

Constitution of The Middlesex County Cricket League

A. Title

The title shall be the Middlesex County Cricket League (hereinafter called "the League"). At the discretion of the Committee, the League Title may be amended to incorporate words or symbols referring to a sponsor or other appropriate body.

B. Purpose

The purpose of the League shall be to organise cricket on a championship basis for Member Clubs of the League, with the object of playing club cricket in the spirit of the game as it now exists.

In particular, the League shall encourage:

- a. co-operation with the England and Wales Cricket Board (hereinafter called "the ECB"), the Middlesex Cricket Board (hereinafter called "the MCB") and any other body having similar objectives to the League;
- b. co-operation with the provision of assistance and advice to Member Clubs on any matter affecting the interests of the Member Clubs and the League;
- c. consideration of any means of promoting the best interests of the League; and
- d. promotion of high standards of behaviour and conduct on and off the field of play.

C. Organisation

1. Composition

- a. The League shall consist of clubs (hereinafter called "the Member Clubs") whose grounds are considered for cricketing purposes to be within the county of Middlesex, and who shall be affiliated to the MCB.
- b. Only a General Meeting may expel any Member Club from membership of the League.

2. Officers and Management Committee

- a. The officers of the League shall be the Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Fixtures Secretary and the Results Secretary who must each be members of a Member Club and elected at the Annual General Meeting of the League (hereinafter called "the AGM").
- b. Nominations for the posts of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Fixtures Secretary and Results Secretary must be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 1st October and included in the Notice for the AGM to Member Clubs. In the event of no nominations being received by 1st October and the incumbent Officer retiring, an Officer may be nominated from the floor and elected at the AGM.
- c. The League shall be governed by a Management Committee (hereinafter called "the Committee"). The Committee shall consist of the Officers and a maximum of 7 Members elected at the AGM.
- d. The Committee shall be responsible for the management of the League, and shall appoint sub-committees, which must include a Discipline sub-committee and an Appeals sub-committee each consisting of 3

members drawn from a panel set up for that purpose by the Committee.

e. The Committee shall have the powers of co-option. Co-opted members of the Committee shall be entitled to vote.

f. The Officers and Committee members shall be indemnified by the Members Clubs against all costs incurred when acting on behalf of the League.

g. The Committee may submit proposals to any General Meeting of the League provided that at least four weeks' notice has been given in writing to Member Clubs.

h. The Committee is elected to implement and interpret the Constitution of the League. In the event of any dispute, the matter shall be referred for arbitration to the Committee whose decision, by a simple majority vote of all its members, shall be final.

i. The alteration or suspension of the League's Constitution can only take place with the approval of Member Clubs, either at the AGM or at a General Meeting called for that purpose and shall require the support of at least two thirds of the Member Clubs present and voting. Abstention shall not count as voting.

j. The Committee shall meet as necessary and will be responsible for the government of the League within the framework of the Constitution and shall have the power to deal with any matter not covered by the Constitution in the event of any disagreement as to its meaning. Any such decision shall be binding upon Member Clubs

k. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be a minimum of 5 persons, at least 2 of whom shall be Officers.

3. Meetings

a. The AGM shall normally take place on the last Monday in November each year. The AGM shall transact the annual business of the League including:

- i. election of Officers and Committee Members as provided in Rule C2;
- ii. election of Honorary Auditor;
- iii. adoption of the Annual Accounts, the fixing of the Annual Subscription, and fines under Rules E2(d), E3(d) and G5(b) and any other charges;
- iv. entries into, or withdrawals from, membership as provided in Rules C1(b) and C5; and
- v. any special items submitted in writing to the Secretary by a Member Club not later than three weeks before the AGM.

b. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time at the instigation of the Committee or upon application to the Secretary in writing. Any such application must bear the signatures of an official representative of at least ten Member Clubs and shall clearly state the motion or motions which it is required to submit to the Special General Meeting. The meeting must take place within six weeks of the receipt of the application and shall discuss only the motion or motions which are the subject of the application.

c. At General Meetings each Member Club shall be represented by not more than two bona fide members. In addition the Middlesex County Cricket League Umpires' Association (hereinafter called "the Umpires' Panel") may be represented by not more than two persons, who shall not take part in any vote. Delegations in excess of two persons shall require the consent of the Chairman.

d. The Chairman shall take the Chair at the AGM and at other General Meetings. If the Chairman is not present, the meeting shall elect its own Chairman.

e. In addition to the AGM, there shall be a General Meeting in March each year; and at other times as provided in Rule C3(b).

f. The Secretary shall give all Member Clubs a minimum of four weeks notice in writing of General Meetings. This notice shall include an agenda of the business to be transacted.

4. Voting at General Meetings

a. At General Meetings, the voting shall be on the basis of one vote per team, up to a maximum of 3 votes per Member Club. Each Member Club, having two votes or more, shall cast their votes as a block. A team, upon being relegated from the League, shall cease to have a vote following the commencement of the General Business of the next AGM. A team, upon being promoted from the Middlesex Championship, shall be eligible to exercise their vote at the same time.

b. A proposal to alter the Constitution may only be made at a General Meeting.

c. Alterations to the playing conditions in Rule E(2) for the 1st XI, 1st Division League (hereinafter called "The Premier League") and any arrangements concerning ECB finance to Premier Leagues may be made by a simple majority of the Member Clubs in the Premier League for the season which the changes affect.

d. Any other proposal to alter the Constitution shall require the support of at least two thirds of the Member Clubs present and voting. Abstention shall not count as voting.

e. In all other matters a simple majority shall be decisive.

f. In the event of a tied vote on such matters the Chairman or his nominated deputy, who shall not vote otherwise, shall cast the deciding vote.

5. Entry into and withdrawal from the League Championship

a. Applications for membership of the League or a proposal that an existing Member Club shall withdraw or be expelled from the League shall be made in writing to the Secretary not later than six weeks before the AGM and the Member Club affected shall be informed immediately. On election new Member Clubs shall not commence active Membership of the League until after the AGM after that at which their election took place.

b. Voluntary withdrawal, or expulsion, from the League shall not take place until twelve months have elapsed after the AGM at which the decision was taken. If a Member Club is expelled from the League, the Secretary shall inform the MCB of the expulsion and the reasons for it.

6. Finance

a. Each Member Club shall be required to pay, on or before the 1st January each year, an annual subscription to be decided at the AGM.

b. An Audited Account for the year ended 31st October shall be prepared for consideration at the AGM.

D. Structure of the League

1. Fixtures

a. Each Club in the League shall have one home, and one away, fixture against each other Club in each Division of the First, Second and Third Team Championships.

b. Each Member Club shall ensure that its best available team shall play in each fixture, with its strongest team fulfilling the 1st XI fixture. The Committee may impose any of the penalties set out in paragraph G5(b) in the event of a breach of this provision.

c. The Committee shall empower the Secretary to require of any League having a direct link to promotion/relegation with the League proof of eligibility of players playing within that League. Any failure or refusal to co-operate by that League shall be referred by the Secretary to the Committee who shall take whatever steps it sees fit.

d. The fixtures will be arranged, and the venues approved, by the Committee.

e. No fixture in the 1st XI and 2nd XI Championships may be transferred to a pitch away from the Home Club's main square because that square is unfit for play, or without the permission of the Committee.

2. Divisions

There shall be three Divisions in each of the First, Second and Third Team Championships.

3. Method of awarding Championship points

a. The method of awarding Championship points will be:

i. Win:

10 points.

ii. Draw:

4 points to the side with the higher average run rate per over;

1 point to the side with the lower average run rate per over;

3 points to each side if the average run rate per over is identical.

iii. Tie:

5 points to each side.

iv. No result:

1 point to each side.

v. Match abandoned:

1 point to each side.

b. In Rule 3(a)(ii) above the calculation shall be based on the number of balls faced excluding wides and no balls.

c. The team with the highest number of Championship points shall be placed highest and the team with the lowest number shall be placed lowest.

d. When two or more teams are equal on points at the end of the season, the team with the greatest number of wins shall be deemed to have finished the highest.

e. If two teams remain equal, the team securing the greatest number of points in matches between those two teams shall be deemed to have finished higher. If any teams remain equal, the following criteria shall apply in the following order:

- i. Most four point results;
- ii. Most wickets taken in the season;
- iii. Most runs scored in the season;
- iv. Toss of a coin.

f. In the event of any dispute, the Committee's decision shall be final.

g. The winner of the Championship shall be the team placed highest in the League on completion of the Championship programme.

h. The two lowest teams in the First and Second Division of each Championship will be relegated to the Second and Third Divisions respectively. They will be replaced by the two highest teams in the Second and Third Divisions.

i. In the 1st XI and 2nd XI Leagues the Champion Club of the Middlesex Championship, or its successor in title, shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to the relevant 3rd Division of the League. No other Club shall be eligible to be considered. Such promotion shall be subject to conditions which shall be determined from time to time by the Committee.

j. In the 3rd XI Leagues the Champion Club of the 1987 League, or its successor in title, shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to the 3rd Division of the League. No other Club shall be eligible to be considered. Such promotion shall be subject to conditions which shall be determined from time to time by the Committee. No 5th XI shall be considered for promotion.

k. No 4th XI may play in any Division in which the 3rd XI of that same Club are already playing or will play subject to relegation. No 4th XI may play in a higher League or Division than that same Club's 3rd XI.

l. If the Champion Club satisfies the conditions determined by the Committee, they shall be promoted to the relevant 3rd Division and the bottom Club in that Division shall be relegated to the relevant 1st Division of the Middlesex Championship or the 1987 League.

4. Officials

a. Umpires for 1st XI and 2nd XI matches will be appointed, where possible, by the Umpires' Panel.

b. For all other matches, and for matches where no panel umpire has been appointed, each Club will provide its own umpire.

c. Each Club shall provide a scorer for each match.

5. Supply of cricket balls

a. Two new balls shall be provided in 1st XI, 2nd XI and 3rd XI matches by the home Club. Balls for 1st XI, 2nd XI and 3rd XI matches will be provided by the Committee to Member Clubs, the cost thereof being the responsibility of the individual Member Clubs.

6. Covering of pitches

It is recommended that, whenever possible, the following provisions are applied:

The whole pitch, plus ten yards behind the stumps at each end, shall be covered as follows:

a. The night before the match and, if necessary, until the first ball is bowled, and whenever necessary at any time before that during the preparation of the pitch;

b. At any time when play is suspended due to rain or conditions of light during the hours of play;

c. The covers to be twelve feet wide.

7. Notification of results

Both captains shall notify the result of each match to the person nominated by the Committee for that purpose. The notification shall be in the form required by the Committee and shall arrive no later than the Wednesday following the match. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in the offending club incurring a fine of £10 for each of the first three offences. Each subsequent missed deadline will result in the Secretary instructing the Results Secretary to deduct one Championship point.

E. Playing Conditions

Each game shall be played according to the Laws of Cricket as issued by the MCC except as laid out below.

1. Premier League

a. In the first fifteen weeks of the season, all games in the Premier League shall start at 11.30am. The last hour shall start at 6.30pm or at the end of the 100th over, whichever is the later. All matches in week 16 shall commence and finish 30 minutes earlier than in the first fifteen weeks, and in weeks 17 and 18 an hour earlier. In calculating the number of overs remaining after the first innings, the Umpires shall regard the over in progress at the end of that innings as having been completed.

b. The fielding side shall bowl an average of at least 17 overs per hour in each innings. Either Umpire may advise the fielding captain if he feels that there is a danger of this requirement not being met. No time allowance shall be made for a second drinks interval or the fall of a wicket. Batsmen will normally be expected to cross on the field of play at the fall of a wicket. The Umpires shall make allowance, however, for any occurrence beyond the control of the fielding side which slows down the overall over rate.

c. If the fielding team fails to maintain an average of 17 overs per hour, the Umpires shall in the first instance inform the fielding captain of this fact after not less than two hours play. If the fielding team remains at below 17 overs per hour throughout the innings, and provided that the innings has lasted at least three hours overall, the Umpires shall inform the fielding captain that his team may

be reported to the Secretary. The report shall include a statement of the over rate actually achieved, allowing for any mitigating factors described in Rule E1(b).

d. If the Secretary receives three such about the same team in the same season, the Results Secretary shall deduct one Championship point from that team. If the team is the subject of a fourth report, a further two Championship points shall be deducted. In the event of further reports, the facts shall be reported to the Committee, who shall have the power to deduct a maximum of ten Championship points for each subsequent breach of this rule.

e. The Captain is responsible for all aspects of the conduct of his side including over rates. If the Umpires feel that their advice in this matter is being wilfully ignored, the Captain of the fielding team may find his name included in the Umpires' report for possible disciplinary action (see Rule G7).

f. When the start of the game is delayed, the Captains may agree before the scheduled start time to extend play by up to 15 minutes, but by no longer than the period of the delay. Where the start is delayed or play is suspended, one over from the minimum 120 overs shall be deducted for each 3 minutes 30 seconds or part thereof of playing time lost. A match shall be deemed to be an official League game provided that:

i. at least four hours actual playing time (a minimum 68 overs) is available from the time the first ball is bowled; and

ii. the innings of the side batting second lasts for at least 20 overs, unless the side batting second is dismissed or exceeds the total scored by their opponents in fewer than 20 overs.

Note Rule E(2)(f)(i) means that the first ball must be bowled not later than 4 hours 15 minutes after the scheduled start of play. If the scheduled start is 11.30am and the close of play is extended to 7.45pm, the first ball must be bowled by 3.45pm. The calculation of overs assumes that the only interval will be one of 10 minutes between innings. If a tea interval of 20 minutes is taken between innings a minimum of 65 overs shall be allowed for the match.

g. The side batting first shall bat for a maximum of 55% of the overs available at the start of play.

h. The Home Club shall provide two new cricket balls of Grade "A" quality and of English manufacture. The Home Club shall be responsible for supplying enough spare balls of equal standard. One new ball shall be used at the start of each match. The team fielding second may take the second new ball at the start of its opponents' innings, but not thereafter.

i. A minimum of 20 overs shall be bowled after the start of the scheduled last hour of play, or from the end of the 100th over, whichever is the later, unless a result is obtained beforehand.

2. Other 1st XI Leagues and 2nd XI and 3rd XI Leagues

a. In the first fifteen weeks of the season, games in the other Leagues may start at 11.30am if both participating Clubs agree. In these matches, the start and finish times in E1a shall apply. The last hour shall start at 6.30pm or at the end of the 100th over, whichever is the later. All other matches shall start at 1.00pm. The last hour

shall start at 6.00pm or at the end of the 80th over, whichever is the later. All matches in weeks 17 and 18 shall start and finish half an hour earlier. In calculating the number of overs remaining after the first innings, the Umpires shall regard the over in progress at the end of that innings as having been completed.

b. The fielding side shall bowl an average of at least 17 overs per hour in each innings. Either umpire may advise the fielding captain if he feels that there is a danger of this requirement not being met. No time allowance shall be made for a drinks interval or the fall of a wicket. Batsmen will normally be expected to cross on the field of play at the fall of a wicket. The Umpires shall make allowance, however, for any occurrence beyond the control of the fielding side which slows down the overall over rate.

c. In the 1st XI Championship only, if the fielding team fails to maintain an average of 17 overs per hour, the Umpires shall in the first instance inform the fielding Captain of this fact after not less than two hours play. If the fielding team remains at below 17 overs per hour throughout the innings, and provided that the innings has lasted at least two and one half hours overall (except where provided for by Rule E2(b)), the Umpires shall inform the fielding captain that his team may be reported to the Secretary. The report shall include a statement of the over rate actually achieved, allowing for any mitigating factors described in Rule E2(b).

d. If the Secretary receives three such about the same team in the same season, the Results Secretary shall deduct one Championship point from that team. If the team is the subject of a fourth report, a further two Championship points shall be deducted. In the event of further reports, the facts shall be reported to the Committee, who shall have the power to deduct a maximum of ten Championship points for each subsequent breach of this rule.

e. The Captain is responsible for all aspects of the conduct of his side including over rates. If the Umpires feel that their advice in this matter is being wilfully ignored, the Captain of the fielding team may find his name included in the Umpires' report for possible disciplinary action (see Rule G(7)).

f. Starting times shall be confirmed between Member Clubs by 1st March each year. Teams agreeing to start some of their matches at 11.30am shall notify the Results Secretary by 1st March each year and shall enter an "All day pool". All teams in the "All day pool" shall start games against each other at 11.30am, or as set out in Rule E3(a) in the last three weeks of the season.

g. When the start of the game is delayed, the Captains may agree before the rescheduled start time to extend the close of play by up to 30 minutes. Where the start is delayed or play is suspended, one over from the minimum 100 or 120 overs shall be deducted for each 3 minutes 30 seconds or part thereof of playing time lost. A match shall be deemed to be an official League game provided that:

i. at least four hours actual playing time (a minimum of 68 overs) is available from the time the first ball is bowled; and

ii. the innings of the side batting second lasts for at least 20 overs, unless the side batting second is dismissed or

exceeds the total scored by their opponents in fewer than 20 overs.

Note Rule E2(g)(i) means that, in matches which start at 11.30am or earlier as set out in Rule E3(a) in the last three weeks of the season, the first ball must be bowled not later than 4 hours 15 minutes after the scheduled start of play. In all matches starting at 1.00pm, or earlier as set out in Rule E3(a) in the last three weeks of the season, the first ball must be bowled not later than 2 hours 30 minutes after the scheduled start of play. If the close of play is extended to 7.30pm, the first ball must be bowled by 3.30pm. The calculation of overs remaining assumes that the only interval will be one of 10 minutes between innings. If a tea interval of 20 minutes is taken between innings a minimum of 65 overs shall be allowed for the match.

h. In matches which start at 11.30am or earlier as set out in Rule E1(a) in the last three weeks of the season, the side batting first shall bat for a maximum of 55% of the overs available at the start of play. In all matches starting at 1.00pm, or earlier as set out in Rule E2(a) in the last three weeks of the season the side batting first shall bat for a maximum of 55 overs.

i. In 1st XI and 2nd XI matches, the Home Club shall provide two new cricket balls of "Grade A" quality and English manufacture. The Home Club shall be responsible for supplying enough spare balls of equal standard. One new ball shall be used at the start of each match. The team fielding second may take the second new ball at the start of its opponents' innings, but not thereafter.

j. A minimum of 20 overs shall be bowled after the start of the scheduled last hour of play, or from the end of the 80th or 100th over, whichever is the later, unless a result is obtained beforehand.

F. Eligibility of Players

a. Only properly elected members of Member Clubs shall play in the League.

b. A player may only play for one Member Club in any one season, unless he receives the permission of the Committee beforehand.

c. No player may receive from his Member Club any direct or indirect payment or expenses for playing cricket.

d. No Member Club shall play more than one non-resident player in any 1st XI or 2nd XI League match, or more than three non-resident players in a 3rd XI League match. For this purpose a non-resident player shall mean a player not permanently resident in the British Isles for the 24 month period immediately before that player's first game. Cases where the position is not clear shall be referred in advance by the Member Club to the Committee, whose decision shall be final. The Committee shall have the discretion not to apply this rule where it considers that the rule would operate against the spirit in which it was introduced. Further, no non-resident player shall be eligible if, in the 12 month period immediately before that player's first game, he has played first class cricket other than for a British University as a student in a non-professional and non-contracted capacity. Players contracted to the Middlesex County Cricket Club or the MCC shall be exempt from this restriction.

e. All Member Clubs shall register with the Registration Officer the details of all their 1st XI players

not already registered by their Club. All non-resident players, as defined in Fd, must be registered with the Registration Officer each year, regardless of which XI they intend to play for. Registration will take the form of whatever procedures the Committee shall require. A new player must be registered with the Registration Officer on or before Wednesday to be deemed eligible for the following Saturday's game. Any new registration required after 31st July each season shall be subject to the approval of the Committee. No unregistered player shall play in a Premier League game.

f. No contracted County cricketer may play for any team other than the 1st XI of their club for any reason.

g. Contravention of the rules on eligibility of players may result in the deduction of League points as a penalty. The severity of the penalty will be determined by the Committee. Breaches of the rules on registration of players for the Premier League (Rule Fe) shall be subject to a minimum penalty of 10 Championship points.

G. Discipline

1. The Spirit of Cricket

"Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact it should be played not only within its Laws, but also within the Spirit of the Game. Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit causes injury to the game itself. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the Captains.

There are two Laws which place the responsibility for a team's conduct firmly on the Captain. (Laws 1:4 and 42:1)

Responsibility of the Captains

The Captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.

Players' Conduct

In the event of any player failing to comply with the instruction of an umpire, or criticising by word or action, the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might ring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain, and instruct the latter to take action.

Fair and Unfair Play

According to the Laws, the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play.

The umpires may intervene at any time, and it is the responsibility of the captain to take action when required." (Extract from The Preamble – The spirit of Cricket (2000 Code 3rd Edition 2008)).

2. Conduct

a. The League is committed to maintaining the highest standards of conduct. The following rules shall apply to all persons and Clubs within the League. For the purposes of these regulations the expression "the players" shall mean not only any player, whether a contracted professional or otherwise, but also any Club Member or official.

b. Each player shall conduct himself with the spirit of the game on the field at all times. For the purposes of this

sub-paragraph, the field shall include any part of the cricket ground and not merely the field of play. The following are examples of conduct which is not within the spirit of the game:

- i. verbal or physical abuse or hostility towards any other player or any member of the public;
 - ii. disputing an umpire's decision or reacting in an obviously provocative or disapproving manner towards an umpire at any time;
 - iii. using crude and/or abusive language or hand signals or engaging in similar conduct.
- c. Failure to comply with the provisions of paragraphs (a) and (b) above may lead to disciplinary action.

3. Disciplinary Procedures

- a. Any alleged breach of Rule G2(a) or G2(b) shall be notified in writing (to be known as a "complaint") to the Secretary of the League, to the Secretary of the Umpires' Panel (in the case of a complaint by an umpire) and to the Secretaries of any Club(s) involved.
- b. Any complaint so initiated must be referred by the Secretary of the League to the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee.

c. Upon receipt of such a complaint, and as soon as reasonably practicable, the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall consider the complaint and resolve either:

- i. to take no further action; or
- ii. to refer the matter to a Disciplinary Hearing.

4. Disciplinary Hearings

a. In any case which is referred to a Disciplinary Hearing, at least seven day's notice of the hearing and of the offence(s) alleged shall be given in writing to the player, or in the case of a Club, to its Secretary; and to the Secretary of the League.

b. The player and the Club shall be entitled to attend the Disciplinary Hearing, to be represented and to call witnesses. In the case of a Club, it may be represented by its Secretary or other official.

c. The hearing shall be conducted by the Disciplinary Committee of the League.

5. Penalties

If, at the hearing, the Disciplinary Committee finds the alleged offence proved it shall have the power to impose one or more of the following penalties:

- a. In the case of a player:
- i. written letter(s) of apology within a specified time
 - ii. reprimand
 - iii. suspension for one or more matches
 - iv. deduction of Championship points from the player's team
 - v. expulsion from the League
- b. In the case of a Club:

- i. written letter(s) of apology within a specified time
- ii. reprimand
- iii. fine not exceeding £250
- iv. deduction of Championship points
- v. a recommendation of expulsion from the League
- vi. in the case of a Club from outside the League, withdrawal of an invitation to be promoted to within the League.

c. If a player is either –

- (a) suspended by his Club or the League; or
- (b) after 31st July ineligible for selection for one or more of that Club's teams as a result of disciplinary action by his Club,

he may not play for any team in his own Club, or any other Club which is affiliated to the MCB or through any County Board to the ECB, during the period of his suspension or ineligibility.

d. In accordance with Rule D1(b), prior to 31st July no Club shall be permitted to drop a player to a lower XI for disciplinary reasons without the approval of the Committee. After 31st July Rule G5(c) shall apply.

e. If damage is caused to any Member Club's facilities by visiting player(s), the visiting Club shall be held responsible for the repair of such damage.

f. Decisions of the Disciplinary Committee (a finding that a complaint is upheld or not upheld or a decision as to any penalty) shall be by majority vote; where necessary the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall exercise the casting vote.

6. Appeals Procedure

a. A player or Club shall have the right of appeal to the Appeals Committee. Notice of Appeal setting out the grounds for the appeal must be given in writing to the Secretary of the League within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee. The appellant shall lodge a deposit of £50 with the League Treasurer.

b. Any Notice of Appeal must be referred by the Secretary of the League to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

c. If Notice of Appeal is given, the penalty imposed by the Disciplinary Committee shall not take effect pending the hearing of the Appeal.

d. The Appeal shall be a rehearing of the case before a different Committee. The composition of the Appeals Committee shall be at the discretion of the Appeals Committee Chairman.

e. The player or Club making the Appeal shall have the same rights of attendance and representation and the same right to call witnesses as they had before the Disciplinary Committee.

f. The Appeals Committee may confirm, vary or reverse the decision of the Disciplinary Committee and it shall have the power to increase or reduce any penalty.

g. Decisions of the Appeals Committee shall be by majority vote; where necessary, the Appeals Committee Chairman shall exercise a casting vote.

h. Decisions of the Appeals Committee, or if there is no appeal, of the Disciplinary Committee shall be final and binding.

i. In the event of a successful appeal, the deposit shall be returned in its entirety. In all other cases, the Appeals Committee shall have the authority, at its discretion, to return all or part of the deposit. Otherwise the deposit shall be forfeited to the League.

7. Minor Misdemeanours

a. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Umpires shall report any player(s) whose conduct falls below that expected of a Middlesex County Cricket League player but is not such as to warrant a referral to the Disciplinary Committee. Before doing so, they shall advise the Captain of their dissatisfaction and request him to take action. They shall advise the Captain at the end of the match of their intention to make a report.

b. Three such reports against any individual in a season shall result in an automatic suspension lasting one match. The reports shall not be carried over to the following season; however a suspension accrued from such reports may be held over to the following season. If two further reports are received during the same season, the matter shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee who shall determine any further punishment, which shall not, in any event, exceed a suspension lasting three matches.

c. The Secretary of the League shall advise, either verbally or in writing, the appropriate Club authority when two such reports have been received against any player.