

CONSTITUTION - Appendix 1B**OTHER REGULATIONS**

- 1) All matches must be played under the Laws of Cricket, subject to any variation specified in these regulations.
- 2) **STRUCTURE**
 - a) A maximum of two teams will be promoted/relegated from/to the Scheduled Leagues in any one season. To qualify for promotion a team must:-
 - (i) Finish in the top place of the top division of a scheduled league
AND
 - (ii) Satisfy the Ground and Facilities Criteria for entry to the Premier League
AND
 - (iii) Satisfy the Youth Provision standards and facilities for the Premier League (see below)
 - b) Any team finishing in the bottom two places of the Premier League will be liable to be relegated, provided that teams eligible for promotion in scheduled leagues satisfy all the relevant promotion criteria.
 - c) If a team in the scheduled leagues otherwise eligible for promotion fails to pass all the criteria above, or are debarred from promotion for breach of rules or through disciplinary procedures, then the highest placed team in the Premier League who would otherwise have been relegated will remain in the Premier League.
 - d) If a team in the Premier League is relegated as a penalty for breach of rules or for disciplinary procedures, and that team would not otherwise have been relegated, then the highest placed team in the premier league who would otherwise have been relegated will remain in the Premier League.
 - e) If a team is relegated from the Premier league as a penalty for breach of rules or for disciplinary procedures and that team would otherwise have been relegated, then that team will be debarred from promotion back to the Premier League until it has qualified twice.
 - f) Separate leagues shall be run for first and second elevens.
 - g) All matches should be played on Saturdays during the months of May, June, July and August, where possible.
 - h) Each club in the Premier League must have a satisfactory structure for the development of young cricketers which must include:
 - a. A comprehensive youth coaching structure.
 - b. Teams in league competition at under 11, under 13, and under 15 levels (or their equivalent) and fulfilling their part in such competitions to the satisfaction both of the League Organiser(s) where applicable, and of the Management Committee.
 - c. To be eligible for promotion to the Premier League, a club must be certified to satisfy the requirements of (i) and (ii) above.
Note: The minimum standard of satisfactory performance for the Premier League is for a club to have played six matches in each organised year group.
 - i) The Management Committee may at any time request that a premier league club provide satisfactory evidence of a youth structure (including such records and details at the Management Committee shall request) and if that club fails to do so then:-
 - i. In the first season for which there is no appropriate structure, the club will be ineligible to receive any funding disbursements from the ECB or any successor or similar body (including sponsors).
 - ii. At the end of a second successive season for which there is no satisfactory Youth structure, the club will be relegated from the Premier League in place of the club finishing in the penultimate position of the Premier League for that season.
 - j) Each club qualifying for promotion into the Premier League shall provide the Management Committee with evidence of a youth structure (including such records and details as the Management Committee shall request) and any club failing to do so shall be ineligible for promotion to the Premier League and shall be so notified in writing by the Management Committee. The Management Committee may investigate the structure of any club, which appears likely to gain

promotion into the Premier League during the course of the season in which promotion may be achieved.

3) **BALLS**

- a) Two new balls shall be used in all first eleven matches, one for each innings.
- b) Two new balls shall be used in all second eleven matches, one for each innings.
- c) All balls must conform in all respects to the laws of cricket and be the type agreed upon and supplied by the Management Committee of the League.

4) **FIXTURES**

- a) Matches will be played on days specified by the League.
- b) Matches cannot be re-arranged without the permission of the Management Committee. Such permission will normally only be granted in the event of ground availability problems and will normally result in the first eleven fixture taking precedence. The second eleven fixture must be re-arranged.
- c) A game cannot be replayed or re-arranged at a later date if a match is cancelled or abandoned due to weather or ground conditions.

5) **DEFAULTS**

- a) If a team defaults a fixture, then they will be penalised 22 points.
- b) In the case of a second eleven defaulting a fixture, in addition to the second eleven being penalised 22 points, the same penalty shall apply to the first eleven.

6) **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY, REGISTRATION AND TRANSFERS**

(a) Eligibility

(i) The League is an Amateur League. Players eligible to play in the League will be categorised as follows:-

- Category P: COUNTY STAFF CRICKETER
Any player of British Nationality who holds a current contract with a British first class county, or has a playing contract with the ECB, except staff cricketers playing for their "home club" who will be designated category A. (*See note 1 below for definition of "home club"*).
- Category F: OVERSEAS PLAYER
Any amateur player who is not a British national (but excluding C below) and who lives in the area. (*For definition of "area" see note 3 below*)
- Category C: PAID COACH
Any amateur player living in the area, who is a paid coach to ECB Level 2 standard (or overseas equivalent). (*For definition of "area" see note 3 below*)
- Category A: ALL OTHERS
Any amateur player of British nationality who does not fall into any of the above categories and is living in the area. (*For definition of "living" see note 2 below. For definition of "area" see note 3 below*)

Note 1: For a staff cricketer to have a "home" club, he must have played for that club for at least two years immediately preceding the award of his first contract.

Note 2: If a player's domicile is outside the area defined in note 3 below, then to be classed as "living in the area", he must be continuously resident in the area for the whole of the Cricket Season.

Note 3: The "Area" is defined as all of Wales plus Gloucestershire and Herefordshire. (The latter counties are defined in their historical (i.e. Pre 1974) boundaries)

(ii) All categories of player may play except where restrictions apply as follows: -

Category P: A maximum of two such players in any one match, who may only play in the First XI, and then only provided that the player has not played for another club in the same season. Players awarded a contract after the season has started may continue to play for their registered club as a Category A player for the remainder of that season only.

Category F: Only those overseas players who have been continuously resident in the United Kingdom for at least 18 months immediately before they play their first match in the League.

Category C: Foreign National – Residency conditions as per Category F apply.

(b) Procedure

Players remain registered with a club as a player for that club until the player is formally transferred to a different club within the league or they play for another club outside the league in a Saturday competition. If a player has not played for three years the player can register with another club.

- (i) Players registering or transferring will be required to complete a self-declaration form. The form will need to be countersigned by the new club.
- (ii) Players transferring will need to obtain a release from their old club. If a release is not forthcoming the Executive can grant the release where appropriate.
- (iii) Registration/Transfer forms to be submitted to the Secretary.
- (iv) Once the Secretary provides written acknowledgment of a self-declaration form correctly completed, the player can then play.

IMPORTANT NOTE – Once the Secretary has acknowledged that the Registration Form has been correctly completed, clubs must promptly enter the required player details onto their “play-cricket.Com” web site. All players must be in the “play-cricket.com” directory (including those exempt from formal registration in (c) below) in order that match details can be entered on the web site.

(c) Exemptions

NOT REQUIRED TO REGISTER

- (i) Category P players do not have to be formally registered or transferred
- (ii) Where the SWPCL has a formal agreement with a Cricket Academy regarding “allocation” of Students, the students’ registration or transfer will be implied.
- (iii) Players in the Under-15 age group and below

AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED

Players moving from the under-15 age group will be deemed to be registered to the club for which they last played Saturday League Cricket, or if no league cricket played, with that club with which the player last participated in Junior Cricket. Additionally the Management Committee shall have the power to require the formal registration of all players moving from the under-15 age group.

NO IMPLIED TRANSFER

- (i) Students who play for a SWPCL club during term time and their home club during the summer holiday and vice-versa are exempt from the implied transfer regulation for as long as they remain students at a recognised educational establishment, and it is not reasonable for them to play for one club throughout the season.
- (ii) Implied transfer does not apply during the UK close season.

(d) Deadlines for Registrations and Transfers

ALL CATEGORIES by 30th June each year.

(e) Complaints & Penalties.

POLICY Players and Clubs are responsible for the accurate completion of Registration/Transfer Self Declaration forms.

RAISING A COMPLAINT

Complaints will be heard where where:-

- (a) An official complaint is submitted in writing by a principal official on behalf of a member club
- (b) The complaint is submitted to the Secretary
- (c) The complaint does, in the view of the Executive of the league, establish a *prima-facie* case.

HEARING A COMPLAINT

In the first instance, complaints will be heard by a special ad-hoc sub-committee appointed by the Executive.

Where complaints are heard:-

- (a) The onus will be on the complainant to substantiate the allegations made.
- (b) Representatives of both parties must be invited to attend.
- (c) Due notice will be given to those alleged against, both of the nature of the complaint and the substantiating details alleged to support the complaint.
- (d) At the hearing the complainant will not be allowed to introduce items of substantiation not previously notified.
- (e) Costs may be awarded against the complainant if the complaint is not upheld.

RE-HEARING A COMPLAINT

If a complaint is upheld, the club or player may ask for a re-hearing before the Management Committee.

- (a) Such a re-hearing will be granted on a fee (£50) being paid.
- (b) The fee will be refunded should the previous decision be reversed or, at the discretion of the Management Committee, it may be partly refunded if the fine/penalty is reduced.
- (c) The Appellant is required to demonstrate why the previous decision of the sub-committee should be reversed, and/or why the penalties imposed should be reduced.
- (d) The Management Committee may reverse the decision of the sub-committee or reduce the penalty at its absolute discretion.

PENALTIES

MISTAKES & NEGLIGENCE

The sub-committee is empowered to reprimand or fine clubs and/or players where registration/transfer forms are found to be incorrect, (including inadvertent non-submission) or where the registration/transfer procedure has not been fully followed. It can also rescind the registration if appropriate. Where mistakes are made negligently or excessively, the sub-committee may also fine clubs up to 10 points per incident

DECEPTION

Where it is proven that a player or a club or both has deliberately completed a form incorrectly so that it gains acceptance where it otherwise would not, then the registration will never have been valid and the player and/or club will be subject to penalties for playing an unregistered player. Deliberate non-submission of a form is also covered by this section.

The sub-committee will be empowered to:-

- (a) Fine whichever party was responsible for the deception (player or club or both).
- (b) Suspend a player from the League if the offence is considered severe.
- (c) Deduct points from a club if it has been party to the deception.
- (d) If the club has been party to the deception and the offence is considered severe, or if it is a repeat offence, relegate a team or a club by any number of divisions.
- (e) In exceptional circumstances, expel relevant parties from the League.

7) UMPIRES

- a) In all matters concerning the fitness of play with respect to ground, weather and light, the umpires appointed shall have the final decision. Where independent umpires are provided by the League, they

will be responsible for determining fitness for play from 1 hour before the match is due to start. Umpires are advised to consult the ground authority where delayed starts are likely and/or conditions are doubtful.

- b) The League will appoint umpires for all first eleven matches.
- c) If the Management Committee so determines, the home club will pay umpires on the day at a flat rate fee that will be set by the Management Committee. (This provision is temporarily suspended) ,
- d) The Umpire's fee is an attendance fee and is due as soon as the umpire(s) have arrived. (This provision is temporarily suspended),
- e) A special rate is payable if only one umpire stands.
- f) Each club must provide an umpire for each 2nd XI match. Captains must indicate on a report sheet whether an umpire has been provided or not. The Management Committee will be empowered to take action to deal with non-compliance.

8) **RESULT NOTIFICATION**

- a) The home team must telephone the Secretary with the result (including details of cancelled and abandoned matches) by 9pm on the day of the fixture.
- b) The home captain will be responsible for completing the results sheet (including details of cancelled and abandoned matches) and getting it signed where appropriate by his opposite number and the Umpires. Results sheets are to be in the possession of the Results Secretary by the following Wednesday.
- c) The Home team shall update their "play-cricket" web-site with full details of all League matches played, abandoned or cancelled by the end of the day following the day on which the match is played. The Away team shall check the entries and rectify any mistakes.

Failure to observe the rules will result in a club responsible being fined £10-00 for each occasion they transgress. Fines will be published on the weekly results sheets.

Note: Result Sheets are the duplicate copies of the scoresheets in the League provided scorebooks

9) **CODE OF CONDUCT**

- a) This code of conduct applies to all matches played under the control of the South Wales Premier Cricket League and is intended to assist in maintaining high standards.
- b) Each club shall be responsible for the behaviour of its officials, players and members, notwithstanding any personal liability under the Laws of Cricket and these Regulations that officials, players and members might have. Clubs shall make all reasonable endeavours to ensure that the behaviour of its supporters is within the code of conduct, both at its own ground and at the grounds of others. The role of the captain in ensuring that high standards are established and maintained is emphasised. The captains are responsible for ensuring that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the laws.
- c) Intimidation, aggressive behaviour and deliberate distraction of opponents are unacceptable. Examples of misconduct include, but are not limited to: -
 - Any show of dissent.
 - i) Any unacceptable comment or gesture.
 - ii) Swearing, spitting or sledging.
 - iii) Any action, which could be, construed as unfair play.
 - iv) Any violent action.
- d) The umpires' decisions are final - any aggressive questioning, show of dissent or failure to comply with the umpire's instructions is unacceptable.
- e) Each player has a duty to observe the laws of cricket and behave in a manner, which complies with the spirit of the game. However, the ultimate responsibility lies with the captain who should deal promptly and effectively with any misconduct or indeed, any circumstances, which may lead to misconduct. The captain's responsibility in this area relates to the periods prior to, during and after the game.
- f) Clubs are encouraged to take action against its members and supporters as far as reasonably practicable for failing to comply with this Code of Conduct. Any action taken by clubs will not prevent the invocation of the disciplinary procedure, and the taking of any other steps that may be considered necessary.
- g) If matches are conducted against the spirit of the game, even if they are strictly in accordance with the regulations, the Management Committee reserves the right to take the appropriate action.

10) ETIQUETTE

- a) Players shall not precede umpires onto the field at the start of play or after any interval.
- b) Each club shall provide a bell for the umpires to ring five minutes before play is due to commence.
- c) When commencing their innings, batsmen shall enter the field from the pavilion.
- d) Captains shall ensure that they lead the fielding team onto the field and from the field (unless a player is designated to do so by the captain)
- e) All players and umpires are expected to wear recognised (i.e. predominantly white) cricket clothing.

11) HELMETS

Clubs will adhere to the ECB Directive regarding the wearing of Helmets for Batting and Fielding by junior players.

12) OTHER

- a) Clubs must play their strongest appropriate teams at all times.
- b) Unfair Composition of Teams:
 - (i) It shall be considered unfair for a club to field players at 2nd eleven level, who would normally play at a higher team level with that club, if the object of such team selection can reasonably be construed as an attempt to unduly influence the final position of a team in a division.
 - (ii) The Management Committee, on a complaint being received and the Committee deciding that a club has without justification played inappropriate players it shall be empowered to penalise teams (both the team that was strengthened and the team that was weakened) by the deduction of up to 20 points per occurrence AND/OR declaring the affected match(es) void.
- d) The awarding of Penalty Runs other than from No Ball, Wides and for Illegal Fielding shall ONLY be made if the match Umpires are Independent Umpires appointed by the League. If only one Independent Umpire is in attendance, provided he or she umpires at the non-strikers end throughout then the awarding of other Penalty Runs will be permitted. Refer also to Regulation 9c.

13) GENERAL PROVISION – BREACH OF RULES

The Management Committee can expel any club from the League for any breach of rules or conditions of entry.

Constitution - Appendix 2

GROUNDS AND FACILITIES

- a) The Management Committee shall appoint a Chief Inspector of Grounds and at least one other Inspector who will visit every ground at least once over a three-year cycle.
- b) The Inspectorate will respond to adverse reports from umpires and any requests from the Management Committee.
- c) Candidate clubs for promotion will always be inspected; the results of this inspection will determine their promotion eligibility.
- d) The inspection team will mark grounds according to a standard set of criteria that form part of the Regulations and that will be notified to all clubs and will set the standards for promotion to the Premier League. The Management Committee will not be empowered to overrule the result of the Inspectors.
- e) Upon the recommendation of the Inspectorate, the Management Committee can issue a Notice of Improvement that will require a club to rectify a defect(s) in a reasonable period of time.
 - a. In respect of improvement notices a club can request an extension of time, and can appeal against the issue of a notice.
 - b. The Management Committee can demote a club should a 'Notice of Improvement' not be met by a club so served.
 - c. Clubs who disagree with the final findings of the Inspectorate may request an independent assessment (at the club's expense). Based on the standard criteria, clubs must set out the grounds on which they disagree and obtain the approval of the Management Committee for such an assessment.

ADDITIONAL PREFERABLE REQUIREMENTS for Premier League

- Clubs should have Portable Covers capable of covering the whole of the pitch.

ADDITIONAL MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS for Premier League

- Clubs must have the capability of deploying covers whenever reasonable. Repeated non-deployment of covers will be considered to be a breach of Premier League entry conditions.
- Clubs must have total control over their grounds and facilities.

NB - The actual Ground and Facilities Criteria are published in a separate continuation document

Constitution Appendix 3

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES**1. Aims and Jurisdiction**

These regulations shall apply to any player who plays for any club at any level under the auspices of the ECB and are intended to provide assistance and uniformity to all Clubs and Leagues dealing with any breach of the Code of Conduct.

2. Procedure

- a) Any alleged breach of The Code above shall be notified in writing (to be known as 'A Complaint') to the Secretary of the League.
- b) Any complaint so initiated must be referred to the Chairman of the League or the Chairman of the League Disciplinary Committee.
- c) Upon receipt of such complaint, and as soon as reasonably practicable, the Chairman of the League or of the Disciplinary Committee shall consider the complaint and resolve either:
 - (i) To take no action except to record the complaint and notify the club; or
 - (ii) To endorse the disciplinary action taken by the club; or
 - (iii) To refer the matter for a Disciplinary Hearing which shall be convened by the Chairman of the League or of the League Disciplinary Committee as soon as practicable.

3. Disciplinary Hearing

- a) In any case which is referred for a Disciplinary Hearing, at least seven days' notice in writing of the hearing and of the offence(s) alleged shall be given to the player, or in the case of a club, its Secretary.
- b) The Chairman of the League or of the League Disciplinary Committee shall convene a hearing as soon as is practicable and in any event within 21 days of the decision to refer. Any adjournments may be granted at the discretion of the Chairman of the Disciplinary Hearing
- a) The player and club shall be entitled to attend the hearing, state their case (in the case of a club by its Secretary or other official), to be supported by a colleague and to call witnesses.
- b) The Hearing shall be conducted by the Disciplinary Committee of the League which shall consist of not less than three persons, none of whom shall be connected with the player, the club or their opponents at the time of the alleged breach.

4. Penalties

- a) 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, together with such order as to costs as it deems appropriate:
 - b) **In the case of a player:**
 - (i) To require the player to submit appropriate letter(s) of apology within a specified time.
 - (ii) To record a reprimand and to give a warning as to future conduct.
 - (iii) To impose a fine.
 - (iv) To suspend a player for one or more matches, or for a stated period of time.
 - (v) To deduct League points from a player's team.
 - (ii) To expel a player from the League
 - c) **In the case of a club:**
 - I. To require the club to submit appropriate letter(s) of apology within a specified time.
 - II. To record a reprimand and to give a warning as to future conduct.
 - III. To impose a fine
 - IV. To deduct league points from the club's team(s)
 - V. To relegate to any lower division of the League.
 - VI. To expel the club from any competition of the League.
 - VII. To expel the club from the League.
- d) The Disciplinary Committee shall have the power to suspend the operation of any part, or all, of the penalty it imposes for such period and subject to such terms and conditions it deems appropriate.
- e) Decisions of the Disciplinary Committee (a finding that a complaint is proved or not proved or a decision on penalty) shall be by majority vote: where necessary the Panel Chairman shall have a casting vote.

5. Appeals Procedure

- A. A player or club shall have the right of appeal to an Appeals Committee. Notice of Appeal setting out the grounds must be given in writing to the Secretary of the League within seven days of the decision of the Disciplinary Committee, together with a deposit of £50 (to be set from time to time by the League Management Committee).
- B. If the Notice of Appeal is given the penalty shall not take effect pending the hearing of the appeal, which shall take place as soon as is practicable.
- C. The Appeal shall be by way of a hearing before a different committee. The purpose of which is to determine that either
 - (a) The Disciplinary Committee did properly consider the evidence presented to them, and did assign the weight given to various elements of the evidence in a reasonable manner, such that their conclusion was sound or otherwise. If the conclusion was deemed to be the latter, then to re-determine what penalties if any shall be applied. If the conclusion was deemed to be the former, then to determine that the penalty(s) imposed were not disproportionate in the context of the

offence committed, and if they were considered disproportionate to vary the penalty(s) accordingly.

Or

- (b) That based on sufficient new evidence that was not available at the time of the original hearing being introduced into the appeal, and that if presented the Disciplinary Committee would probably not have arrived at the decision that it did and/or imposed the penalties that it did, then to instruct that the Disciplinary Committee should re-hear the matter.

The composition of the Committee shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the League and shall consist of not less than three persons, none of whom shall be connected with the player, the Club or their opponents at the time of the alleged breach. The player or club shall have the same rights of attendance and representation, and to call witnesses as they had before the Disciplinary Committee. (See also clause 3.c. (vi) in the constitution proper).

- D The Appeals Committee may confirm, vary or reverse the decision of the Disciplinary Committee and it shall have the power to increase the penalty and award costs of the Appeal hearing. Decisions of the Appeal Panel shall be by majority vote: where necessary, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- E The decision of the Appeals Committee or, if no appeal, of the Disciplinary Committee, shall be final and binding.