

GCCL Captains Reports Guidance

Over the last 2 years the quality of feedback from the GCCL captains has improved considerably, however, there is room for even better reports from some.

The forms are on whostheumpire.com (WTU), one for each umpire appointed. The pitch report filled in by the umpires is also viewable on WTU. Once the reports are finalised they are viewable after midday on the Wednesday after the match.

It is important to understand that reports need to be fair and honest, the aim is to help the umpires improve and allow the Performance Officer to pick up any trends and offer advice to help the umpire improve his personal performance. Good points should also be mentioned to indicate where the umpire is doing well.

The County league will receive a mix of experience levels from WEPL panel umpires down to brand new umpires. Everyone has to start somewhere so if you want umpires then you have a responsibility to help improve the new umpires which in the long run will benefit you. Over the last 3 seasons we have appointed to more GCCL matches than previously, we hope to continue this trend.

The questions on the form section 1-4 are all Yes/No questions and require answering. If you answer any with a NO then an explanation should be added in the notes section.

Question 1d about timekeeping is not a requirement at County league so just answer as a Yes.

Question 1e may not be relevant if no underage players in the match so either No but add a comment or just tick Yes.

2c Consistency: Wides are usually the most common area for consistency, you may not agree with where the umpire calls wides but the important thing is was he consistent for both sides, if so the answer is YES, you may add in the comments you felt he was either lenient or hard on his calls. This is helpful because if a trend is spotted we can talk to the umpire and advise how he may improve his assessment of wides.

2d Correct: All umpires would love to get every decision right but we are all human and prone to error. Please remember if he gets 1 wrong in your opinion then it is harsh to put a No here. LBW and thin edges cause the most problems and are the hardest decisions to make. For an LBW the umpire has the best view so is in the best position to judge. If you put a No against this question you must discuss with the umpire post match and also comment on the form what you THOUGH was wrong and why.

The main mark is the one in section 5 where it is vital that an honest assessment is required. It is split into 4 sections with a marks range cover 1-10

A 9 or 10 without any additional comments is worthless as it does not indicate why he was so good and what you thought he was doing well, this may us to guide others towards what you would like to see all umpires doing.

Likewise a 5 or lower must be accompanied with a comment to justify the low mark and help the umpire and Performance Officer identify where there may be a problem which may need addressing to help the umpire improve. If you give a mark below 6 you should also talk to the umpire about where you thought he could improve after the match it is not fair to discover an issue for the first time when reading the Captains report. GACO encourages the umpires and Captains to have a post match chat to talk over the reports. We accept this may not be the best time to do this especially if things have got heated, if this is the case allow some time to calm down and then try to be rational. At the end of the day we all want the same thing good consistent umpires who want to stand in local cricket.

GCCL require the Captains reports to be completed by the Wednesday after the match, to do this the Captain must be registered on Whose the umpire with Report writing access granted. The report should be completed by the Captain, if as on some occasions someone else has to complete the report it is worth adding in the comments that the report was filed by "x" on behalf of the Captain. Some umpires get upset when they see a report and the name on it is not the Captain and in some instances the compiler was not at the match.

If you have any questions on WTU reports, the umpire's report on you or your report on them, then you can contact Clive Jones 01452 619820 c.jones24@sky.com who will try to answer your questions and if he cannot then he will either find the answer or point you in the right direction.

THINGS TO CONSIDER WHEN COMPLETING THE CAPTAIN'S REPORTS ON GACO UMPIRES.

You don't have to comment on everything, but these are some headings to help you in formulating a judgement on the umpire's performance.

- Was the umpire punctual? (We recommend arrival 1 hour before the start)
- Was the umpire smart in appearance?
- Did both umpires conduct the pre-match routines and make things clear at the pre-toss discussion?
- Did they handle any issues of ground, weather and light effectively and confidently?
- If there was any need for intervention on the field was this handled calmly and confidently?
- Did the bowler's end umpire take up good position to judge run outs?
- Were their calls and signals clear and precise?
- Was the decision-making calm, measured and confident? (Even if you disagreed!)
- Did they apply the laws and regulations appropriately?
- Were they good at communicating with you, the scorers and the players?
- Did the two umpires operate effectively as a team?

If your answers to these are mainly positive, then hopefully that gave you and your team confidence in his/her capabilities.

If your answers are mainly negative, then it's probably a good idea to let Clive Jones, Doug Oakey or Peter Sawyer know.

Captains will receive notice of appointments from an WTU email, also if changes are made these will also be notified by an email from WTU. The GCCL website also has a button that shows an up-to-date display of all umpire appointments. Most umpires' telephone numbers are available on the GACU&S website. <http://www.glosumps.org.uk/> (see under the "Members" tab)