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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
www.nclague.co.uk

Dates:

First Match	30 Apr 05
Last Match	28 Aug 05
Dinner	7 Oct 05
AGM	25 Nov 05

Sponsor's Awards

Knights Sporting Auctions, the new sponsors of the League have confirmed their offers of 56 days of cricket watching for the winners of the KNCL's awards this year. All winners will have the chance of 2 tickets each to watch either County or International cricket at the famous Trent Bridge test venue in Nottingham (pictured).

The awards will be as follows: The four winners of the League's 'Player of the Month' – awarded in May, June, July and August – will each pick up 2 tickets to watch Nottinghamshire, in either a first-class or a one-day match in the Members' Pavilion. The prizes can be used either this season or in 2006. The same prizes will go to the end of season Divisional Batsmen and Bowlers (20 winners).

The Under 19 Batsman and Bowler of the season will each win 2 tickets to watch a One Day International at Trent Bridge in 2006, whilst the President's Batsman and Bowler award winners will have the chance to visit next season's Test Match at Trent Bridge.

Further details will be confirmed at the League's Annual Dinner Dance – on Friday, 7 October at the Jarvis Hotel. In the meantime, this will be further encouragement for all team captains and contacts to send in nominations for each of the 4 monthly 'Player' awards. These should be sent – via post or e-mail – to Trevor Smith, 4 Havelock Road, Norwich, NR2 3HG (e-mail address below) – to arrive by the Tuesday after the last match of each month. Entry Forms for the awards are enclosed with the Newsletter.



"Spirit of Cricket"

We have always aimed to preserve the highest standards of the game and we introduced the 'Fair Play' Award in 2001. This year - in partnership with Knights Sporting Auctions - we want to expand the idea further.

From 2005, the competition will be known as Knights "Spirit of Cricket" Award. As in previous years, it will be determined by a mark out of 10, but from this season, marks will be awarded by both teams.

In addition to the mark awarded by the home team (when phoning in the result as usual), the captain or representative of the away team is also required to phone the relevant Results Secretary to award a mark for the home team's 'Spirit of Cricket'.

In his original sponsor bid, Tim Knight showed that he shares the EC's view on this aspect of the game when he said Knights would help promote "a fair and sporting attitude on the field of play". He and the EC have agreed that – in addition to the trophy – the team showing the best overall spirit of cricket will win a prize of £200. The awards will be presented at the Annual Dinner in October.

A pair of marks for each game will allow a much fuller and more accurate representation of the way all our teams play the game. Our guidelines for marks remain the same: a mark of 6 or 7 should be considered normal or average. An 8 should be awarded where the opposition have played the game in a very good spirit, with a 9 or 10 reserved for outstanding sportsmanship. It would be helpful if you could include examples or reasons for your marks. The final results will be determined by average mark. (continued page 2)

Executive Committee Details

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Safe Hands

The season is approaching fast and by now most Clubs should be well on the way to dealing with the ECB's 'Safe Hands' policy. We expect that over the close season, your constitution will have been amended to encompass the best practice guidance for looking after young cricketers, and many Clubs will have appointed a Club Welfare Officer.

The KNCL – through its own League Welfare Officer, Malcolm Kaufmann together with the Secretary – will continue to provide help and assistance where this is needed. Those of you with access to the internet may have already seen our series of forms which can be accessed. We did consider sending printed blanks with this newsletter, but it will be easier for everyone if you can download the forms directly into Microsoft Word, or another word processor, so that you can adapt the forms for your own needs. The forms included so far are: senior and junior registration, self-declaration, incident report, and volunteer agreement.

In addition to these forms, we have also added a number of policy documents which have been approved and which can be used by all clubs. These will include: Club Welfare job description, junior rules, safety

Spirit

(continued from front page)

Cricket is a game that owes much of its unique appeal to the fact that it should be played not only within its Laws but also within the Spirit of the Game. The major responsibility for ensuring the spirit of fair play rests with the captains. Principally, the Spirit of the Game involves demonstrating RESPECT for all players – including your own team and the opposition – umpires, scorers, spectators and the game's traditional values.

Non Spirit

Any action which is seen to abuse this spirit damages the game itself. Examples of abuse include: disputing an umpire's decision by word, action or gesture; using abusive language towards another person; cheating or any sharp practice.

Please help to support this initiative – both on the field and afterwards by awarding your 'Spirit' scores. If it is more convenient, these marks can be e-mailed to norfolkcricket@aol.com.

The Toney Award

Saham Toney after receiving their trophies for winning the Division 1 Championship and gaining promotion to the Alliance. (Mrs Margaret Gott of Hansells is shown on the left of the picture, which is courtesy of Newsmakers)



guidelines, incident guidelines, equity and child protection policy statements, and codes of conduct for club officials and volunteers, parents and carers.

Each of these files is available as a PDF file (which can be printed) or a wp document (that can be edited). Please make use of these resources. If you do not have access to the internet, but still have access to a computer, please contact Alan Harris for copies on a floppy disk or CD.

If anyone has any queries about the implementation of 'Safe Hands', please call Malcolm Kaufmann for assistance. (Phone numbers are shown in the Committee panel)



Wicket Keeping Gloves

You may remember that the 2000 Code of the Laws of Cricket established the legal requirements for wicket keeping gloves. In the Second Edition to the Code (2003), the MCC established a definition to allow manufacturers to produce gloves which meet the requirements of the Law and allow consistent interpretation by umpires.

The 2000 Law was not implemented in recreational cricket because of concerns over these areas.

Since the 2nd Edition, however, this situation has changed and the ECB has announced that the new Law will apply in all recreational cricket in England and Wales from the start of the

Representative Match

As you may have seen on the website, and in the newly available Handbook, we have had to suspend the Knock Out Cup this season. The number of entries has been in decline for a several years and this time the EC decided that there were not enough to run the competition.

We proposed a number of alternative formats and the Subscription Forms (sent out in December) asked Clubs to indicate their preference, but clearly most Clubs prefer the regular matches offered by the Mid Norfolk League.

This season we have decided to arrange a representative match against a Sponsor's XI, to be played on Sunday, 21 August.

The representative side – which will be called The NCL XI – will be selected by the EC and we hope to make contact with players early on in the season, as soon as we have confirmed the venue.

2005 season.

For reference, Law 40.2 now reads as follows:

2. Gloves

If, as permitted under 1 above, the wicket-keeper wears gloves, they shall have no webbing between the fingers except joining index finger and thumb, where webbing may be inserted as a means of support. If used, the webbing shall be

- a a single piece of non-stretch material which, although it may have facing material attached, shall have no reinforcement or tucks.*
- b such that the top edge of the webbing*
 - i does not protrude beyond the straight line joining the top of the index finger to the top of the thumb.*
 - ii is taut when a hand wearing the glove has the thumb fully extended.*