



# HENSHALLS SCCL NEWSLETTER

April 2018

## Captains' Meeting 2018 and EGM notice



**C**alling all Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League captains – the Pre-Season meeting is on Monday, April 9.

It takes place St Georges Cricket Club on Church Street, St Georges, Telford, TF2 9LU from 7.45pm. It will be preceded by a brief single item Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) at 7.30pm

Car parking will be at the scoreboard end of the ground with access via the road between the clubhouse and the church – the club have asked that people do not park on the road next to the clubhouse.

As usual, all cricket balls for the season will be issued from 6.45pm in the car park. This is an important briefing session for the new season, where rulebooks will be issued, so please ensure that your captains and representatives attend.

A copy of the 2018 pre-season Declaration is available for download from the website <http://www.shropshirecricketleague.co.uk/league-rules-and-regulation>, to be completed by

● A reminder that copies of the 2018 rules, fixtures, club contacts and umpires contacts can all be found and downloaded on the League's website. The League is making increasing use of its website and this should now be the first port of call for all information about the League. Go to <http://www.shropshirecricketleague.co.uk>

captains and club chairman. It should be returned to Brian Kitson by 12 noon on Saturday, April 21, (first game of the season), at the latest. If possible, could you hand it to Brian at the Captains' Meeting.

### EGM DETAILS

The EGM is to formally ratify a proposal approved by the League Management Committee at a recent meeting. Please ensure that your representative is mandated to vote on behalf of your club.

The proposal is in respect of Life Members of the League who are not officers, but who are currently eligible to vote at meetings of the League's

Management Committee. The Committee is concerned at the potential increase in size of the Management Committee, should the number of Life Members continue to rise. It is therefore felt that to continue to allow Life Members to be eligible to vote could make the Committee unwieldy and difficult to manage.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution is detailed below (two thirds majority required).

To formally ratify the decision taken at the last meeting of the Management Committee, to remove the eligibility to vote, of Life Members who are not officers of the league, and to insert the following wording as a new Clause. 6 (b) of the SCCL Constitution with all subsequent Clauses being re lettered (ie b to p, becomes c to q):

Clause 6(b) A Life Member shall be entitled to attend and speak at meetings of the Committee, but shall not be eligible to vote.

However, a Life Member sitting on the Committee or a Sub-Committee in accordance with the provisions of Clauses 5 (a) or 6 (j) will be entitled to vote in that capacity only.



# Summary of League rules amendments

**T**here have been some changes to the playing arrangements for the 2018 season in the Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League.

These will be outlined at the pre-season meeting and are summarised below.

One of these has been introduced following the late withdrawal of Broseley from the Premier Division, which means each team will have two blank Saturdays. Concerns were raised that on such dates, clubs may choose to unfairly strengthen their 2nd XIs. Therefore, for the 2018 season only, the league has introduced a new rule 3.1 (see 14 in the list).

**1** No Changes to mixed playing format. All divisions will be playing half their games under the WIN LOSE (W/L) format and half under the WIN DRAW LOSE (W/D/L) format. The W/L format will be played in a continuous 11 game block starting on the first Saturday in June.

**2** Start times to remain the same except that D1 is now also a 12pm start for the last 5 matches bringing it into line with the Premier Division. All other divisions are 1pm start all season.

**3** Free Hits in WL. In all divisions except the Premier free hits are now only for foot no balls, whereas in the Premier it remains that any no ball is a free hit.

**4** Bowlers overs remain unchanged as of 2017. In W/L its maximum of a fifth of the

allocated overs. In W/D/L there remain slight differences between upper (Prem and D1) and lower divisions. Please check your rule book for details.

**5** Minor change in the points in that a tie is now worth only 5 points (from 8) in the W/L. Plus all bonus points. Also in W/D/L a team batting second must now get 60 per cent of the target in order to get a draw (from 50 per cent).

**6** Rain rules in Prem and D1, no change here either except that in the W/L format if a team is bowled out for less than the allocated overs those overs saved can be used as credit against overs lost to rain.

**7** Scorers now no longer have to sit in scoreboard but must still sit together. This is due to the advent of electronic scoreboxes.

**8** If a player has to leave the field for anything other than an external injury then penalty time applies equal to the length he was off the field, except that the SCCL have an 8 minute allowance before this comes into force.

**9** The link between Saturday and Sunday concessions is scrapped, as it was felt unfair to Sunday teams to not let them score points just because the higher Saturday team had conceded. Also on Sunday the Under 17 rule has been extended there is now no limit on the Sunday matches and Under 17 can play when they have also played on a Saturday. Still a limit of 4 per Sunday team however.

**10** Rule 2.2 we have increased to 14 from 12 the number of higher team matches a player can play before they are ineligible to play the last 3 games in a lower team.

**11** Rule 14.1 has been changed to now read "a maximum of 5 fielders outside" rather than a minimum of 4 fielders inside".

**12** If a panel umpire arranged for a Div 1 match pulls out within 48 hours of start time, the side(s) playing still receive 1 point.

**13** A point cannot be claimed for an umpire in a conceded match.

**14** When a Premier Division 1st XI has a blank date, that club's 2nd XI must field its usual players, and must email that 2nd XI selection to the Registrations Co-ordinator by 6pm on the Friday before the game, along with a list of nine 1st XI players who would have played had the club been scheduled a 1st XI fixture.

Failure to comply will invoke rule 2.5 and points may also be deducted from the offending club's 1st and 2nd XI sides.

Additionally, any subsequent alterations to team selections must be emailed to the Registrations Co-ordinator by noon on the day of the match.

Failure to do so will result in a two-point deduction per team.



# Changes to league structure from 2019

**A**n important vote taken by the Birmingham & District Premier Cricket League means important changes for leagues across the West Midlands

At a Special General Meeting of the (BDPCL) on March 19, member clubs voted by a majority of 31-15 to accept the 'Blueprint For The Restructure Of Cricket In The West Midlands' proposal.

This was put forward by the BDPCL Committee and supported by ECB West Midlands, the five relevant County Cricket Boards and the four County 'Feeder' Leagues, including the Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League.

As a result of this vote, from the 2019 season onwards the BDPCL will contain 24 1st XIs in two divisions.

All other 1st and 2nd XIs will return to their nominated County League.

The SCCL Management Committee has been involved in this process for some considerable time and has been preparing for this possible outcome.

We have taken the decision – recommended by the ECB as being meritocratic – to amend our divisional structure to a linear or single-stream system from season 2019 onwards which brings us into line with the other County 'Feeder' Leagues which have also decided to adopt the same policy.

SCCL divisional positions for seasons 2019 will be determined by the League's Structure Sub-Committee at the end of the coming season based on final positions in the 2018 league tables in both current streams (main and reserve) and also the BDPCL.

Any returning current BDPCL 1st XIs will automatically be placed in our Premier Division, while returning current BDPCL 2nd XIs will be



placed in our structure in a position relative to their strength but no higher than Division 1 in the initial season.

Additionally, no two teams from the same club will be placed in any one division except the League's bottom division if required.

The SCCL favours these changes to the structure of cricket in the West Midlands and believes they will make our League a stronger and more competitive competition.

It will also mean that every game will matter in 2018 as clubs strive to finish as high as possible in their respective divisions in view of the forthcoming restructure.

However, because it is not possible to know how many teams will be returning to the SCCL from the BDPCL until after the end of the forthcoming season. Also given the vagaries of entry confirmation for next year, it will not be possible to give clubs any meaningful guidance as to where they need to finish in order for advantageous placings for 2019.



# Senior and Junior Slam cup draws made



**Aaron & Partners**  
Solicitors

The draws have been made for the opening rounds in both the Aaron & Partners Junior and Senior Slams.

The first round of the Junior Slam is due to take place on Thursday, May 17, with 15 teams battling it out to claim the trophy won by Allscott last season.

Following their promotion to Division One after a successful season for the club, Allscott will be playing in the Senior Slam this year.

In the pre-qualifying round, they have been drawn away to Forton, one of seven games due to be played on Thursday, May 24, with a reserve date of the following Thursday.

The draw has also thrown up a tasty clash in the early round between Henshalls Premier League sides Quatt and St Georges.

Defending champions Wem are one of nine teams which have received a bye in the opening round, so their first game will see them travel to the winners of the preliminary clash between Sentinel and Market Drayton, with those games due to take place in June.

Wem will also be hosting the Grand Finals Day on July 22 at the Kynaston Ground in Soulton Road where four teams will battle it out to claim the crown.

The Finals night for the Junior Slam is due to take place on Thursday, June 28, (weather permitting!) although the venue has yet to be confirmed.

## REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

For the 2018 season our normal registration process will continue with all players required to be registered on your club's Play-Cricket site before they can play in the Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League.

Player registration should be in place before the first match of the season (and in any event before a player plays in the league) otherwise no points will accrue & clubs may be subject to a fine and/or future deduction of points until registration is in place.

If you require any further help please contact Craig Simms on (01952) 375361 or 07519 396691 or email [craig.simms64@sky.com](mailto:craig.simms64@sky.com)

## JUNIOR COMPETITIONS

The Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League's youth competitions again proved very successful last year,

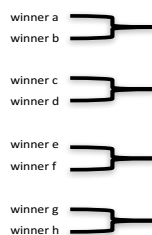
### Aaron and Partners Solicitors 2018 SCCL Senior Slam

#### Pre-Qualifying Round (Thurs 24th May with reserve date Thurs 31st May)

- 1 Forton v Allscott
- 2 Quatt v St Georges
- 3 Bomere Heath v Frankton
- 4 Sentinel v Market Drayton
- 5 Ludlow v Wroxeter & Uppington
- 6 Pontesbury v Beacon
- 7 Alberbury v Newtown

#### Qualifying Finals Days (June tbc)

- a Winner game 1 v Albrighton
- b Winner game 2 v Worfield
- c Winner game 3 v Knockin & Kinnerley
- d Winner game 4 v Wem
- e Winner game 5 v Madeley
- f Conover v Cound
- g Winner game 6 v Welshpool
- h Winner game 7 v Shelton



#### Grand Finals Day at Wem CC 22nd July

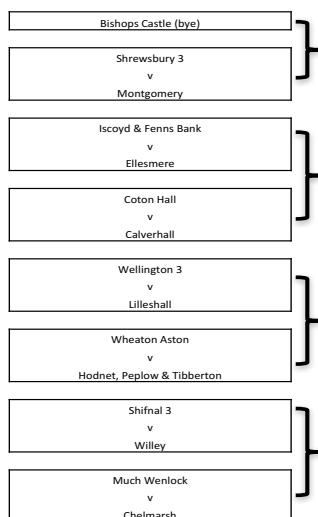
#### Byes

- Albrighton
- Worfield
- Knockin & Kinnerley
- Wem
- Madeley
- Conover
- Cound
- Welshpool
- Shelton



### Aaron and Partners Solicitors SCCL Junior Slam 2018

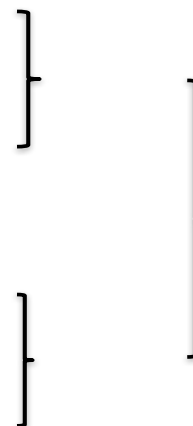
#### 1st Round Thurs 17th May



#### 2nd Round Thurs 31st May

#### Semi Final Thurs 14th June

#### Final Thurs 28th June (venue tbc)



although the Finals Day at Conover was affected by bad weather.

For 2018, the League will again be inviting entries for Under 11, Under 13 and Under 15 age group competitions and all member clubs will be contacted shortly – we hope as many teams as possible will be able to field junior teams this year.

Also, the League encourages all clubs to register an interest in the Under 9 softball festivals being planned for this summer – keep an eye on the Cricket Shropshire website for more details during the season [www.shropshirecricketboard.co.uk](http://www.shropshirecricketboard.co.uk)

## UMPIRES' MEETINGS

Umpires from across the Shropshire cricket scene meet on the third Monday of each month from May to September to discuss trends, issues and occurrences in umpiring – basically, any issues that attendees wish to raise.

The meetings are always held at Allscott Social Club near Telford with a 7.30pm start and are open to all who wish to attend, from ECBACO panel members to umpires standing in their own club's game just to help out.

For more information, contact Allan Kynaston [allankynaston123@btinternet.com](mailto:allankynaston123@btinternet.com) or call 07983 095393.

● Also a reminder that the first major change to the Laws of Cricket since 2000 will be in force for the 2008 season.

The ECB has produced a couple of videos to explain the the changes. It has also produced an online tool to better explain the introduction of Law 41 (Unfair Play) and Law 42 (Player Conduct). To see the videos and the online tool, [CLICK HERE.](#)





# All Stars coming to a club near you

**A** summer of fun and games is in store for all youngsters in Shropshire who sign up for All Stars Cricket.

The All Stars initiative was launched by the ECB to encourage children aged 5-8 to get involved in and discover the delights of playing cricket.

In Shropshire, 438 youngsters took part in 2017 at clubs across the county with many new to the game and the vast majority of parents confirming it was value for money and they were hoping to return this year.

There will be more clubs taking part in 2018 with 37 signed up to take part in the initiative – a 50 per cent increase on last year.

Already this year ahead of the major launch for 2018, more than 200 youngsters have registered to take part.

Mum Nancy Brown who has signed up her children for All Stars at Bridgnorth CC said: “Roll on summer! The kids thought it was Christmas when their kits arrived #bigmoments.”

Cricket Shropshire’s Clubs and Community Manager Steve Reese said: “It’s a very exciting time for Shropshire and Mid Wales as we look forward to this summer’s All Stars programme.

“After the Easter holidays, staff from Cricket Shropshire will be going into primary schools across the county, supported by local clubs, to deliver free taster sessions to encourage youngsters to sign up.

“The All Stars programme is due to run from May 11 with clubs starting their activities on various days to ensure lots of options for parents to choose from.”

The All Stars programme provides eight weeks of fun, structured coaching to introduce youngsters to cricket.

Every child that registers will receive a backpack full of goodies including a cricket bat, ball, activity book, personalised T-shirt and cap all sent straight to their door.

The emphasis is on fun and being active, with the focus on developing the children’s movements skills, and parents are actively encouraged to get involved.

And there is a good chance that the popular



All Stars mascot Twinkle, who helped switch on the Christmas lights in Shrewsbury, will make a visit to their Shropshire centre during the programme.

Clubs taking part in All Stars have also found benefits, with many being proactive in attracting new players

A spokesman for Willey said: “To make our session successful we contacted the local primary school and discussed the opportunity to run this as an exclusive after school club with them.

“I had a couple of meetings with the head teacher and also got the Cricket Board involved to run an assembly for the children in the age range. This was incredibly successful and resulted in 18 out of the 28 qualifying children at the school signing up to All Stars.”

Any schools in Shropshire which have yet

to sign up for a visit from the All Stars team but are still interested should contact Cricket Shropshire’s Youth Programme Manager Darrell Corfield on [darrellcorfieldscb@btconnect.com](mailto:darrellcorfieldscb@btconnect.com) or call 07841 475679.

Steve added: “We will be happy to deliver to organisations like football clubs, Beavers, rugby clubs, hockey teams etc, just get in touch with us.”

It’s easy for parents to find their local All Stars centre. Follow the link <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> and enter your post code and then follow a simple registration process.





# Women's Softball Cricket festivals

There will be eight Women's Softball Cricket festivals in Shropshire this season after the success of the initiative in its first year.

The first events were held last year as part of a major drive from the ECB to get more women involved in the game across the country.

It proved a big hit in Shropshire with five festivals held at venues across the county attracting many new faces to get involved in the fun which involves warm ups, games, food and even Prosecco in a relaxed atmosphere.

That was followed by a series of Indoor Taster sessions staged by Cricket Shropshire at Wrekin

College over three weeks which saw more than 50 ladies introduced to the game.

Steve Reese, Clubs and Community Cricket Manager for Cricket Shropshire, said: "It's been great to see so many new people getting involved in cricket and having a good time.

"These festivals provide ideal opportunities for women to come along and enjoy cricket in a relaxed, friendly and fun atmosphere and enjoy a day out. Families are welcome to come along - there's plenty of space at the venues."

This year's festivals are:

- May 20 - **Beacon CC**
- June 3 - **Bridgnorth CC**
- June 10 - **Knockin & Kinnerley CC**
- July 1 - **Alveley CC**
- July 1 - **Norton in Hales CC**

- July 15 - **Oswestry CC**
- August 12 - **Sentinel CC**
- September 9 - **Shifnal CC**

A workshop for hosting these festivals is taking place at Wrekin College on May 2, anyone interested can contact Cricket Shropshire Administrator Sheila Dickie for more details [sheiladickiescb@btconnect.com](mailto:sheiladickiescb@btconnect.com)

Sheila added: "Early expressions of interest in the festivals are encouraged as spaces will be limited. Booking will be available online later this month, but we can reserve spaces on your behalf if you definitely wish to enter a team, just get in touch."

Timings will be confirmed, the games involve teams of eight aged 14 and above with each playing a number of games during the festival.

## CLUBMARK 2018

Clubmark is open for business in 2018, affecting a number of clubs in Shropshire.

There are 11 clubs in Shropshire and Mid Wales due for full accreditation this year, with another nine in 2019, and 21 clubs are due to carry out Health Checks.

ECB Clubmark shows that a club is sustainable, well run and provides the right environment for its members.

Clubmark accreditation also means a club is recognised as a safe, rewarding and fulfilling place for participants of all ages, as well as assuring parents and carers that they are choosing the right option for their young people.

Accreditation lasts for three years at which point the club will complete a re-accreditation exercise. In the intervening two years there is a requirement to complete the annual health



check. Cricket Shropshire has officers who will work with all clubs across the county to help them with the Clubmark process, with a special portal created by the ECB to help.

This can be accessed for registered clubs via this link - <https://liveapps.ecb.co.uk/clubportal/>

Cricket Shropshire Director of Recreational Cricket Adrian Collins said: "Clubmark has now become much more than a three-yearly tick box exercise and is a useful health check tool for clubs of their governance, volunteer base and development plan."

For more information <https://www.ecb.co.uk/be-involved/club-support/clubmark>

## COACHING

Club coaches, particularly those involved with junior players, are the bedrock of the development of the game. Cricket Shropshire and the Shropshire Coaches Association are very keen to help and support club coaches. Plans are being drawn up to offer workshops for club coaches, which cover topics identified by coaches that they need updates on and support with. In the near future clubs will be contacted to determine what topics they want covered in the workshops.

## FIXTURES 2018

A reminder that all the fixtures for all the divisions in the Henshalls Shropshire County Cricket League ahead of the 2018 season can be found by following this link to the league's website and then hovering over the 'fixtures' tab <http://www.shropshirecricketleague.co.uk/fixtures>

## NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are produced by the League's IT, Social Media and Publicity Sub-Committee. If you have any news, information or photos that you wish to share with the League and member clubs, please send any information to: Will Clarke (Chairman of Sub-Committee) Adam Philips (Newsletter Writer) Matt Porter (Newsletter Design) - click on 'email' for each.

