

IT IS EXPECTED THAT CLUB OFFICIALS, TEAM CAPTAINS AND UMPIRES KNOW, UNDERSTAND AND UPHOLD THE SCCL REGULATIONS, THE ECB DIRECTIVES, THE MCC LAWS AND THE SPIRIT OF CRICKET.

CONSTITUTION OF THE SHROPSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE AND ITS SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS (LEAGUE RULES, GCR, DISCIPLINARY, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS PROCEDURES)

CONSTITUTION

In the following Constitution, and any Supplementary Documents mentioned within the Constitution, that wherever the words “in writing” or “written” appear, this may be by email or letter only.

1. NAME

The organisation shall be known as The Shropshire County Cricket League, hereafter referred to as “SCCL”. The name of the League’s sponsor(s) shall wherever appropriate be incorporated into that of the League, the form of such to be as decided by the Management Committee.

2. INTENTION

2.1 The intention of the SCCL shall be to organise cricket on a championship basis for the Member Clubs, with the object of playing Club cricket in the spirit and laws of the game as it exists and as it is understood by all who play within the auspices of the England and Wales Cricket Board “ECB” and the Club Cricket Conference.

2.2 The SCCL intends to promote the highest standards in all facets of the game.

3. AFFILIATION

3.1 The SCCL is affiliated to the ECB through the Shropshire County Cricket Board and is an important component of the ECB Premier League structure with promotion and relegation to and from the Birmingham District Cricket League “BDCL”.

3.2 The SCCL shall ensure that its Club Members abide by the ECB Code of Conduct which incorporates the Spirit of Cricket and by the Laws of Cricket.

3.3 The SCCL shall adopt and implement the ECB Safe Hands – Cricket’s Policy for Safeguarding Children and any future versions of the policy. All Member Clubs must also have a separate Club Safeguarding Policy Statement, as required by the ECB.

3.4 The SCCL shall adopt and implement the ECB Anti-Discrimination Code of Conduct and any future versions of this policy.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 League shall consist of member Clubs who satisfy the requirements of the League and the Committee with regard to status, playing strength, standard of grounds and facilities.
- 4.2 All Member Clubs must have a written Constitution, and shall provide a copy to the League Secretary if requested to do so.
- 4.3 All member Clubs must be in possession of Public Liability Insurance cover for not less than £5 million, and shall produce written evidence of this to the League Secretary if requested to do so.
- 4.4 All member Clubs shall abide by the current England and Wales Cricket Board's (ECB) Directives regarding Child Protection and Safeguarding.
- 4.5 All member Clubs must be affiliated to their relevant Cricket Board. Failure to do so could result in expulsion from the League.
- 4.6 Before the start of each season, each Member Club shall send to the League Secretary a Declaration signed by its Chairman and Secretary committing the Club to abide by the Constitution and Rules of the League and to observe the Code of Conduct and The Laws of Cricket. Failure to do so will mean that none of the Club's teams will be credited with any points until the Declaration is received.
- 4.7 All member Clubs with a team playing in the Premier Division, Division One or Division Two shall possess the Clubmark or Clubmark Lite Accreditation or the Shropshire County Certificate of Compliance the conditions as defined within the League rules. Failure to achieve this status by the deadline stated within the League rules will mean that the Club will not be eligible to play in any of the above Divisions in the following season.
- 4.8 The teams of member Clubs shall play in Divisions and there shall normally be promotion and relegation between Divisions, as determined by the Committee.
- 4.9 Any Club wishing to be admitted to, or any member Club seeking to change the number of its teams in, the League, shall apply in writing to the League Secretary not later than the closing date to be set by the League Committee for that year, indicating the number of teams it wishes to enter the next season. The League Secretary will notify all member Clubs not later than the 31st August of the closing date by which such application is to be received. Each application shall be considered by the Committee in accordance with the requirements of Clauses 4 (1 – 5) above. The Committee shall have the power to refuse any application and may, if it wishes, but is not bound to, give reasons for its decision. In exceptional circumstances, applications received after the closing date may be considered.

- 4.10 Any member Club wishing to resign from the League shall give notice in writing to the League Secretary not later than the date set by the League Committee for that year (as defined in Clause 4.9 hereof).
- 4.11 Clauses 4.8 and 4.9 above shall not apply to any Club promoted to or relegated from another recognised League (BDCL) forming part of the ECB's pyramid structure.
- 4.12 In the event of any of the League's former member Clubs currently playing in the Birmingham and District Premier Cricket League applying to return to this League for reasons other than relegation, there will be a presumption in favour of acceptance, subject to the application complying with the requirements of Clause 4.8 above.
- 4.13 The Committee shall have powers to require any member Club to resign if, in its opinion, the general conduct of the Club does not satisfy the requirements of the League. Any member Club against which such action is proposed shall receive, not less than 14 days' prior notice, in writing of the date of the meeting at which the matter is to be considered and shall be invited to be represented at that part of the meeting. This action shall be in addition to any steps taken under 'Rules for the Conduct of Matches'.
- 4.14 Players and team officials shall refrain from any form of abusive comments or actions against fellow players, officials, members and supporters.
- 4.15 All Member Clubs must operate an active open-door membership policy, whilst respecting player qualification regulations, and shall welcome players/members irrespective of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of cricket.
- 4.16 A member Club which removes its First Team from the League shall be deemed to have resigned its membership: it may, however, apply to re-enter one or more of its lower teams and the application will be considered in accordance with the requirements of Clause 4.10 above.
- 4.17 Any Club which ceases to be a member of the League shall at once forfeit any rights of participation in the assets of the League.
- 4.18 Following a recommendation from the Committee, the Annual General Meeting may confer the honour of Life Membership of the League on any person whom it considers worthy of special recognition by reason of services rendered to the League. Life Members shall be entitled to attend meetings of the Management Committee.

5. ADMINISTRATION

- 5.1 The affairs of the SCCL shall be vested in a Management Committee. The Management Committee Members are comprised of Officers, being the Chair, League Secretary, Administrator, Treasurer, Results and Registrations

Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Umpires Secretary and Publicity Officer.

- 5.2 The President may attend Management Committee, Sub-Committee and General Meetings, however at all such meetings the President shall have no voting rights.
- 5.3 The Management Committee, at its sole discretion, shall have the power to co-opt a representative from any Full Member Club to fill any vacancy of the Management Committee until the following AGM. Such person shall have full voting rights.
- 5.4 The Management Committee, at its absolute discretion, shall have the power to create or disband Sub-Committees as it considers necessary.
- 5.5 The Officers shall be elected annually at, and shall take office from the end of, the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.6 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary, Administrator and Treasurer shall be known as “the Executive Officers” and shall collectively exercise day-to-day administration of the League and shall hold executive powers to deal with urgent matters which may arise between Committee meetings or which are not specifically covered by the Constitution

6. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- 6.1 The Officers of the League shall be the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary, Administrator, Treasurer, Results & Registrations Secretary, Fixtures Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Umpires Secretary, Publicity Officer. Some of these positions may be held jointly by the same official, at the discretion of the Committee. The Officers shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting and take office immediately after it.
- 6.2 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary, Administrator and Treasurer shall be known as the Executive Officers. They will collectively exercise day-to-day administration of the League, and shall hold executive powers to deal with urgent matters which may arise between Committee meetings or which are not specifically covered by the Constitution. They may at their discretion confer executive status on other committee member(s) in order to assist their endeavours.
- 6.3 The Committee shall consist of the Officers in Clause 6.1 above; an initial reduction to 12 Elected Members at November 2026's AGM; further consideration in reduction to nine Elected Members at the AGM of 2027; Life Members; and a nominated member from the Shropshire Cricket Board.
- 6.4 One-third of the Elected Members shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting for a term of three years, after which time they shall retire from the Committee and, if they wish, offer themselves for re-election.

- 6.5 Not more than two Elected Members from any one Club shall be elected to serve on the Committee at the same time.

7. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- 7.1 Whenever a Committee member has a personal interest in a matter to be discussed he/she must declare it, withdraw from that part of the meeting (unless asked to stay), not be counted in the quorum for that agenda item and must withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter concerned. Conflicts of Interest must be recorded and minuted.
- 7.2 The Committee shall meet at least four times each year.
- 7.3 Committee meetings may be held either in person, by telephone, other electronic or virtual means agreed by the Committee in which all participants may communicate simultaneously with all other participants.
- 7.4 Committee members are expected to attend all of its meetings. Elected Members must attend four of the six meetings within a calendar year, and failure to do so means they will forfeit their place on the Committee. Life members must also attend four of the six meetings, and failure to do so means they will lose their voting rights. Both decisions are at the discretion of the Committee.
- 7.5 At least ten days' notice of meetings shall be given. Accidental omission to give notice of any meeting or non-receipt of such notice by any Committee member shall not invalidate any resolution passed at any such meeting.
- 7.6 Seven members of the Committee shall form a quorum.
- 7.7 Life Members (pre- AGM 2025) will retain their voting rights but all future Life Members will not have this right unless they are an active member of a League Sub Committee.
- 7.8 All questions arising at a Committee meeting, other than questions of order, shall be decided by a simple majority of votes: in the event of an equality of votes, the chairman of the meeting shall have the casting vote.
- 7.9 Committee members are not representatives of their respective Clubs and shall "declare an interest" when an issue directly affecting their own club is to be discussed and shall normally abstain from any vote on such matter.
- 7.10 The Committee shall have the power to review and, if considered appropriate, reject any nomination received for Officers of the League or Elected Members of the Committee if it considers that there are reasonable grounds to believe that such nomination would be contrary to the best interests of the game of cricket or the smooth functioning of the League.
- 7.11 The Committee shall have residual powers to consider and adjudicate upon any matter not specifically covered by this Constitution.

- 7.12 The decision of the Committee is final.
- 7.13 Committee members are expected to attend all of its meetings. Anyone other than a Life Member who fails to attend three or more consecutive meetings is liable to expulsion, at the discretion of the Committee.
- 7.14 Any Committee member whose Club ceases to be a member of the League may be required, at the discretion of the Committee, to resign from the Committee.
- 7.15 The Committee may at its discretion appoint an Honorary Legal Advisor.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.1 The SCCL shall hold an Annual General Meeting, hereafter referred to as “the Meeting”, in November each year or as practicable thereafter.
- 8.2 At every AGM the Club Members will elect a Committee including a Chair, Treasurer and Secretary (“the Officers”) to serve until the next AGM.
- 8.3 Notice of the Meeting shall be given in writing to all member Clubs at least twenty-one days before the date thereof.
- 8.4 Any Member Club wishing to make a proposal for discussion at the AGM must submit in writing to the League Secretary at least fourteen days before the date thereof.
- 8.5 The President shall preside at the Meeting. If the President is absent the Chairman shall preside; if the Chairman is absent the Vice-Chairman shall preside; if all are absent, the member Clubs present shall, before any other business is transacted, appoint a chairman of the Meeting.
- 8.6 Nominations for the Officers of the League and elected Members of the Committee shall be submitted in writing by member Clubs and received by the League Secretary at least twenty-eight days before the AGM.
- 8.7 The Treasurer will produce accounts of the SCCL for the latest financial year audited as the Committee shall decide.
- 8.8 The Member Clubs present will discuss and vote on any resolution (whether about policy or to change the Rules) and deal with any other business put to the meeting.
- 8.9 Each Member Club shall have one vote. In the event of an equality of votes, the chairman of the Meeting shall have a single casting vote.
- 8.10 Proxy votes will not be accepted.

- 8.11 No changes shall be made to the Constitution except at an Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting and any such changes shall require the assent of at least two thirds of the votes cast.
- 8.12 Proposals to change the Constitution must either be submitted by the Committee, or be proposed and seconded by at least two member Clubs and received by the League Secretary not later than 30th September. The wording of any such proposed changes to the Constitution shall be included in the Notice of Meeting.
- 8.13 One third of the member Clubs shall form a quorum.

9. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS (EGM)

- 9.1 An EGM shall be called by the Secretary within 14 days of a request to that effect from the Committee or on the written request of not less than one third of Member Clubs, stating the reason(s) why the meeting is being requested. Such EGM shall be held on not less than 14 nor more than 21 days' notice at a place decided upon by the Committee or in default by the Chair. If the Committee fails to call a meeting within 14 days of receiving a valid request from the members, then the requisitionists may themselves call a meeting, the costs of which will be reimbursed by the SCCL.
- 9.2 The provisions applicable to the Annual General Meeting shall, with the exception of 8.1 and 8.11 above, apply also to the Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 9.3 Proposals to change the Constitution must either be submitted by the Committee, or be proposed and seconded by at least two member Clubs and submitted in writing to the League Secretary. The wording of any such proposed changes to the Constitution shall be included in the Notice of Meeting.

10. TROPHIES

- 10.1 Trophies will be awarded to the Champions in all Divisions.
- 10.2 Additional awards may be made at the Committee's discretion.

Trophies that are the property of the League must be returned in good condition to the League Secretary not later than 1st September

11. FINANCES

- 11.1 Each Member Club shall pay to the Treasurer, not later than the end of April each year, an annual subscription for each team. Any Club which fails to pay by the due date may be charged an additional penalty for each month or part of a month that it is in arrears. The amounts of the subscription and the penalty will be determined each year by the Committee and notified to all member Clubs.

- 11.2 If the subscription income is found to be insufficient to meet the League's needs, the Committee may levy an additional subscription on Member Clubs.
- 11.3 The Committee shall cause proper account to be kept of all sums of money received and paid out by the League.
- 11.4 The financial year of the League shall end on 31st October.
- 11.5 The accounts of the SCCL shall be examined annually by a qualified accountant, who shall certify their correctness.
- 11.6 A statement of accounts shall be presented by the Treasurer to the Annual General Meeting.
- 11.7 The funds of the SCCL shall be invested as the Committee decides after considering the recommendations of the Treasurer, and day-to-day transactions shall be dealt with by and through one or more bank accounts in the name of the League.
- 11.8 No moneys shall be paid from any account in the name of the SCCL except upon the signatures of any two from the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, League Secretary and Treasurer, who shall be the authorised signatories.

12. FIXTURES

- 12.1 All League matches of the SCCL shall be played on the dates displayed/published on the website of the SCCL.
- 12.2 Any Club that fails to fulfill a fixture shall be penalised for that offence in such manner as shall be determined by the Committee and published in the League Handbook. Any club that repeatedly fails to fulfill its fixtures may be required to resign its membership of the League in accordance with the procedures contained in Clause 5.13
- 12.3 Member Clubs will be informed of the dates on which a League Representative XI may be taking part in a Competition. Clubs shall not under any circumstances withdraw a player selected to play in such match in favour of a Club competition.

13. WINDING UP

- 13.1 The SCCL may be wound up only by the passing of a resolution by a majority of at least two thirds of the Member Clubs present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting convened for the purpose of considering such resolution.
- 13.2 In the event of the SCCL being wound up a final statement of accounts shall be prepared and independently examined. If these accounts reveal a deficit every Full Member Club at the date of winding up and every Full Member Club that ceased to be a member within the year preceding the date of winding up shall

contribute equally to clear the said deficit. If a surplus is revealed, it shall be equally divided among the Full Member Clubs at the date of winding up.

Adopted at a meeting held:

at Harlescott Social Club, Shrewsbury SY1 4LP

on Tuesday 14th April 2026

Signed

Name Howard SANDERS

 Chair SCCL

Signature

[Name and signature of chair of meeting]

Witnessed

Name Liam O'NEILL

Address

Occupation

Signature

[Name, address, occupation and signature of witness]