

Appendix: summary of recommendations by the cricket committee of HMC schools

1. Schools should at least try the different pitch lengths and size of ball for younger age-groups, as recommended by ECB (link on the Schools Cricket Online website).
2. Especially for B and C teams etc, it would be worth offering “jazzed-up” versions of the game, eg coloured clothing and shorter games.
3. After the meeting it became apparent that several Heads send a letter to all parents, staff and pupils emphasising that they should continue with a sports programme, even if very slightly reduced. Perhaps all schools should persuade their Heads to do the same. DCH had sent out an email with his pamphlet to all Masters i/c.
4. It was most important that nets should be checked to make sure that it was not possible for the ball to pass from one net to another and net safety procedures should be followed at all times (eg no changing at the back of the net).
5. Schools are encouraged to try the new and much-improved ECB electronic scoring system (link on the SCO website).
6. All regions should hold a meeting (nothing fancy!) in September or early October. We would try to provide a template for at least some of the items to be discussed. That would be more likely to bear fruit when all Masters i/c were gathered to approve (or not) plans for the following season.
7. Following those meetings, we shall be considering moving our annual committee meeting to November, to provide recommendations for the following season.
8. We intend to hold another National Schools cricket conference with ECB early in 2021.
9. We shall be considering a two-tier National T20 competition for 2020. For discussion at regional meetings (as above).

10. Where schools have managed to retain all-day matches, they are encouraged to play some declaration cricket if at all possible. We should promote a variety of formats to be played in order to develop a range of cricketing skills and talents.

DCH

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