

# Facilities Reporting

## Objectives

**Facilities.** The continued improvement of standards throughout the League benefits all clubs and enhances the status of the League. To achieve this, we are able to offer guidance on methods of obtaining technical advice and the raising of funds via grants and loans.

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## Reporting Procedure

In the **Premier divisions**, facilities will be the sole responsibility of the umpires officiating on the day and will be entered into the whostheumpire website.

For **all other divisions**, it is the responsibility of the visiting Captain or his appointed representative to submit marks for the relevant facilities using the process set out on page 6466. The marks must be entered by 11pm on the Friday following every match. Please note that the date and time of each report is automatically recorded. Failure to comply with the above deadline will result in the Club incurring a fine of £20 for each offence. N.B: - It is essential to submit a report for matches that are cancelled or abandoned, indicating as such in the match status "box" (fines as above will also apply for failure to comply).

Please also note that inaccurately entered data, e.g. the wrong opponent, wrong date or division, etc. will render the report void (not reported). Fines will also be incurred in such circumstances.

## Promotion Criteria (For facilities requirements see constitution, rule 3)

The results of each Club will have a bearing on the Club's ability to be either promoted or in extreme cases to remain in their current division or even in the League itself.

The Constitution sets out the minimum facilities required in each division. As a general rule, to be considered for promotion a club needs to attain an overall average mark in excess of 6.5 for the top two divisions and 6.0 for all divisions thereafter, over a 2-3 year period.

Clubs failing to meet the marking criteria can expect an inspection of their facilities and will need to agree appropriate action before promotion (probably with conditions attached) can be confirmed.

Clubs will have the right of appeal (in writing) if there have been significant variations in the level of marks awarded or if for the ensuing season the Club has specific and finalised arrangements for the necessary improvements. The Committee will be able to exercise discretion but its decision will be final.

## Notification of Facilities Marks

Clubs perceived to have problems with any facility will be advised approximately halfway through the season of its own results compared with the average for the Division, which should enable Clubs to start to take action on necessary improvements. At the end of the season full details on a Club-by-Club basis will be made available. Tables for last season can be found in the main handbook.

# Facilities Reporting Scheme Guidelines

**Marks below 7:** These represent an area where there may be a shortfall in the basic requirements and where possible remedial action or extra effort is required. Marks of 6 and below must be accompanied by helpful comments on the reporting system and in exceptional cases a letter may be sent. A mark of 7 should indicate that the basic requirements have been met as described below.

**Marks between 8 to 10:** For achieving "additional" standard, described below, or making an outstanding and obvious effort.

**Please Note:** The Facilities Committee would like to remind all clubs that the marks awarded should be a clear reflection of the facilities provided on the day of the match and that the result of the match should not influence these marks unduly unless there are good reasons for doing so. In such instances please provide helpful clear comments explaining the reasoning for any apparent levels of marks awarded.

The marks should only be entered on to the website by a designated member of the visiting club that was present on the day of the game.

## 1. Pitch

**Basic:** Properly prepared (mown and rolled) to a width of 10 feet. Properly and clearly marked to conform to MCC Regulations and Recommendations (i.e. 5 foot and 1 foot lines). Be of reasonably consistent bounce throughout match and not affording excessive spin or movement off the seam. Adequate set of stumps and balls to be provided together with bowling markers (not left to umpires to provide). Sawdust and cloths available during wet conditions. Roller available for use between innings. Pitch ends to be cleaned up between innings and necessary re-marking to be done.

**Additional:** Pitch to offer reasonable pace throughout match. 1st XI matches to be located in central area of square. Whole square to be closely and evenly mown and old wicket-ends repaired to give as true a fielding surface as possible. Stumps and balls to be properly matched sets and in good condition. Heavy set of balls to be available for windy conditions.

## 2. Outfield

**Basic:** Adequately mown to provide reasonably true fielding surface. Properly maintained and repaired so that it is free from stones, holes and other hazards. Reasonably flat (slight slopes and undulations not to be penalised)

**Additional:** Finely mown, free from grass cuttings and rolled to provide fast and true surface. Flat and spacious. Well grassed over entire area.

## 3. Sightcreens (Division Six B and above)

**Basic:** One provided at each end of ground. Adequate size (width and height), in good repair and of acceptable white/light coloured facade. Easily moved and in position before commencement of play. (No sightcreen = no points. 1 sightscreen = 4 points maximum). Positioned wholly outside playing area with boundary line adjusted where necessary.

**Additional:** Very large if single variety or two (split) screens at each end. Clean and in really good condition giving excellent sighting for batsmen.

## 4. Boundaries

Basic: Marked as per divisional requirements. Adequate number of flags and markers. Straight and uniform within contours of ground. At least 50 yards from centre of pitch.

Additional: Numerous and prominent markers or flags. Separately mown to give added prominence. Reasonably equidistant in relation to siting of pitch on square.

## 5. Scorebox

**(not necessarily applicable to Divisions 7a and below; scoreboard to be marked)**

Basic: Main total to be clear and moveable (flip-over or lights) to ensure promptness. Overs, wickets and 1st innings score also to be clearly displayed and easily changed. To be a score box and not just a board, internal seating and table for scorers, providing adequate protection from the elements. Box should be clean and tidy. (Old fashioned "telegraph" type scoreboard limited to a maximum of 5 points). A clock, visible from the wicket, must be provided. If no clock is provided this must be reported

Additional: Flip-over numbers or lights for all items mentioned above. Facility for recording individual scores of batsmen. Light or other clear method of acknowledging signals from umpires. Home" and "Visitors" boards available. Large, clear clock suitably positioned.

## 6. Pavilion

Basic: Changing rooms to be lockable, clean and tidy with rubbish from previous matches removed from the premises. Toilets and wash basins (with separate facilities for ladies) to be in a sanitary condition with adequate supply of requisites. Showers to have good supplies of hot water with temperature safely controlled. Cubicles to be clean and clear of debris / dirt from previous use. Tea to be served on clean crockery and hygienically protected until tea is taken by all players, umpires and scorers.

Additional: Changing rooms of above average size with adequate space for all kit bags. Showers separate from opponents with 4 or more shower spaces. Individual cubicles are of particular benefit. Toilets to be housed separately from changing rooms and showers. A separate changing area for umpires.

### Mobile Edition of the Handbooks

This Match Day Handbook, the main handbook and player records are published on the Issuu digital publishing platform



You can view the handbooks online at [www.issuu.com](http://www.issuu.com) or through the Issuu app for Android, available on Google Play and for iOS from the Apple App Store (simply search for issuu)

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