

## THE SHRUBBERY HOTEL. - SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of the Disciplinary Committee Meeting held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2008 at the Bridgwater Sports and Social Club, Bridgwater.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Tom Packman and Martin King, (referred to as the Committee). Amanda Counsell was also in attendance, taking minutes.

- a) The Committee considered a written statement by Wembdon CC and its written response by North Petherton CC regarding the behaviour of Chris Mellor of North Petherton 2XI towards a young Wembdon player during the match played on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

Wembdon was represented by S Morrish(Captain) D Wardle and S Pigdon, who gave an account of the incident that caused the report to be made. The Committee questioned the Wembdon officials before meeting with the representatives from North Petherton. North Petherton CC was represented by Chris Mellor, John Harris (Captain) and Clive Williams (Chairman) who gave their version of the events.

The Committee had difficulty in ascertaining the exact words that had been used towards the young Wembdon player as each account had different interpretations.

The Committee applauded the fact that North Petherton CC had taken the decision to give Chris Mellor a one match ban, that he had apologised to the umpire at the end of the match and the way that the Captain and Club have spoken to their players about the expectations of behaviour on the field of play. However the Club was reminded that although they were playing in an 'Adult' League there were many young players playing in it and all clubs have a legal duty to follow the ECB Safe Hands Policy of Safeguarding Children and the use of bad language towards/about them is totally unacceptable. Therefore the Committee took the decision to ban Chris Mellor for a further one match and warned him of future conduct indiscretions.

Both teams were informed of the decision made.

- b) The Committee met with Rob Driver and Richard Brice of Taunton St Andrews to discuss the fact that Rob Driver had played twice for Brent Knoll CC (on 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May) and then Taunton St Andrews (24<sup>th</sup> May) without transferring. It appeared that neither club knew that Mr Driver was playing for the other. Rob Driver claimed he was helping Brent Knoll out for a couple of games as a favour for a friend on his return from University and he didn't realise it was a problem as Taunton St Andrews played in the WEPL and held his WEPL registration. He acknowledged he was at fault as he didn't know the league rules.

The Committee explained that The League rules state that the first club you play for in a season is your 'registered' club as we have no formal registration procedure. Therefore if he wished to play for Taunton St Andrews he would now need to formally transfer from Brent Knoll. No further action was taken.

- c) The Committee read a letter from league umpire Gwyn Phillips who reported the lateness of Staplegrove arriving at their away match at Purnells on Bank Holiday Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2008. The Committee will ask the League Secretary to write to Staplegrove to suggest they look at the time they are leaving for away matches to allow for traffic.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm