

T.RIPPON MID-ESSEX CRICKET LEAGUE

**THIS LETTER IS FROM MICK V ELLIOTT, 26 MOUNTBATTEN WAY, NORTH
SPRINGFIELD, CHELMSFORD, ESSEX CM1 6FE**

Telephone: (01245) 450108 Email mick.elliott@yahoo.co.uk

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BAD WEATHER ETC

Dear Colleagues,

There have been many comments made by captains in recent seasons about the inconsistency of umpires during periods of bad weather that I thought it appropriate to issue some guidance.

No game shall be abandoned/cancelled prior to the agreed starting time unless **both** captains agree before hand. In the case of a council pitch, if the council calls the game off at any time, then the decision of the council is the final decision. SEE MATCH RULE 1.5.

Where matches have a delayed start, no match shall commence later than 4.25pm. SEE MATCH RULE 1.2

In the event of a match starting late or the first innings being interrupted by the weather the total number of overs shall be reduced by one over for each three minutes of playing time lost, with an equal number of overs available to both sides. SEE MATCH RULE 3.4. Should the reduction result in fewer than 15 overs being available to each side then the match shall count as a NO RESULT. SEE MATCH RULE 3.5.

FITNESS FOR PLAY. LAWS OF THE GAME 2.7

- (a) It is **solely** for the umpires together to decide whether either conditions of ground, weather or light or exceptional circumstances mean that it would be dangerous or unreasonable for play to take place. Conditions shall not be regarded as either dangerous or unreasonable merely because they are not ideal. The fact that the grass and the ball are wet does not warrant the ground conditions being regarded as unreasonable or dangerous.
- (b) Conditions shall be regarded as dangerous if there is actual and foreseeable risk to the safety of any player or umpire.
- (c) Conditions shall be regarded as unreasonable if, although posing no risk to safety, it would not be sensible for play to proceed.
- (d) If the umpires consider the ground is so wet or slippery as to deprive the bowler of a reasonable foothold, the fielders of the power of free movement, or the batsmen of the ability to play their strokes or to run between the wickets, then these conditions shall be regarded as so bad that it would be dangerous and unreasonable for play to take place.

SUSPENSION OF PLAY IN DANGEROUS OR UNREASONABLE CONDITIONS. LAWS OF THE GAME 2.8

- (a) All references to ground includes the pitch. See Law 6.1 (Area of pitch).
- (b) The umpires shall immediately suspend play, or not allow play to start or recommence, if either umpire considers that the conditions of ground, weather or light, or any other circumstances are either dangerous or unreasonable.

(c) Where there is a suspension of play it is the responsibility of the umpires to monitor conditions. They shall make inspections as often as appropriate, unaccompanied by any players or officials. Immediately the umpires together agree that the conditions are no longer dangerous or unreasonable they shall call upon the players to resume play.

BEARING IN MIND ALL OF THE ABOVE

The second innings, even if the umpires think that there will not be time to get all the overs in, will start and continue till:-

- (a) The team batting second is bowled out.
- (b) The team batting second gets the required winning runs total
- (c) The second innings overs are completed.
- (d) The umpires terminate play as per Laws of The Game as detailed above.

Mick V Elliott

Umpires Appointments Secretary