

The Fixtures Blog



There can not have been a season where the fixtures have been awaited with such trepidation. The advent of 'The 100' with little interest and no involvement from anybody at Grace Rd, drives a quick cricket circus through the middle of the summer. With reports of Championship cricket being pushed even further into the margins, its no wonder that a number of counties, have delayed publishing their membership details for 2020 until the fixtures are known.

The Foxes, however are pushing a £99 membership deal or £149 to include the T20 Blast

Well now the details are here, members can judge for themselves. In this topsy turvy world things most certainly are changing and we now have a situation where half of the scheduled 14 rounds of County Championship cricket will be completed before the regular end of the domestic of the Rugby season and a full 3 weeks before the showcase Final at Twickenham.

Out of the 28 days of Championship cricket at the FCG 8 are scheduled for weekends, although being in the early part of the season 4 of these days clash with other Leicester teams being at home. The weekend of the Durham match starting on Friday 15th May being the worst when Saturday's play clashes with the Tigers v Northampton match and Sunday the 17th with City v Man Utd !

Specsaver County Championship

14 rounds of matches are scheduled for 2020 and with the second division have been reduced from 10 to 8 teams we will play all sides Home & Away. Local rivals Northants have gone to the dizzy heights of Div1 and been replaced by even greater rivals Notts. We also say goodbye to Lancashire and Gloucestershire from last season both also promoted. Of the standout games trips to Hove, Lords and New Rd Worcs look to be the highlights and once again the annual trip to Cardiff is the same week in September for the 3 season in a row

Rnd	Date	Opposition	Venue
1	Sun 12 April	Nottinghamshire	Trent Bridge
2	Sun 19 April	Derbyshire	Derby
3	Sat 25 April	Glamorgan	FCG
4	Fri 1 May	Sussex	Hove
5	Fri 8 May	Worcestershire	FCG
6	Fri 15 May	Durham	FCG
7	Fri 22 May	Middlesex	Lords
8	Sun 14 June	Durham	Riverside
9	Sun 28	Middlesex	FCG
10	Sun 5 July	Sussex	FCG
11	Sat 29 Aug	Worcestershire	Worcester
12	Tue 8 Sept	Nottinghamshire	FCG
13	Mon 14 Sept	Glamorgan	Cardiff
14	Tue 22 Sept	Derbyshire	FCG



Royal London 50 over Cup

There are big changes here. The well-publicised downgrading of the competition to run in July/August alongside the 100 is one aspect but we have also see a change to the old North South groupings. Gone are the games against Durham, Worcestershire and Lancashire, replaced by visits from Surrey and Glamorgan and a mid week trip to Taunton to take on Somerset, if they can muster a side after losing so many to 'the circus'

Another product of the 100 means that the games against Warwickshire and Notts will be at outground's. Notts will entertain us at Welbeck as they did a couple of seasons ago but it will be a first visit to the Edgbaston Foundation sports ground. The 2nd's have played here before, as recently as this last season but it will be a first visit for a '1st XI' That said the Foxes have still to declare their hand on where the first two rounds will be played. Both are 'home' games but the venue is still to be confirmed. They did this a couple of seasons ago when Lancashire were the visitors and the game was ultimately confirmed at Oakham. I suspect the same again this time but hope for a better performance that was made on our last visit. Either that or perhaps a game at Kibworth. We wait to hear.



Rnd	Date	Opposition	Venue
1	Wed 22 July	Surrey	Home (TBC)
2	Sun 26 July	Glamorgan	Home (TBC)
3	Tue 28 July	Warwickshire	Foundation S G
4	Fri 31 July	Northants	Wantage Rd
5	Sun 2 Aug	Yorkshire Vikings	FCG
6	Tue 4 Aug	Somerset	Taunton
7	Fri 7 Aug	Derbyshire	FCG
8	Sun 9 Aug	Notts	Welbeck
Play Off	Thur 13 Aug		
Semi	Sun 16 Aug		
FINAL	Sat 19 Sept		Trent Bridge

As a footnote to the changes in grouping spare a thought for Durham who have 4 away matches at Sussex, Middlesex, Kent & Worcester

Vitality Blast T20

No change to the format here 2 groups of 9 (north & south) so you would think that everyone plays the other 8 teams home and away but No ! This year its Birmingham (Home) and Lancs (away) that we will only play once

Rnd	Date	Opposition	Venue
1	Fri 29 May	Derbys Falcons	Derby
2	Sat 30 May	Northants Steelbacks	FCG
3	Wed 3 June	Durham	The Riverside
4	Fri 5 June	Worcs Rapids	FCG
5	Sun 7 June	Birmingham Bears	FCG
6	Wed 10 June	Lancs Lightning	Old Trafford
7	Sat 13 June	Notts Outlaws	Trent Bridge
8	Fri 19 June	Notts Outlaws	FCG
9	Sun 21 June	Worcs Rapids	New Rd
10	Thur 25 June	Yorkshire Vikings	FCG
11	Fri 3 July	Northants Steelbacks	Northampton
12	Sat 4 July	Derbys Falcons	FCG
13	Fri 10 July	Durham	FCG
14	Sun 12 July	Yorkshire Vikings	Headingley
¼	18-21 Aug		
Finals	Sat 5 Sept		Edgbaston



The schedule is even more condensed this year as the group stages have to be completed before the 100 starts in July. As a result we still have a disjointed competition lacking in continuity. The group stages complete by 12 July but the quarter finals are not scheduled until over a month later after the 100 in August and the final while a little earlier is 1st week of September rather than end of. Of the 7 home games 6 are scheduled for Fri/Sat/Sun which will hopefully swell the crowds. Once again we can't see to avoid a Wednesday night trip to Durham. We also have the bizarre mid competition break. Having played Notts at Trent Bridge on Saturday 13th June the Foxes are then expected in Chester le Street for a 4 day Championship match starting at 11.00 the next day

Other Matches at the FCG

It's a week later in 2020 but the season opens with the customary visit of the Loughborough Students on Thursday 2nd April.

We also have what is becoming an annual visit from Pakistan to play another T20 warm up before their tour.

Finally if you have any interest in the 100 then the Women will play 1 game at the FCG at the end of July

Comp	Date	Opposition	Venue
University Match	Thu 2 April	Loughborough MCCU	FCG
Women's 100	Thurs 30 July	Outlaws v Phoenix	FCG
T20 Tour match	Wed 26 Aug	Pakistan	FCG

With things changing on the domestic scene and a financial position that makes the Club's future far from certain, I would suggest the £99 GET IN offer is worth considering. That will give you 36 days cricket or for another £50 you get all 43 days of the Foxes Home season.



The advertisement features a cricket player in a white kit and green helmet, captured in a batting stance with a glowing green trail behind him. In the top left corner is the Leicestershire County Cricket Club logo, which includes a red fox and the text 'LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB' and 'ESTABLISHED 1879'. On the right side, the text '99 GET IN' is displayed in large, white, distressed font. Below this, it says 'MEMBERSHIP 2020' in a red box. Further down, the text reads 'SEE YOUR LOCAL HEROES IN ACTION WITH OUR £99 MEMBERSHIP'. At the bottom right, it provides contact information: 'visit leicestshireccc.co.uk or call 0116 283 2128'.

Either way you can keep up with all the action throughout the 2020 season by going to www.outsideoff.com