



Bolton Cricket League

Development Plan 2014 – 2017

Draft 01 July 2014

Forward

On and off the field, Bolton League Cricket is demonstrating ambition, a desire to be better in every aspect of the sport – in terms of playing, coaching, administration, commercial activity or our structures.

The objectives laid out in this Plan are ambitious, but the passion, dedication, skill and experience of all of those associated with Bolton League Cricket and its Member Clubs – whether players, coaches, volunteers, staff, commercial partners, funding partners, committees – give us the belief to improve.

Our plans will continue to focus on increasing and sustaining participation, growing the capabilities of our clubs to cater for all their members, and improving both the quantity and quality of our coaches, umpires, scorers, grounds staff and volunteers.

We must continue to focus on providing the best support structure possible to our most talented male and female cricketers and give them every opportunity to succeed.

Mission Statement

The Bolton Cricket League (BCL) is determined to maintain its position as one of the Premier Leagues in Lancashire but at the same time is looking to improve. The BCL will develop plans and operate to ensure that its fourteen member clubs are vibrant, strong and sustainable in what are difficult times.

The BCL will provide a structure to maximize development of players, both juniors and seniors and will provide the support and encouragement to member clubs to 'achieve their full potential'.

Aim	Actions
<p>Structure:</p> <p>To create a structure that allows all of the Leagues 14 clubs to develop sustainably by creating a flexible approach in the way in which the League is operated.</p> <p>To improve our image and reputation in the town and amongst our wider stakeholders</p>	<p>To improve communications with the clubs and to allocate a member of the Management Committee to a club or clubs.</p> <p>To reduce as much as possible the administration burdens on clubs but at the same time impose penalties for non-compliance.</p> <p>To make the Junior Committee a sub committee of the Management Committee and to hold one AGM which will consider all amendments to rule.</p> <p>To carry out a review of our current rules to bring them update and at the same time remove unnecessary duplication.</p> <p>To involve the players in the development of the League whenever possible.</p> <p>To play an active part in the review of the Cricket Leagues in Lancashire and in particular the Greater Manchester Leagues.</p> <p>Notwithstanding the leagues involvement the option to join a wider League structure will be carefully considered and debated with all member clubs.</p> <p>To consider divisional cricket in year two of this plan and to report back to clubs with a considered view.</p> <p>To be an active member of the Lancashire Cricket Board and its committees.</p>

<p>Finance:</p> <p>To reduce the financial burden on the members of the League and to support clubs through its actions.</p>	<p>To work towards increasing the levels of sponsorship by offering opportunities to local business.</p> <p>To reduce the number of fines levied on clubs by being clear on what penalties will apply for non-compliance.</p> <p>To seek League grants to help improve facilities, coaching opportunities and laptops for each club to improve data inputting.</p> <p>To agree a budget prior each year for the League and to set out clearly the levels of expenditure that each club can expect to budget for themselves.</p> <p>To seek opportunities for joint purchasing.</p>
<p>Ground and Facilities:</p> <p>To improve the grounds and facilities across the 14 clubs bringing our standards to those of the best.</p>	<p>To implement and support the revised Grounds and Facilities minimum standards document setting realistic target dates for improvements.</p>
<p>Senior Cricket:</p> <p>To develop and test new formats of the game to create interest amongst players and spectators.</p> <p>If changes are implemented to have the ability to revert back to our standard playing conditions.</p>	<p>1. Play the 26 League fixtures as 13 games under the present format and 13 under a format of 40 overs per side with limitations on the bowlers.</p> <p>As regards programming of fixtures, all fixtures in April, early May, late August and September would be 40 over matches with a 1.00pm start. The other remaining 40 over matches would all be on Sundays with a normal 1.30pm start. The</p>

	<p>50 over fixtures would be on Saturdays through from mid May to late August. Run rate calculations would be adjusted for the 40 over matches.</p> <p>The league championship would be based on the 26 matches. One Lancashire KO place would go to the top team in the 50 over format, one to the top team in the 40 over format and the remaining places to the leading teams over the season.</p> <p>2. Clubs play each team once to the existing rules, and once as below;</p> <p>Points will be awarded as follows; 7 points for a team batting first and winning by dismissing the opposition. 6 points for a team batting second and winning. 5 points for a team batting first and scoring more runs than the opposition but not dismissing them. 1 point for a team batting second and scoring at least 75% of their opponents runs without being dismissed. 3 points for a tie. 2 points where there is no result.</p> <p>The league championship would be based on the 26 matches. One LKO place would be allocated to the top team in each of the formats and the remaining places to the leading teams over the season.</p> <p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is simple to correct in 2016 if it doesn't work. • It is easy to understand. • It adds variety to the cricket throughout the season (Andy Kerr's comments refer). • It does not reduce the basic number of league matches (20-20 could be played on Friday evenings on a few set dates if
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	<p>desired).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It makes Sunday fixtures more attractive to spectators, being more of a 'cup-type' format. • It solves the problem of late finishes in the dark both early season and late season. • It takes away the need to start matches at 12.30, which is unpopular with many players. • 2nd team fixtures can continue to mirror 1st team without any complications.
<p>Junior Cricket:</p> <p>To continue to provide opportunities for girls and boys to develop their skills as cricketers and to improve our current retention rates.</p>	<p>All clubs to have a genuine Junior section with structured coaching.</p> <p>All member clubs to achieve Clubmark by 2015</p> <p>To facilitate coaching for senior players over 18</p> <p>Flexibility the key word. Clubs to have the option to enter teams into age groups.</p> <p>Under 11, 13 and 15s as now. Clubs must enter at least two teams</p> <p>Under 9 s and 18s optional but can create an informal league but does not trigger penalties.</p> <p>Under 9 s clubs can enter more than 1 team if they have the players.</p> <p>Under 18s 20: 20 competition</p> <p>Matches not fulfilled due to weather to be re-arranged between clubs.</p>