

ACS STYLE GUIDE - Summary of principal changes in the 2017 Guide

On 25 November 2017 the ACS Committee approved a new version of the Association's Style Guide, to replace the version approved in April 2011. Most of the changes included in the new version cover minor matters, and are designed to improve consistency within the Guide or to reflect changed circumstances or preferences arising from the use of the Guide over the past six years. The full 2017 Guide is now available in the Members' area of the ACS website. The most significant changes incorporated in the new Guide are as follows:

- Within the initial section of 'General Guidelines', items 1, 2, 17, 26 and 28-30 are either new or substantially rewritten.
- Particularly important is the inclusion of a new item 1 explaining the role of the Guide, making clear that it is a guide rather than a set of unbreakable rules, but that consistency of approach within individual publications is of paramount importance.
- Item 3 in the General Guidelines makes a significant change to previous practice. Until now, the favoured way of presenting players' names with their initials was to put full points between the initials and no space before the surname: thus W.G.Grace, M.J.K.Smith. This style has not come naturally to many of our writers, and editors have had to spend a lot of time amending text to conform with it. This style has now been dropped, in favour of a style with no points between initials but with a space before the surname: WG Grace, MJK Smith.
- In the section 'Style for spelling and hyphens', the abbreviation of the name of the Association has been added. to make it clear that we are the ACS, and not the ACSH or the ACS&H.
- A new entry is included to clarify that players from or for Afghanistan are to be referred to as Afghans, and not by any longer alternative.
- To reflect modern sensitivities, and the fact that the meaning of the term in a cricketing context is ambiguous, a ban has been introduced on the use in any of our publications of the term 'chinaman' to refer to a left-arm wrist-spinner, or any delivery that such a bowler may bowl.
- It is clarified that the name of the organisation 'Cricket Archive' is now to be written as two words (in accordance with that organisation's preference).
- The abbreviations 'jun' and 'sen', used to distinguish namesakes of different generations, have been replaced by 'jnr' and 'snr'.

Numerous other changes, additions and deletions have also been introduced. A version of the new Guide that draws attention to all the areas of difference between the 2017 version and the superseded 2011 version can also be found in the Members' area of the website.