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The Norfolk Cricket League is sponsored by



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Visit the Official NCL website  
[www.ncleague.co.uk](http://www.ncleague.co.uk)

**Season start**  
**30 Apr 2005**

## New Sponsor: up and coming all-rounder

The Executive Committee of the Norfolk Cricket League are pleased to appoint **Knights Sporting Auctions** as their new sponsors. The agreement, which will start in **January 2005** for an initial period of three years, will see the League known as **Knights Norfolk Cricket League**.

Keir Hounsome, Chairman of the NCL, is delighted with the move: "Tim Knight's love of cricket is second to none, and it's good for the League to be associated with a sponsor so closely and prominently involved in the sporting world."

Knights, which is based in Aldborough, has, within its 10 years, earned a reputation as one of the leading authorities in sporting memorabilia, with a growing client base that stretches across the world.

Tim Knight, the owner and still an enthusiastic cricketer for Aldborough, believes that the new link with the Norfolk Cricket League will be a perfect partnership: "I look forward to supporting the League financially and through the extra initiatives that Knights can offer to players and clubs. I can't wait for the 2005 season to start!"

Knights sister company - Knights Sporting Tours - arranges sports tours for clubs across the UK as well



*New League sponsor Tim Knight (left) crosses bats with Keir Hounsome, Chairman of the NCL outside Knights showroom at Aldborough*

as offering packages for individuals wishing to watch sporting occasions around the globe.

Since the early 1990s, the League has enjoyed partnerships with a number of businesses, and we are grateful to all those who have played their part in the growth of the League.

"I would like to thank Hansells for their sponsorship over the last 7

years," Keir added. "During this time, their sponsorship raised the profile of the League and helped to introduce a number of initiatives, which we are grateful for and which will continue in the future."

### Welfare

Malcolm Kauffman is the League's first Welfare Officer, and his main aim will be to clarify the procedures for member clubs and to help answer your queries. During the next few close season months, we will be developing NCL-approved forms which will be sent out for Clubs to use, and these will also be available to download from the website.

If you have any immediate questions, please contact Malcolm using phone or email (see Committee panel)

### Committee Details

President	Tom Bartram	
Vice President	Chris Free	
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Results (7,8,9):	James Kay	01603 260872 james.kay@ cavell.co.uk
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Committee:	Roger Horn, Simon Richardson	

## AGM Review

Fifty-three Clubs were represented at the 33rd Annual General Meeting of the NCL in mid-November. Chairman Keir Hounsome made a presentation to Roger Symonds, who was standing down as Complaints Secretary after serving on the Executive Committee for 25 years. His role will be filled from within the EC by Paul Combstock, who will remain as Results Secretary for Divs 4-6. Malcolm Kauffman (Belton CC) was elected to the Committee as the new League Welfare Officer.

The meeting agreed a number of changes in General and Match Rules (see separate article) and also voted to grant membership to two new teams - Ashmanhaugh A and Topcroft B.

The meeting heard that the Committee wanted to retain the Knock Out Cup as a specific event in the calendar, but there was no clear decision about its format. With this newsletter, Clubs will have a final opportunity to decide between the traditional knock out or the proposed divisional format. The reserved dates for 2005 are: 8 & 22 May, 26 Jun, 17 Jul, with the Final being played on 14 August

Next year's AGM will be held on 25 November. However, there is still much speculation about the future plans for the Norfolk Dumpling so we will have to confirm the venue for the AGM after the new year.

### Next Season

The sad news that Bradfield B have had to withdraw from Division 9 has led to a small reshuffle in the lower divisions, with Old Buckenham B moving up from Div 10, which will have 11 teams in 2005, including the newly elected. The Div 9 & 10 tables are shown below

Div 9	Div 10
Hethersett & TV A	Happisburgh A
Beccles B	North Elmham A
Gt Yarmouth A	Horsford C
Rollsby A	Hethersett & TV B
Rocklands A	Norwich Union B
Old Catton B	Kirkley B
Brisley	Shipdham A
Sprowston C	Hales Colts
Loddon A	Garboldisham B
Old Buck'ham B	Ashmanhaugh A
	Topcroft B

## Annual Award Winners

A reminder of the winners of the Annual Awards which were presented at the Dinner Dance held at the Hotel Jarvis on 8 October. Once again, nearly 300 players and guests were present as the League presented 45 awards spanning all 10 divisions. President Tom Bartram was there to present his own awards, to the Batsman and Bowler of the year from all divisions.

[Photo right: Matt Clarke - shown here on his way to scoring 74 to win the KO Plate for Gt Melton - won Hansell's Under 19 Batsman of the Year award.]



	Batsman
Div 1	Craig Sweet (Ashmanhaugh)
Div 2	Jimmy Catchpole (Rollsby)
Div 3	Greig Nicholls (Hardingham)
Div 4	Steven Hak (Gt Yarmouth)
Div 5	Martin Walker (Rocklands)
Div 6	Andy Adcock (Topcroft A)
Div 7	Alan Arthurton (Felthorpe)
Div 8	Colin Feltham (Brooke A)
Div 9	Richard Porter (Beccles B)
Div 10	Brian Burrett (Hethersett & TV B)
Under 19	Matt Clarke (Gt Melton)
President's	Martin Walker (Rocklands)
Fair Play	Norwich Union B

	Bowler
	Paul Movel (Gt Melton)
	David Fuller (Bungay)
	Barry Clemitson (Old Catton)
	John White (Gt Yarmouth)
	Adam Penton (Coltishall A)
	Paul Futter (Civil Service)
	Ian Parkin (Overstrand)
	Neil Bartholomew (Bradfield A)
	Alex Stevens (Beccles B)
	Antony Alread (Loddon A)
	Mike Scarff (Horsford B)
	David Fuller (Bungay)

## Rule Changes

A number of changes to General and Match Rules were agreed at the annual General Meeting on 19 Nov 2004.

Some of the changes to General Rules are in response to the ECB's "Safe Hands" initiative, which has prompted the NCL to introduce a new post of Welfare Officer (see separate article). This also impinges on player registration, and the Committee have re-written previous Rule 20 to clarify the procedure for a player transferring between teams within the NCL.

The opportunity has been taken to rearrange the other General Rules, although the wording and meaning remains unchanged.

Within match rules, the single significant change comes in the use of a new cricket ball in each innings, which extends the current scheme in Division 1 to cover the top three divisions. In the other divisions, the position remains unchanged, with the home side being responsible for providing a new ball.

## Summary of changes

- new post of Welfare Officer
- annual fee for new teams is £30, including £5 affiliation
- rules may only be changed at AGM
- member clubs must have constitution including equal opportunities
- clubs to maintain a register of players
- new ball in each innings in Divs 1-3

## Consolidation

In what was undoubtedly a very wet season, 2004 saw the NCL take a first big step in integrating ex-Conference teams into an expanded structure.

The competition for places in the top five divisions was very evenly fought throughout the year and although the lower divisions were dominated by Alliance A teams, the League's unique accelerated promotion will have helped to ease the path to provide for evenly matched cricket in all divisions.

The Committee have been pleased to receive a number of complimentary letters from the 'new' teams and look forward to providing many more years of competitive cricket for all divisions in the future.