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# Notchers' News

ISSUE 48

DECEMBER 2019

## The network for cricket scorers

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

### How to discourage the abuse of scorers.

Nigel Hill

Nigel enjoyed the item '*Ten ways to abuse a scorer*' in Notchers' News 47.

He wrote that "at the end of one particularly trying day, when my sarcasm muscles had gone into overdrive" he drafted the notice below and posted it in clear view of players and spectators.

He is happy for NN readers to use this or to cannibalise it to meet their own needs.

## Helpful Scorebox Advice for Visitors

1. We guessed you might want to know the score, so we've been creative and added it to the scoreboard, just for you. Why not have a look sometime?
2. My mother can see round corners; I cannot. If you stand in front of us, you'll be astonished to know that we can't see what is happening, which makes it a teensy weensy bit more difficult to write down
3. Yes, it's a lovely day, isn't it; and I have it on good authority that there are several other people around the ground today who would love a natter instead of watching the cricket
4. As you are clearly better at this than we are, please feel free to volunteer as a scorer any time you like
5. You will get your bowling figures in due course. In the meantime we have work to do before we discover that the players have pigged all the sandwiches, the tea is stewed and there are no cakes left

If you would like a copy of 'Helpful Scorebox Advice for Visitors' as A4 pdf file please email the editor (notchersnews@gmail.com)

The newsletter can only be successful if copy is received for publication. Please submit articles, letters and questions to [notchersnews@gmail.com](mailto:notchersnews@gmail.com)

Search for the 'Notchers' group on Facebook

<http://www.notchers.co.uk>

## The Christmas Challenge 2019

### Once again the Notchers have challenged the Scratchers to a fireside fixture this Christmas.

Readers are invited to accept the Challenge by completing the scorecard and giving the result of the following match. *You should record all scores in batting order and complete your solution by giving total scores and the result of the match.*

***Normal Laws of Cricket (2017 Code) 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 (2017 Code 2nd Edition—2019) you should be able to work out all of the answers.

The 2017 Code can be accessed at <https://www.lords.org/mcc/laws-of-cricket/new-code-of-laws-october-2017/>

Please send your entry (limited to one per reader please) to arrive with The Third Umpire by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

**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.

***Entries must be marked with the letters 'NN' to be eligible for the NN Prize***

### The Notchers' XI (batting first)

1. Team A has scored 157 and Team B have reached 157 for 9 when the bowler bowls a ball, called and signalled Wide; the wicket-keeper breaks the wicket with the striker out of her ground. What is Team B's final total?
2. ... and how many wickets has Team B lost?
3. How many dismissals require the removal of one or both bails?
4. After 7.2 overs in the first innings of a match being played at 40 overs per side, a member of the fielding side is sent off for a level 3 offence. After how many legitimate balls will the offender be allowed to return to the field?
5. Lunch is scheduled for 1.15pm and the ninth wicket falls at 1.12pm. Assuming that the tenth wicket does not fall, at how many minutes after 1.00pm is the new scheduled time for lunch?
6. The striker edges the ball and then knocks it away with his hand to prevent being bowled. There is an appeal - what decision should the umpire make?  
Choose one of the following. Not Out (5); Out - Hit the ball twice (10); Out – Obstructing the field (15).
7. The striker hits the ball fine on the leg-side; the wicket-keeper dives and deflects the ball on to the helmet lying on the ground behind him, and the ball goes on to cross the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?
8. ... and how many runs should be credited to the striker?
9. The striker hits the ball a second time in defence of his wicket; a fielder throws the ball at the striker's wicket in an attempt to run him out, but the ball misses and goes on to cross the boundary.  
How many runs should be added to the total?
10. The Striker plays no shot at a fair delivery which bounces off his pads and goes on to cross the boundary. The batsmen do not run. What should the umpire signal?  
Choose one of the following: Leg bye + boundary 4 (5); Dead ball (10); No signal (15).
11. The batsmen have crossed on, but not completed, their fifth run when the ball crosses the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?

**Extras:** The batsmen have crossed on their second run when a dog runs on the field and stops the ball. The umpires agree that the ball would have crossed the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?

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

***The Scratchers' innings follows on page 3***

## The Christmas Challenge ..... continued

### Scratchers XI

1. Team A is dismissed for 183 and Team B have reached 183 for 8 with their number 3 batsman having retired not out, (injured) and taken to hospital). From the last ball of the last over, number 11 batsman is dismissed.  
What is the result? Choose one of the following: Team A win (5), Draw (10), Tie (15), Team B win (20)
2. In a one-day match the captains have agreed to play a two-innings match. Team A is dismissed for 133; how many runs must Team B score to avoid the possibility of being asked to follow on?
3. The striker hits a ball, called and signalled No Ball, and the batsmen have crossed on their second run when a fielder makes a wild throw which goes on to cross the boundary, by which time the batsmen have completed three runs.  
How many runs should be added to the total?
4. In the last hour of a match, after 3.2 overs, the players leave the field for rain. Play resumes after seventeen minutes.  
How many balls remain to be bowled?
5. The bowler bowls a high full-pitching delivery, judged not to have been deliberate, which the striker appears not to see. The ball hits him on the shoulder and runs away to the fine-leg boundary.  
How many separate official signals would you expect the umpire to make in all?
- 6 ... and how many separate acknowledgements should the scorer make?
7. ... and how many runs should be added to the total?
8. ... and how many of those runs should be debited to the bowler?
9. Deep mid-wicket makes a running catch, but realises that he is going to cross the boundary line. He throws the ball up, crosses the line, then returns to catch the ball on the field of play. What should be the outcome? Choose one of the following: Out (5); Not Out + any completed runs (10); Not Out + 6 runs (15).
10. The striker hits the ball to deep extra-cover; the batsmen complete one run and have just started on their second run when a fielder throws the ball which hits the striker who inadvertently deflects the ball as he completes his second run. The ball goes on to cross the boundary. How many runs should be added to the total?
11. After a No Ball has been bowled, in how many different ways may a batsman be dismissed?

Extras: After a Wide Ball has been bowled in how many different ways may a batsman be dismissed?

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

**RESULT:** .....

*Submit your entry to the 3rd umpire by 30<sup>th</sup> January and mark it 'NN' to qualify for the NN prize.*



### Vic Isaacs rings the bell.

**Vic Isaacs** rang the bell at this year's Men's Inter-Services cricket at Aldershot to bring down the curtain on his 57 year involvement in support of Army and UKAF cricket.

He scored his first ever match at Tidworth in 1962 when his Sergeant Major decided (very loudly) that his A Level in maths made him an ideal candidate for scoring a cricket match; the rest is history.

His first official full Army game was at RMA Sandhurst when the Army took on a New Zealand Cricket Council XI in a two day game in July 1964 and he continued to score for the Army side through until 1973 (as well as scoring for Romsey CC) before going on to score for Hampshire part time in 1974 and then full time from 1975 through to 2006. Vic then spent 3 years scoring for Ramsbottom in the Lancashire League (2006-2008) before moving back down south and returning to the Army cause in 2010.

In appreciation of his significant contribution to Services cricket Vic was presented with a commemorative gift by the Chairman of ACA, Brigadier Barty Bartholomew.

Although Vic has hung up his score book and pens he will continue to support Army Cricket in his role as statistician.

## Not Troubling The Scorer: The Parliamentary Cricket World Cup

Paul Toplis

A batsman out without scoring can often trouble the scorer more than the batsman scoring 100. When scoring the final group of the Parliamentary Cricket World Cup at the Woolwich Academy Ground last season those with nought did require more effort from the scorer than the top scorer on the day. The very attractive ground is overlooked by cannons guarding the old academy (now converted into private housing) and is steeped in history so a great venue for an inaugural competition looking to harness cricket to unite politicians.

The day proved to be a scorer's challenge, especially as a second scorer had not been found.

Four games of fifteen overs a side had to be scored with the scorer not knowing any of the players and with some teams confusingly having more than one player with the same number on their shirt while others had no visible name or number. The morning challenge included glare on the computer screen; scoring in a gazebo is very pleasant on a warm day and ideal for paper scoring but presents problems when computer scoring! Fortunately an umpire was on hand with a piece of card which created some shadow and as the day wore on the gazebo itself provided good shade.

With Bangladesh arriving late and the start of the first match delayed until twenty past ten everyone felt under pressure. Their opposition was not South Africa as planned but a team of "all stars", mainly from the host club - Blackheath.

The Bangladesh innings was relatively trouble free but the 'South Africa' innings created far more work for the lone scorer. The first to trouble the scorers was Tom Day, a first ball duck at over 0.6 - the lone scorer had hardly had time to complete the basic start of innings entries before the first wicket fell! A busy but less troublesome time until over 8.5 when Nick Day was bowled. Jalal came in but was bowled from the next delivery, another first ball duck and setting up a possible hat trick for Raiham. The next over - and that possible hat trick ball - wasn't until over 12 when the first delivery of the over resulted in a dropped catch, the bowler denying himself a wicket from a not too difficult chance.

Bappy bowled the next over and, at over 12.5, bowled Trivedi. His next delivery, the last in the over, resulted in Shahbaz Ahmed's dismissal, caught and bowled; another first ball duck and setting Bappy up for a hat trick ball. That hat trick opportunity had to wait for the opening ball of the next match against New Zealand - a dot ball and not that hat trick.

In the second match of the day New Zealand faced Pakistan, the team who would go on to beat Bangladesh in the final of the competition. The scorer was again 'troubled' when McAnulty was out, bowled by Naveed Dajo, from the first ball of the second over - and yes, it was another first ball duck! In the very exciting penultimate over of the innings bowled by Zain Oveish some quality wicket keeping resulted in a stumping. The next delivery saw Isaac O'Connor given out LBW, the final first ball duck of the innings! Not that the scoring pressure eased much; the over ended with the potential hat trick ball being dispatched to the point boundary before another wicket fell, bowled, from the last ball of the over.

A frantic break between the games; time for a quick bite of curry and to charge the laptop; the timing for the day had not allowed a break for a solo scorer and the afternoon session began. The third game did not have any first ball dismissals but did see Shihan from Bangladesh score a magnificent 95 from just 37 balls; five 6s, thirteen 4s, two 2s, nine singles and just eight dots. New Zealand did pretty well in chasing the resultant 187 reaching a very respectable 126.

The final game did not start until almost six o'clock and yes, there were more first ball dismissals. The first was Akshat Trivedi who nicked one through to slip off the pacey bowling of Naveed Dajo. Nick Day was out bowled from the first ball of over 4 and, sadly, the following delivery saw Shahbaz Ahmed given out LBW for the second time in the day. Would the next delivery finally produce a hat trick - this time for Saddaqt Abbas? No, but again the scorer was spared the work of a yet another golden duck.

For a scorer used only to scoring for those with visual impairment the day had been a good balance of pressure from those stressful first ball wickets and the opportunity to introduce potential new members to the Primary Club.

As a reminder to all scorers - those players who make life hard for you by being out first ball do qualify for Primary Club membership and the Primary Club give fantastic support for the 20 clubs the length and breadth of the UK providing the opportunity for those with visual impairment to play this amazing game.

### ***My first experience of scoring a visually impaired cricket match ..... and I'm still happy to score them.***

**Editor**

I was a lone scorer. The venue, umpires, helpers and players were all new to me but I was made to feel very welcome. Seeing players, coaches and relatives offer those players with severe visual impairment a shoulder to rest their hand on and be led to changing rooms, the tea room etc. made me very aware of the extra dimensions of visually impaired cricket. Identification of players was a problem but the father of a member of the batting side helped, both by being an extra pair of eyes to support me and finding out player names where possible. Bowlers names were a problem and at the tea interval I borrowed the umpire's overs card to check information, put the names into my linear sheet and produce bowling figures! Not my easiest day in the scoreboard but an amazing experience and I continue to be in awe all that is achieved.

## PCS-Pro and Wagon wheels - a response

Kevin Owens

I read with interest the article on wagon wheels and how opponents could use this information to potentially target weak spots of the scorer's team's batsmen. As an opening batsman myself with twenty years of First XI cricket behind me, I'd be amazed if any of my opponents bothered to look at my wagon wheels to see where I scored - they've already worked out what my foibles are from playing against me for that length of time!

In addition, the wagon wheels don't give opponents the relevant information to make a detailed analysis in any case. The wagon wheels only show where an individual has played their shots on any given day - but the precursor to a ball being hit into a particular area depends on where the bowler has bowled the ball. In order for opponents to make a true analysis to identify any weak areas, they'd need to see video footage as well as any wagon wheels!

If we are playing at 'normal' club level here, the bowlers typically aren't able to bowl ball after ball with sufficient accuracy to be able to hit a perceived weak spot, at least, not in my experience. So I would say enjoy the interest provided by the wagon wheels and then wait for the bad balls the week after to put away again!

## A very expensive delivery

Vic Isaacs

My scorer colleague and I were scoring an important T20 match.

In an over with runs scored from every delivery we were agreed that the over was complete until and were checking the end of over score etc when ..... we looked up then at each other as we saw the bowler bowl a seventh delivery.

We shrugged our shoulders; these things happen. The seventh delivery proved to be what we believe to be the most expensive delivery ever bowled (unless someone knows better).

The sequence of events for this additional delivery in the over was:

- A Wide that went for 4 (5 runs in total), so another ball bowled
- A No ball that was smashed out of the ground for 6 (7)
- Another ball one wide (1)
- Next ball, Wide again went for 4 (5)
- Finally a legal ball that was struck for 6.

The umpire asked the scorers "Is that over?". "Yes, for goodness sake" was the muttering under our breath".

A grand 'mistake' giving the batting side a magnificent 24 runs from that extra delivery due to a miscounted over.



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- For more information email [cathy.rawson@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.rawson@gmail.com)

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

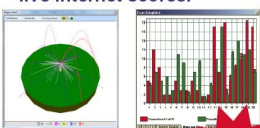
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As used  
 at Lord's

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