

NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

I wish you all a happy New Year. Now that 2011 has arrived, we can start to think about the new cricket season. In this newsletter there are details of a number of pre-season events of interest to members.

Since the last newsletter our Annual General Meeting took place on 4 November at the Reigate Manor Hotel. We had the pleasure of Paul Baldwin as our guest speaker. Paul told us about his amazing journey from umpiring club cricket in Germany to standing with Simon Taufel in an one day international between Scotland and England, and onto the First Class reserve list in 2010. The [minutes of the AGM](#) are now on the association's website. John Moulton, who many of you will know as an instructor on our Level 1 umpire courses, took over as our Vice Chairman from Lorraine Elgar. All other officers were re-elected.

Following the AGM, we held a successful ECB Level 1 Umpire course over two consecutive Saturdays in November with a full class of 20 students attending. Of the 19 who went onto sit the exam, 14 passed and congratulations go to all of those (see page 3). I am aware that Graham Cooper (the SCB ACO Education Officer) has yet to receive certificates from the ECB ACO but he will send onto the successful candidates as soon as does so.

Looking ahead, we are re-running the Level 1 Umpiring Course on 5/12 March 2011 alongside an ECB Level 1 Scorers Course. This is the first scorers course that we have run in many years and are indebted to West Surrey instructors for their help taking this forward. There are plenty of places left on the scorers course but half of the places on the umpire course have already been taken. Please pass details to anyone who you know may be interested. We are also running two other training events before the new season: an interactive session at Lord's and a seminar outlining the recent changes to the Laws. More details can be found over the page.

More immediately, we are holding a pre-season dinner on 18 February at the Reigate Manor Hotel. This is a change from the venue we have used in recent years. There is a three-course set menu (with vegetarian option) including coffee at £20 per head. This is not a formal cricket dinner but more of an informal occasion for members to socialise and swap cricketing stories.

I hope to see you at one or other of our pre-season events.

All the best,

John Flatley, Secretary & Webmaster ESCUSA

Dates for your diary

18 February 2011

Our **pre-season dinner** is being held at Reigate Manor Hotel, Reigate Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 9PF (www.reigatemanor.co.uk/findus). Members and their guests are welcome to attend. To book a place please contact our Social Secretary, Bernard Wright, via email at socialsecretary@escusa.org.uk or by phone on 01293 783750.

5/12 March 2011

Both **ECB Level 1 Umpire and Scorer courses** are being held in parallel at Reigate Grammar School. For more details contact John Flatley, via email on secretary@escusa.org.uk or by phone on 0208 941 2049.

16 March 2011

ESCUSA are running a **Hawk-Eye session for umpires** at the Lord's Indoor School from 7-9pm - see over the page for more details.

31 March 2011

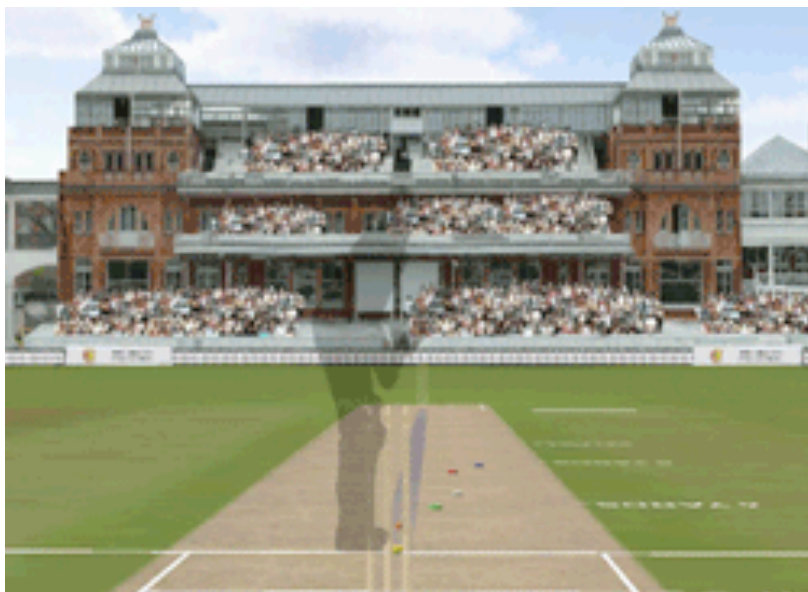
A training seminar is being held to outline the main **changes to the Laws** that came into effect on 1 October 2010. It is being held at Reigate Manor Hotel, Reigate Hill, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 9PF (www.reigatemanor.co.uk/findus), starting at 8pm. The seminar is free to all paid-up ESCUSA members but please book a place by contacting John Flatley, via email on secretary@escusa.org.uk or by phone on 0208 941 2049.

10 April 2011

Surrey Championship Umpires Panel pre-season meeting (time and venue to be confirmed).

HOW GOOD ARE YOUR LBW DECISIONS?

We've all seen the use of Hawk-Eye™ in televised Test Matches. The software manufacturer claims it can accurately pinpoint the speed, line and length of each delivery bowled. Now ESCUSA is providing an opportunity for you to use the technology to sharpen your skills on LBW decisions in an interactive training session at the Lord's indoor school.



The session will run for a total of 2 hours and includes time in the nets and in the Analysis Suite reviewing the action. The event is restricted to ten members, each of whom will get the chance to stand behind the stumps at the bowlers end for 1 or 2 overs. During that time you will need to note down where you think the ball pitched, where it struck the batsman and to judge whether or not the ball would have gone onto hit the stumps. At the end of the net session we will then review each delivery and see how you got on.

The session will take place at Lord's on **Wednesday 16 March 2011** from 7pm to 9pm. ESCUSA is part-subsidising this event and the charge per participant has yet to be agreed, but likely to be in the region of £15 per person.

We are inviting expressions of interest from ESCUSA members by the 4 February. In the event of it being over-subscribed, your committee will decide upon the criteria for allocating places and these will be confirmed by 16 February 2011. Please contact John Flatley, via email on secretary@escusa.org.uk or by phone on 0208 941 2049 if you would like to attend this event.

ACU&S Trust

At our recent Annual General Meeting, Leslie Cheeseman reminded members of the existence of the *Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers Trust*. The Trust was set up to "provide assistance to persons who are or have been members of the association and their spouses, widows, widowers, children and other dependents of such persons being in need of relief".

Any members of the former ACU&S, or their dependents, who may be in need of relief due to financial hardship are invited to contact the trust. They are required to supply their full name, address, former ACU&S membership number (if possible) together with the reason for the request and details of circumstances which have led to the approach.

While the trust cannot guarantee to meet every request, they will consider all those that are received. Applicants can rest assured that matters are treated in complete confidence.

Requests should, in the first instance, be made in writing to:

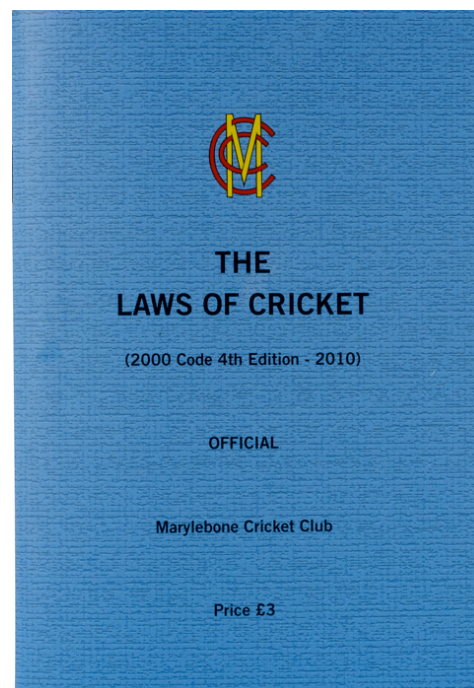
The Chairman, ACU&S Trust
Graham J Bullock
65 Old Pasture Road,
Camberley,
Surrey
GU16 8RT.



REVISED LAWS OF CRICKET






In our last [newsletter](#), Andrew Etherington outlined the major changes to the Laws that took effect from the 1 October 2010. In preparation for the new season, ESCUSA is running a **training seminar** open to all members on Thursday 31 March starting at 8pm at the Reigate Manor Hotel. Andrew Etherington will lead the session talking us through the major changes with the help of a video produced by the MCC that highlights key points with the help of TV clips. In addition to the Laws themselves, Andrew will be giving practical advice on their implementation and tips on educating the players. The seminar is free to all paid-up ESCUSA members but please book your place with John Flatley, via email secretary@escusa.org.uk or by phone on 0208 941 2049.

ESCUSA has a supply of pocket-sized **MCC Laws Books** for sale to members at the cost price of £3. In addition, for those of you who use **Tom Smith's** guide to umpiring and scoring, we have a set of documents, in Microsoft Word format, which are designed to be printed out and then cut and pasted over the top of the existing text to update it to take account of the recent changes. If you would like copies of either of these please contact John Flatley.



UMPIRE EQUIPMENT

ESCUSA bulk purchases umpire equipment for re-sale at cost price to members. Our current stock includes:

-  run counters at £1.70 each
-  light bails at £2 per pair
-  heavy bails at £4 per pair
-  bowlers marks at £1 each
-  Hunts County ball counters at £4 each.

Please contact John Flatley if you would like to purchase.



Congratulations go to...

...the following ESCUSA members who recently passed the ECB Level 1 Umpire exam:

- Joseph Anjilivelil
- Linganathan Aravinthan
- Sabaratnam Balaratnam
- Mark Goldstein
- Edward Harman
- Vicki Howard
- Chris Hudson
- Digby Hunt
- Steve Kreuchen
- Stephen Pyne
- Sinnathamby Sivakanthan
- Bala Thirumaran
- Jonathan Thurkettle
- David Yandell.