



THE GORDON RIGG BRADFORD PREMIER LEAGUE



Newsletter 8

Friday saw the publication of the ECB guidance for the return of recreational cricket which covers the period from March 19 to April 12.

This advice will be updated further when after the Government's next announcement on the easing of the Coronavirus Lockdown on April 12.

It is important that all clubs make sure they read the ECB guidance and follow it fully. No actions should be taken that put people's health at risk.

Many of you will be arranging pre-season matches and it is therefore important you are compliant with the regulations.

This year the ECB are urging leagues to investigate non-compliance and impose penalties. Make sure your club is not caught out. Much of the guidance is like what was in place last season, but we must draw your attention to the fact that **NO** spectators must be admitted to grounds before April 12.

One other change regards batsmen running between the wickets. There is no longer a requirement for running lines, but batsmen are advised to run on opposite sides of the wicket to maintain social distancing.

Ball sanitisation remains in place, changing rooms must remain closed, players must provide their own tea, and clubs must keep a record of the details of all participants at the game for the Covid-19 Track and Trace.

A copy of the latest ECB guidance has been attached to the accompanying email in case you have not previously seen it.

Cup Rules

The rules for this seasons Priestley Cup, Jack Hampshire Cup, Priestley Shield and T20 Cup competitions are being finalised and will be issued later this week.

The main changes included the introduction of Duckworth Lewis Stern in the Priestley Cup along with the over-rate regulations used in the league.

The Jack Hampshire Cup will retain the comparison of scores method for deciding weather affected games as will the Priestley Shield which is now a 40 over competition.

League handbook

Due to the changes that are having to be made to competition rules to take account of the most up to date Government and ECB advice, this year's league handbook will be an on-line publication.

One of the advantages of this is the fact that it gives the league the ability to update information whenever new and important guidance becomes available.

The current plan is for it to be able to take account of the additional advice the ECB will be issuing after the next Government announcement on April 12.

The on-line version will be able to be viewed on phones, iPad, tablets and laptops so it will be accessible to a wider audience than a print version.



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Club Consultation

At the beginning of February all clubs received a communication from the Raising Standards team confirming that the Management Board were entering a period of consultation with clubs over proposals arising from last year's review. A copy of the document is attached to this Newsletter.

The initial period of consultation ends on Saturday 3rd April and the Management Board would encourage clubs to participate in this consultation and would welcome any further responses by this date. All responses should be sent to Bill Holmes email bill@bradfordcl.com and Chris Leathley email secretary@bradfordcl.com

Boundary Risk – item 4 of Consultation document

ECB are working on detailed guidance on the issue of boundary risk but acknowledge they have been slowed down by the need to work on Covid related guidance. When responding to questions raised by the Management Board ECB also said that this issue is complex with several legislative factors to consider and hence guidance is not likely to be issued until late in the year.

In the meantime, ECB are advising that a risk assessment should be undertaken only if there is a clear and present issue to address. In the light of this guidance clubs should determine their own club specific approach to this issue. In doing so clubs may elect to have regard to 3.4 of their individual club review report where an Amber or Red reflect the report's authors own assessment of a boundary risk representing a clear and present danger.

Courses for scorers

The Gordon Rigg Bradford Premier League has organised two pre-season courses for club scorers. Both are provided free of charge and will be conducted via Zoom by the YCB ACO Scorers Training Officer Kevin Hutchinson.

Anyone new to scoring with PCS PRO or needs a refresher should register for both sessions so that get the full benefit.

Any scorer in Premier and Division One first elevens that has not used Duckworth Lewis Stern previously MUST attend Part Two.

Part One will be staged on Tuesday, April 6 at 7pm. It will cover how to download a fixture, team selection and match set up plus the basics of scoring. The session will last for approximately 90 minutes.

Part Two, which lasts for one hour, will be held on Tuesday, April 13 at 7pm. The subjects covered will be correcting errors and omissions, using DLS in PCS Pro, and end of match procedures and reports.

All scorers taking part in the sessions must have the latest version of PCS Pro loaded on the laptop they will be using for the training session.

Registrations are booked directly with Kevin Hutchinson, the course tutor, who will then send out the Zoom links direct to the scorer. To secure your place email: email: khutchinson@talk21.com



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Teamwork

We are introducing a new feature to the newsletter today where clubs can recommend a company or supplier who have helped them and could help fellow clubs. Hanging Heaton are the first club to make a recommendation for energy experts Troo. If your club would like to recommend a company or service that would benefit others, please email details to editor@bradfordcl.com

Hanging Heaton, the first Gordon Rigg Bradford Premier League club to sign with a new energy company, whose aim is to make significant savings to sports clubs.

Troo are energy experts, helping businesses save money and time renewing business energy contracts and the north east based company have recently branched out into assisting sports clubs.

Troocost and Troosport are building an impressive portfolio of sports clubs on their books, with Featherstone Rovers Rugby League club one of the latest to sign a deal and are now expanding to cricket clubs across the country.

Hanging Heaton are one of the first cricket clubs in the UK to agree a deal with Troo, who have vowed to make savings on the club's energy bills.

Most energy brokers will not tell clubs how much sales commission they are adding to your unit rates, and they won't tell you how much their service costs.

Hanging Heaton President Conrad Spivey said: "Troo have taken away the pressure of club officials having to try ring round numerous companies to find the best deal and they are confident they can make significant savings to our energy bills.

"We had a meeting with Keith Brown, Head of TrooSports, and Sponsorship Portfolio Manager, Scott Cameron, who were very impressed with the ground and facilities at Hanging Heaton.

"During these extremely difficult times for all clubs, any savings which can be made could give an additional boost to finances ahead of the new cricket season.

"As well as negotiating a deal for the club, we spoke about the standard of Bradford League cricket and they have already said they are looking forward to spending a day with us, taking in a game during the summer."

Scott Cameron added: "TrooSports is a new initiative created by Troocost that is aimed at benefiting sports clubs and forming long lasting partnerships that will provide tools for our partners to continue their growth and achieve their goals both on and off the field.

"We have made great strides in raising our brand awareness since the turn of the year. Troosports, who are a side arm of Troocost are working with many sports clubs throughout the country. They help reduce their running costs and invest money back into clubs with sponsorship.

"When looking at sponsorships for clubs there are a number of options we can look at. Sponsorship packages vary from official energy partnerships, naming rights, advertising boards, kit sponsor, hospitality agreements, etc.

"Sponsorship packages can also be fully bespoke – it is purely based on club need and affordability for ourselves as a business.



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"We are currently working with cricket clubs from county to village focusing on cost reduction methods and offering an additional revenue stream which due to the current climate clubs are finding very beneficial."

To find out if TrooSport can make other Bradford League clubs, savings on their energy bills, contact scott.cameron@troocost.com or call 0191 323 3024.

Administrative tasks requiring attention

1 Covid Risk Assessment: Before any cricket is played on any club's ground a Covid Risk Assessment must be forwarded to the league secretary. This is Government and ECM requirement.

2 Covid Officer: All clubs must notify the league secretary of the name of their Covid Officer.

3 Insurance: The secretary of every club is responsible for ensuring that a copy of its current insurance certificate is forwarded to the League Secretary by March 31 each year. This deadline is fast approaching so please give this your urgent attention.

4 T20 Fixtures: The following clubs have not responded to the request to confirm acceptance of their revised fixtures, New Farnley, East Bierley, Birstall, Wakefield St Michael's, Sandal, Hunslet Nelson and Hopton Mills. They are urged to do this as a matter of urgency. Email: compliance@bradfordcl.com