



### From the Chairman

As the Chairman of SACO, I would like to assure you that even though we are currently living in strange times, your committee has with the County Cricket Board, been busy working behind the scenes to satisfy the new protocols recently set by the ECB. We have a Business plan, Umpires & Scorers pathway for officials from young people to senior cricket. We have recently increased the hits on the SCB website, by asking some of our members to write about why they have become officials. We have also had a say in the disciplinary aspect of our game in our county. Anyone who is officiating within Shropshire cricket is part of a family, whether they be a member of the ACO or not, and as such we want to make sure that you know you are not alone. If you have a question or have any concerns about any aspects of Shropshire Cricket then talk to us, we are always here and willing to help. Finally, I hope you and your families are keeping safe, hopefully we might get some form of cricket played this year, if we do, watch out for the grumpy old man with his dog and please come over and say Hello. **Tom 'n' Harley**

### Free E-learning modules for Umpires

With the vast majority of the country still under lockdown and recreational cricket suspended until further notice, now is the chance to undertake some initial basic training or undertake CPD around both umpiring and scoring.

These online modules are free and are not just restricted to cricket officials and should be of an interest to everybody who has an interest in the game or wishes to take up umpiring or scoring.

1. **“Basics of Umpiring”** – This course is aimed at club umpires who just need to know the key laws and basic field craft and those players who umpire 5 or 10 overs at the weekend.

<http://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/jnqlsg>

2. **“Umpire Stage One”** This course is designed to give an overview of the basic Laws of the game and how to apply them and introduce the principles of field craft and match management. This course is an ideal introduction for new club umpires, a refresher for existing umpires and the first step for those who aspire to umpire at higher levels.

<http://booking.ecb.co.uk/d/fnqrf1>

### Some Top Tips from Ant

Recently we ran a week of features on Shropshire based officials on the SCB website. One of the features was on our popular Birmingham League and National Panel umpire Ant Harris.

- Empathy – umpires need to develop this empathy – **“Having empathy for the game, the player(s) and the situation is vital to managing the game.”**

Check out the feature on the SCB website for other top tips for umpires

<http://www.shropshirecricketboard.co.uk/news/ants-top-tip-for-umpires-30014/>

### BITE SIZE - CPD

South Central ACO have developed a series of eight bite sized CPD modules. The PowerPoint Slides to take us back to the very fundamentals of umpiring. These presentations provide an overview and provide a useful refresher.

Modules include; Planning and Preparation / Understanding Playing Regulations / Giving Decisions / Positioning / Movement and Positioning / Bouncers / Beamers / Ground, Weather and Light.

<http://www.berkscoa.co.uk/courses.html>



## KEEPING IN TOUCH

### Scorers Update

Since joining the Shropshire ACO committee as County scorers officer at last year's AGM it has been great to meet so many Shropshire scorers and umpires and to be a part of such a hard working committee.

I have been really encouraged by the response to the scoring courses we have held in the County and I was especially pleased to see young scorers come on the courses. We will continue to build on this by offering a variety of courses here in the county for all scorers to develop their skills.

In the West Midlands area we are working on creating a register of scorers in each County so that we know who the active scorers are and the level at which they are scoring, regardless of whether they have done any formal courses or not. It will be great to be able to stay in touch with everyone and develop a community of scorers. Therefore, please encourage all scorers to get in touch with me. **Clair Eccleston**

### Tribute to Clive Smith

Clive was one of the most respected figures in the history of Shropshire Cricket. He was a delightful and thoughtful person who devoted himself to Shropshire League cricket acting as Chairman for many years and later as President.

By many, he will be fondly remembered as a very fine umpire and earned the respect of cricketers of all standards. For many years he was one of the best umpires in the Minor County Championship and went on to have two years on the Reserve First Class list in the early 1980's.

During many years playing for Shropshire I was always happy to have Clive officiating as one knew the match would be in safe hands. His ability, sense of humour and the respect in which he was held by players, guaranteed any tensions that may have arisen were quickly diffused.

His passing will be felt by many cricketers, particularly of my generation, not only in Shropshire but throughout the country where he had umpired.

**Stephen Johnson (Shropshire CCC 1967- 1991)**



### Free E-learning module for Scorers

**"Basics of Scoring"** This course is designed to provide you with all the skills needed to start scoring. The course covers the basics of scoring a game of cricket such as scoring symbols, umpire signals, dismissals and gives a helpful overview of the Laws of the game.

<https://booking.ecb.co.uk/c/express/501245fd-e917-45e8-827e-f14d10a1d0cb>

### Mike Sheehy collects award

Our own Mike Sheehy collected a well deserved OSCA at the SCB awards dinner in October.

Mike started his cricket career at Wem umpiring them in the Shropshire league for a period and was treasurer for 45 years.

He has been Umpire Appointments manager since 1984, and SACO treasurer and secretary for many years.

Apart from these duties he has been instrumental setting up training courses for the West Midlands ACO, and running introductory and other courses in Shropshire.

There were many accolades for Mike covering his illustrious Umpiring career, and presentations made by the West Midlands ACO, Shropshire ACO and the SCB. His wife Val, who assists him was also presented with gifts.



## Shropshire ACO Committee – here to support

### Tom Kane (Chair & Education)

Mobile: 07810 524054 / Email: tomkane57@yahoo.co.uk

### Tim Barber (Vice Chair, Welfare & Young Officials)

Mobile: 07811 406331 / Email: t223barber@btinternet.com

### Lissa Davis (Women & Girls)

Mobile: 07875 600268 / Email: lissajdavis@gmail.com

### Clair Eccleston (Scorers)

Mobile: 07715 690033 / Email: shropshireaco@gmail.com

### Mike Sheehy (Appointments)

Mobile: 07864 866739 / Email: mikeandvalsheehy@talktalk.net

### Colin Wetherley-Mein (Appointments)

Mobile: 07896 536449 / Email: c.wetherley.mein@btinternet.com

### John McIntear (Disability)

Mobile: 07833 352840 / Email: johnnychock@gmail.com

### Keith Miller (Development)

Mobile: 07967 676473 / Email: millerk913@sky.com

### Malcolm Bird (Secretary & Membership)

Mobile: 07831 618464 / Email: malc.bird31@btinternet.com