



Welcome to the Henshalls SCCL Newsletter 2017 Pre-Season Edition

With the 2017 Shropshire County Cricket Season fast approaching, welcome to the League's pre-season newsletter keeping clubs advised of current and new initiatives that will affect and benefit your club. Please circulate to all your players and members, and don't hesitate to give us any feedback on areas we can improve or items you think we should carry – it's your League after all! As ever, the newsletter is also available to view on the League's website www.shropshirecricketleague.co.uk



Sentinel CC 1st XI – Henshalls SCCL Premier Division Champions and Lynx Senior Slam T20 Champions 2016

League Sponsor Celebrates 50th Anniversary

League sponsors Henshalls Insurance Brokers celebrate not only their 2nd year as sponsors of the SCCL in 2017 but also their 50th year in business. The SCCL would like to congratulate our sponsors on this tremendous achievement and look forward to a successful year both on and off the field.



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Captains' Meeting

The 2017 Captains' Meeting will be held at St. Georges CC, Church Street, St. Georges, Telford, TF2 9LU on Monday 24th April 2017 at 7.30pm. As usual, all cricket balls will be issued from 6.45pm in the car park. Car parking will be at the scoreboard end of the ground with access via the tarmac road between the clubhouse and the church – the club have asked that attendees do not park on the road adjacent to the clubhouse.

This is an important briefing session for the new season, where balls, our new yearbook, result sheets and other relevant paperwork will be issued, so please ensure that your team captains and representatives attend.



SCCL Senior Slam Finals Day 2016 at Madeley CC



Law Appreciation Course

The League will once again be running a two-evening Law Appreciation Course this year.

Dates are Thursday 20th April and Thursday 27th April, commencing at 7.30pm, and the course will be held at Allscott Sports & Social Club, Shawbirch Road, Allscott, Telford, TF6 5EQ.

The completion of both evenings of the course enable accreditation for the 'Umpires Point' in all SCCL divisions (except the Premier Division) for all course members 16 years and over. However, the course is also invaluable to broaden the knowledge of younger players and clubs are invited to encourage their members to attend. It is intended that certificates will again be issued on completion of the second training session.

To book course places please contact Brian Gleeson on 01952 405639 or 07815 024734 or email grumptheump@blueyonder.co.uk Please include name of candidate, club, contact email and age if under 16.



Ludlow 1st XI vs Albrighton 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



Quatt 1st XI vs Shelton 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



SCCL Yearbook

The League's 2017 Yearbook will be distributed to clubs at the Captains meeting on Monday 24th April. The format had a major re-vamp last year with articles, photos, all-time league records and other new content which was well received so we hope you will again be impressed with this year's edition.

The League will be looking for clubs to contribute articles and pictures for the 2018 Yearbook so if you have any ideas or content that you think might be of interest please contact the chair of the Yearbook Sub-Committee Adam Phillips adamp@timberframe.co.uk

The cost of the Yearbook is partially offset by advertising so if any clubs have a sponsor or contact that wishes to advertise in the 2018 Yearbook please contact Mark Davies mdavies1992@yahoo.co.uk

SCCL Website & Social Media

The League has developed its new website over the last years and it now carries news, information, pictures, club contact details, historical league tables (dating back to the 1970s), cup draws, downloadable forms and documents such as result sheets and transfer forms and lots of other content, as well as results and tables. Keep checking for new content.

Also, the League's Twitter account is up and running and clubs are encourage to interact with these as much as possible – for example, we'd like all clubs to post their results on Twitter on Saturday evening, tagging the League in! **#ShropCCLeague**

League Goes Paper-Free

From the 2017 season, the League will no longer be distributing paper result sheets for league games and knockout fixtures – in future, these will be emailed to clubs and will also be available on the League's website to download and print. Transfer sheets will also be stored in the Download section for clubs to access as required. Further information will be sent out to secretaries in due course.

Rules

There are a number of changes to the SCCL rules for the 2017 season and these are included in the attached Rule Changes document. All major rule changes will also be discussed at the Captains Meeting on Monday 24th April.



Sentinel T20 XI vs Wem T20 XI – SCCL Senior Slam Final 2016



SCCL Small Grants Scheme Returns For 2017

The League is pleased to announce that it will again be running its Small Grant Scheme in 2017.

Set up in association with the Shropshire Cricket Board, the scheme allows clubs to apply for grants up to a maximum of £500 to upgrade their facilities – in the last few years the scheme has provided funding for a range of improvements including clubhouse refurbishment, covers, rollers, sightscreens and nets.

All clubs whose 1st XI play in the SCCL are eligible to apply but priority will be given to clubs who have not previously received an SCCL grant. Please note that the League will not consider applications for funding for pitch improvements themselves (e.g. fertiliser, loam etc.) but would consider applications for help to fund new machinery.

Contact Adam Phillips for more information 07876 773918
adamp@timberframe.co.uk



Church Stretton CC in action (Div 2)



Club Welfare Officers Courses

All clubs will be aware that they are required to have a fully-qualified Welfare Officer as a condition of their membership of the League. To enable clubs to fulfil this obligation, Cricket Shropshire has confirmed two important Safe Hands Courses ahead of the 2017 season.

The Safe Hands Refresher course will take place on Thursday March 30th at Wrekin College Conference Room (7pm-10pm) and is for Club Welfare Officers whose qualification has lapsed after three years but who wish to continue in the role.

The Safe Hands Training Course for new Club Welfare Officers will take place on Thursday April 6th, again at Wrekin College Conference Room from 7pm-10pm.

For further information or to book a place on the course, visit the SCB website <http://www.shropshirecricketboard.co.uk/news/safe-hands-courses-arranged-18119/>

Places are limited so please be prompt with bookings.

For information on the role of a Club Welfare Office visit the ECB website <https://www.ecb.co.uk/safeguarding/welfare-officers> or contact Ed Ashlin at SCB edashlinscb@btconnect.com or 01952 265676.



SCCL Declaration

In accordance with clause 3(e) of the SCCL Constitution, all clubs are again required to sign a Declaration governing their conduct & obligations as SCCL members before the start of the 2017 season – please see the attached document.

This Declaration should be completed & returned to League Secretary Brian Kitson ideally on or before the pre-season Captains Meeting on Monday 24th April 2017 or not later than 12 noon on the first Saturday of the season.

If a member Club fails to meet this deadline, no points will be awarded to any of that club's teams for games played before the signed Declaration is received.

Clubs should note that points deducted for this reason will not be reinstated after the Declaration has been received, i.e. they will be lost permanently.

A copy of the Declaration, duly signed and dated, must be displayed prominently in the club pavilion or clubhouse for all club members, both playing and non-playing, to see.



Sentinel T20 XI vs Wem T20 XI –
SCCL Senior Slam Final 2016



Ludlow Cricket Club 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



Overseas Player Information for 2017

Clubs will be aware that they has been a lot of information circulating with regard to understanding visa requirements for overseas players for the forthcoming season – the distinction between ‘professional’ and ‘amateur’ sportsmen can be blurred and clubs need to understand the various visa conditions for legal reasons.

The ECB has prepared a document in conjunction with the Home Office that should make it easier for clubs to understand the regulations – Home Office Immigration Rules For Cricket Overview (see attached document.)

For further information, we recommend that you visit the Home Office website or contact the ECB at managedmigration@ecb.co.uk

Umpires and Scorers – Your Association Needs you!

The Shropshire Association of Cricket Officials would like to update and expand its database of all those who regularly umpire or score in the SCCL – there are many people who give up their time for their clubs each week who are not known to SACO, including a number on the Premier Division and Division 1. The League would like to compile a list of active scorers so they can be invited to the pre-season Umpires Rules meeting and also the monthly Umpire’s discussion meetings (see the article elsewhere in this newsletter.)

If your club has an umpire or scorer at any level, please make sure they are registered by contacting Mike Sheehy mikeandvalsheehy@talktalk.net or 01743 361651

Youth Competitions

The SCCL youth competitions again proved very successful last year, culminating in a tremendous Final's Day in September superbly hosted by Pontesbury CC.

For 2017, the League will again be inviting entries for U11, U13 and U15 age groups 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 U9 softball festivals being planned for this summer – see the Cricket Shropshire website for more details www.shropshirecricketboard.co.uk



Knockin and Kinnerley U15 – SCCL U15 Junior League Champions 2016



Registration of Players

For the 2017 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 SCCL.

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

If you require any further help please contact Craig Simms on 01952 375361/07519 396691 or email craig.simms64@sky.com



Willey CC T20 XI – SCCL Junior Slam Champions 2016



League Match Reports

Please submit your match reports to your local newspaper but, in order to maintain the profile of our league sponsors, the League would be grateful if you could use the attached template in all such submissions

Monthly Umpires' Meeting

Umpires from across the Shropshire cricket scene meet on the 3rd Monday of each month from May to September to discuss trends, issues and occurrences in umpiring – basically, any issues that attendees wish to raise.

Organiser Allan Kynaston said ' We've been running these meetings for a season now and found it a really good way for umpires at all levels to get together in an informal environment to discuss things that have happened to them or might be on their mind. There's no set agenda, just an opportunity for discussion with like-minded colleagues'.

The meetings are always held at Allscott Social Club 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 or 07983 095393

2016 Yearbooks

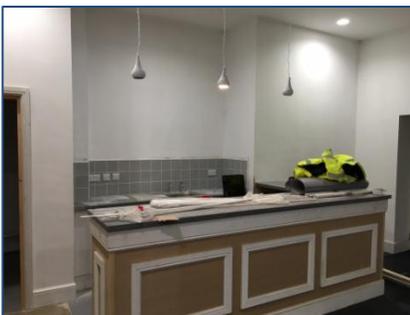
The League still has a small stock of last years Yearbook available for £3 a copy including postage. Contact Adam Phillips adamp@timberframe.co.uk



Shelton CC – New Facilities

Shelton CC have perhaps been the busiest of our clubs over the winter period, with the construction of their new pavilion as well as upgrade to their covers.

Shelton's Matt Cadwallader said "Following the move to the new redwood centre and subsequent sale of the old hospital site to Shropshire Homes both the Bowls and Cricket Club now face excellent opportunities and a new set of challenges. Working with both Shropshire homes and the local council a new club house has been converted from the old hospital workshops. The new 160 square meter site will offer excellent changing and catering facilities that will be utilised not only by both sports clubs but also crucially by the local community".





Clubmark

Clubs will be aware that Clubmark was put on hold in 2016 because of changes being made by ECB.

It is being re-launched in 2017 and in Shropshire we have seventeen clubs due for re-accreditation and four clubs who are working towards registration onto the scheme for the first time.

The process has changed and is now an online system, administered centrally by the ECB, although all support will be given by the Shropshire Cricket Board team as in the past.

Clubs due for re-accreditation will be notified very shortly (if they haven't been already) via email regarding the process, shortly followed by notification to first registration and other registered clubs.

The accreditation period runs from April to the end of October and individual clubs will be contacted by the SCB office to arrange site visits and support sessions.



Sentinel 1st XI vs Ludlow 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



Sentinel 1st XI vs St Georges 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



Appeal For Equipment For Clubs & Refugees in Germany

You may remember that in last year's mid-season newsletter the League published an appeal from Cologne Cricket Club in Germany for second-hand or discarded cricket equipment of any kind for use by the refugee community and cricket clubs in the country. Many thanks to all who helped out at the time.

Nine months later, the need for equipment is bigger than ever and the League is appealing again to all our member clubs to help out. Please bring any unwanted or redundant equipment to the Captains Meeting on Monday 24th April it will be collected from you, sorted and then dispatched to Germany where it will be put to good use.

For further information, please contact Adam Phillips adamp@timberframe.co.uk

Pitch Marking

Premier Division clubs will be aware that panel umpires have always carried out pitch reports at every game in the division. For 2017, the League is planning to take this a step further by publishing the results of these reports on four occasions during the season and presenting an award to the groundsman whose pitch scores the highest marks over the course of the year. It's hoped that this new emphasis on pitch quality will encourage clubs to prepare the best possible surface they can and also highlight any areas of concern that the League may be able to assist with.

Each Premier Division club will be given a Pitch Marking Assessment book which they will need to hand to umpires at the start of each match. These books will be handed out at the Captains Meeting on Monday 24th April and further information will be given to clubs in due course.



SCCL Senior Slam 2017

Please find below the draw for the SCCL Senior Slam.

Round 1 matches to be played on Thursday the 25th of May 2017.

Reserve date for round 1 (rain delayed match) Thursday the 1st of June.

Byes	Region	Team
1	East	Worfield
2	East	St Georges
3	North	Frankton
4	North	Knockin and Kinnerley
5	South Central	Ludlow
6	South Central	Broseley
7	West Central	Welshpool
8	West Central	Alberbury

All teams with a Bye will be away for round 2

1st Round Draw

Match	Region	Home	Away
1	East	Quatt	Albrighton
2	East	Forton	Lilleshall
3	North	Wem	Whitchurch
4	North	Bomere Heath	Market Drayton
5	South Central	Condover	Madeley
6	South Central	Cound	Wroxeter Grove
7	West Central	Shelton	Beacon
8	West Central	Newtown	Montgomery

SCCL Junior Slam 2017

Please find below the draw for the SCCL Junior Slam.

Round 1 matches to be played on Thursday the 18th of May 2017.

Reserve date for round 1 (rain delayed match) Thursday the 25th of May 2017.

Byes	Region	Team
1	East	Shifnal 3
2	East	Hodnet, Peplow and Tibberton
3	North and NW	Calverhall
4	North and NW	Cae Glas
5	North and NW	Overton on Dee
6	South and SW	Willey
7	South and SW	Bishops Castle
8	Central	Shrewsbury 3
9	Central	Prees
10	Central	Coton Hall

All Teams with a Bye will be away for round 2

1st Round Draw

Match	Region	Hone	Away
1	North and NW	Iscoyd and Fenns Bank	Oswestry 3
2	South and SW	Chelmarsh	Much Wenlock
3	South and SW	Pontesbury	Llanidloes
4	Central	Acton Reynald	Harcourt
5	East	Newport 3	Wellington 3
6	East	Allscott	Wheaton Aston



Future Newsletter

As mentioned at the start of this newsletter, you will receive a copy of subsequent newsletters" in the pre, mid and end season. This will also be available for download as a PDF copy on the new League Website.

The newsletter is produced by the IT, Social Media and Publication Sub-Committee of the Henshalls SCCL Committee. So if you do have any news, information or photos that you wish to share with the league and member clubs. Then please send any information to;

Will Clarke (Chairman of Sub-Committee) – will_clarke@hotmail.com

Adam Philips (Newsletter Writer) – adamp@timberframe.co.uk

Matt Porter (Newsletter Design) – m3xtl@yahoo.co.uk

We hope you enjoy reading the newsletters and embrace the new website and social media outlets that have been developed.



Ludlow 1st XI vs Wem 1st XI 2016 (Premier)



Shifnal 3rd XI – SCCL Division 3 Champions 2016