

THE SHRUBBERY HOTEL – SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday November 23 2015 at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster

All clubs were represented at the meeting with the exception of Baltonsborough. This club was fined £40 as per rule

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. There were apologies from Andy Fairbairn and Baltonsborough CC.
2. The minutes of the previous meetings (AGM – 17th November 2014 and the EGM – 13 April 2015), which had been circulated beforehand, were accepted as correct records of the meetings and signed by the Chairman.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. The Chairman, Malcolm Fox said that the year started with a planned major change in the structure of local cricket by the WEPL. The reduction of the size of WEPL and the concentration on 1st XIs meant that that many teams will return to their feeder leagues for the 2016 season. He noted that the Disciplinary Committee had had to meet to talk to team officials about their low scoring statistics and their reported poor behaviour on and off the field. He hoped that this intervention would ensure better behaviour and higher marks in the Don Crouch Sportsmanship Award in the future. He said that he had recently attended an ECB/SCB meeting for leagues where the issue of players leaving the game had been the focus. ECB had produced a league blueprint, which is obtainable from the SCB office at the County Ground, and which looks at measures of retaining and recruiting more cricketers for league cricket. He noted that the SCL had already been involved with many initiatives, but there was still work to be done to meet other targets. The main recommendations that emerged from the ECB research was to play 40 over cricket, encourage the use of 5 bowlers, start and finish at earlier times. Every attempt should be made to try to make the game more enjoyable and thus encourage more to play. He requested that all clubs should put an item on the agenda at the next club meeting (AGM or Committee). This item, which requires serious discussion, concerns "the club's future policy of involvement of casual and young players". The more that they are allowed to participate in the game, have a go and feel they are contributing to the clubs performance, the more they will enjoy the experience and they will be more likely to agree to play again. It is not an easy task at times, however, if the club and its members decide it should happen, then this makes it much easier for the captain to plan his game. This also enhances the social side of the game and the active involvement of the young players who hopefully have come through the youth section. He asked clubs to try a new approach in an attempt to stem the flow of players out of the game. He recommended the reading of the 'Blueprint' for any member/club that wished to see the game make progress and meet the needs of future generations.
5. The Honorary Secretary outlined the key aspects of his report, which had been previously circulated to all members. He noted that teams had enjoyed favourable climatic conditions, but unfortunately disciplinary issues had increased. He congratulated Cheddar Cricket Club on winning the John Bail Trophy, particularly as the team had only been promoted at the end of the previous season. He noted that Westlands Sports, Long Sutton, Fitzhead and Peasedown St. John had won the next four divisions. He highlighted the achievement of Peasedown, a club that had re-started in the bottom division and had progressed through the divisions every year since. He also recorded a remarkable feat by Westlands Sports CC, a club that has 3 teams in the SCL and all three won their respective divisions and subsequently were awarded the Ladbrokes Trophy for the 'Club of the Year'. Long Sutton amassed the most points in the season and won the Sunday Independent Cup, while

Barrington 2nd XI won the Don Crouch Trophy (Sportsmanship) with a score of 97.61%. The biggest 'downside' of the season was the record number of cancelled games due to the failure of clubs to raise a team and the subsequent expulsion of two major culprits. The concern over the provision of adequate facilities was mostly alleviated by the end of the season, but clubs should remain pro-active in getting this aspect regularly reviewed. The loan scheme was a 'plus' for the SCL in 2015. About 35 players 'were loaned' during the season and with a bit of minor tweaking the scheme will operate again next year. The WEPL re-structuring followed a number of meetings with its committee and the four feeder leagues, the SCL included. The impact on the SCL at the end of the season was that 15 extra teams were placed in the top four divisions of the league. In 2016 the top division of the SCL will be known as the Premier Division. The recent presentation Night had been another successful event when the principle guest of the evening, Peter Trego of SCCC joined in a question & answer session with Richard Walsh before presenting the trophies to the winning clubs. 2015 saw the end of the SCL umpires panel that had been responsible for umpire appointments since the early 70s. He concluded by expressing thanks to the Committee members who give so freely of the time and who make every effort to reflect the needs of the membership in promoting cricket in Somerset.

6. The Hon. Treasurer said that in 2015 the League recorded a surplus of income over expenditure of £682.75 and increased the value of the League to £16506.49p. He noted that the SCL had a new auditor and he expressed his gratitude to Andy Stephens (Winscombe C.C.) for agreeing to audit this year's accounts and furthermore to carrying out similar work next year. The main items of Income were Club Subscriptions, Sponsorship from the Shrubbery Hotel (Annual Presentation Dinner), plus Lords International and Fines. However, in recent years income has reduced due to membership numbers being in decline, there have been smaller attendances at the presentation dinner while fines cannot be a source of reliable budgeted income. The main items of regular expenditure are administration and the handbook. Administration costs have remained stable as email has replaced post, whereas the largest item is the annual cost of maintaining and developing the website. Other regular expenditure includes the Handbook with a net cost of £1355, i.e. production less advertising income and we continue to provide members with a 50% subsidy of the cost of the umpires' course organised by the Somerset Cricket Board. Specific items of expenditure to this year were repairs of perpetual trophies, a subsidy of the umpires' charge and a £250 donation to the Air Ambulance. The 2016 club subscriptions have already been collected and these will remain unchanged for 2017 at £50 for the first SCL team and £25 for each additional team. The cost of the League Cricket Ball will remain unchanged for 2016 at £8 a ball. The task of providing umpires to our top two divisions in 2016 is passed to the Somerset Association of Cricket Officials (SACO) and so in the future clubs will be paying them for the umpires they receive. SACO has requested a £35 per match expenses payment for its umpires. The top two divisions in 2016 will be composed of a mix of former West of England Premier Cricket League (WEPL) 1st and 2nd teams, 2015 SCL Division One teams and 2015 SCL Division Two promoted teams. It is not known how these additional costs will affect all these clubs, but the Management Committee has agreed to extend the umpires subsidy, previously applied to the SCL clubs, into the 2016 season. For this transitional year only, the SCL will pay SACO £5 for each umpire provided, leaving the clubs to pay the balance of £30. The effect of the unchanged subscriptions, the unchanged cricket ball charge and the umpires' subsidy is that for one year only he has budgeted a deficit for the year ending 30th September 2016.
7. The Chairman invited Stuart Shepherd, President of the SCL to present the remaining trophies for 2015. Stuart presented the AVCO Trust Trophy for the Young Player of the Year to Ollie Phillips of Long Sutton CC. and the Glastonbury Mowers Trophy for the best All Rounder to Steve Redwood of Barrington CC. He gave the Don Crouch Trophy, which is awarded for sportsmanship, to Barrington 2nd. The remaining Team of the Month prizes were presented to Trull 2nd XI (June) and Baltonsborough (August), the other two monthly prizes had been presented to Long Sutton 1st & 2nd teams at the Presentation Evening. There were special presentations to umpires in view of the SCL panel ceasing to exist in 2016. The President made a presentation to Richard Heath, a long serving umpire who joined in 2005 and had done 130 matches. He gave him a pen and a double silver-plated photo frame engraved with his "Name"; "Somerset Cricket League"; "Umpires Panel, the

Years of Service and Number of Matches”; David Agutter, a long serving umpire who joined in 1998 and had done 90 matches was unable to be there but he will also receive a similar pen and photo frame at a later date. He made the next presentation to Derek Hicks, who had retired from the post of Umpires Appointments Officer for the SCL at the end of the 2015 season was presented with a trophy in the form of crossed bats on a wooden plinth inscribed; “Derek Hicks - In appreciation of his 19 years as Umpires Appointments Officer Somerset Cricket League 2015”. His final presentation was made to Ian Latchem. It was two framed prints of contemporary village cricket scenes by Terry Harrison inscribed; “Ian Latchem - presented to mark the 40th anniversary of his 1974 election to the Somerset Cricket League Management Committee”.

8. Election of Officers: -

- a) The following persons were proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Huntspill & District for re-election for a three-year term on the Management Committee. Malcolm Fox, David Derrick, Ian Latchem, Tom Packman and Derek Hicks. The proposal was carried.
- b) Other nominations. There were none.
- c) Honorary Auditor. The Treasurer noted that Andy Stephens of Winscombe had agreed to act as the SCL Honorary Auditor for the forthcoming season.

9. Changes to the Rules of the Somerset Cricket were discussed and the Meeting agreed that:-

Note All proposed changes to rule are shown in bold within the proposal.

3. ADMINISTRATION.

(h) All clubs must appoint a Club Welfare Officer to conform to ECB mandatory rules. The officer will need to have a current DBS and hold certificates that show that he/she has attended both a Safe Hands and a Safeguarding & Protecting Children Course during the last 3 years. Evidence of the DBS, SH and S&PC certification must be made available to the League Welfare Officer before the season commences. Clubs that fail to appoint a qualified person and/or fail to provide evidence to the League Welfare Officer shall not be permitted to play a league match until the documentation has been provided. These forfeited games will be treated under Rule 5 (b) Championship Points (iv) & (v).

Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Huntspill & District and carried.

Rule 5 Matches (n) Expulsion from SCL

A team is limited to a maximum of 3 cancelled matches in a season for failure to raise a team. A further (fourth) cancellation will mean expulsion from the SCL immediately.

Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Crewkerne and lost

3. ADMINISTRATION

(j) Scorebook and Scoreboard.

All teams MUST provide a scorebook (home and away) and a scoreboard at the home venue.

Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Huish & Langport and carried.

5. MATCHES

(c) Rules for Match Play

- i) All Matches start at 1.30 pm. but for the final THREE matches of the Season they must start at 1.00 pm.

- ii) There will be an interval of not more than 20 minutes between innings which shall be used as a tea interval, except as provided for in (iii).
- iii) Should play cease due to the weather or bad light at any time after 4.30 pm., then tea must be taken. The Captains may agree to have tea during a break for bad weather at any time before 4.30pm.
- iv) In the event of the first innings being completed before 4.15pm, the second innings must start and after a minimum of 5 overs or by 4.45pm whichever is the later, tea must be taken.
- v) A game will consist of a maximum of 45 overs per side, except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter. No bowler shall bowl more than twelve overs in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one quarter of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.
- vi) A game will consist of a maximum of 40 overs per side for matches in Divisions 7, 8, 9 except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter. No bowler shall bowl more than ten overs in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one quarter of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.**
- vii) In the event of a match being affected by weather conditions and overs are lost a side bowling second is restricted in overs. In this situation, the maximum number of overs that can be bowled by any one bowler shall be one quarter of the permitted overs, rounded up to a complete over. Once the second innings has started, the maximum number of overs, calculated and agreed, may be bowled by any bowler irrespective of any further loss of overs due to weather conditions.

(e) Declarations and Early Dismissals

- i) 45 Over Matches. If the side batting first is dismissed, or if the innings is declared closed before the end of its allotted overs, the side batting second shall have 45 overs.**
- ii) 40 Over Matches. If the side batting first is dismissed, or if the innings is declared closed before the end of its allotted overs, the side batting second shall have 40 overs.**

Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Ilminster and lost

5. MATCHES

(j) Results Sheets.

- ii) The Reporting of Results Electronically - to be done on SCL Website. The home team is responsible for entering the result of the match and the full scorecard on the SCL website using the prescribed procedure **before noon on the day following the match (ie Sunday noon for Saturday games)**. This result and scorecard must be verified **by the away team before Monday noon** following the match played on Saturday using the prescribed procedure.

Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Wellington and lost

5. MATCHES

(b) Championship Points

- ix) Division 1& 2 clubs only. Both sides must complete its 45 overs within the time limit of 2 hours and 45 minutes. Failure to do so will incur a fine of 2 points deducted.**

Proposed by the Management Committee and carried

5. MATCHES

(h) The Ball.

- i) For all divisions, home sides must provide two new balls, one to be used for each innings. All balls used must be the standard league ball, as supplied by the Somerset Cricket League, and must be shown to the umpires and opposing captain prior to the toss being made.
- ii) **For Divisions 1 & 2 the home sides must provide two new balls, one to be used for each innings.** All balls used must be the **Superior standard league ball**, as supplied by the Somerset Cricket League, and must be shown to the umpires and opposing captain prior to the toss being made.

Proposed by the Management Committee and lost

5. MATCHES

(l) Division 1 & 2 Matches Only.

At the instant of delivery a minimum of four fielders plus bowler and wicket keeper must be inside an area bounded by two semi circles centered on each middle stump within a radius of thirty yards and joined by parallel lines on each side of the pitch.

This fielding circle shall be marked with painted white dots at five yard intervals – each dot can be covered by a white plastic or rubber disc or in white marking measuring seven inches in diameter. Should this requirement not be met then the square leg umpire shall call and signal no ball and the delivery must be redelivered; this condition must be met regardless of the total number of fielders present (e.g. if a side has less than eleven players present).

Proposed by the Management Committee and carried

5. MATCHES

(m) Leg Side Wides

Division 1 & 2 Matches Only.

A legside wide shall be called if, irrespective of where the ball pitches, it passes outside the line of the batsman and the leg stump, despite his movement.

Proposed by the Management Committee and carried

5. MATCHES

(c) Rules for Match Play

(vi) Division 1 & 2 Matches Only.

vi) No bowler shall bowl more than NINE overs in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be 20% of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

Proposed by the Management Committee and carried

5. MATCHES

(c) Rules for Match Play

Division 1 & 2 matches only.

i) **All Matches start at 1.00 pm.**

ii)

Proposed by Taunton St. Andrews and seconded by Weston s Mare and lost

7. PLAYERS

(d) Overseas Players.

i) One 'Overseas Player per club' * shall be permitted to play in the Somerset Cricket League.

An 'Overseas Player' * is defined as an overseas national who is not a holder of a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport.

Proposed by Burnham on Sea and seconded by East Huntspill and lost

5. MATCHES

(d) Weather Conditions

The current Rule 5 Matches. (d) Weather conditions would need to be entirely re-written if the structure set out below is adopted.

TIME LOST, AFTER PLAY HAS COMMENCED, DURING THE FIRST INNINGS

In the event of time being lost AFTER the commencement of the match, due to inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances, during the innings of the team batting first, then the team batting first will still receive their full or revised allotted number of overs. The innings of the team batting second shall be reduced by ... the current rate in the SCL. 15 over per hour
Where a team batting second does not have the opportunity of batting the same number of overs as the team batting first, due to time being lost after the commencement of the match, the result will be determined as follows:

(1) The second innings run rate shall be determined immediately prior to the start of the innings of the team batting second using the following formula:

The second innings run rate = $(100 + \{P \times 1.2\}) \times (1st\ innings\ run\ rate) \times (1/100)$ where P = the difference in overs to be played at the commencement of the innings of the team batting second.

(2) $(1st\ innings\ run\ rate) = (1st\ innings\ score) \div (\text{number of overs allocated to the side batting first})$.

Notes:

i) The run rate of both the 1st and 2nd innings shall be rounded to two decimal places
(2.569 = 2.57, 3.683 = 3.68)

ii) The run rate should be agreed by both the scorers and umpires and once agreed shall be final.

iii) Once the run rate for the second innings has been calculated and agreed, it shall remain as the run rate for that innings, even though a later interruption may reduce the number of overs the team batting second may receive.

TIME LOST DURING THE SECOND INNINGS ONLY

If the second innings commences with the same number of overs allocated to the team batting first, the run rate shall remain the same as the first innings run rate, even though a later interruption may reduce the number of overs the team batting second may receive.

TARGET SCORE

i) The "run rate required" shall be multiplied by the lowest number of overs which the team batting second shall be entitled to receive after making allowance for time lost after the commencement of the match. The resulting figure shall be the "target score".

ii) If the score of the team batting second surpasses the "target score", at any time prior to the conclusion of its innings, then the match shall be won by the team batting second. If the team batting second is bowled out earlier, then the match shall be won by the team batting first. If the team batting second does not surpasses the target score then the team batting first shall be determined the winner.

iii) A match shall be tied if the scores are equal at the end of the match. In a match where there is an interruption after the commencement, where the revised target score involves a fraction of a run, then the final scores cannot be equal and the result cannot be a tie.

4.6 If either team does not have the opportunity of batting a minimum of 25 overs, then the match shall be considered to be abandoned. It may not be necessary for the side batting second to bat the minimum required 25 overs, but they must have the opportunity to do so. Kris Pearce,

Club Captain, Hardington and West Coker CC

Proposed by Hardington and West Coker Cricket Club, no seconder Lost.

5. MATCHES

(c) Rules for Match Play

vi) **No bowler shall bowl more than NINE overs in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be 20% of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.**

Proposed by Hardington and West Coker Cricket Club seconded by Weston s Mare and lost.

10. The Hon. Secretary reported on the first year of the 'loan scheme'. He said that it had been a success and would be used again next season. There were a few changes that needed to be made and he said that he would also be developing a separate aspect to the scheme whereby players could indicate their availability on the website for teams short of players to phone up.
11. Amanda Counsell reminded clubs of the requirements for Club Welfare Officers (Rule 3 Administration. (h). All clubs will be required to complete a form giving full details of **the club welfare officer**. This will include points of contact (ie.Tel. No.; Mob No. and email address) together with dates and venue of courses attended: - ECB Safe Hands Course or ECB Refresher Safe Hands Course and the S&PC course. ** She said that if the club's CWO had not attained the necessary qualifications, then the Management Committee would declare the match void and treat it as a cancelled game with a fine of 30 points .(Rule 5 Matches (b) Championship Points iv) & v). See these rules listed below. She offered to help any club needing guidance or course information. The qualifications will need to be given to the League's Welfare Officer(Amanda) by April 10 2016.

** She said that she required sight of the Safe Hands and S&PC (or equivalent) certification. This scanned copy would be best remitted by email rather than a hard copy.

(h) All clubs must appoint a Club Welfare Officer to conform to ECB mandatory rules. The officer will need to have a current DBS and hold certificates that show that he/she has attended both a Safe Hands and a Safeguarding & Protecting Children Course during the last 3 years. Evidence of the DBS, SH and S&PC certification must be made available to the League Welfare Officer before the season commences. Clubs that fail to appoint a qualified person and/or fail to provide evidence to the League Welfare Officer shall not be permitted to play a league match until the documentation has been provided. These forfeited games will be treated under Rule 5 (b) Championship Points (iv) & (v).

12. The Hon. Secretary reminded clubs that they must complete the club details section on the website by January 31st 2016 at the latest. This site will be available for receipt of these details from Mid-December. Fines will be issued if the form remains incomplete after this date.
13. Any other business. There was none and the meeting closed at 9.45 pm.