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# Notchers' News

ISSUE 32

DECEMBER 2015

## The network for cricket scorers

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

### My experiences as a Scorer

Clare Noakes

Various articles in the September issue (NN31) seem to reflect on the woes of the scorer so I thought that I'd like to submit some thoughts on my own more positive experience as a scorer. I came late to cricket by today's standards - girls didn't play cricket when I was at school and it wasn't until I went to university that I had the opportunity to get involved in a game I'd watched enthusiastically for as long as I could remember. After graduating I didn't play for a good five years until I moved from London to Birmingham and found that Moseley Cricket Club had an active ladies' section; I joined the squad.

I've never been a very good player - I do it purely for enjoyment - but when I took a few years out to have my children I wanted to remain involved; I brushed up on my scoring skills from many, many years ago and helped out. That was five years ago.

I'm back playing again for the ladies' team this season, but having taken my ACO Level 1 scoring qualification over the winter, I really wanted to keep it up.

This year has been my first season scoring for Moseley CC Men's 2nd XI and what a fantastic experience it's been. The team's a great group and they've been incredibly welcoming.

- I've had lifts to every away match
- I've been provided with a decent book
- I've had clear lists of players (some with descriptions!) so that in the early days I could have a fighting chance of identifying people
- I've been paid (!!)
- The captain keeps me informed of what's going on between matches
- I've been included in team socials
- I've basically been made to feel a part of the team and not 'just' a match official!

Yes, I've often found myself as the only scorer, even at away matches, and grappling with a book *and* an unfamiliar electronic system.

Yes, I've had umpires shouting "score board" at me just as two quick wickets have fallen and I couldn't identify the away team's bowler.

Yes, I've stood outside the dressing room, attempting to have a conversation about batting orders while averting my eyes from the half-clad team (not, if I'm honest, always a hardship...).

Yes, I've discovered that as soon as I don my official ACO t-shirt, I suddenly gain the respect of umpires that was perhaps previously a little lacking.

But it's been great and I can't wait for next season!

Sounds like the Moseley Mens 2nd XI deserve a 'scorer friendly' award. Can other clubs follow? Ed.

The newsletter can only be successful if copy is received for publication. Please submit articles, letters and questions to [notchers@btopenworld.com](mailto:notchers@btopenworld.com)  
Search for the 'Notchers' group on Facebook  
<http://www.notchers.co.uk>

## The Christmas Challenge

### The Scratchers have challenged the Notchers to yet another fireside fixture this year

Readers are invited to accept the Challenge by solving the clues in order to discover how many runs each player scores, completing the scorecard and giving the result of the following match.

**You should record all these scores in batting order, and complete your solution by giving the result of the match.**

**Normal Laws of Cricket (updated on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013) apply (no special regulations).**

There are no trick questions; all relevant information is provided in the clues and you should assume that the umpire gives the appropriate signals.

Not all of the questions relate to what is considered 'essential knowledge for scorers' but, with a little research into the MCC Laws of Cricket 2000 Code 5th Edition - 2013 you should be able to work out all of the answers.

The 2000 Code 5th Edition - 2013 can be accessed at <http://www.lords.org/mcc/laws-of-cricket/laws/>

Please send your entry (limited to one per reader please) to arrive with The Third Umpire by 9<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

**The mailing address is** The Third Umpire, 60 The Lawns, Rolleston-on-Dove, Staffordshire, DE13 9DB  
**or email** johnmbrown60@gmail.com.

All entries will be examined and the names of all those whose entries are correct will be put into the Umpire's hat, from which the winner of the prize will be drawn at random.

**Please mark your entry 'NN'**

### The Notchers' XI (batting first)

1. The batsmen have crossed on their third run, after which a fielder throws at the stumps but a batsman deliberately deflects the return throw with his bat. The ball goes on to cross the boundary. On appeal the batsman is given out. How many runs would be scored?
2. A fielder returns to the field at the start of an over without permission from the umpires: the striker hits the ball and has completed two runs and just started on the third when that fielder returns the ball to the wicket-keeper who removes the bails with the non-striker still short of his ground. How many runs should be added to the total?
3. ... and how many balls remain to be bowled in that over?
4. At the start of an eventful over Team A have scored 87 for three.  
From the first ball the batsmen run two and the umpire signals Leg-bye;  
the second is called and signalled No ball and the striker edges the ball to the boundary;  
the third ball is driven to extra-cover and there is no run;  
ball 4: the batsmen run three, but the umpire gives one batsman out Run Out before he has completed the third run; the other umpire signals Short run;  
ball 5: the batsmen take a quick single; just before the batsmen have crossed a fielder throws at the stumps, the ball misses and goes on to cross the boundary by which time the batsmen have completed one run;  
ball 6: the batsmen run two and the umpire signals Wide ball;  
ball 7: the striker hits the ball for six;  
ball 8: the batsmen run three and the umpire signals No ball and Bye;  
ball 9: the striker plays a leg-glance and the umpire signals Boundary four.  
At the end of this over what is Team A's total?
5. ... and how many wickets have they lost altogether?
6. ... and how many runs would be debited against the bowler?
7. ... and how many extras were added to the total during that over?
8. The striker hits the ball hard at short-leg; it deflects off short-leg's helmet, flies high in the air while the batsmen run and complete one run before the bowler catches it. How many runs should be added to the total?

**The Notchers' innings continues on page 3**

## The Christmas Challenge ..... continued

### The Notchers' XI (continued)

9. How many inches are there between the bowling crease and the start of the protected area?
10. The striker plays no shot at the third ball of an over; the ball deflects off the striker's pad towards fine-leg and the batsmen run. After they have crossed a fielder throws the ball at the stumps, the ball misses and goes on to cross the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?
- 11 ... and who should receive the next ball? (Striker 5; Non-striker 10)

**Extras:** For how many of the umpires' signals is the umpire required to repeat the signal after the ball is dead?

**Notchers Total Score:** .....

### The Scratchers' XI (batting second)

1. In a 3-day match Team A are dismissed for 316. How many runs must Team B score to avoid the possibility of being asked to follow on?
2. The batsmen have crossed on their third run after which a fielder throws at the stumps, but a batsman accidentally deflects the return throw with his bat. The ball goes on to cross the boundary. How many runs would be scored?
3. The striker hits the ball high in the air and the batsmen have crossed on the second run before the ball is caught? How many runs should be added to the total?
4. An U18 fast bowler completes his opening spell after he has bowled six overs. How many total overs must he wait before he can start his next spell from the same end?
5. ... and what is the maximum number of overs he may bowl in his second spell?
6. ... assuming he bowls that maximum how many more overs may he bowl in that day?
7. A bowler has bowled 7.4 overs which included five No balls and four Wide balls. How many balls has he delivered altogether?
8. The striker hits the ball hard at short-leg; it deflects off short-leg's helmet and goes on to cross the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?
9. A No ball is deflected to third man; the batsmen run two before the return throw hits the helmet lying on the ground behind the wicket-keeper. How many runs should be added to the total?
10. What is the minimum number of people who should be present when the toss is being made?
11. How many different methods of dismissal are credited to the bowler?

**Extras:** For how many of the umpires' fourteen official signals is the umpire required to use only one arm?

**Scratchers Total Score:** .....

**RESULT** .....

## 'Not troubling the scorer'

Julia Scully

I feel for the scorer who wrote the article about "not troubling the scorer".

The commentators on South Africa Broadcasting Corporation know better than to pass that particular remark when there's a duck scored; they know they will get "the death stare" from me.

It's hectic when a wicket falls, as every scorer knows, and when two wickets fall in a couple of deliveries, life for a scorer is "Troubled" with a capital T!

**ALEX E DAVIS****A tribute from scorer colleagues**

Alex was a valued member of the Scorers' Committee (later known as the Scorers' Board) of *The Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers* (ACU&S) for many years. He served the Association as a tutor for the Advanced Level correspondence course, Deputy Chairman of the Scorers' Committee, Scorer Examination Officer and the Scorers' Committee representative to the ACU&S Examination Board. Many of us remember the thoroughly professional and dedicated way in which he guided us and other scorers through the intricacies of different scoring methods and enabled us to develop the knowledge and skills to take their scoring to higher levels.

He was the 1st XI scorer for Warwickshire from 1989 to 1998 and was in charge of the scorebook during the 1994 Treble season and the 1995 County Championship success.

Alex was the last county scorer to accompany the England touring team on an overseas trip - he travelled with team manager MJK Smith to the West Indies in 1993/94 Tour and Australia in 1994/95, scoring Brian Lara's 375 in Antigua in April 1994. In June 1994, as the Warwickshire scorer, he scored the match in which Lara hit his world record 501. Alex is believed to be the only person to witness both innings in person and felt privileged to have been able to do so. He was presented with signed copies of the scoring records from both matches; these took pride of place at his home. These gave Alex and those of us who were made welcome as visitors to his home much pleasure.

His presentation at a the first Scorers' Seminars at Guildford when he talked about his role as England Scorer, the 'scoring stations' from which he scored the matches and the measures that had to be taken by the scorer team to protect their scoring records was greatly appreciated by those present.

Sadly Alex had to live in a nursing home for the last few years of his life: his wife, Chris, who had been such a great support to him during his scoring days, was able to visit him regularly throughout this time. Alex died at the end of August 2015.

**ADVERTISING SCORER TRAINING COURSES**

Notchers' News (<http://www.notchers.co.uk>) hosts a list of known courses which will be updated as details are received.

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

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

<http://www.notchers.co.uk> hosts links to other websites offering information for scorers



**For books, scoring equipment and coloured pens or 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

Contact [milsteadmsr@btinternet.com](mailto:milsteadmsr@btinternet.com) for more information

**SCORER TRAINING**

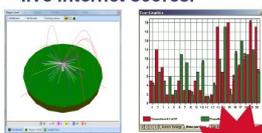
**ECB ACO offer courses - For more information visit the ECB ACO website**

A scorer correspondence course which aims to achieve the same high standards previously set by The Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers is open to those wanting to learn more about cricket scoring.

For more information contact [cathy.rawson@btopenworld.com](mailto:cathy.rawson@btopenworld.com)

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Share your cricket scoring experiences and scoring questions with readers.

Photos are welcomed and add interest to the newsletter.

Send your contributions to: [notchers@btopenworld.com](mailto:notchers@btopenworld.com)

**March newsletter copy date: 18th February 2016**

*Your questions, news and views are welcomed for use in future issues*