



DERBYSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE PRE-SEASON NEWSLETTER 2018

Welcome to our 2018 pre-season newsletter and update.

Nationally it has been reported that local cricket is in decline. However, DCCL has increased our team numbers returning our county's participation to similar levels of the last 10 seasons after having had a slight dip last year. This means 87 clubs, 215 teams, plus scorers, umpires, ground staff and volunteers are involved each week of the season, in all approximately 2,500 people participating in cricket in our league. We have also recognised the need to further regionalise leagues at our lower levels to ease the burden of travel for junior players in response to local survey results. This was highlighted as one of the factors responsible for fewer younger people entering or remaining in the game along with the length of the game. Although difficult for various social reasons, clubs, captains and coaches should continue their good work to encourage new participation within the game, particularly at younger age levels using national initiatives promoted by ECB such as 'All stars' and competitive 'Kwik Cricket'.

During the close season the EC has received firm applications from four clubs in the north of the county for entry into our league system in 2019, one being through winning a feeder league and therefore enters at tier four. Visits and meetings have been held with these clubs but there is more about how this will affect promotion and relegation later in this newsletter. We may yet receive more applications and we will work with the relevant cricket boards to ensure that no club in Derbyshire is denied a place or opportunity to play competitive cricket.

It is rather sad that MCC have had to incorporate player behaviour into the laws of cricket. Good behaviour should come as standard but in line with ECB recommendations we have had to incorporate these new laws into our Premier and First division. For the remainder of our leagues, Division 2 to Division 10, the DCCL Disciplinary Procedure will be applied and the 'zero tolerance' approach will continue and will be applied by umpires and the EC Disciplinary Committee. Cricket is a game rich in tradition, opinions and debate with respect for players and officials. I ask all players and captains to maintain these traditions of our game we take so much pleasure from and encourage others in the spirit of the game whilst participating on and off the field.

Not all clubs can win a trophy or a league - that's cricket - but I wish you all the very best for the 2018 season, warm sunny days, friendship and good quality competition.

Martin Allsopp

Apologies that this one is a bit longer again, but there's a lot of fairly important stuff that we need to get over to you.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the new teams from our existing clubs who have joined the DCCL for the 2018 season. May you have good cricket in fine weather, and gain a great deal of enjoyment and many new friends. We hope you will be with us for many years to come. We also welcome some new umpires, which on a good day will allow Jon Salisbury to provide panel umpires in all Divisions from Division 5 upwards and often into Division 6. We still need more umpires and anyone interested even in umpiring just an occasional game should contact Jon on 0114 2474705. Any offer will be gratefully received.

It is useful with the season fast approaching to remind clubs of information that they have already received, and of other items of which they need to be aware:

1. Withdrawal of teams and applications for membership.

Allestree has notified us under Rule B10:3:5 of the loss of seven regular players from its 2017 1st XI and its withdrawal of that team from Division 4 North. They will therefore run just one team, as their 1st XI, in Division 8 South for 2018. This will hopefully allow them to rebuild. This means that, subject to any other issues that may arise, only one team will be relegated from Division 4 North and that there may be an extra promotion place from the tiers below that. There will be only 11 teams in Division 4 North for 2018

Clay Cross Works has notified us under Rule B10:3:5 of the withdrawal of their 2nd XI from Division 10 North. They will therefore run just one team in Division 7 North for 2018, and may move some games for that team to Sharley Park if possible. There will be only 9 teams in Division 10 North for 2018

The league has received four applications from new clubs for membership for the 2019 season all from clubs in the Yorkshire & Derbyshire League – Ashford in the Water, Hollinsend, Hundall and Whittington Wanderers There is still time for other

applications to be received; clubs will be notified before the start of the season in the event of this happening. In the event that we do, then in order to accommodate such applications it means that **subject to any withdrawals within or above the levels at which new clubs might be accepted it may be necessary to create extra relegation places from the tier at which such clubs might enter downwards. The extra places will be determined on the same basis as any extra promotion places created** – i.e. the team immediately above the relegation places in that tier with the worst record (points per game) will be relegated, and if more than one relegation is required then it will be the other team immediately above the relegation places, then the ‘worse’ record above them etc. Our advice therefore is as always – aim to finish as high as possible in case an extra promotion place appears and do not assume that one place above the normal relegation zone will automatically guarantee safety from relegation.

2. Junior Players in Open Age Cricket

Clubs are reminded once again of the ECB guidance with regard to Under-12 and Under-13 players in senior cricket. Only players in the Under-12 age group who are in their County (**not** District) playing squads will be permitted to play in open-age cricket, and then only subject to County Board approval. The League will be notified by the County Boards of such players, and subject to the club also attaining written parental permission these players will be allowed to play in League and League Cup matches. Parents of Under-13 players must supply written permission to the club concerned before they are allowed to participate in open-age cricket.

Please note that ONLY County Boards have the authority to nominate and notify Under-12 players – there is absolutely no point in a club or individual trying to do this or make any representations about this through the League. Any club playing a player or players not conforming to the ECB guidance will be subject to the usual penalties regarding ineligible players, and repeat offenders are likely to find themselves the subject of disciplinary action as this will be treated as a welfare issue.

The following players in the Under-12 age-group have been approved by the Derbyshire Cricket Board to play in open-age cricket in 2018:

- Yusef Bin Naeem – Tutbury/ Rolls Royce Leisure
- Oliver Flindall – Ilkeston Rutland
- Charlie Harris - Tintwistle
- George Priest - Denby
- Evan Dhanda - Tutbury
- Jake Ludlam - Eckington

Permission is given on the understanding that the club has a responsibility to ensure the standard of cricket is appropriate to the player. For example you wouldn’t expect Denby or Eckington to put a 12 year old player into a Premier Division game. The parent has to give permission for the player to play in open age cricket.

These are the players given permission at the moment – the list is subject to review, we will inform you of any additions etc.

They will all appear in the lower Divisions of the Yorkshire & Derbyshire League (4, 5), Derbyshire & Cheshire League (3, 4), South Nottinghamshire League (H) or the Derbyshire County League (around 8 to 10). There is no expectation that these players will play week in week out; further communication will be held in due course with individual clubs with regards to roles in sides etc but in principal agreement has been given to them at least being available for consideration.

3. Venues and facilities

Clubs have been making improvements to their facilities and grounds over the course of the close season. If these are not quite complete then we ask that you bear with them as they are for the benefit of all – it is counterproductive to report them as failings on the ground report.

4. Discipline and Behaviour

Examples of Minor Misdemeanours are given on page 83 of the 2018 handbook and each club has been or in the case of new clubs will be given laminated cards outlining the offences that will most probably lead to a Minor Misdemeanour Report (although the list is not exhaustive). These cards should be posted prominently in both dressing rooms at all grounds, and all captains should draw attention to them during pre-match talks. Attention is also drawn to the League’s policies on drugs, alcohol, smoking and safety on page 82 of the 2018 handbook. Breaches of these policies are likely to result in disciplinary action against the individuals or clubs concerned.

Umpires have been asked to be consistent in reporting Minor Misdemeanours and more serious disciplinary matters. Clubs should also be prepared to report any serious incidents especially, but not exclusively, when there are no League umpires. The general standard of discipline and sportsmanship in the League is high and the Executive Committee is determined to keep it that way. Any incident brought to the attention of the League Secretary will be investigated. The Premier Division and First Division is this season using a slightly different disciplinary process imposed as a requirement of ECB accreditation. The new Law 42 will also be applied to these divisions. The club(s) concerned will in the initial instance be expected to

instigate their own proceedings and report the outcome to the league. Only if these are felt by the Premier Division committee to fall outside the guidelines for the offence or that the club has not held a proper internal hearing will a hearing be called by the league. Reports on disciplinary issues in the Premier Division should be made by email to David Fern (dwfern@btinternet.com) who is chair of the Premier Division subcommittee. All other divisions will be dealt with using the DCCL Disciplinary Procedure and reports should be submitted to Martin Allsopp in his capacity as Disciplinary Secretary (dcclgpd@hotmail.co.uk)

Your attention is also brought to the 'Code of Conduct' and the 'Club Spirit' outlining the standards that are to be expected of clubs. These documents do not constitute rules; however they are intended to assist clubs in their outlook towards various aspects of the game and your attention to them is recommended as they could be used in evidence at a subsequent disciplinary hearing.

5. Start Times

Start times have changed in Division 1; in April and September they are 12noon in Premier and Division 1 and 1pm in all other divisions, and between May to August 12.30pm in Premier and Division 1 and 1.30pm in all other divisions,. Umpires are required to report all late starts on the Match Details form and to indicate the reason and which club is responsible. Teams in all divisions can bring forward start times by up to an hour by mutual agreement and giving 48 hours notice to the Match Secretary. It is our intention to consult with clubs and players during the course of the season in order to find if there is a consensus for change to these times

6. Team Cards

Our existing clubs and captains should now be used to this, but our new teams and captains need to be aware of the process involved. The Home club should provide the team card, which will be pre-printed with the match details for all League matches (please use one of the blanks supplied for Cup matches), complete it and pass it to the Away club who will then pass it to the Umpires, or back to the Home club if there are no League-appointed Umpires. Remember to enter the correct age group for any juniors playing and for any Under-19s as there are bowling restrictions for that age group. The home club should photograph it when they complete the online result form and attach it to that, or email it to dccl@btinternet.com giving the division and home club name as the email title (e.g. '5N Hometeam'). This will enable the Match Secretary to refer to it easily in the event of any dispute, and save the club from having to retain it for the rest of the season.

Club captains are also advised to read carefully the wording on the back of the team cards. The 'helmet dispensation' letter is no longer applicable, and all players aged under 18 on the day of the game **must** wear a helmet when batting or keeping wicket standing up to the stumps; a face protector now represents an acceptable alternative head protection system for young wicket-keepers. The captain must also affirm compliance with the ECB directives with regard to fast bowling, positioning of fielders, and the playing of young players in senior cricket. **As this document has legal implications, clubs are reminded that it must not be signed by anyone under the age of 18.**

7. Forms

All clubs are reminded that all match details and assessments must be submitted electronically, for captains via the link from the name of the person from their own club site; the umpires submit their assessments by logging into the league site. I will be circulating a more detailed document about this as the season approaches. Umpires who have no electronic access will be allocated a 'buddy' to enable their reports to be submitted online.

8. Results Notification

Results must be notified as soon as possible after the game and no later than 7 hours after the scheduled start time, using the online form <https://dccl.wufoo.com/forms/result-notification/> - link on the league site homepage. It should work on all smart-phones, although it will be necessary to find a location with a 3G signal to send the details. As per section 5 above, the team card should also be photographed and sent with this form, so everything can be done in a single process

If games are called off due to bad weather or forfeit, then you **must** notify the result as soon as this is known – please don't delay it till later and increase the likelihood that it will be forgotten, and of your club thereby incurring a fine. **Don't forget also that if the notification is more than 30 minutes after the deadline, then any fine applicable will be doubled, and that any result received over one hour late will be subject to an additional Level 2 fine of £20.**

9. Administration and Fines

Clubs are reminded that Level 1 fines for administrative issues regarding individual games are cumulative for each given offence as specified in the handbook, and commence at £2.50, but that the fifth and subsequent offence of any particular type will lead to a five-point deduction from the total of the team concerned. As the electronic system will not allow a club to submit forms with missing details, the only fines incurred for 2018 should be those for late submission of details. This should reduce the fines bill for some clubs quite significantly which can only be good for them and for cricket in general. Clubs will receive reminders about outstanding admin items via the Your Actions area on their own play-cricket site homepage; it is

imperative therefore that all administrators check this at least daily once the season starts and act on the items there promptly in order to avoid penalties. This year clubs who do not have any issues should not receive those reminders, at least beyond an initial general reminder.

10. Registrations

With the exception of the 'emergency' registrations allowed under Rule F1:3:1:1, all registrations via the play-cricket system must be submitted not later than 9pm on Friday before playing, so the deadline for the first matches is 1pm on Thursday 21st April (12noon for Premier and Division 1, 1.00pm all others). Those are also the final deadlines for the registration of County registered players in the Premier Division and for all DCCL special registrations. Chris does not wish to be faced with a large influx of new registrations right on the deadline, which would lead him to have to take time off work to deal with them. Therefore your prompt attention to this matter is now required – **all new clubs should have submitted the vast majority of their players for registration, and our existing clubs should have 'tidied up' their lists, no later than the first Distribution Meeting**, in order to allow time for them all to be processed.

All player registrations and transfers must now be submitted online via play-cricket. Club website administrators should now regularly (at least daily if possible) check their site admin homepage and deal promptly with any items displayed there as this is the place where transfer requests will be notified and need to be agreed or any objections raised. Club website administrators should see the document 'Club and County Board League Nominations' in the Help Guides section of their admin menu for details of how the new system works

11. Teas

Unless previously notified, teas should be provided for 12 opposition players and scorer together with the two umpires. The maximum charge to the away side for 2018 has been set by the Executive Committee at **£40**, which is an increase of £1 on last year and the first change in a couple of years. Anyone other than this number of players and officials should pay for any tea consumed, subject to availability once players and officials have eaten.

12. Changes of Officials

Clubs should make any changes to club officials and team captains and contacts immediately **via their play-cricket About Us section (for officials) or Teams section (for captains or contacts)**. This will allow us to contact the right person at your club via play-cricket without you having to update us about any changes to email addresses

13. Clothing

Clubs are once again reminded of League Rule J2 which stresses that players should wear cricket clothing that is 'predominantly white'. Clarification of what is acceptable is listed on page 35 of the 2018 League handbook, but for simple clarification any shirts, sweaters or trousers that have coloured panels, flashes or stripes other than in the areas defined in that rule are unacceptable. Clubs were reminded of these regulations in the 2017 end of season newsletter, so ignorance will not be accepted as a defence when it comes to any newly purchased kit. Any player contravening these guidelines who refuses to change any offending item when requested by a League appointed umpire (numbered less than 200) will be liable to a caution under the Minor Misdemeanours scheme. Additionally, it is the duty of the team captain to ensure that his players are properly attired, and he may also be liable to incur a caution under the Minor Misdemeanours scheme should one or more of his players be in breach of the guidelines. The guidelines apply equally in games where there are no League appointed umpires present; EC members have been instructed to report any contraventions that they observe in these circumstances to the League Secretary, and persistent breaches may lead to disciplinary action being taken against players and club.

14. Historical Documents

The League is still trying to bring its historical records up to date and has appealed for old handbooks etc that could be loaned or donated. There has been little positive response so far. We would very much like to be in a position to complete the League records and extend our archives. Anyone who is able to help in any way should contact the League Archivist, Clive Harris. With the league centenary fast approaching, we would also be grateful if anyone has a spare copy of the 75th anniversary book that they could donate

15. Contact with the League

It is always easier for us to be helpful if you contact the right person. Any query or other matter to do with registrations, fixtures or results should be directed to the Match Secretary, Chris Higginbottom. Disciplinary matters should go through Martin Allsopp, the League Disciplinary Secretary. Welfare issues are the domain of Mike Elliott and Aidan Melen deals with problems regarding grounds and pitches. Jon Salisbury is the Umpires' Secretary; and protests and all other matters should be directed to the League Secretary, Chris Oades.

16. Club Umpires

Club umpires, i.e. those who have numbers between 200 and 299 in the Handbook or who are subsequently appointed, are now issued with official cards to confirm their right to officiate. Opposing clubs must recognize that these club umpires have been appointed to officiate by the Umpires' Secretary and have largely the same rights and responsibilities as other Panel

umpires. If you have a club umpire, then you must notify the details to Jon Salisbury, so that he is aware and can issue them with their accreditation.

17. Sponsors and Advertisers in the League Handbook

We would like to thank those companies and individuals who have placed adverts in the League Handbook, or who have sponsored some part of the League for 2018. Many of these are cricket related and we would like to ask clubs and their members to consider supporting these businesses wherever possible. Our major sponsors Marston's are happy to discuss deals with clubs in the League; details of relevant contacts at Marston's can be obtained from John Williams. Such initial contact with Marston's would be on a 'without obligation' basis

18. Forfeited Matches

Whilst it is appreciated that no club forfeits a match unless it is absolutely necessary, clubs are reminded of Rules D1:3 and C2:9. Any club that forfeits more than two League and Cup matches in the season will find that its lowest team has to apply for re-election to the League for 2019. Clubs need to ensure therefore that they have enough registered players to fulfil their commitments. Clubs are reminded that any league match forfeited incurs a ten point penalty, and financial penalties may apply for repeated offences. Clubs are also reminded also that two 'emergency' registrations are allowed on the morning of a match for the club's lowest team under Rule F1:3:1:1, and that League rules permit players in the Under-16 and Over-50 age groups to play for any club, subject to the provisions of Rule F4. It is always worth contacting your neighbours to see if they have any such players who may not be getting a game in order to enable you to fulfil a fixture

Recognising that some clubs are struggling with player numbers, last season we created a simple 'pop-up player bureau' to enable clubs with players in the Under 16 and Over 50 age bands who may not have a game on any given date to advertise that fact and for clubs short of players to place requests for specific dates. There are now a couple of simple online forms for 'players available' and 'players wanted' with links to them in the Player Bureau section on the league website homepage <http://derbyscountylge.play-cricket.com/>.

All that the club needs to do is fill in the details and those are automatically and instantly sent to the league Twitter feed <https://twitter.com/DerbysCountyLge> so that everyone can see and respond if they can help – even at the 11th hour (literally!); if a club has a game called off early then they may even be able to get their junior players and elder statesmen a game elsewhere at very short notice using this method. These were quite well used last season, but there is considerable potential that went unused; hopefully these will enable fewer games to be forfeited in 2018, and keep more players playing.

We wish to emphasise three points:

- a. Clubs shouldn't be shy about using this to ask for players; it's their best chance of getting a game on that might otherwise not be played
- b. Clubs with spare capacity shouldn't be precious about advertising that fact; the 'we might lose them to another club' argument doesn't stack up and it is better that they are playing cricket somewhere than not playing at all
- c. Clubs outside and within these transactions should behave honourably – they should not be attempting to tap up players from struggling clubs; nor should clubs benefitting from the loan attempt to lure away those they have borrowed.

90% of the games last season for which a request was entered were played. That in itself is testament to its value

There is also a feedback form on the league website homepage <http://derbyscountylge.play-cricket.com/> - this will allow the club that has benefitted from the 'loan' to thank the club(s) that lent them players by means of an automatic tweet and also enable the league to monitor the number of clubs and players involved in these transactions. This was sadly underused last year; clubs should show their appreciation to those that have assisted them in order to encourage others to use the system

Hopefully this will enable more games to be played - #GTGO!

19. Cancellation of Matches because of Bad Weather

Rule D4 covers this eventuality. Clubs are reminded that they can only call off matches for bad weather with the agreement of the opposing team, who reserve the right to travel. Discussions about cancellation should take place between appointed officials of the two clubs. It is not acceptable for messages to be left with other members of the household such as partners or children, or on voice-mails or answer-phones. At the same time there is little point in insisting on travelling if the match has been called off by the Council on a Council owned ground as such cancellation is beyond the power of the home club to revoke. It is also a requirement of the rule for the home club to notify umpires as soon as possible when matches are cancelled in advance.

20. Umpires Appointments

The system of updating umpire appointments against fixtures on the web site, which was introduced in 2008, will continue this season. Umpire changes will be updated against fixtures as early as possible on a Friday evening. Clubs can check whether their allocated umpires have been changed and this is particularly important if you need to contact the umpires

because of weather problems. If you cannot get to the website, both Jon Salisbury and John Wallis will have the up to date list and can be contacted for the information. Please remember however that both will leave for a match by late Saturday morning.

21. Scorers

Clubs are asked to ensure that scorers are respected and are free from interruption so that they can carry out their responsibilities efficiently. Attention is drawn to Rule B6, which defines a competent scorer and the conditions under which the club should ensure that they are to operate. Teams in the Premier Division and Divisions 1 to 4 will face a deduction of 3 points for each league game at which a competent scorer is not provided in 2018.

ECB has launched Play-Cricket Scorer Pro – a fully featured scoring system for Windows laptops (can be run on Mac systems using Bootcamp or similar). See <http://play-cricket.com/updates3> for more details

For clubs looking to move into electronic scoring, the ECB Play-Cricket Scorer app is available on Android and iOS platforms. See <http://www.play-cricket.com/updates> for details

Players can access live scores and details from both systems via the Live Scores app <http://www.play-cricket.com/updates2>

22. Trophies

Clubs are reminded that any perpetual trophies won in the 2017 season must be returned to the League Secretary on or before the first distribution meeting on 11th April, and must be in a presentable condition; ‘presentable’ meaning exactly that - in the state in which they were presented to you and that you would expect them to be when they are presented to the team that wins them in 2018. If clubs do require to keep theirs a while longer then please contact the League Secretary in advance of the meeting to make arrangements regarding this.

23. Laws of Cricket

Clubs should read all the possible material on the latest revisions to the laws of the game that came in on October 1st last year. <https://www.lords.org/assets/2017-Law-Changes-Summary-Paper.pdf> should be compulsory reading for all players and officials

24. Social media

In the period since the end of the 2013 season, the League has dealt with several cases regarding the misuse of social media. These occupied hundreds of man-hours, not only with the cases themselves but also in dealing with misreporting in some areas of the local press and on further ill-informed comments on other social media sites. The overwhelming feedback that we have received from other cricketing bodies has been that the sentences handed down were both commensurate with the offences and consistent. The outcome of all this has been the production of a League social media policy, and this appears on pages 7-8 of the league handbook; we have also produced a condensed version in laminated form to be displayed on club notice boards and dressing room walls. We hope that the message has now got through to clubs and players, especially in the light of high-profile cases reported in the local and national press, and that the penalties outlined in the policy and disciplinary procedure will not have to be enforced.

25. Umpires and Scorers

Clubs are reminded that regular scorers should hold a current DBS clearance. This is of course a requirement of ClubMark, but it is in everyone’s best interests that anyone scoring on anything other than an ad hoc basis at whatever level of the league should be covered. The process is free, and the League will assist those who wish to acquire this clearance. As per the recent circulation, all panel and club umpires also now need to have this clearance, in order to ensure that the league offers a safe environment to all who wish to play cricket.

26. Derbyshire Groundsman’s Association

The Association continues to offer the support to groundsmen in the Derbyshire County Cricket League. They provide access to bulk purchase of materials, machinery hire and support on IOG courses. For more information regarding membership please contact the chairman Steve Hart (07808 122025) or the secretary John Lindsay (07929 281527)

Membership of the Association is now compulsory for all clubs unless they opt out as per league rule. It is beneficial to all clubs to be members; the small annual fee is well worth the difference that it could make to your pitches and ground. We will be using the play-cricket contacts system to keep in touch with the groundsmen at our clubs; please ensure that your details kept up to date

27. Junior teams

Clubs in the Premier Division down to Division 3 are reminded that they need to notify the league of the junior teams that they intend to run for the coming season via <https://dccl.wufoo.com/forms/club-junior-teams/>.

28. Play-cricket

We have been asking clubs and players with a view to getting as many players as possible registered on play-cricket i.e. with their own logins linked to their club's site, a valid email address, and opted-in to ECB communications. This is on the back of a pilot scheme in 2014 run in four counties that produced weekly 'honours boards' recognising the leading batsmen and bowlers in each county and sent personalised emails to those registered users who are opted in and including congratulations from England players to those making 50 or taking 5 wickets in an innings. These emails had a significant effect on player activity and retention, so it is well worth encouraging your players to do this; it could be the difference between playing or forfeiting a game, or even losing a team from your club altogether. If your players are having difficulty signing up, or you are having problems seeing or accepting these player registrations and merging them with your existing records, please contact the play-cricket helpdesk play.cricket@ecb.co.uk. Currently around 44% of our ~6000 registered players have their own play-cricket login; it would be great if we could get everyone involved but as an initial target it would be good to get to 50%. That would need about 400 players to sign up – just two players from each of the 216 teams in the league. This could also enable an increase in the incentive payments that the league receives from the ECB as part of the Premier Division's accreditation which will enable us to invest in things that will benefit our clubs. **Realistically I think that the number of players that could create their own login could be as high as 80%; that would give us a great reach into the opinions of our players as well as a potentially huge additional ECB payment**

The other focus is on the club About Us area, as this is now used as a central data repository that will allow the league and the County Board to contact the right people in your club and to save you repeating information in applications for grant aid, ClubMark and the like. So you need to make sure that this is updated and more importantly kept up to date; this also obviates the need for league officials to keep separate email circulation lists, as we will be able to reach the right person in all of our clubs directly from play-cricket. Details of how to do this have been circulated to play-cricket administrators, and this newsletter has been sent out using that method

29. Handbook Errata

Tutbury 2nd XI Match Contact is now: Jason Yates - 07973 263112

Finally may we wish all clubs, players and officials a very enjoyable and hopefully warm and dry cricket season; if everyone plays to the spirit of the game whilst remaining competitive this is more likely to happen.

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