

**LE NOMPAIRE**  
**Official Journal of AFNEC**  
**(Association Française des Nompaires et Entailleurs de Cricket)**

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**EDITORIAL**

At last, an issue of Le Nompaire to bring you news of events in 2010! The challenge has been to find someone willing to take over the editorial role from Vincent Buisson, who resigned to concentrate on, what I know is an almost full-time role, as Treasurer of France Cricket.

No-one at the AGM seemed to want to pick up the pen (or the gauntlet), and so we are still on the look-out for an umpire or scorer with the desire to communicate cricketing matters to French officials and beyond. Arm-twisting has put me temporarily in writing mode but I confess no aptitude or desire for the role – Treasurer suits me down to the ground.

Applications for the Editor position to the AFNEC President please.

**Stephen Harrison**

**AFNEC Secretary - Keith Garner**

Unfortunately Keith has had to give up the post of AFNEC Secretary due to serious health problems. We would like to warmly thank him for all his efforts over the past few years and hope his series of operations will see him back on the field in the near future.

**Recent News on French Officials**

After the AGM, held on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March, your officers are unchanged, except for a new Secretary, Barrie Holland from Toulouse, AFNEC member for many years.

One of our members Tony Banton, from Lille, has become President of France Cricket and another, Peter Townsend, from Damazan, is Secretary of France Cricket.

Other welcome news are the appointments, by France Cricket, of a new, full-time General Manager, Adrien Geille, and Elliott Brailly tasked with the administration of the leagues in the IdeF and links with the CSNC. A new Administrative Assistant is to be recruited in the near future.

They also have new offices at 4, Quai de la République, 94410 St Maurice Tel 09 53 90 39 49

We wish them all good luck for the future and hope they can come to grips with some of the serious problems confronted by

cricket in France and lead us all into a new era of development and fulfilment.

**Georgina Greville**

Georgina has accepted to be Honorary V.P. of AFNEC.

We all remember the tremendous work done by Tom Keeble to further the aims and objectives of AFNEC and we are all pleased to recognize it by this recompense.

**ICC Europe Appointments**

Graham Kelsey has moved to Madrid and is no longer involved in cricket in France. This means that there are no umpires to represent France this season in Europe.

All the longer serving umpires have now reached the age of retirement and as yet no-one seems ready or willing to step into their boots. Requirements include several years umpiring experience with at least 12 – 15 games per season, the ECB ACO level 1 qualification and a recommendation from France Cricket to ICC Europe. However, Tony Banton has been appointed scorer for this season's European championship.

**AFCAM Awards**

Keith Garner was awarded with the Trophée 2009 Elite and Tony Banton the Trophée 2009 Espoir at the AFCAM AGM on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2010 held at the CNOSF in Paris.

## NEW LAWS (from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010)

Just when you thought that you had learnt all the 42 laws of cricket and their sub-clauses, the MCC Laws Sub-Committee has updated almost all of them as the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the 2000 Code applicable from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010.

There are over 200 amendments – almost every page of the Blue Book is changed – but fortunately the majority are semantics, corrections of grammar, additional clarification of existing laws and similar items that do not affect the basic principles that govern the playing of the game.

However there are about a dozen laws where changes of policy, interpretation or application have been made – of these only a few will impinge upon the playing of cricket in France.

### Examples of Major Changes.

**Laws 3.8 and 3.9** relate to the umpires suspending play as a result of the fitness of the ground, weather or light. The main change is that the umpires will no longer “offer the light” to the batting side. It was felt that, at present, the decision to stay on or come off the field was often made on tactical grounds based on what best suits the batting side, rather than on grounds of safety or visibility. In bad light, umpires will now only suspend play when they consider it to be unreasonable or dangerous. Unreasonable is to be regarded as being inappropriate, rather than conditions simply not being very good. The new Law should result in less playing time being lost. This concept has been trialled by the ECB in county cricket with generally positive feedback.

**Laws 12.4 and 12.5** involve the toss. In Law 12.4, it was felt that it would be good practice to say that the toss should be made in the presence of one or both of the umpires. The new 12.5 forces the captain winning the toss to notify his decision to bat or field to the other captain straight away.

**Law 17** concerns Practice on the field. Law 17.1 has clarified the area that can never be used for practice as being the pitch and the two strips either side of it. Laws 17.2 and 17.3 clearly outline when and what practice may take place on the rest of the square (17.2) and on the outfield (17.3).

A ban has been placed on fielders partaking in practice with a coach or 12th man during play.

It is also clarified that deliberately bowling the ball into the ground in practice will contravene Law 42.3 (The match ball – changing its condition).

**Law 19.4** – Boundaries – refers to catches and is new. It requires that the fielder’s first contact with the ball must be when some part of his person is grounded within the boundary or, if he is airborne, that his final contact with the ground before touching the ball was within the boundary. This has been introduced to cover some of the more spectacular boundary catches that have been made in 20/20 and other televised games.

**Law 24.5** (Fair delivery – the feet) has been amended in relation to the landing of the bowler’s front foot. It must land with some part of his foot, whether grounded or raised, between the return crease on the side on which he runs up past the wicket and an imaginary line joining the two middle stumps.

(This is to prevent slow bowlers from claiming to bowl over the wicket but having a round the wicket action by coming across in front of the stumps.)

**Law 28.1** (Wicket put down) has added “notwithstanding the provisions of Law 6.8(a), by the striker’s bat in falling if he has let go of it, or by any part of his bat becoming detached”

This covers the rare event of part of the bat breaking off and hitting the wicket.

**Law 29.1** (When out of his ground). From slow-motion replays it has been seen that in running the batsman sometimes has both feet off the ground. This clarifies run outs so that if he has already grounded some part of his foot behind the line subsequent forward motion taking it off the ground is discounted.

(Very doubtful if we will ever face this problem in France).

**Law 42.14** (Batsman damaging the pitch) has been amended so that the batting side receives one less warning than under the current Law. This is now consistent with Law 42.13 (Fielder damaging pitch).

### Examples of minor changes

There are many changes but a few examples include:

Spirit of Cricket – Respect for “the game’s traditional values” becomes “the game and its traditional values”.

Law 2.6 (a) Player returning without permission clarifies that any runs scored prior to the offence also count as well as the penalty by adding a sentence “Additionally, runs completed by the batsmen shall be scored together with the run in progress if they had already crossed at the instant of the offence.”

Law 7.2 Fitness of Pitch for play – the umpires are the “sole” judges rather than the “final” judges.

Law 18.9 – 18.12 – Scoring Runs – has been substantially changed by running sub-sections together and adding a clarifying sub-clause. But the overall policy remains as at present.

And dozens more examples all of which may be consulted on the MCC website at <http://www.lords.org/data/files/laws-of-cricket-2000-code-4th-edition-final-10422.pdf>

**It is the intention of AFNEC to provide a copy of the new Laws Book to all paid up members and to each France Cricket member club.**

A version in French is also available on the FC web-site.

### Umpire / Scorer Training in France

An ECB ACO Level 1 course was held in Bordeaux on 11/09/09, led by Ray Holyer, ECC Instructor and assisted by Stephen Harrison and David Rhodes.

Four Elementary Test courses were held in Boulogne between February and May led by David Rhodes. There were 42 candidates of whom 40 passed and are qualified to umpire in the IdeF Leagues and elsewhere. The classroom was at the Paris site of the Bordeaux School of Management kindly arranged free of charge by Adrien Geille. David is also helping Steeven Selefen from New Caledonia in training umpires for the 2011 Pacific Games.

We are aware that France Cricket has a budget provision for an ICC course for scorers but to-date there seems to be little or no interest from scorers to attend. There is a correspondence course in English and several DVD’s for those seeking training.

### Regional Umpiring

In the IdeF region the organisation of the umpires has been undertaken by Prebagarane Balane (Prebou) of Evry CC who volunteered for this task at the AGM. It seems to have been a successful season and congratulations are due.

In the ACCSO area the scheduling was done by Barrie Holland who has managed to ensure all games had 2 umpires despite the problems of illnesses, holidays and last minute emergencies which always upset the best-laid initial plans. Again congratulations are due.

### New guidelines on cramp.

Until now cramp suffered by a fielder or batsman has been defined as an injury within the control of the player (adequate hydration etc) and so batsmen have not been allowed a runner and bowlers or fielders have not been allowed a substitute. There has now been a medical reappraisal of this situation resulting in a new directive to umpires effective from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010 reading:

1. *Cramps should be considered as an injury or illness as provided for in Law 2.1 (a) – Substitutes and Runners and playing condition 2.1.3.*
2. *The onus remains with the on-field umpires to satisfy themselves that the cramp is genuine.*
3. *Provided they are so satisfied, a player suffering from cramp shall be allowed a substitute to act for him in the field or as a runner when batting.*
4. *This new directive should be raised and discussed with all captains during pre-series meetings until all have been fully briefed.*

### Results of Tournaments and Leagues

#### National Teams

##### Senior

Following a successful tour in Holland where the team beat Holland A to win a 20/20 event the senior team played in Guernsey in an ICC Division 2 tournament where a place in the World League was a stake. The team won 3 and lost 2 of its matches, beating Norway, Israel and Gibraltar but losing to the tournament winners Guernsey and by 5 runs to Germany. This meant that despite equal points and a much superior net run rate over Germany the team was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and missed out to the Germans

on the World League place. Very disappointing for all concerned but there is a further chance of a World League place in 2011.

### Junior

The U17 team with Michael Selig as Manager and Chris Bartlet as Coach had been selected after several weekend training camps in the Paris area, at Saumur and at St Aulaye and travelled to the Isle of Man for the ICC Division 2 tournament at end July with a podium place as the objective.

10 teams took part, divided initially into 2 groups of 5 before cross over play-offs for the final places. France beat Belgium, Greece and Gibraltar but lost to Italy to come 2<sup>nd</sup> in its group. The other group was topped by an unbeaten Isle of Man with Spain, Switzerland, Germany and Austria behind them.

In the final rounds IoM beat Italy quite easily for 1<sup>st</sup> place but the 3<sup>rd</sup> place play-off was an exciting affair going to the penultimate ball with last man Asad Parvez scoring the winning run - Spain 158-9 in 40 overs, France 159-9 in 39.5 overs.

Objective achieved - well done to all concerned.

### Super League 2010

2 groups of 5 with each team playing home and away gives 8 matches each. Euro and Balbyniens were 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Group A with FGK and Dreux similarly placed in Group B. The cross-over play-offs on the 18<sup>th</sup> September saw wins for Euro and FGK who played the Final at Dreux on 19<sup>th</sup> Sept umpired by David Rhodes and Sharkey Jayawardene. FGK won a match reduced to 25 overs because of the tight schedule set by FC and the lateness of both teams. Congratulations to FGK who are the 2010 Super League champions.

We understand that Saint Brice have been relegated to the National League in 2011 and also that the ground at Chantilly will no longer be available for knockout phase matches. Given the shortage of good grounds around Paris, and the fact that the ICC and FC provided funds for development of the ground, this is most unfortunate.

### National League 2010

This year the National League was played in 5 pools, 3 each of 5 teams around Paris, and 2 pools in the SW of 5 and 4 teams respectively, making a total of 24 participating teams. In the Paris area each team played the other teams in the pool

once whilst the SW played both home and away.

The winners of the Paris pools were Creil, Stains and Franciliens with Evry, Eelavar and Euro 2 as runners-up. The barrage play-offs resulted in a semi-final between Stains and Eelavar at Chantilly on 18<sup>th</sup> Sept with Stains winning by 1 wicket. Most of these games were umpired by Sharkey and David.

In the SW the pool winners were Mansle and Noé-Gascogne with Eymet and Armagnac as runners-up. The cross-over play-offs resulted in a semi-final between Noé and Mansle, won by Noé by 9 wickets.

The final was played at St Aulaye on 26<sup>th</sup> September with cup and medals presented by the FC General Secretary, Peter Townsend. Travel problems for Stains delayed the start to 12.10h. In a 40 over match, Noé held Stains in check until their last 10 overs when 110 runs were scored giving Stains 280 - 9. In reply Noé were in contention for much of the game could not match the late burst scoring by Stains eventually reaching a creditable 181 all out in 36 overs. Umpires were Joe Larter and Stephen Harrison.

Congratulations to Stains who are promoted to the Super League.

### Junior Cricket

The U17 final was held at Bas Buissons on 26<sup>th</sup> September when Drancy beat Dreux. Umpires were once again Sharkey J and David R.

There are 8 teams in the IdeF U19 league. The U19 final at Bas Buissons on 3<sup>rd</sup> October again saw Drancy beat Dreux, and again the Sharkey J and David R team umpired. Unfortunately no FC official was present at either final match.

In the SW, the centres for youth cricket are in St Aulaye and Toulouse. 3 weekends of matches have been played with juniors from other clubs joining in. St Aulaye has won most of the time. In addition a very good week of junior cricket was held at St Aulaye in August where the coaching team included David Bordes.

### Women's Cricket

As far as we are aware there has been a successful weekend get-together at Thoiry but no formal games have been played. This is disappointing considering the number of potential female players and AFNEC members should pester their club managements to support FC in its efforts to develop this part of the game.

## Siddalls Cup

Siddalls are the key sponsors of SW cricket. After the preliminary rounds, the semi-finals saw Bordeaux beat Noé and Toulouse beat Mansle. In the final, held at Damazan on 29<sup>th</sup> August, Bordeaux won by 161 runs. Man of the match was Neil Vasey.

## Other cricket matters

Cricket has been received a large amount of publicity over recent weeks most of it sadly being negative. It is obvious that there is no place for cheats in the game, whether that is throwing a match or indulging in spot-fixing by deliberately bowling a no-ball or any other type of underhand activity. The ICC and the national authorities along with the police will decide whatever punishment is appropriate but it is vital that the integrity of the game is restored.

On a lighter note I thought the following cartoons by Matt in the Daily Telegraph may provide some smiles.



And this cartoonist's suggestion for new Darth Vader umpire equipment maybe getting towards the truth.



## Expenses

The season having finished, it is now time to submit your expense claims if you have not already done so. The system of donating your expenses to the association and receiving a tax certificate to reduce your personal income tax is an excellent support to sport and umpiring in particular by the French Government. Wherever your circumstances allow, you are encouraged to use it instead of a cash payment.



Stains captain with National League Champions 2010 trophy