| **Below Average** | More than occasional | More than occasional | Minimal | More than occasional | **2** |
| **Poor** | Excessive | Excessive | Very minimal | Excessive | **1** |
| **Unfit** | **A pitch is only rated unfit if it is dangerous** | **0** |

|  |
| --- |
| * In the event of a ‘spinner’ not bowling in the match and it is not possible to score ‘Category – Turn’, an average of the marks for the other three categories should be given to enable the calculation of the Total Pitch Score. If unsure leave blank and make a suitable comment.
* A minimum of 50% of the initially scheduled overs at the start of a day’s play must be bowled for the Total Pitch Score to be used in the season’s records.
* Umpires must make due allowance for the abilities of the bowlers and wear and tear of the pitch during the afternoon.
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| ▪ **Premier Division Club Captains** (or their deputies) are encouraged to complete the form in the week after the match, for each Premier Division match played,.▪ They should enter their scores for each pitch ‘property’, eg ‘Unevenness of bounce’ etc, using the Umpires’ Pitch Marking Table above.▪ **The record should be e-mailed to Alan Bristow [*alanjbristow@gmail.com*] by 30 September** and hewill produce the rank order for the pitches assessed, for forwarding to ECB at the end of the season. |

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Club** | **Unevenness of bounce** | **Seam movement** | **Carry & bounce** | **Turn** | Total | RankingOfficial use only |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Captain’s Name & Club ………………………………….: …………….…..…………………CC**

**Captain’s signature: ……………………………………**

**3.2 L&DCC UMPIRES’ REPORT** – Please forward to [alanjbristow@gmail.com] within 5 days following match

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **L&DCC Premier Div** |  | **L&DCC Div 1** |  | **L&DCC Div 2** |  | Other |  |

Insert **X** in appropiate box or **type of match** in Other, eg ‘Ray Digman’

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Match** |  | **v** |  | **on** |  |
| **Umpire’s names** | Umpire 1  | Umpire 2  |
| **Answer questions below with Y, N, or number** |
| **1** | **Team sheets** before toss **? (**Home side) | **Y/N** |  | **19** | **Sightscreens** in position 5 minutes before start? | **Y/N** |  |
| **2** | **Team sheets** before toss? (Away side) | **Y/N** |  | **20** | **Scoreboard** operated effectively? \* | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **3** | **Payment** before match? (Home side) | **Y/N** |  | **21** | **Scorers** signals clearly visible? \* | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **4** | **Payment** before match? (Away side) | **Y/N** |  | **22** | **Covers** – available & used effectively? \* | **Y/N** |  |
| **5** | **Scorer?** (Home side) | **Y/N** |  | **23** | **Drying** equipment available & used effectively? \* | **Y/N** |  |
| **6** | **Scorer**? (Away side) | **Y/N** |  | **24** | **Rollers** – was choice available between innings? | **Y/N** |  |
| **7** | **Square** – repairs to previous pitches? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **25** | **Umpires’ room** lockable **AND** key available? | **Y/N** |  |
| **8** | **Pitch** had even covering of grass? \* | **Y/N** |  | **26** | **Umpires’ room** clean, tidy & no storage? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **9** | **Pitch** appeared dry before match? **\*** | **Y/N** |  | **27** | **Clock** working & showing correct time? | **Y/N** |  |
| **10a** | **ECB/PQS pitch rating** – Even bounce | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **28** | **Bell** accessible & audible to players & spectators? | **Y/N** |  |
| **10b** | **ECB/PQS pitch rating** – Seam movement | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **29** | **Hospitality** – teas ready when needed? \* | **Y/N** |  |
| **10c** | **ECB/PQS pitch rating** – Carry and bounce | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **30** | **Hospitality**  - quality of teas?  | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **10d** | **ECB/PQS pitch rating** – Turn | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **31** | **Home team respect for Opponents & Umpires** | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **11** | **Pitch** properly prepared & marked before match? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **32** | **Away team respect for Opponents & Umpires** | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **12** | **Pitch** –stumps properly pitched before match? \* | **Y/N** |  | **33** | **Home captain - team control** | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **13** | **Pitch** – brushed, rolled & remarked between innings? \* | **Y/N** |  | **34** | **Home captain – cooperation with umpires** | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **14** | **Outfield** – ECB-appearance/ grass length? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **35** | Away captain - team control | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **15** | **Outfield** – ECB-unevenness? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  | **36** | **Away captain – cooperation with umpires** | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |
| **16** | **Boundary** – ECB-markings? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |  |  |
| **17** | **Surrounds** – minutes lost for ‘lost’ or balls out of ground. |  |  |  |
| **18** | **Surrounds** – maintenance condition? | **0/1/2/3/4/5** |  |  |  |
| **Comments:** \* If ‘No’ please give reason.**For Q17** give number of minutes lost. | **ABB players reported** **Name: Club:**  |

**3.3 SCHEDULED C&G VISITS IN 2017**

*Eric Hadfield ran through some of the details.*

Eleven clubs were visited in 2016 but Orrell RT and Wigan were scheduled but unfortunately were not visited and will be included in 2017

The following clubs are scheduled to be visited in 2017:

**Birkenhead Park, Burscough, Formby, Northern, Ormskirk, Rainhill, St Helens Town, Sefton Park, Southport & Birkdale, Spring View and Wavertree.**

The clubs with the top three combined C&G scores in each division in 2016 were as follows:

Premier Division: Colwyn Bay (93.4%), Lytham (92.4%), New Brighton (89.3%);

Division 1: Southport & Birkdale (88.0%), Northop Hall (87.0%), Wigan (87.0%);

Division 2: Liverpool (92.8%), Hightown (88.0%), Skelmersdale (86.5%).

Detailed assessment scores for all clubs are on the L&DCC website and the summary report presented to the 2017 AGM is also available – Ground>Reports>2017 C&G Summary Report. The final page is attached.



**4.Disciplinary Regulations**

*Eric Hadfield ran through some of the details.*

At the Pre-season General Meeting all clubs are given sufficient copies of the L&DCC Official Handbook for each of its team captains and their vice captains to have their own copy.

Captains and umpires are obviously expected to know the basic playing regulations for the various competitions in which they play and officiate and the handbooks are there to provide a ready reference. It is impossible at a meeting like this to cover everything and point to any particular area as being more important than any other but the Disciplinary Regulations are essential reading for everyone involved in the game. If you don’t know the rules of play and the boundaries between good and bad behaviour you shouldn’t be on the field, and this applies to everyone.

The Disciplinary Regulations (pp 76 to 90 in the Handbook) are based on the Preamble to the Laws of Cricket which is reproduced in its entirety in Clause 2.3 (as shown below)

* 1. **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.**

2.3.1 There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team’s conduct firmly on the captain *–* Law 1.4 (Responsibility of captains) and Law 42.1 (Fair and unfair play – responsibility of captains).

* **Responsibility of Captains**

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.

* **Player’s Conduct**

 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.

2.3.2 **Fair and Unfair Play**

The Laws state that the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. The umpires may intervene at any time and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required.

2.3.3 **The Umpires are authorised to intervene in cases of:**

* + - Time wasting
		- Damaging the pitch
		- Dangerous or unfair bowling
		- Tampering with the ball
		- Any other action that they consider to be unfair

2.3.4 **The Spirit of the Game involves RESPECT for:**

* Your opponents
* Your own captain and team
* The role of the umpires
* The game’s traditional values

2.3.5 **It is against the Spirit of the Game:**

* To dispute an umpire’s decision by word, action or gesture
* To direct abusive language towards an opponent or umpire
* To indulge in cheating or any sharp practice, for instance
	+ - * + Appeal knowing the batsman is not out
				+ Advance towards an umpire in an aggressive manner when appealing
				+ 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.

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

2.3.7 **Players**

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.

**General Comments on the Regulations**

A large part of the Regulations covers the procedures to be followed by those reporting breaches of the Disciplinary Code of Conduct and by those receiving the reports. For the purpose of this introduction it is the nature of the various breaches that is important. If captains and players don’t know what behaviour is unacceptable they are very likely to digress. If the umpires likewise are unsure what is acceptable they are likely to either report an incident when a quiet word would suffice or fail to report a breach for unacceptable behaviour. In either case, confusion will reign and behaviour on the field of play could get out of hand.

It is essential therefore for players and officials to read very carefully what is provided as a basic guide to breaches and their seriousness in the Appendices to the Regulations. The more serious offences will result in a written disciplinary report and almost without exception will lead to the reported player being banned for a number of weeks. Although the Regulations set out four levels of offence each situation will be ultimately adjudged by the Disciplinary Committee based on the written evidence presented.

For less serious breaches, when the umpires decide that a written report is unnecessary, an ABB will be recorded on the Match Report card (Accumulated Bad Behaviour record). Appendix 2 lists the offences covered by an ABB – see below).

(a) **Shouting of foul or abusive language** whether in self-frustration or at or to an umpire or player, at such a level as to be heard at or beyond the boundary thus bringing the game and L&DCC into disrepute.

(b) **Excessive or orchestrated appealing** including ‘ridiculous’ lbw appeals from a position where the fielder could not possibly make a considered appeal.

(c) **Premature ‘celebrations’** prior to an umpire’s decision.

(d) **Advancing towards the umpire** in an aggressive manner when appealing.

(e) **Gesturing/pointing towards the pavilion** upon dismissal of the batsman or any other form of aggressive ‘send-off’.

(f) **Persistent questioning of an umpire’s decisions** and comment thereon – where this falls short of Abuse of an Umpire.

**It should be noted that the intensity or repetition of some of the above may result in a written report.**

Umpires will advise captain(s) at end of match of their intention to record an ABB. The captain(s) must inform their players of the award of an ABB. The ABB will be recorded on the L&DCC website and a player in receipt of two ABBs in a 12 month period will receive an automatic one week’s ban.

Disciplinary offences of a more serious nature are listed in the Table of Appendix 2 (page 80 of the Handbook) and again captains and players will be advised by the umpires at the end of the match of an intention to submit a written disciplinary report.

Because the captain has these major responsibilities, the tariffs for disciplinary offences are likely to be greater if it is the captain at fault. In particular, there is one offence relating specifically to the captain - failing to control his players following a request from the umpire – the minimum tariff for this is a three week ban.

The Appendix 2 also lists various breaches of the Laws of Cricket which by their nature require them to be reported to the Governing Body. These will initially be dealt with on the field using the penalties that the Laws require.

**5.**  **2017 revisions to the Laws of Cricket**

*Chris Weston* explained that there were no changes to the Laws in 2017 however MCC planned major changes for season 2018 several would affect disciplinary matters e.g. on field sanctions with yellow and red cards. These had been trialled in 2016, the trials continued in 2017.

**5.2 Scoring in the L&DCC in 1st XI games in 2017 LG**

Chris Weston ran through some of the details.

Many scorers use Total Cricket Scorer (TCS) on lap tops during games and use Live Update show their games in real time on play cricket.

It is mandatory for 1st XI premier division clubs to do this countrywide, it’s part of being a premier cricket league and in the past ECB has fined prems that do not do this live linkage.

This year is different, CricHQ has taken over TCS, the link to play cricket is broken. CricHQ want all clubs to use their systems not play cricket.

ECB only found out about this in detail in Oct/Nov 2016 and have rapidly produced a play cricket scorer App to plug the gap and link clubs to play cricket in real time.

L&DCC advice to scorers is in the form of three point and goes like this:

1. Clubs should **monitor their own situation carefully** if they use TCS Version 8/7/6 etc. or older in the next few weeks to see if the links to play cricket do remain OK.

If they do, all well and good but a new Live Update licence for 2017 will also need to be purchased*if*those again become available this year. There seems to be no guarantee of that at the moment.

If these play-cricket links to older versions of TCS do become broken by CricHQ, continuing to use TCS will mean manually downloading teams and manually uploading scorecards back to play-cricket.

1. Users of TCS Version 8 might also **consider unchecking the box in “settings” that allows TCS to auto-update V8 to “Version 9”** as V9 will seemingly now not be linked to play cricket.
2. Clubs should have a really good look at the new ECB App: <http://www.play-cricket.com/updates>

It's now in the App stores and available for free download. The App and everything with it is completely free.

It’s a proven product – it’s been used for some years “down under”.

It’s simple to use, no additional training is needed, it’s said to be very intuitive.

It’s said to be very easy to “undo” if you want to correct something during the game.

It runs on any Android or iOS ‘phones or, better still because they’re bigger, on Android/iOS tablets. It doesn’t need a fancy phone or tablet.

It’s fully play-cricket compliant i.e. **both up and down loading to p-c is free and easy to use**.

It’s got built in **free Live Update**

It’s got built in **free Duckworth Lewis**.

It is not as sophisticated as TCS.

It will not (currently) do wagon wheels and toys like that

It won't currently run on Windows or Apple Laptops or PCs without using an emulator e.g. via <http://www.laptopmag.com/articles/run-android-apps-on-pc> which is perhaps a bit geeky.

A number of questions were taken

1. **Representative Cricket 2017**

John Williams out lined the programme and the thinking behind it, we needed clubs to their nominate players, captains were crucial here.

**LG L&DCC REPRESENTATIVE FIXTURES 2017**

**Senior**

Sunday 4 June v Ribblesdale League away 1pm

Sunday 9 July v Bolton CL/tba away 1pm

Sunday 16 July v Bolton CL/tba home 1pm

**Under 25**

Thursday 8 June v Zimbabwe Academy New Brighton 11am

Monday 31 July v MCC Leigh CC 11.30

**Under 21**

Between 19-29 June v Bolton CL home 11am

Between 10-20 July v Pennine CL away 11am

On Tuesday 1 August v N Staffs/S Cheshire away 11am

Thursday 17 August Final

**Under 18**

Sunday 4 June v Ribblesdale League home 1pm

Sunday 9 July v Bolton CL/tba home 1pm

Sunday 13 July v Bolton CL/tba away 1pm

**Under 16/17**

Tuesday 23 May v Lancashire U15 home 11am

**Under 14**

Sunday 18 June v Palace Shield home 2pm

Sunday 16 July v Lancashire League away 2pm

Sunday 30 July v Pennine League home 2pm

**Under 12**

Sunday 18 June v Palace Shield away 2pm

Sunday 16 July v Lancashire League home 2pm

Sunday 30 July v Pennine League away 2pm

1. **7.    Open Forum**

By now time was short, questions had been dealt with as they had arisen.

8.36pm