

Dear Colleagues,

The Lords Four Counties Cricket League Executive Committee hope that you are keeping safe and well. With the rapid escalation of measures surrounding the Coronavirus outbreak, we are sure that cricket is not exactly a priority at the moment, however as the League Committee, we have been discussing what we should be doing and how we should be thinking for the benefit of the Four Counties Cricket League and the broader cricket community. We have already advised that we would be guided by those better placed to make the correct decisions and as such I would initially encourage you to immediately cancel all cricket related activities as advised by the ECB, if you have not already done so. This includes juniors training, senior nets and anything else that comes under the auspices of your club.

It probably goes without saying, but for the avoidance of any doubt, the ball collection meeting in April was postponed to a date to be decided. In fact, Lords International have not even tried to deliver them yet. The League Executive Committee will not be meeting again until we have further guidance from the ECB, but we will be in constant electronic communication where we can.

No one can know when this situation will ease or resolve, so at this time we cannot give you a date by which we will resume playing cricket which is anything other than a complete stab in the dark. So, for now we do not want to make any firm decisions about how the season, or what we get of one, will be structured. We would of course like to get some competitive cricket played, but the possibility of this will be entirely dependent on the ECB declaring a change in the current guidance. There is a published fixture list which we can fall back on as appropriate, but when the situation is clearer, we can decide to what extent (if any) we can use this. As the Executive Committee, we are trying to ensure that we will be in a position to offer cricket as soon as it is possible and are discussing scenarios, ensuring that we will have a supply of cricket balls.

We are acutely aware that this season could cause considerable financial difficulty for clubs and I have already sent out correspondence from the county boards on how clubs can be financially helped.

I hope this keeps you in the picture, if you have any questions not covered please forward them via the secretary's email address and we will do our best to answer them for you.

In closing, I would like to express on behalf of the whole committee our hope that you can stay safe, stay healthy and stay at home. This crisis will pass and when it does, the cricket community will have its part to play in bringing people back together.

Best Regards,

*Gordon*

Gordon Mason

Four Counties Cricket League Secretary.

For and on behalf of the FCCL Executive Committee

