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League Update 27th March 2020

Following recent announcements made by the ECB in relation the Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic, a conference call with the League Executive was held on the 26th of March, please find below items that were discussed and decisions made.

The ECB's decision to suspend **all** recreational cricket as with immediate effect, which extends to indoor and outdoor training, pre-season friendlies and any associated cricket activity, which is fully endorsed by our League and therefore the start of the 2020 cricket season will be postponed until further notice.

League Competition

Given the unprecedented situation we as a nation find ourselves in, we cannot specify a start date but remain hopeful of being able to play some cricket, when we have been given the go-ahead from the ECB following Government guidelines.

Following an Executive Committee meeting on the 26th March we have concluded that the 1st half of the season will now be cancelled, the initial fixtures won't start until Saturday 4th July. Further discussion on promotion and relegation in 2020 will be continued at our next meeting on 16th April.

Cup Competitions

We will review cup competitions based on the length of the season and will update clubs accordingly. There may be an option to start cup matches in advance of the league competition.

Cricket Balls

Readers have agreed to 'hold' the stock of balls already ordered and have kindly agreed to delay their invoice until we know more. Dukes have also agreed to 'hold' the stock of balls already ordered, but their invoice now requires being paid in full. We will keep in touch with both companies to make them aware of our requirements as soon as they are known.

Handbooks

These will not be printed or distributed for the 2020 season. All correspondence will be made to clubs via email from their Tier Rep, through Play Cricket and social media.

League Fees

We will continue to review options for 2021.

League Interest Free Loans

We will defer repayments from clubs until the season commences.

Grounds

Please refer to message sent on 26th March and also attached to this email and if you have any concerns regarding ground availability then please contact your Tier Rep.

Rate Relief

If clubs are not aware of their rateable value, then you can use the link below. tax.service.gov.uk/business-rates-find/search

Finally

The Executive appreciates the coming months will be difficult for all clubs and our primary concern is for the health, welfare and livelihoods of all our members and volunteers. Moving forward we will act in the best interests of all our members and their ongoing sustainability.

Best wishes Nigel Kinch, L&RCL Chairman