

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:

- Christmas Challenge answers and winner (page 2)
- Eggheads v Notchers (page 3)
- What's your view? (page 3 & 4)
- Adverts & useful addresses (page 4)

The newsletter can only be successful if it receives copy for  
Publication. Please submit articles, letters and questions to  
notchers@btopenworld.com

# Notchers' News

ISSUE 4

MARCH 2009

## The network for scorers

This newsletter is *your* forum for sharing news and experiences, discussing scoring issues and networking.

BILL FRINDALL MBE 3 March 1939—30 January 2009

Bill Frindall's death came as a shock to all. He was well respected and will be greatly missed. As Chairman of the Scorers' Board of The Association of Cricket Umpires & Scorers I had reason to contact him on several occasions and was particularly grateful for his help in providing work experience for a number of young scorers.

When it came to applying the Laws of Cricket and preparing statistics and Bill was a purist. He always considered the Oval Test result to be 'Match awarded to England' and refused to consider 'England v Rest of the World XI' matches as *Test Matches*.

An obituary by Vic Marks, ex Somerset and England bowler and a TMS colleague appeared in The Guardian newspaper on Monday 2 February 2009 and can be viewed at:-  
[www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2009/feb/02/obituary-cricket-bill-frindall](http://www.guardian.co.uk/sport/2009/feb/02/obituary-cricket-bill-frindall)

The Guardian newspaper has kindly given 'Notchers' News' permission to print the following editorial which I am sure scorers everywhere will appreciate.

*Cathy Rawson*

### In praise of ... cricket scorers

David McKie, 02 February 2009

The death of the art's most celebrated practitioner, Bill Frindall, should serve as a rare reminder of the debt which cricket at every level owes to the dedicated, diligent and largely obscure and unsung role of the scorer. Without scorers, in an important sense, we would not have cricket at all, since whatever the glories achieved by players, posterity would have had no record of their matches had they not sharpened their pencils and noted them down. We know the true extent of the greatness of a Lara, a Lillee, a Laker only because scorers documented their doings, ball by ball. It is a demanding calling, whether you practise at Lord's or on a simple bench on the village green. Not for the scorer the luxury of chatting about old times; miss just one ball, fail to notice the umpire's signal - that what most spectators took to be an elegant deflection to leg was in fact a bye - and history is falsified. The scorer usually works unseen - as a presence evident only from an anguished groan when an erratic umpire allows seven balls in an over, or when some glamorous commentator, saluting a feat he thinks is unprecedented, forgets that the same thing was done in the 54th over of a match between Sussex and Kent at Hastings in 1911. How many who depend on their services remember to offer a kindly "well scored" to the scorers at the end of the match? This may be an appropriate moment for those who love cricket to promise themselves they will do so this coming summer.

Copyright Guardian News & Media Ltd 2009.

## Christmas Challenge 2008

There were just nine entrants for the latest in the long series of fireside challenge matches. Three of them came from Devon, two from Gloucestershire and one each from Birmingham, Cheshire, Hampshire and a very welcome one from Australia. The Birmingham-based entrant forgot to put their name on the legal firm's notepaper which they had used. For the first time in this series there were no all-correct entries, but three of them had only one error.

### The correct solution was:

	Scratchers	Notchers
1	163	8
2	9	58
3	5	1
4	10	0
5	0	45
6	55	47
7	10	7
8	5	2
9	4	0
10	7	10
11	7	0
Extras	15	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>181</b>

**Result: Scratchers won by 109 runs**

Scratchers 8 to 11, a series of connected questions, caused some difficulty (4, 3, 4 and 5 errors respectively). Entrants were challenged to say how many times the umpire would signal during a particularly tortuous passage of play – he should signal No ball (repeated when the ball is dead, so that's twice), Bye (to show the striker did not hit the ball), Short run and Boundary 4 to show the overthrown ball had reached the boundary. The scorer would be expected to acknowledge the last four of these signals, and all seven runs would be debited against the bowler.

Notchers 3 and 4 both produced four errors: all entrants realised that no runs would be scored by the injured striker if he was run out in the circumstances described, but four forgot that the one run penalty for the No ball would still count. And there were four people who did not realise that, if the ball comes off the striker's pads when he is not attempting to play the ball, he does not get any runs which may follow even if the ball hits his bat.

Two people got Scratchers 7 wrong and there were another seven questions which caused a slip-up for one entrant.

After consideration we have decided to send a book token to one of the three entrants who made only one error, and the winner was Sue Drinkwater from Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham.

### Editors Note:

In order to separate the three candidates with only one error the 3rd umpire (supported by the Match Referee) had to apply marking criteria similar to those previously used as the basis for marking scorer exams.

3rd umpire was disappointed at receiving only 9 entries but was reassured when advised that 9 entries from a Notchers' News circulation of 108 compared favourably with a best ever entry of 72 from a 9,000 circulation of 'How's That?'

## PENALTY RUNS

### A hypothetical question arising from discussion at a Level 1 Umpire Training Course

In a one innings match, Team A are batting and during their innings Team B are awarded 20 Penalty runs. However Team A are bowled out for 19 runs. The question is — how do you state the result?

The general discussion that followed came up with the following options:

1. Win by 1 run
2. Win by 10 wickets
3. Win by Penalty runs.

The following arguments came into play during the discussion:

1. Law 21 (2) states that in a one innings match the side that has scored a total of runs in excess of that scored by the team batting first is the winner - so Team B wins by 1 run..
2. The Umpire has not called `Play` to start the second innings so how can Team B win by 10 wickets.
3. Law 21 (VI), but Tom Smith states that the Team batting second must be all out.
4. Law 43 could come into play and the Umpires call the two captains together and ask them whether they wish to change to a `two-innings match` and allow Team B to bat and see what ensues.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK THE RESULT IS AND WHY?**

## Eggheads v County Scorers

### A team of England County Cricket Scorers challenge the TV quiz team

Readers may be interested and/or amused to hear that a team of cricket scorers will be appearing on the BBC 2 television quiz show, Eggheads.

The date of transmission has not yet been confirmed, but we are told that it will be late March or early April.

This momentous event came about after a couple of county scorers suggested that it might be an idea to get a team together from a few of their colleagues. Alan West (Lancashire) took on the task of finding a team and applying to the BBC. The team of six (one of them a reserve) were invited to an audition in London in March 2008, following which we were pleased to hear that we had been accepted as contestants. We called ourselves *The Notchers* represented by the first team scorers from Derbyshire, Gloucestershire (reserve), Hampshire, Lancashire, Surrey and Sussex. Although it was made clear to the production team that we would not be available for recording during the cricket season, we were twice given dates during the summer months when we might attend, and twice Alan had to remind them that scoring was more important than a television game show.

Eventually we were asked to choose a date from about ten possible days when all six of us would be available to record our show. On 3<sup>rd</sup> December we made our separate journeys to the BBC Television Centre in Shepherd's Bush. Shortly after 2 o'clock we were met in the reception hall by two attractive young women and taken to our green room for the afternoon. A good selection of snacks was available and we were given the opportunity to ask questions and generally make ourselves comfortable. We had all been asked to bring three shirts for the wardrobe department to select what we should wear on set.

After we had made a fleeting visit to the make-up room, we were taken to a dressing room to change into our chosen shirts, after which we were soon taken to the studio, a huge room with banks

of lights suspended from the ceiling, plenty of cameras, and several unobtrusive members of the production team.

Five programmes are usually recorded in one day, but there were only three on this day, and we were the third. We had heard that the first group that morning had beaten the Eggheads and so we were playing for £2000 prize money, not that that entered any of our minds at this point, I think. We settled in our seats, were tested for sound and were filmed as we introduced ourselves to the question master who had yet to come onto the set (these introductions would be edited into the final recording at a later date).

The Eggheads regulars came across from their seats and introduced themselves, all very friendly and pleasant, and then the show began. We were told the first subject of questions, one of us volunteered and we chose which of the Eggheads he would challenge. The two rivals went to another part of the studio beyond a screen (not into two separate rooms as it appears on television) and sat on a cushioned bench about fifteen feet apart with the instruction to look straight into the cameras in front of them.

Four times this happened, after which those who had been most successful in their three questions in the preliminary rounds took part in the final round. Soon after 5.30pm it was all over and we were all on our way home again. If you want to know how *The Notchers* did on the day, then you will have to watch the show yourselves.

It's on most weekdays at six-thirty pm on BBC 2.

*Apologies to readers outside the UK who will not be able to watch — I'll request a brief summary for the next newsletter . Ed.*

## What's your view?

### *Incidents from matches scored by readers of 'Notchers' News'*

#### MATCH 1 — SUBMITTED BY A SCORER IN ASIA

The scorer was officiating in an Asian Cricket Council competition in which the teams were very new to cricket.

Many were playing outside their own country for the first time.

As the players had limited knowledge of the Laws of Cricket and the competition regulations the umpires found it necessary to offer them advice to ensure that they knew where they should be, both in the field and batting.

Add to this the fact that the players looked same (in stature and attire) and life was not easy for the umpires or the scorers.

#### **At the match in question:**

Player X and Y were batting and they completed their 5th over. The last ball of the 5th over was faced by player X and was a dot ball. Player X then faced the first ball of over 6th. No runs were scored. Player X also faced the 2nd delivery of that over and again no runs were scored.

Suddenly the 3rd umpire ran onto the ground, interrupted the match and informed the umpires and players that the batters were at the wrong ends and player Y should be facing the bowling.

The on-field umpires had not noticed this incident as all players appeared to look very much the same.

#### THE SCORER ASKED:

- What is the correct way of handling this incident?
- Can the 3rd umpire interrupt the game?
- If the scorers notice it, put a remark in the score sheets and inform umpires later, isn't it the best way to handle this situation?

## MATCH 2 – SUBMITTED BY A SCORER IN THE AMERICAS

**At the match in question: Side A** (the scorer's team) batted first and were bowled out for 149.

In over 42 of Side A's innings a member of Side B's team (Player X) was seen leaving the field of play with the umpires not being informed. A 12<sup>th</sup> man was sent onto the field of play and again it appears that the umpires were not informed.

The scorers later learnt that Player X had been involved in a dispute with a few members of his own team which had resulted in his being sent off the field of play by his own team captain.

In the interval between innings Player X did not appear to be at the ground.

### Side B's innings

After 18.1 overs, with Side B on 46-6, Player X was seen arriving back at the ground. It appears that the umpires were still unaware that Player X had left the ground.

Side B's captain chose to advise the umpires of the situation.

The umpires called both captains together and advised them that Side B had only 3 wickets remaining (ie Player X could not bat). When the 9<sup>th</sup> wicket fell at over 36.1 (with Side B on 140 - 9) the umpires removed the bails.

Side B objected on the basis that the player can bat anytime after the fall of the 5<sup>th</sup> wicket (thinking that these were the match regulations).

*(it has since been ascertained that there were no special competition regulations with regard to when a player can bat, bowl or field; the MCC Laws of Cricket therefore applied)*

The umpires then agreed to resume play. Side B eventually managed to score the 10 runs required to win.

The captain of Side A informed the umpires and the captain of side B that he would be submitting a protest to the league. The league committee responded that they could not overrule the decision of the umpires and that the result stood.

The scorer asked: Should Side B's objection have been upheld? Could the league committee change the result?

*Notchers' News referred both incidents for expert opinion. This will be published in the next issue*

### USEFUL EMAIL ADDRESSES

England and Wales Cricket Board Association of Cricket Officials (ECB ACO)

<http://www.ecb.co.uk/ecb/ecb-association-of-cricket-officials/>

International Institute of Cricket Umpires and Scorers

<http://www.umpires.tv> (For scorer specific information email [scorers@umpires.tv](mailto:scorers@umpires.tv))

Notchers' Newsletter [notchers@btopenworld.com](mailto:notchers@btopenworld.com)



*For books, scoring equipment  
and coloured pens;  
To access the Bulletin Board ;*

**Visit the Acumen Books  
website at  
[www.acumenbooks.co.uk](http://www.acumenbooks.co.uk)**

### MILLENNIUM SCORING RECORD

The A3 scoring record originally designed by members of the ACU&S Scorers' Board

Binder and 50 sheets (= 100 innings) £20 + P&P

Refill pack of 50 sheets £10 + P&P

### Scorer Correspondence courses

ECB ACO offer an Introductory level course - details are available on the ECB ACO web site.

A standard level equivalent course, open to anyone wishing to learn more about cricket scoring, is independently run to the high standards set by ACU&S.

**Total Cricket Scorer**

An easy way to score and analyse matches with comprehensive statistics, and even control your electronic scoreboard

To download your free trial copy, or for more information, please visit our website:  
[www.totalcricketscorer.com](http://www.totalcricketscorer.com)  
[cricket@code27.com](mailto:cricket@code27.com)

As used at Lord's

Share your cricket scoring experiences and scoring questions with readers. Photos are welcomed and add interest to the newsletter.

**May newsletter copy date: 19th April 2009**