

# CONSTITUTION OF THE CHESHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE

*(2022 changes shown in bold type)*

## 1. TITLE

The League shall be called the 'Cheshire County Cricket League', hereinafter referred to as the League. The Management Committee have the power from time to time to approve the insertion of the of a sponsor's name in the title of the competition run by the League. The object of the League is to play, foster and encourage recreational cricket of the highest standard throughout Cheshire.

## 2. MEMBERSHIP

(a) Clubs with a 1st and/or a 2nd XI side within the main divisional structure of the league will be a full member club for voting purposes provided they have at least 1st & 2nd XI's playing within the Cheshire pyramid system. New full members are accepted into the League in two ways.

Normally at the end of a season, the two bottom clubs in Division 3 of the competitions (1st & 2nd XI) will be replaced by the two top clubs in the recognised feeder leagues in the Cheshire pyramid structure (currently the Cheshire Cricket League). This process is subject to the promoted clubs satisfying the Cricket Committee as to their suitability to enter the League.

The other method is by application to the Cheshire Board accompanied by a decision of Cheshire Club Cricket Sub Committee to recommend a club's placement in one of the League's divisions.

Associate membership of the League shall be granted to, or withdrawn from, clubs elected under Rule 15 competing in any of the 3rd/4th/5th XIs, Junior or Over 40s competitions.

(b) To be a full member of the League, a club must be affiliated to the ECB through the Cheshire Cricket Board and have adopted the ECB Safe Hands Policy and ECB Anti-Discrimination Code. No club may be admitted to full membership of the League without Clubmark accreditation. Additionally, any member club not accredited for Clubmark on August 31st in any year will not be eligible for promotion within the League for the following season."

(c) An Annual General Meeting (AGM) or Special General Meeting shall be empowered by a two thirds majority of those present and voting to expel any club on the following grounds:

(i) A serious breach, or persistent breaches, of the Constitution or League Playing Regulations, or

(ii) Poor conduct, playing conditions, or failing to pursue the object of the League.

### **3. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE**

#### **(a) League Officers**

The League officers shall comprise: President, Chairman, Deputy Chairman, League Secretary, Treasurer, Registrations Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Junior Chairman, Junior Secretary, Ground Chairman, Disciplinary Chairman, Appeals Chairman, Website **Administrators**, Fixtures Coordinator, Umpires Representative, plus as many Competitions Secretaries as deemed necessary by the Cricket Committee to ensure the smooth running of the League.

The Junior Chairman & Secretary will be elected at the CCCL Junior Section AGM and the Umpires Representative will be chosen by the CCCL Umpires and Scorers Association. All other officers shall be elected at the AGM.

The President will serve for a term of two years all other officers for one year. All officers will be automatically re-nominated provided they wish to stand. Any other nominations shall be proposed in writing by full member clubs; nominations shall be in the hands of the Secretary by November 30th each year for consideration at the AGM. At that meeting, nominations from the floor shall be permitted only if no prior nominations have been received.

Election of officers at the AGM shall be by simple majority of full member clubs present and voting. In the event of a voting tie the Chairman shall give a casting vote.

#### **(b) Management Committee**

The representative body of the League shall be the Management Committee which shall consist of the League officers, the League Representative from each club and a representative of the League Umpires & Scorers Association. Representatives of 24 full member clubs constitute a quorum. Each Full Member club shall be able to cast a single vote in any matter that requires a

ballot. Additional club members may attend meetings and in the absence of the League Rep one may vote on behalf of their clubs.

### **(c) Executive Committee**

(i) The Executive Committee of the League may meet on an ad-hoc basis to consider the strategic matters for the League. The Executive Committee shall comprise the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary as standing members with the power to co-opt others as the Chairman deems necessary as full time members or to deal with specific agenda items. The Executive will refer any decisions it may make to the Cricket Committee for ratification.

(ii) The Executive Committee may establish (and abolish) sub-committees, and shall determine their powers and terms of reference.

### **(d) Cricket Committee**

(i) The Cricket Committee shall manage the routine business of the League on behalf of the Management Committee. The Cricket Committee shall comprise the League Officers as defined above, plus six members elected at the AGM for a term of three years, all of whom shall be eligible to vote with the exception of the Chairman. The nomination procedure for the six elected members shall be the same as that for the League officers. Two elected members shall stand down by rotation each year, but shall be eligible for re-election. In the case of a voting tie on any matter, the Chairman shall give a casting vote.

(ii) The Cricket Committee shall have the power to co-opt as the Chairman deems necessary and relevant to specific agenda items. Co-opted members shall have no voting powers.

**(iii) The Cricket Committee meetings shall be formally minuted. These minutes will be available to all clubs on request.**

### **(e) Member Clubs**

**All member clubs shall update their club membership officer contacts page on the website provided in full before the commencement of each season. This should subsequently be updated whenever there is a change of officer or captain throughout the playing season. This will be used to determine where information pertinent to the administration of the League will be sent by League officers. (Clubs are responsible for getting GDPR disclosure permissions from their own officers)**

## **f) Competition Secretaries**

All divisions and cup competitions that the League operates are allocated to a Competition Secretary to administer. The Competition Secretary for a Division **or Cup** will be the person responsible for ensuring that all the Competition Rules are followed and dealing with any breaches of the rules (other than disciplinary issues which are the responsibility of the Disciplinary Chairman).

Competition Secretaries' duties include oversight of results on Play Cricket (in conjunction with the League Play Cricket Administrator(s)) and the accuracy of League tables. The officer is also empowered by the Management Committee to deal with any queries from clubs, variations from the rules as written and for handling all matters not adequately covered by the rules as written.

## **4. STATEMENT OF INTENT**

(a) The League is committed to the concept of integration within the Cheshire Pyramid with the Cheshire Cricket League.

(b) The Cricket Committee shall have the power to decide the number of teams in each of the League's divisions, the numbers to be promoted and relegated and any other relevant criteria.

**(c) The League is committed to the automatic adoption, on receipt, of ECB General Conduct Regulations and any other Premier League mandated processes and procedures as and when published.**

## **5. LEAGUE SECRETARY**

The League Secretary, hereinafter referred to as the Secretary, shall be responsible for convening meetings as required by these rules and, in the case of Management Committee meetings, shall give at least seven days' notice, keeping the minutes of all meetings of the League and administering such decisions as the League may make.

All correspondence except where otherwise provided for in these rules, shall be addressed to the Secretary. He shall address all correspondence on behalf of the League.

## **6. THE TREASURER**

(a) The Treasurer will submit an audited statement at the Annual General Meeting, together with a statement in relation to monies received exclusively

for the Premier League competition. He will be responsible for receiving all monies due to the League and will be responsible for making all payments due. (b) Any monies received by the League exclusively for the Premier League competition between April 1st and September 1st each year shall be applied between the clubs competing in the Premier League in that season and thereafter be applied between clubs competing in the Premier League competition the following season.

## **7. THE FINANCIAL YEAR**

The League's financial year shall end on November 30th.

## **8. INDEPENDENT EXAMINER OF ACCOUNTS**

A Honorary **Examiner of Accounts** shall be appointed at the AGM..

## **9. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

All clubs shall pay an annual subscription to be fixed by the AGM. Such subscriptions fall due for payment on April 1st and should be submitted to the Treasurer on demand.

## **10. FIXTURES AND RESULTS**

The Cricket Committee shall arrange all fixtures and designated officers shall ensure that all results are accurately recorded in Play Cricket. No fixtures shall be arranged except by the sanction of the Cricket Committee.

All member clubs shall provide at least one e-mail address for a club official, as listed in the League Handbook, or another member as requested, to which copies and other information pertinent to the administration of the League can be sent by League officers.

## **11. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

The AGM of the League shall be held no later than February 28th in any year. Notice of such a meeting shall be given by the Secretary offering members 14 days' notice in writing and will include a copy of the detailed agenda, audited financial statement and if any, a copy of the proposed alterations to rule.

24 full member clubs' representatives shall form a quorum at the AGM. There is no limit to the number of individuals who may attend such meetings, but each full member club shall have only one vote on all matters arising.

## **12. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING (SGM)**

A SGM shall be called at the written request of not less than two thirds of the full member clubs, or by the **Cricket or Management Committees**. The notice convening the meeting shall state the business and only such business shall be considered. A SGM must be held not later than 28 days after being requested, members to be given 14 days' notice of such a meeting. Attendance and voting shall be in accordance with the provisions applicable to an AGM.

## **13. ALTERATIONS TO RULE**

These rules (Constitution, Playing and Match Regulations and Other Instructions) may only be altered by a two thirds majority of those present and voting at an AGM or SGM called for the purpose. Proposed alterations to rule must be in writing and submitted to the Secretary to arrive in time to be considered in principle at the November management meeting in respect of AGMs. Each resolution must be proposed and seconded by a full member club.

## **14. RESIGNATIONS & APPLICATIONS**

(a) No club in membership of the League shall negotiate with any other League for membership thereof without first obtaining the written permission of the Cricket Committee. Such permission shall not be withheld unless the club has failed to discharge all its obligations to the League. Such permission shall not be interpreted as either resignation or dismissal;

(b) Resignations from the League must be in writing and received by the Secretary not later than the date prescribed by the League Cricket Conference to be effective for the following season. Resignations received after this date will make the club liable for their League subscription for the following season. Any club resigning from the League or excluded under Rule 2 shall forfeit any claim on the League's assets.

(c) Applications for full or associate membership must be received in writing by the Secretary not later than December 31 of any year to be effective for the following season.

(d) When a team or club leaves the league in mid season their loss will be handled as follows;

Where the number of games the team has played is less than the number remaining, then their record is expunged from the tables with all points earned by other teams deleted. Where the number of games played is equal or greater than the number of fixtures remaining then all future games will be treated as 25-0 wins for their opponents. If they are still in their Cup - their next opponents will be awarded a bye.

## 15. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

By a two thirds majority of those present and voting, the Management Committee may elect to Associate membership of the League, any clubs applying to enter the 3rd/4th/5th XI competitions. Associate member clubs may also enter Over 40s and Junior competitions.

Clubs who in the previous season have had a 1st or 2nd XI relegated from the League, and consequently no longer have a team in 1st or 2nd XI playing cricket within the League, but still have other teams participating in League competitions, will automatically be accepted into Associate Membership for the following season providing their 1st and 2nd XI sides still participate within the Cheshire pyramid.

The rights of Associate member clubs shall be restricted to the following:

- (a) Attendance at AGM and SGMs, without the right to vote
- (b) Representation at Management Committee meetings with the right to vote only on items relating to 3rd/4th/5th XI and/or Over 40s matters. Subscriptions for Associate members shall be fixed in accordance with Rule 9.

In all other respects, Associate members shall comply with the rules and playing regulations of the League. Any matter relating to Associate membership not covered by this rule shall be resolved by the Management Committee.

## 16. POWERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The **Cricket** Committee shall have the power to decide on all other matters not specifically provided for **within all League Rules and Regulations**. All decisions taken by the Management Committee on sub-committee recommendations shall be considered binding.