

News Letter Nov 2025

1. Please circulate to other officials at your club.

2. Reminders - League Presentation at Accrington Stanley F.C. Friday 14th November.

- Last Date for Amendments to Proposals for Rule Changes.

Clubs now have until 14th November to submit amendments to these proposals, which should be proposed and seconded as per League Rules. The Proposals will then be voted on at the AGM on Monday 24th November.

- AGM at Brinscall C.C. Monday 24th November. Agenda to Follow.

3. Proposed Format for the 2026 Season

The format for the 2026 season was discussed at length at the League Executive meeting at Tonge CC last night and the below is the proposed format for next season.

Premiership

12 teams playing each other twice on a home and away basis, 22 fixtures, (11 Home 11 Away)

Championship

9 teams playing each other twice on a home and away basis plus playing 6 teams in a third fixture, giving 22 fixtures (11 Home 11 Away), this will require 25 fixture dates due to the odd number of teams in the Championship, therefore 22 fixtures and 3 free dates.

Conference Premiership

11 teams including Ribblesdale Wanderers 2nd and Foulridge 1st who were promoted from Conference Two.

Teams to play each other on a home and away basis, 20 fixtures (10 Home 10 Away) this will require 22 fixture dates due to the odd number of teams, therefore 20 fixtures and two free dates

Conference Two

11 Teams including Eagley 2nd and Atherton 2nd promoted from Conference 3 and Padiham 2nd and Feniscowles 1st, relegated from Conference Premier.

Teams to play each other on a home and away basis, 20 fixtures (10 Home 10 Away) this will require 22 fixture dates due to the odd number of teams, therefore 20 fixtures and two free dates.

Conference Three

8 teams including Oswaldtwistle 2nd who were relegated from Conference Two.

Teams to play each other 3 times, 21 fixtures, 11 Home and 10 Away or 10 Home and 11 Away. No automatic free dates as even number in the Division.

Promotion and relegation for the 2027 season to be discussed and agreed prior to the start of the 2026 season. Any such agreement would be subject to change dependent on the number of Clubs/Teams for the 2027.

Hamer Cup

21 teams, therefore First Round, 5 matches and 11 byes. The byes to include the League's representatives in the Lancashire Knock Out Cup.

The dates for the Lancashire Knock Out Cup have been published.

Round One - Sunday 17th May
Round Two - Sunday 7th June
Quarter Finals - Sunday 28th June
Semi-Finals - Sunday 19th July
Final - Sunday 30th August

Ramsbottom Cup

31 teams in the Three Conferences, therefore First Round 15 matches and 1 bye.
In view of the above format for the Conference League Fixtures this is likely to be a competition played exclusively on Sunday's.

The 15 winning teams and the bye to make up the Second Round.

The losing 15 teams to play in the Lawrenson Cup.

Lawrenson Cup

The above 15 losing teams to play in the First Round of this competition, with 7 matches and 1 bye.

In view of the above format for the Conference League Fixtures this is likely to be a competition played exclusively on Sunday's.

There were a number of concessions in both the Ramsbottom and Lawrenson Cup last season, surprisingly more in the Ramsbottom Cup than in the Lawrenson Cup.

As above, these two competitions are likely to be played exclusively on Sundays. Clubs will be sent a form in which they will need to confirm that firstly they wish to enter the Ramsbottom Cup and secondly if they lose their First Round Ramsbottom Cup match if they wish to be entered into the Lawrenson Cup.

Some Clubs stated last season that they often had difficulties fielding a team or teams on Sundays, and they should take this into consideration when deciding to enter the Ramsbottom/Lawrenson Cups.

It is proposed that teams that concede their Ramsbottom Cup First Round match are not entered into the Lawrenson Cup for that season.

Birtwistle Senior 20/20 Competition

We have 21 teams in the Premiership and Championship.
Last season these teams were joined by Barrowford and Foulridge from the Conference, giving 23 teams in total.

It is proposed that the two South Groups including Brinscall, will stay the same with two Groups of six, therefore playing five matches, either 2 Home/3 Away or 3 Home 2 Away.

The North Groups to be one Group of 6 and one Group of 5, therefore playing four/five matches.
Barrowford and Foulridge to be in different Groups and to play all their fixtures away, in these matches, the Premiership/Championship Club will pay both Umpires.

As a result of feedback from the Clubs, there is a wish were possible to avoid "triple headers" and this will be considered in the organising of the Cup fixtures.

However, we have a limited time frame for the season as a whole, a limited period in which to play the Birtwistle Cup Senior 20/20, due to the light in the evenings and if Clubs are successful the Cups(Lancashire Knockout/Hamer Cup/Birtwistle Senior 20/20 Cup) then some "triple headers" are unavoidable.

Development League

It has been suggested that a separate meeting be organised just for Clubs with teams within the Development League to discuss matters highlighted from last season in relation to the League fixtures and the Birchall 20/20 Cup competition

4. Safe Hands Courses

Safeguarding Training – Ensuring Club Compliance

We have scheduled the following Safe Hands courses for new club Safeguarding Officers and those existing CSGOs who need to complete their three-year renewal:

- Monday 17th November 2025 18:30-21:00 – Micklehurst Cricket Club
- Monday 9th February 2026 18:30-21:00 – Chorley Cricket Club
- Monday 9th March 2026 18:30-21:00 – Bradshaw Cricket Club
- Wednesday 25th March 2026 18:30-21:00 – Wavertree Cricket Club
- Monday 6th April 2026 18:30-21:00 – Stand Cricket Club
- Monday 13th April 2026 18:30-21:00 – Little Lever Cricket Club
- Monday 11th May 2026 18:30-21:00 – Bacup Cricket Club

The courses will be open for registration on Friday 31st October 2025 on the LCF website [Safeguarding Courses](#)

Any questions, please email safeguarding@lancashirecricket.co.uk

5. Cliviger C.C.

At the League Executive meeting at Tonge CC on Tuesday, representatives from the newly formed Cliviger Cricket Club and a representative from Cliviger Parish Council met with our Executive.

They offered advice on how the club could progress in terms of ground and facilities and administrative infrastructure, giving them a number of useful contacts, both with Lancashire and within our own League.