**PROPOSAL FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO RESTRUCTURE THE SNEL FOR THE 2020 SEASON ONWARDS**

The SNEL Executive Committee has listened to the SNEL clubs feedback on previous proposals and after much thought now present a modified proposal which we hope addresses the main concerns of those within and those outside of the SNEL.The following stepwise expansion of SNEL 1st XI Div 3 is proposed:-

* At the end of each season an even number of 1st XIs from other clubs/leagues within Essex may be promoted to SNEL 1st XI Div 3.
  + This will be by application to the SNEL Executive Committee (EC).
  + There will be strict criteria for entry into SNEL to be determined by the SNEL EC. EG Clubmark, minimum 3 teams, security of tenure of 1st XI ground, quality of facilities, playing strength, active junior section etc
  + The clubs whose 1st XIs are elected to join the 1st XI Div 3 will become SNEL associate members.
  + Associate members can attend league meetings but will only be able to vote on matters concerning the playing regulations of 1st XI league and cup matches.
  + For a 1st XI to join SNEL Div 3 in May 2020 they would have to apply to the SNEL Exec by 30th September 2019 and notify their own leagues of their intention to withdraw once the decision by the SNEL Exec has been made by 31st October 2019.
  + The SNEL Exec will decide which applicants will enter the SNEL 1st XI Div 3 in that subsequent season. There will be no confirmatory vote at the AGM.
  + It is important that an even number of teams are promoted in each cycle to ensure that every team in SNEL 1st XI Div 3 has a fixture each week the following season.
* There will be no relegations from SNEL 1st XI Div 3.
  + SNEL 1st XI Div 3 may increase in size after each season but the following season will still consist of 18 games
  + Not all teams will play each other twice – there will be a random draw for fixtures as to who plays who twice or once only.
* Over the course of a few seasons SNEL 1st XI Div 3 may eventually reach 20 teams – at this point SNEL 1st XI Div 3 will drop to 10 teams and a new SNEL 1st XI Div 4 of 10 teams will be created. We can then decide at that point whether there is still sufficient demand for stepwise expansion of SNEL 1st XI Div 4 or whether demand has been exhausted.
* All other divisions of SNEL are unaffected
  + All other XIs of SNEL clubs and clubs outside of the SNEL are unaffected and will remain where they are now.
  + Other leagues within Essex will over time lose a few of their best 1st XIs but this will be a gradual erosion and will not decimate those leagues. All lower XIs stay where they are in their current league structures.
* The timeline proposed for these changes is detailed below assuming we get a positive response:-
  1. Mid July – Discuss proposal at SNEL Mid-season fora and share with other Essex leagues
  2. Mid August – Share final draft of new constitution with SNEL clubs and other Essex leagues
  3. Early September – SGM to vote on adoption of new constitution
  4. 30th September – New associate club application deadline
  5. 31st October - SNEL Exec confirms which clubs will join 1st XI Div 3 as associate clubs for 2020.
  6. End of November – SNEL AGM
  7. December – SNEL fixture arranging starts