



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section pre-season captains' meeting 17 April 2024

Note of meeting

- Welcome & apologies.** Roger Pugh (RP) welcomed everyone to the meeting. Neil Vaughan had been delayed in a rain-affected game.
- Start of the season.** RP said that there had been no request to rearrange all the cancelled games from 20 April, in either division, to a date other than the August Bank Holiday; therefore all the games would take place on that date. He said that irrespective of conditions after 20 April, there could be no further rescheduling due to the logistics involved. Any games that could not be played from 27 April onwards would be treated as cancelled in the normal way.
- Captains' reports.** David Ward (DW) explained that a new ECB captain's report form would be trialed in the League in 2024, and shared slides that gave guidance on their completion. He asked that captains familiarise themselves with these (*he has now emailed them to captains and vice-captains via Who's the Umpire*). DW asked that:
 - captains judge umpires on the game as a whole – not on the basis of one decision
 - comments are made on the form, particularly to explain markings of 1, 2 or 5 out of fiveDW said that, in response to comments made by captains last year, umpires would be given feedback about comments made.
- Disciplinary issues.** In the absence of NV, DW said that this season there would be a focus on captains' responsibility for the behaviour of their team. Captains could face a disciplinary charge if they had not made efforts to control their players where it was appropriate to do so. RP said that, overall, discipline in the Premier Section was good, with relatively few reports, but we cannot be complacent, and captains have a responsibility in this.
- K3/Whitworth cup balls.** RP clarified that in the first round of the *K3 Dental Cup*, two Oxbridge *Windsor* pink balls would be used in each innings, as last year. In subsequent rounds of the *K3 Dental*, and throughout the *Whitworth Cup*, the pink *Dukes* ball would be used, on the basis of one ball per innings. In response to a question from Nick Dymock, RP said that it would be allowable to use the pink *Windsors* as spare balls, using one at each end if necessary. Common sense should apply. (*DW has subsequently ordered more pink Dukes balls, in order to increase the number of spares available – any unused spares must be either returned or paid for*)
- Other business**
 - Replacement of overseas players.* James Ward asked if the rule about replacing overseas players was to be changed. RP explained that, whilst the current rule allowing clubs to replace an overseas player before 30 June does not specify any reasons, and therefore does not preclude 'planned replacements', the Premier Section committee were not happy about the use of replacements in this way. They would be considering a rule change at their May meeting. Two captains asked if a decision could be made as soon as possible, in order to facilitate planning, rather than leaving to the AGM. RP took this on board.
 - Ball head strikes.* After the meeting, RP attended an umpires meeting, at which he was advised of the following ECB guidance that will be followed in the League this season:
'If there is a ball head strike on any player (with or without helmet), then the umpires should call 'Dead Ball', which will apply from the moment the head strike occurred.'
- Closure.** RP closed the meeting by wishing everyone the very best of luck for the coming season.