

## Proposed Rules Changes

At the start of the 2013/14 season the long serving practice of holding a Fixtures Meeting to arrange Essex League fixtures ended. The fixtures were arranged by e-mail or telephone well before the date for which the Fixtures Meeting was set. This trend looks likely to continue and therefore the Fixtures Meeting has now become redundant.

Since the Fixtures Meeting is referred to in the League rules the next natural progression is to revise the rules. A couple of club obligations have deadlines set which are linked to the Fixtures Meeting so specific dates for these obligations will need to be set.

A new mechanism for ensuring a smooth running of the commencement of the League season is required.

It is therefore proposed that the following procedures are followed:

1. By 15 August each club shall inform the League Secretary of any changes to the number of teams entered the previous season.
2. By 31 August the League Secretary will have finalised the structure of the divisions and confirmed home/away venues where applicable and these be issued to League clubs (and preferably published on the ECA website).
3. By 16 September all clubs will notify their fixtures to the League Secretary (this was previously seven days after the Fixtures Meeting).
4. By 16 September all clubs shall submit their initial player registrations to the League Secretary (this was previously seven days before the Fixtures Meeting).
5. By 30 September the list of registered players is issued to League clubs.

These proposals are a starting point for the new mechanism and further debate would be welcomed at the GPC Meeting.

The final wording can be dealt with by the Rules Committee.