



Newsletter for Norfolk Cricket League Clubs

Cricket Bag

Issue 8



Spring 2004

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The Norfolk Cricket League is sponsored by



Please send any comments or items for inclusion to:
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Visit the Official NCL website

Final Reminder!
Info for Handbook
to Secretary
by return please

Welcome to 2004

This issue of Cricket Bag provides an overall precursor to the new season, which starts in just over two months. You will find an overview of the rules, and summary reminders of the procedures for results and the Fair Play awards. Please make sure that as many players see this as possible.

Starting Positions for 2004 ...

Division 1 Acle A Aldbrough Ashmanhaugh Cromer A Drayton Great Melton Horsford A Old Buckenham A Saham Toney Winterton	Division 2 Bungay CEYMS/Gothic Cr'ford Lodge Diss A Gressenhall Hales Halvergate Kett'ham Hall Rollesby Sprowston A	Division 3 Belton Gt Witchingham A Hardingham Lowestoft Rail Mattishall A Norwich Union A Old Catton Rackheath Shipdham St Andrews	Division 4 Aylsham St Giles Caister Garboldisham A Gt Yarmouth Hetherset & TV Kirkley A Kirkley Sports Loddon Nor Wanderers A North Elmham	Division 5 Coltishall A Costessey East Harling A Great Melton A Happisburgh Hemprill New Buckenham Rocklands Saham Toney A Saxlingham A
Division 6 Aldbrough A Civil Service Colney Cr'ford Lodge A Eaton Elsing Lowestoft A Martham A Tacolneston Topcroft A	Division 7 Diss B Felthorpe Great Melton B Hales A Hingham Horsford B Kett'ham Hall A Old Catton A Overstrand A Watton	Division 8 Bradfield A Brooke A Bungay A Drayton A Frettenham Halvergate A Hemsby Vaux Mallards B Watton A Winterton A	Division 9 Beccles B Bradenham A Bradfield B Brisley Gt Yarmouth A Hetherset & TV A Rocklands A Rollesby A Sprowston B	Division 10 Garboldisham B Hales Colts Happisburgh A Hetherset & TV B Horsford C Kirkley B Loddon A North Elmham A Norwich C Norwich Union B Old Buckenham B Shipdham A Sprowston C

Hansells Fair Play Award

Our sponsors Hansells introduced their Fair Play Award during the 2001 season. The following year the Executive Committee integrated 'Fair Play' into the results procedure so that the home team awards a mark out of ten for Fair Play.

This additional score should be passed to Results Secretaries with the rest of the telephoned match report. The scores will be passed to the General Secretary, who will compile the Fair Play tables. These will not be published every week, although a mid-season table might make for some interesting reading!

As a guide, 6 or 7 should represent an 'average' game,

with 8 and 9 reserved for matches played in a very good spirit; a '10' should be awarded only to a team who has shown outstanding sportsmanship.

By the end of the season, each team should have received a Fair Play mark from every other team in their division, except when games are not completed. The team with the highest average will win the award. In the event of a tie, the team with the most number of "10"s, then "9"s etc would be the winner.

The Executive Committee supports Hansells view of the importance of their award - especially for a League that represents recreational cricket. We hope you agree and continue to support this important initiative.

Committee Details

President:	Tom Bartram	
Vice President:	Chris Free	
Chairman:	Keir Hounsome	01603 452550
Secretary:	Alan Harris	01379 674427
Treasurer:	Trevor Smith	01603 651359
Complaints:	Roger Symonds	01603 810748
Knockout Cup:	Andrew Marshall	01603 409034
Results (1,2,3):	Mike Ridout	01603 787725
Results (4,5,6):	Paul Combstock	01493 603501
Results (7,8,9):	James Kay	01603 260872
Results (10):	Alan Harris	01379 674427
Committee:	Roger Horn, Simon Richardson	

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Match Results

The telephone results procedure has worked fairly well for a number of years, thanks to the co-operation of team captains and the unselfish efforts of a small number of results secretaries. Although the full procedure is spelled out in detail on the last page of the Handbook, the procedure can be summarised here.

There are 4 Results Secretaries: Divs 1-3, Divs 4-6, Divs 7-9 and Div 10. The names and phone numbers are shown on the Executive Committee panel and are also repeated on the front and last pages of the Handbook.

Please make sure that you have the scorebook - or a note of the key details - handy BEFORE you start the call! The details we need are: the teams, the scores and the Fair Play score for the away team. Don't forget to include any notable performances (see below) and you must also say which team batted first. This is because bonus points are calculated differently for batting and bowling, and it is not always clear from the team scores whether the game was won by wickets or runs.

Monthly Awards

The notable performances are handy to pass on to the press and they also feature in our mini-roundup on the website. But you should also remember that our sponsors, Hansells, present an award to the Player of the Month. This is worth £50 plus an engraved tankard. Nominations should be sent in to the Awards Sec by the Tuesday following the last match of each month. These details will be included in the Handbook.

Handbook 2004

The Handbook is nearing completion and we hope to have your copies ready for distribution - together with the cricket balls you ordered - around Easter time. We think that the Handbook is a useful and interesting booklet, which is always open to change. If anyone has any hints or requests for additional material, please contact the editor / secretary.

At the front of the book is a current list of EC members and the addresses of the General Sec, Treasurer, Complaints Sec and Awards Sec, followed by the fixtures, by division. The next section covers the General, Match and KO Cup Rules. The second half of the book

(Photo courtesy of Newsmakers PR. Other digital pictures from the Awards Dinner are available on a C D - please contact the Gen Sec for details.)



Winners of the Batsman and Bowler of the Year received their awards from NCL President Tom Bartram (centre) at the Annual Dinner Dance in October. Mike Breame (left) from Hardingham clinched the batting trophy, whilst Chris Alger of Rollesby won the Bowling award for the second year running.

Overview of the Rules

Although a copy of last year's rules has already been sent out to all teams who have joined from the Conference, and players will also have a chance to read them in this year's Handbook, we thought that all of us would benefit from a brief review of the current match conditions.

All matches are 45 overs apiece, unless captains agree to reduce this beforehand, and should start by 2pm (1.30 on last 2 dates). No one may bowl more than 12 overs and only the Division 1 games allow for a new ball in each innings. In other games, an NCL-approved new ball must be provided by the home team.

starts with a review of last year, with the final standings and the top 10 batsmen and bowlers in each division. There is a growing section on team and individual records followed by a brief review of the Laws of Cricket as amended in 2000. It is worth reminding new teams that these pages highlight the new laws that are not recognised in NCL games because there are no independent umpires. The guidelines for young players are included before the final section of the handbook which includes details of club secretaries and match contacts for each team. The final page is a summary of the telephone results procedure.

The team scoring most runs will win the match and be awarded 20 points. The losing team will gain bonus points depending on what they do in the second innings of the game. If they bowl second, they earn a point for each wicket taken; if they bat, they earn a point for every tenth of the winner's total. Eg if Saxlingham A score 200 and New Buckenham make 179 for 6, Sax win with 20pts, and NB score 8; if they had scored 1 more run, they would have reached 9 bonus points. Each team gains 10 in the event of a tie (wickets lost is not relevant) and if the game cannot be completed (because of rain, pitch conditions or bad light) the game is recorded as "No Result".

Overall division positions will be determined by points average: total points divided by completed games (ie "No Results" do not count).

From 2004, normal NCL rules for promotion and relegation come into play, with the champs of Div 1 advancing into the Alliance. For all lower divisions, the top 2 teams are promoted. From Div 6 and below, the top side gains 'accelerated promotion' and advances 2 divisions. Generally, the bottom 2 are relegated (bottom 3 in Divs 4 to 8).

With so many A, B and C teams around, some clubs may be caught - as Watton were last season - by the rule that disallows 2 teams from the same club in any division.