

## I'ANSON CUP COMPETITIONS

### Notes on the 2017 fixture list

As a result of the decisions made at the ADM in November 2016, the fixture list for the 2017 season is completely different from previous years. The league structure for the coming season has already been distributed to clubs indicating which teams will be competing in the six divisions. Divisions 1, 2 & 3 will have twelve teams, divisions 4 & 5, ten teams and division 6, nine teams.

The major decision at the ADM was a change in the format of the matches. Half the matches will be played in the traditional format and half – win/lose with no draws, known to many as “overs” cricket. In all divisions, all teams will play each other home and away, with one match in the traditional format and one in the new format of “overs” cricket.

This new arrangement of fixtures has produced difficulties in their compilation but have been overcome. As far as possible all ground availability restrictions and requests for no fixtures on certain Saturdays have been taken into account. It would seem in recent times that that these requests have increased adding to the problems of compiling the fixtures.

In the layout of the 2017 fixture list, there is a block of fixtures in the “overs” format at the beginning of the season, then all of the traditional format fixtures, followed by the rest of the “overs” matches to round off the season. In the attached fixture list the “overs” fixtures are in black and those in red are the traditional format matches. Note that the start and end of the traditional matches are not on the same Saturday for all divisions. Also in divisions 3 and 5 there are the two formats being played by some teams on two Saturdays. All teams however, play their traditional matches in one block and their “overs” games in two blocks. There is no chopping and changing between the two formats.

Because some clubs requested a blank Saturday, mostly during the block of traditional matches, all teams will have at least one blank Saturday, so that these fixtures can begin and end in one block. Due to ground availability, teams in the lower divisions have more than one blank Saturday, particularly

**in divisions 5 and 6. Also apologies to some clubs, where teams have several home or away fixtures on successive Saturdays.**

**As decided at the ADM, all matches in divisions 1, 2 & 3 will be 90 overs and those in divisions 4, 5 & 6 – 80 overs. Please refer to the new annual year book, about the maximum number of overs allowed for each bowler in the two formats (they do differ), and the points that can be gained. Again the points allocation is different for each of the two formats. It is important when submitting the results of matches to the secretary that the points gained by both teams are included.**

**The overall delay in finalising the fixtures was not helped when my laptop packed up before Christmas. It was subsequently found to be beyond repair. Fortunately the “cricket” files were not lost and could be transferred to a new machine. With the experience of producing this new style of fixture list, there will, hopefully, be less problems in the future.**

IGW – January 2017.