



Established in 1972, The Morrants Thames Valley Cricket League is an important component of the ECB Premier League structure

To TVCL Club Chairmen, League Representatives and Captains

IMPORTANT

TVCL Umpire Training Initiative

[2018 Law Changes; Training & Providing Umpires]

Most of you know that there have been law changes that will take effect from the 2018 season; some of you may even know that there are 83 changes in all.

The discussion at November's AGM clearly showed that this, and the declining numbers of umpires which affects the quality of all our games, was a major matter of concern for not just the Management Committee but more generally; and of course having to go out and umpire for half an innings in a game you're playing in is a big turn-off for all players. The lack of umpires is not a rare occurrence - from the 2017 season scorecards we have identified some statistics about the provision of identifiable, named, umpires. They are revealing:

- One-third (33.6%) of the umpires appearing on the field were panel umpires not affiliated to a particular TVCL club (384 out of a total of 1143).
- We needed 2416 umpires to take the field for 1208 matches played.
- Over the season as a whole between some 58 clubs and 157 teams only 759 umpires (42 per week) were provided, so that there was a shortfall of 1273 umpire appearances (71 per week).

It is clear that clubs need to do much more to provide umpires.

The Stage 1 course is designed to provide an overview of the basic laws and how to apply them when officiating. It will also give attendees the confidence to stand in matches where there are no panel appointed umpires and so it's appropriate for player-umpires as well as those who intend to umpire regularly. Local County ACOs will be providing these courses and further details can be found on the ECB website [by clicking here](#).

Other Resources

- The Online Occasional Umpire's Course (*free*): [Register for the ECB Online Occasional Umpire's Course](#)
- The MCC Laws of Cricket Course (*free*): [Register for the MCC Online Laws Course](#)
- [Further information about the new Laws on the MCC website](#)

As part of a strategy to encourage and help clubs to do this we announced at the AGM that TVCL would pay for each club to send one candidate to attend forthcoming Stage 1 and 2 umpire courses this winter. We published details of courses on the website at <http://www.tvlcricket.com/documents/TVCL%20Umpire%20Courses.pdf> (sent out to all clubs in December).

Please don't ignore this message which will be posted on the TVCL website for future reference.

Rob Bartlett

Chairman – Umpires' sub-Committee

28 January 2018