

# Kent ACO Newsletter October 2009

## Possibilities for all umpires

ECB currently appoints umpires for all county second XI matches (1, 3 and 4 days), the latter rounds of the National Knockout and the National Village Knockout and all county U17 matches of 1 and 2 days.

These appointments are made regionally from lists of umpires supplied and approved by the ECB.

The central list of umpires approved by the ECB is updated from information provided by premier league panels and county ACO recommendations.

## ‘Very encouraging’ - panel changes

Appointing umpires to Kent League division two 1<sup>st</sup> XI matches this season was effectively a 50% increase.

Panel chairman Graeme Hall says ‘we were successful in recruiting 20 new members to the panel. Most have enjoyed the experience and captains’ reports have been generally favourable with inevitable exceptions. Captains’ marks for the season to date across the premier, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> divisions have been averaging 7.62 out of 10 – a very encouraging average.’

Lorraine Elgar, John Halliday and Martin Seguss have also been involved with carrying out assessments and

monitoring self-assessments and colleague assessments as part of the drive to maintain and improve standards.

While there have been very few reports made on players there have been too many incidents of poor behaviour which have gone close to the brink of triggering a report to the league. On the positive side many games have been played in a good spirit according to reports submitted by umpires.

### *Division 3 next?*

Graeme says ‘Appointing to a further division would be a reasonable aspiration but it may well be premature to consider this for next season’.

‘I thank all panel members, old hands and newcomers alike, for their dedication this season.’

## Discipline in Kent - trends and procedures

*Laws refer to the Governing Body and within KCB all disciplinary reports are focussed on Peter Robinson.*

Sanctions involve suspension, fines, deduction of points or relegation.

Kent Cricket League has a voluntary code of conduct (VCC) by which clubs unanimously vote to implement the spirit of cricket.

### *Captains are responsible*

Responsibility for player behaviour rests with captains, and clubs accept that umpires are sole judges of fair and unfair play.

All clubs and leagues affiliated to KCB are involved in this VCC.

Peter says that a ban within any league or competition applies to any match under the auspices of KCB.

Clubs are advised when formal reports are submitted by umpires. They are then expected to apply the formal sanctions such as a consecutive two-week league match ban on cited players.

### ***Captains get double ban***

Peter says 'By precedent KCL also imposes an additional two-week ban where a captain is involved and has failed to ensure that play is conducted within the spirit of the game as well as within the laws. End of season bans are also carried forward to the following season.'

Umpires' reports are treated as confidential and are not released to clubs – only the name of cited player(s) and the outline of the reason for action.

### ***ECB get involved***

The ECB also have a master disciplinary procedure for some of the most serious incidents and this database contains a number of lifetime bans.

Referrals from Kent are rare and in recent years only one 12 week ban has been imposed.

Reported incidents in Kent are running at about a dozen in a season from KCL and the feeder structure. Most are from player frustration and over-reaction, dissent and disputing decisions.

Usually a couple of incidents each year involve captains. Most reports come from the higher divisions of the KCL and from panel umpires, however we encourage club umpires to become familiar with the procedures.

Clubs normally demonstrate very good management of the VCC and rarely prevaricate in implementing sanctions.

### ***Reports are polarised***

There is evidence to show that reports are concentrated at the start and end of the season. The August focus on league positions, promotions and

relegations may bring a cluster of reports.

One key issue emerging in recent years is off the field incidents – barracking, banter, goading or poor behaviour from players, club members or guests.

What about an under age scorer being exposed to bad language and behaviour? The KCL VCC is recognised as a good and workable model.

### ***In his spare time***

Peter is also chairman of the KCB clubs' committee, KCB groundsmans' association, Tonbridge & Malling cricket development officer, T&M child welfare officer, approved signatory for CRB submissions, KCB coaching committee, XL club tour manager, plays for Kent 60+ and in his spare time is Mr Addington CC.

## **Sportsmanship still exists – believe it or not**

My colleague did not hear the Broadstairs batsman's bat edge onto pad, due to very strong wind, and consequently gave the batsman out LBW.

Before he walked more than a few steps towards the pavilion several close fielders of Dartford drew the hit to the umpire's attention and recalled the batsman.

This player went on to score 104 after an act of sportsmanship which could have cost Dartford the game.

*John Halliday*

## **Wrong trousers?**

One umpire to another – 'I wouldn't wear trousers like yours unless I was seeking a scoutmaster's job.'

The critic was wearing black denims.

## Local associations in Kent

ACO members are encouraged to join their local association in Kent.

These are individually constituted bodies and each is free standing and able to pursue its own agenda and direction.

Among other attractions on offer each association provides umpire training during the close season. Scorer training is focussed locally in separate courses.

### Metropolitan Kent ACU&S

Secretary – John Miller  
4B Knockhall Road  
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01322 383194  
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Training officer - Frank Legge  
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### Sevenoaks ACU&S

Secretary – Ian Fraser  
10 Cumberland Court  
Sevenoaks, TN13 2UB  
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Training enquiries - Dick Ellis  
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01474 822235  
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### Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells District ACU&S

Secretary – Steve Trull  
55 London Road, Sevenoaks  
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01732 741603  
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Training officer –  
Keith Washington  
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Maidstone, ME14 2DX  
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### Swale District ACU&S

Secretary - Denise Short  
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Training officer - Lorraine Elgar  
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### East Kent ACU&S

Secretary - Andrew Local  
91 Tothill Street, Minster, CT12 4AP  
01843 825668  
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Training officer - Ken Amos  
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### Kent ACO Education Officer –

Martin Seguss  
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01322 445309  
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### **Kent ACO Scorers Officer -**

Paul Parkinson  
30 Church Road  
Tovil, Maidstone, ME15 6QX  
01622 207284  
[parkinson-jp@supanet.com](mailto:parkinson-jp@supanet.com)

### **Kent ACO AGM**

For your diary – the AGM is booked for 22 March at Addington CC, Park Road, starting at 8pm.

## **Forthcoming Courses**

### **Metropolitan Kent ACU&S**

Level 1 Course – Commencing 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and every Thursday for 10 weeks at the Metrogas Sports Club in New Eltham

Contact – Frank Legge  
0208 777 1059  
[f.legge546@btinternet.com](mailto:f.legge546@btinternet.com)

### **Sevenoaks ACU&S**

Level 1 Course – Commencing 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and every Wednesday for 10 weeks in Sevenoaks

Contact – Dick Ellis  
01474 822235  
[dick@higham46.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:dick@higham46.freeserve.co.uk)

### **Tonbridge & Tunbridge Wells District ACU&S**

Level 1 Course – Commencing 19<sup>th</sup> January 2010 and every Tuesday for 10 weeks at the Angel Centre Tonbridge - **Provisional**

Contact – Keith Washington  
01622 764813  
[keith.washington@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:keith.washington@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **Swale District ACU&S**

Level 1/1a Course – Commencing 31<sup>st</sup> January 2010 and every Sunday for 2 weeks in Swale

Contact – Lorraine Elgar  
01795 426414  
[lorraine.elgar@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:lorraine.elgar@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **East Kent ACU&S**

Level 1 Course – Commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009 and every Thursday for 7 weeks in Blean Village Hall near Canterbury

Contact – Ken Amos  
01227 711345  
[ken.amos@talktalk.net](mailto:ken.amos@talktalk.net)

### **Scorers Course**

Level 1 Course – Commencing 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009 and every Thursday for 7 weeks in Meopham

Contact – Paul Parkinson  
01622 207284  
[Parkinson-jp@supanet.com](mailto:Parkinson-jp@supanet.com)

or

Contact – Cliff Booth  
01732 356521  
[cliffbooth@aol.com](mailto:cliffbooth@aol.com)

Level 1 Course – Commencing 7<sup>th</sup>  
March 2010 and every Sunday for 2  
weeks in Swale

Contact – Lorraine Elgar  
01795 426414  
[lorraine.elgar@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:lorraine.elgar@blueyonder.co.uk)

### **Situations Vacant**

1. Newsletter Editor

2. Web Manager

**In order to provide a regular and wide range of communications to our members we are currently looking to fill the above posts. Should you be interested in either job please contact Ian Fraser for more information.**

01732 452969  
[ian.fraser46@btinternet.com](mailto:ian.fraser46@btinternet.com)

## **Level 2 Umpires Course**

It is hoped to run an ECB Level 2 Umpires course somewhere in Kent during the winter. Should you be interested in applying to take this course will you please contact **Martin Seguss** for further details. Unfortunately numbers will be restricted to approximately 15. When contacting Martin will you please provide him with the following information –

- q Name and Address
- q Telephone Number
- q Email Address (if applicable)
- q ECBACO Membership No.
- q Umpire courses attended
- q Umpire exams passed
- q Brief umpiring background

Martin's details are -

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