



## **SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**Held on Monday December 11, 2017 at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster**

All clubs were represented at the meeting with the exception of Chard and Minehead. These clubs were fined £40 as per rule

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. There were apologies from Martin King, Derek Hicks and Minehead CC.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting (AGM 5 December 2016), 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 league members had enjoyed another good season as the weather had been fine and sunny, while the cricket played had met people's expectations. The results had shown that there were good games played with good scores and this meant good cricket for all. He said that he now felt that the League was on the right path for a successful future. He expressed his concern, alongside many others, about the lack of people – youngsters in particular – who were becoming involved in the game. It was a national trend and one that needed addressing. He noted that there had been a reduction in the disciplinary action required in 2017, but where this had been required the League's Disciplinary Secretary, Edward Martin had managed the issues effectively. There had been no real disciplinary problems and he trusted that next year would be similar. However, he said that the increased use of social media had resulted in the Disciplinary Committee imposing a two-year ban on a player for abusive comments on twitter. The Committee would treat social media abusive comments in the same way as those made on the field of play. In the social media case that the committee dealt with in 2017, the player concerned had been given a two-year ban. The Chairman noted that any ban given by a UK league was upheld in all leagues and meant that no league/competition cricket could be played during the ban period under ECB regulations. He explained that the SCL will be using the ECB's play-cricket.com website next season and said that more information about its use would be given during the close season. He took the opportunity to express his and the League's thanks to John Squirrell who had developed the current website. He was very pleased to note that John will continue to provide the knowledge and expertise as the League moves from one provider to another. He concluded his remarks by thanking the members of the Committee for their work and commitment in running the Somerset Cricket League.
5. The Honorary Secretary outlined the key aspects of his report, which had been previously circulated to all members. He noted that the Somerset Cricket League lost 9 teams at the start and during the 2017 season. This decrease was mainly due to clubs failing to have sufficient personnel resources

to regularly field a team. He said that at the time of writing the report the SCL will comprise 106 teams in 2018 unless there are further withdrawals during the close season! In 2018 there will be one new club 'Fitzhead Crusaders', together with additional teams from three existing clubs, Peasedown St. John 2nds, Weston super Mare 5ths and Yeovil 3rds competing in divisions 7 & 8. Frome Cricket Club 1<sup>st</sup> XI had dropped down from WEPL at the end of the 2016 season, but made an immediate return by winning the J C Bail Trophy for the winners of the Premier Division of the SCL. Uphill Castle 1<sup>st</sup> XI and 3<sup>rd</sup> placed Yeovil 1<sup>st</sup> XI (ex-Westlands CC) were also promoted to Tier 3 of WEPL (Somerset Division) due to the anomalies in the make up in the WEPL divisions after promotion and relegation had taken place. The Brian Stockhill Trophy for Division 2 winners was taken by Shapwick & Polden 2<sup>nd</sup> XI; Wells 1<sup>st</sup> XI took the Bryan Lobb Memorial Trophy by winning Division 3; Trull 1<sup>st</sup> XI won Division 4 and took the Terry Mockridge Memorial Trophy, while the final 'County-wide' division (Div. 5) was won by Peasedown St. John CC together with the Shrubbery Hotel Trophy. He reminded members of the major contributions to the SCL made by the named persons on the trophies. The Sunday Independent Cup, awarded for the highest points' aggregate was won by Lympsham & Belvedere 2<sup>nd</sup> XI with 583 points. He noted that the L & B clubs amalgamated after the 2016 season so 4 teams became 2 teams! A similar situation may be considered by others as the number of participants in the game continues to fall. The Ladbrokes Trophy for the 'Club of the Year' was won by Yeovil Cricket Club and the Don Crouch Trophy, which is awarded for sportsmanship was won by Wedmore 1<sup>st</sup> XI with an average of 97.06 points per game. The Young Player of the Year and the best All Rounder were judged by the Committee and Matt Kingdom of Taunton Deane 2nds & 3rds and Reece Croker of Frome CC were the respective recipients. In a repeat of the 2016 season, several teams struggled to raise a team on some weeks and Bagborough, Fitzhead and Baltonsborough 1<sup>st</sup> XIs withdrew before the season started. Further withdrawals by Huish & Langport 3<sup>rd</sup> XI and Crewkerne 3<sup>rd</sup> XI meant that the SCL had lost a further 5 teams since the fixtures for 2017 had been made. The Management Committee introduced a system to have a special 'rules meeting' for discussion only and ballot slips would then be issued with the official notice of the AGM meeting. The Management Committee established a 'Flexi League' for 2017 but unfortunately it did not work as was envisaged. The appointment of Club Welfare Officers is now mandatory, and the Committee expects that this aspect of a club organisation is put high on the clubs' regular agendas. The League's Dinner and Presentation Evening at the Shrubbery Hotel was another very successful and enjoyable event. It was quite remarkable in that both the men's and women's Somerset County Cricket Club captains were the principal guests. Tom Abell and Sophie Luff joined Richard Walsh in a 'question and answer' session before presenting the trophies to the various winning recipients.

6. The Treasurer in his report to the AGM highlighted a few items from his previously published accounts. He said that for several years the League's finances had been very stable showing either a small surplus or small deficit. This year a small surplus of £207.25 had increased the League's assets to £16643.75p. 45% of the League's Income came from the Club's Annual Subscriptions with a further 45% from the Sponsorships of the Shrubbery Hotel and Lords International. At the time of speaking he anticipated that the 2018 accounts would follow a similar pattern to those of the recent past. The Treasurer announced that with next year's subscriptions already collected the 2019 Club subscriptions would remain unchanged for the ninth consecutive year. The price of the League Cricket Ball for 2018 would also stay unchanged at £9. The Treasurer thanked Andy Stevens for his auditing of the League's accounts saying that he was pleased that Andy was willing to continue in that roll and that the membership should be assured that a very thorough check was taking place.
7. The Chairman invited Stuart Shepherd, President of the SCL to present the remaining trophies for 2017. Stuart presented the AVCO Trust Trophy for the Young Player of the Year to a member of Taunton Deane CC who was representing the winner Matt Kingdom. He then presented the Don Crouch Trophy for sportsmanship to Wedmore 1<sup>st</sup> XI, a team that had recorded an excellent average score throughout the season of 97.06% from 17 games.

8. Election of Officers: -

- a) The following persons were proposed by the Management Committee and accepted by the meeting for re-election for a three-year term on the Management Committee. Amanda Counsell, Martin King and Matt Lunn. The proposal was carried.
- b) Honorary Auditor. The Treasurer noted that Andy Stephens of Winscombe had agreed to act as the SCL Honorary Auditor for the forthcoming season and he was duly proposed and elected.
9. The Club Welfare Officers – Amanda Counsell, the SCL Welfare Officer emphasised the need for clubs to ensure that their Club Welfare Officers had attended the appropriate courses and completed a DBS form before the season starts in May. She gave details of the sources and courses available. Details of these courses can be obtained from the SCB at the County Ground, Taunton (01823 352266) or on the website ([www.somersetcricketboard.co.uk/courses](http://www.somersetcricketboard.co.uk/courses)). She reminded club representatives of the 3 elements that a CWO must hold and noted that where these had passed their 3-year currency, the CWO should attend an ECB Safe Hands Refresher course and be re-assessed for a DBS. She said that the latter certification had now been simplified and the timescale of issuing a DBS had been shortened considerably. Clubs that fail to meet the qualifications set down by the SCL will not be able to play in the 2018 competition until such time as the club meets the criteria.
10. Law Changes. Tom Packman gave a brief presentation of some of the recent changes to the Laws of Cricket. Three previous Laws had gone, and three new ones added. The previous Law dealing with SUBSTITUTES had been replaced with two Laws one for Fielders and one for Batsmen. The LOST BALL Law was no more and the HANDLED THE BALL Law had been absorbed into the OBSTRUCTING THE FIELD Law. The third new Law dealt with PLAYERS CONDUCT with four levels of offences and the appropriated on field penalties. It was mentioned that the suspension of play for DANGEROUS OR UNREASONABLE CONDITIONS now needed only one umpire to adjudge while both umpires needed to agree for play to start or resume. It was now a NO BALL if a fair delivery **bounced more than once before reaching the popping crease.** **Byes and Leg Byes scored from a NO BALL no longer counted against the Bowler.** Another change is that a **catch is now legal even if has struck or lodged in a fielders or wicket-keepers helmet. Likewise, a stumping can be affected from a helmet.** There was now less tolerance in regard to the **bowling of Dangerous and Unfair Short Pitched Deliveries and to Dangerous and Unfair Non-Pitching Deliveries. In each case a First and Final Warning was applicable.** It was noted that this was not a comprehensive coverage of the amended laws and that further might be needed before the start of the season.
11. Matt Counsell of the Somerset Cricket Board outlined the various aspects of “play-cricket.com” which the SCL will be adopting in the future. He described the three groups of current SCL clubs. Those that were already fully conversant with the website and processes, those that had registered to be a member, but had little contact or use of the site to date and those that had never experienced the website’s use. He produced a handout on play-cricket and distributed it to members. This document is shown in Appendix A

12. The results of the ballots for Rule Changes of the Somerset Cricket League were given.

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Proposal 1 – by Burnham on Sea CC

Seconded by Winscombe CC

7. PLAYERS

(d) Overseas Players

i) Only one ‘Overseas Player’ shall be permitted to play for each club per season in the Somerset Cricket League. This player must be registered with the Hon. Secretary 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May.

**For 15 Against 25 Lost**

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Proposal 2 – by Winscombe CC

Seconded by Burnham on Sea CC

## 7. PLAYERS

### (d) Overseas Players

i) Only one 'Overseas Player' shall be permitted to play for each club per season in the Premier Division and Division 2 in the Somerset Cricket League. This player must be registered with the Hon. Secretary 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May. The voting on this this proposition will be open to representatives of the Premier division and division 2 clubs only.

**For 6 Against 7 Lost**

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Proposal 3 – by Horrington CC

Seconded by Churchill CC

## 5. MATCHES

### (c) Rules for Match Play

vi) In Divisions 6, 7, 8 a game will consist of a maximum of 40 overs per side for matches except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter.

vii) No bowler shall bowl more than 9 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 **fifth** of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

**For 15 Against 23 Lost**

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Proposal 4 – by Wembdon CC

Seconded by South Petherton CC

## 5. MATCHES

(e) Four cancellations. Should a side concede 4 fixtures in any one season they are withdrawn from the league with immediate effect.

**For 12 Against 25 Lost**

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Proposal 5 – by the Management Committee

## No. 3 ADMINISTRATION

### (j) Cancelled matches.

If a match is cancelled for any reason and/or at any time during the 48 hours before the agreed start time, then this cancellation **MUST ONLY BE** made through a telephone conversation involving officials of both clubs. Cancellations by emails, texts, twitter and other social media are not permitted. Fines will be applied at the discretion of the Management Committee.

**For 45 Against 0 Carried**

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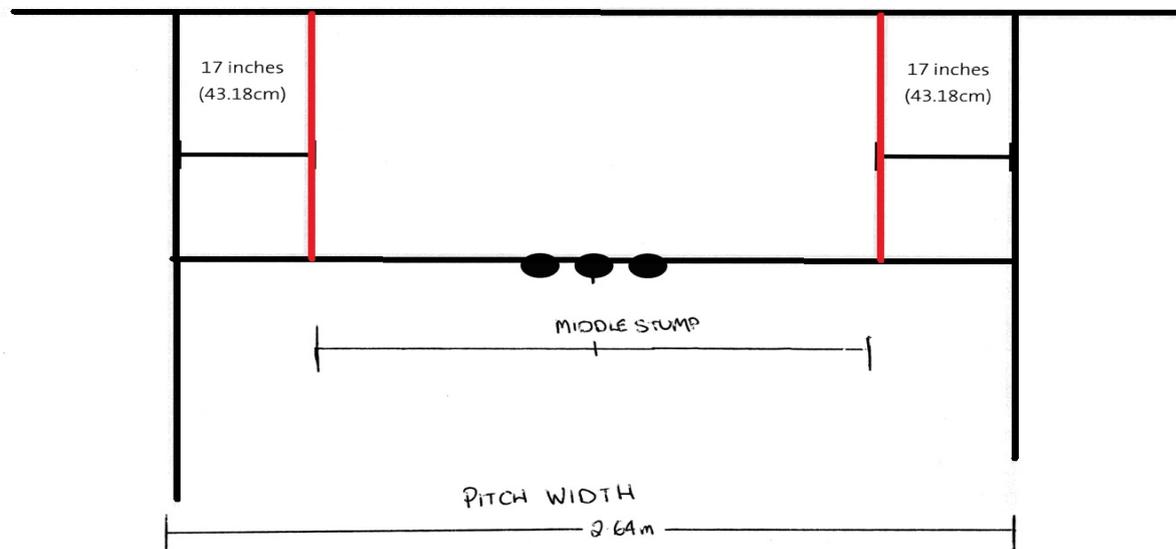
Proposal 6 – by Peasedown St. John CC

Seconded by Huntspill & District CC

### 5.MATCHES

#### (0) Wides – Pitch Markings

Wide lines to be painted in blue or red 17 inches inside the edge of the crease lines. This is a guideline for wides and can be deemed not wide in an instance where the batsman moves enough to warrant the ball being called a legal delivery.



**For 24 Against 15 Carried**

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Proposal 7 – by Churchill CC

Seconded by Lympsham & Belvedere CC

#### Rule 6 (c) – Umpires

Where a team wishes to provide its own non-playing umpire for a match, that umpire may only stand during the opposition's batting innings with the consent of the opposing Captain.

**For 13 Against 26 Lost**

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13. Any Other Business. a) The Chairman said that he had been in touch with BOLA bowling machines and had agreed a special price for SCL clubs. Any interested club should contact him. b) The Horrington representative thanked the Committee for giving permission for a permanently injured player to have a runner when batting. c) The Hon. Secretary said that the cricket ball distribution would take place during the week commencing March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The meeting would also be used for a 'training session' on the use of the ECB's website [www.play-cricket.com](http://www.play-cricket.com) which will be used in the 2018 season. The exact date and venue will be announced as soon as a 'mid-county' venue can be found. *Any suggestions please advise the Hon. Secretary.*
14. The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.

Ray Hancock.  
Hon. Secretary  
December 22, 2017

## APPENDIX A

### How do I claim a site for my club or league?

If you aren't already, you need to be a registered play-cricket user. In order to do this, go to the main play-cricket site <http://play-cricket.com/#> and click on the Sign Up link at top right of the page. Fill in the necessary details, and validate your account. There is no need to set up another login in order to claim a site

Then login to the main play-cricket page <http://play-cricket.com/#> via the Login link, using your user name and password, and in the Cricket Directory section in the middle of the page, click the 'apply for your site' button.

Select a category of Clubs, the relevant county in the County field, type the first few letters of the club name in the Keywords field, change the Status dropdown to All and click the Search button. This should produce a list of possible matches, of which your unclaimed site may be one. Take a look at the Status column

- If it shows as Active, then someone else has already claimed the site on behalf of the club. If you don't know who then please contact us
- Inactive means that it has been previously claimed and then made inactive by the club. We can reactivate
- If the name isn't in the list then try making the search less specific; if you still can't find it then please contact us and we can add your club to the list
- If there's a radio button by it then it is unclaimed; proceed as below...

Check the 'Status' box next to it and then the Choose button, and follow the instructions from there. Please fill in all, or as many, fields as you can; in particular enter both addresses required, 'office' and personal, your position within the club, and set up all the teams that your club is currently running, or may have run, as this will enable us to link up any games involving your teams that other people may already have entered. Once you have done this, we will then be able to activate your site for you.

The instructions above also apply to leagues; simply substitute Competition for Club where relevant. If it is a cross-county league then it is better to leave the County field as All when searching, to cover all possibilities. The instructions about setting up teams do not apply when claiming a league site.

### Our site administrator has left; how can we access our site?

If your site administrator is no longer active with the organisation, then in order to change the administrator of a site in circumstances like this, the secretary or chairman must send a hard-copy letter as an attachment to [play.cricket@ecb.co.uk](mailto:play.cricket@ecb.co.uk) please, on headed notepaper, requesting the change and nominating the replacement, who must be a registered play-cricket user (with their own username and password) and a member of your site (either active or pending) with that username and password. We can then make the necessary changes.

Please be aware that admin roles for sites are vested in individuals, not on a generic basis, and that amending the login of a previous administrator with your details or matching records together for two different people in order to circumvent this process can have serious implications for the data on your own and other sites. Please follow the instructions above.

## Updating Your “About Us” Section

Login to your club Play-Cricket site and select site administration in the dropdown options on your name in the top left-hand corner of the screen.

Click on “Site Management” Tab on the top menu bar then “About Us” on right hand tab.

In the “About Us” section there are three tabs that we would like you to complete:

- Club Details
- Playing Facilities
- Club Officials

The Somerset Cricket League require clubs to provide details of the following:

Email & Contact Number for:

- Chairman
- Hon Secretary
- Hon Treasurer
- Fixture Secretary
- Club Welfare Officer
- Divisional Rep (League Rep)
- Team Captains
- Team Manager (Cancellations)

The Somerset Cricket Board will be using Play-Cricket to collect their club details for 2018 and beyond so they would require the information on the following in addition to the roles above:

- Vice-Chairman
- Junior Coordinator
- Groundsman

When imputing this information, you can opt to display this contact information on your Play-Cricket site or not and we recommend you check if the person wants the information they have provided public. If you chose not to display them publicly this information will be stored in line with the new GDPR regulations and only shared with Shrubbery League Administrators, The Somerset Cricket Board and the ECB who run Play-Cricket.Com.

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