



The Somerset Cricket League

Sponsored By

World Class Willow



SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

Held on Monday 4th December 2023 using Zoom.

All clubs were represented at the meeting with the exception of Burnham on Sea, Mark, Shaftesbury Road, Taunton and North Petherton. These clubs will be fined £40 as per rule.

The Chairman, Andy Barrett welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Before the meeting formally started Andy welcomed Dan Van Grudgings from Clevedon CC to give the meeting a very interesting overview of the Somerset Cricket Foundation's Wellbeing Champion program and some ideas of how clubs can support and 'check in' with their membership.

The minutes of the previous meeting AGM (28th November 2022), which had been circulated beforehand, and were accepted as a correct record of the meeting, and proposed by Curry Rivel CC and seconded by Wells and Horrington CC and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

The Chair, Andy Barrett thanked representatives of the member clubs for their attendance to the AGM and welcomed the new teams to the league. He congratulated the divisional winners and thanked our sponsor - World Class Willow, for their support in over the first year of their sponsorship.

Andy noted that this season had been difficult with the amount of poor behaviour and discipline that we have had to deal with as a league and spoke to the meeting of his sadness regarding some of the comments that have been made to the committee over the season.

Andy shared his plan to have an advisory panel who would meet with him a couple of times in the year to discuss issues and ideas throughout the league. He hoped this panel would be made up from a cross section of players male, female, young players, grounds staff, volunteers etc. He asked anyone who might be interested in this to contact the league.

Andy thanked the committee members for organising our end of season presentation at the County Ground in Taunton which was well attended and enjoyed by all. He informed the meeting that £850 had been raised through the raffle and this sum was donated to The British Heart Foundation.

Finally, he expressed his thanks to the Committee for all the hard work and time they have given freely to the league and wished all members his best wishes for cricket in 2024.

The Honorary Secretary delivered her report.

The Treasurer John Squirrell had produced a written report which had also been previously circulated. It was noted that due to sponsorship, the league had to register with HMRC and had to pay corporation tax.

Election of Officers: -

a) Committee Members –Amanda Counsell and Matt Lunn were proposed by Long Sutton and seconded by Uphill Castle CC

The membership of the SCL unanimously agreed the election of all the above-named officers to the Management Committee of the Somerset Cricket League.

The results of club voting for the proposed rule changes were reported

1. Result of the vote to accept the rules of the Company (formally the constitution)
 - For = 49
 - Against = 1

Rules Adopted

It was explained to the meeting that there needed to be a tweak to the wording in rule 9 to say the MCC Laws shall be the rules of the League as regards the playing of matches subject to rules and regulations which are specified by The Committee . Not the The Rules of the Marylebone Cricket Club shall be the rules of the League as regards the playing of matches subject to rules and regulations which are specified by The Committee . Amanda thanked John Potts of Butleigh CC for picking this up.

The meeting were happy to agree to this wording change.

2. Proposed by Bridgwater CC, Seconded by North Perrott CC, only teams in Premier Division to vote.

All Clubs in Premier Division must have a non-playing scorer. Failure with result in points penalty

- For = 7
- Against = 3

Proposal Carried

3. Proposed by the Management Committee

That clubs in the Premier Division playing rules, mirror those of the West of England Premier League, as detailed in separate document.

For = 9

Against = 1

Proposal Carried

Amanda Counsell shared some of the analysis from the facilities data, she thanked Ben Osborne of the SCF who had helped with this. She reported that the committee were pleasantly surprised with the initial findings and that the league would begin to look at possible minimum standards in different divisions but stressed that it would need to be a fine balance as the league is very aware that some clubs have little or no control over their facilities/grounds and also there may be cost implications so any changes would need to be phased over a period of time.

Any Other Business.

Please ensure that your play cricket contacts are up to date – we only get the information from the contacts you enter, also please note we cannot change details or remove peoples – only clubs can.

Clubs were asked to tidy up their registrations especially if you know a player has left or not played for a few years, this aids smooth transfers.

Amanda Counsell explained the home office rules surrounding overseas players to the meeting and said all OP2 players and players who came over to play on British passport will be removed in the new year,

There will be a briefing session for Captains and Vice Captains on safeguarding responsibilities pre season, - the committee was asked for this to also include behaviour expectations

There is a plan in discussion with the B and D to widen the loan scheme, but not with Wiltshire who do not use player registrations or play cricket – more will be shared once sorted.

There is no expectation on clubs to provide teas, those that wish to need to contact opponents and umpires if necessary.

Fixtures will be sorted in next few days and shared mid December

The meeting was closed at 8.20pm