

The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd February 2015
at 7.30pm at The Football Club Building, the BAY Club, Burnham on Sea

Those present Malcolm Fox, Toby Strang, Tom Packman, Amanda Counsell, Derek Hicks, Matthew Lunn, Matthew Counsell, Martin King, David Derrick, Andy Fairbairn and Ray Hancock.

1. Preliminaries. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Matt Counsell for making the arrangements to host it at the football club.
2. Apologies were received from Ian Latchem and Edward Martin.
3. The Minutes of the previous meetings, (October 14 and AGM Nov. 17. '14)) were approved.
4. There were no matters arising.
5. Correspondence. There was none other than items that had been received and circulated by email to members or related to items later in the agenda.
6. Sharing of fringe players. The Committee noted the details of a similar scheme that was already being used in the Gloucestershire County League (see system below in Appendix A). The Committee felt that there was much merit in developing a system in the SCL, but a few hurdles needed to be overcome to ensure credibility and compatibility with the results recording system. It was resolved to set up a small working group to progress the concept further with a view to putting a proposition to the EGM, which if passed, would be effective for the 2015 season. The group would comprise AC : DD : RH : Glyn White – Evercreech : Chris Vigar – Long Sutton.
7. The restructure of WEPL and the implications for the feeder leagues was discussed at length. The Committee examined the documents that had been widely circulated during the last month. The Chairman and Secretary, who attended all of the recent meetings relating to the changes at the end of the 2015 season, gave further details and answered questions. All SCL clubs had received a synopsis of the restructure in the January Update 2 sent to all clubs on 23 January 2015. Further issues were being finalized by the WEPL board and following these deliberations another group meeting would be held towards the end of February to action the recommendations from WEPL. The working group comprises 3 WEPL members, 4 feeder leagues and 3 County Development Managers. Subsequently, all clubs will be informed of the process of promotion/relegation at the end of the season and the format for forming the seven divisions that will comprise the WEPL in 2016. An item will be put on the EGM agenda to outline the changes and their effect on the SCL. There will be an opportunity to raise issues at that time.
8. a) The Hon. Secretary reported that all clubs had finally completed their club details on the website and the handbook section that listed these details had been circulated to all clubs for checking purposes. He noted that in future there would be no requirement to submit a result sheet to the Results Secretary, but it was essential that both teams had a scorebook at the match, all details were filled in on both books and both teams had exactly the same details for inputting and verifying. b) Matt Counsell introduced a new format for scoring the Don Crouch marks with slightly changed criteria and a mark out of 100. These sheets will be available on the website and clubs will also be issued with sufficient copies for all matches in a season. c) The Hon Secretary said that a claim form for home teams that had matches cancelled after 8.00 pm on the day before the match due to lack of players, would be available on the website and would need to be returned with evidence to him. d) The results service and monitoring had worked well with each monitor dealing with fines and any other issues.
9. a) It was noted that one of the implications of the new start time of 1.30 pm would mean that Rule 5 Matches (b) Championship points ii) would need to be amended to 10.30 am. b) The Hon. Secretary

said that he had received a proposed rule change from Wells CC to adjust Rule 5 Matches (d) i regarding changing the AGM decision to 3.30 pm from 4.00 pm for the latest time a match may start. This proposal will be listed on the EGM agenda. c) Cricket balls had been ordered to meet the new requirement of two new balls per match. d) Sufficient team cards had been ordered to meet the need of one card, per team, per match as proposed at the AGM (Nov. 17 2014). The attention of ALL captains is drawn to the detail of this rule. (See Appendix B).

10. Derek Hicks reported that an umpires' course was currently taking place and he hoped that some new umpires may be available for the forthcoming season. There had been difficulties in retaining umpires and the new arrangements in WEPL next year may change the situation further. Derek said that it hadn't been possible to start the informal umpires' course to date, but he hoped to arrange one before the season commenced.
11. Amanda Counsell, the SCL's Welfare Officer, gave notice of the current situation in relation to the qualifications of Club Welfare Officers. A good number had attained the requisite standards, some were booked into training courses in February/March, while there were some who had not achieved the standard or had booked a course. An additional Safe Hands course had been arranged for March 25 in Taunton, and priority will be given to SCL clubs. Those interested should contact Amanda Counsell. The complete list of qualified and unqualified CWOs will be published with these minutes. Clubs that do not have a qualified CWO in place at the start of the season will not be able to play a league match. See the details of CWO requirements in Appendix C.
12. It was agreed to use the same printer for the provision of handbooks and the Hon. Secretary said that he would approach Ian Stolworthy to enlist his help in making the necessary arrangements. As noted before, it was agreed that the results pads would not be required this year.
13. The Ground Committee reported that it had concerns over the provision of facilities at some of the 'school grounds' used by clubs. However, it was pleased to note that a concern it had over Priory School (Belvedere's pitch) was satisfactorily resolved. The Committee had met with the Club's representative and were appreciative of the action taken by it. In the case of other sub-standard grounds, the Grounds Committee intended to contact them, discuss the minimum acceptable standards and learn how these clubs may meet that standard. It was conceivable that clubs that failed to meet the standards would be asked to leave the SCL.
14. The Committee confirmed the arrangements for the EGM on Monday April 13th at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster. At the end of the meeting, the committee members would hand out a club package bag with handbooks, balls and pre-season circulars. Posters and agendas will be circulated to all SCL clubs by March 27th. Any proposals for rule changes must reach the Hon. Secretary by March 22nd 2015. If passed the rule change will take effect immediately.
15. The Presentation Night 2014 was confirmed for Friday October 16 and Matt Counsell said he would talk to Richard Walsh and approach a Somerset cricketer with a view to him being the League's principal guest.
16. Committee agreed to review the details of the pre-season circular at its next meeting. It was agreed that the circular will be regarded on a similar basis to the rules in the case of transgressions and other relevant issues. The Disciplinary Committee would determine some decisions in the light of explanations/recommendations etc. that are recorded in the Circular.
17. The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.

APPENDIX A

The Gloucestershire rules are:-

Players in the U-16 age group or under, who are not in County or District squads or a club's 1st XI, may move between clubs freely and be registered to play for more than one club.

The committee may authorise a link between a specified pair of clubs, and dual player registration, so that a struggling team of one of the named clubs can field players from the other named club. This should mean that more players get games week by week. A club, wishing to make such a link, needs to contact the committee to request it. If a team from another League is involved, that League also has to allow dual registration.

Hope that this is helpful.

Brian Hudson, Chairman of the GCL.

APPENDIX B

5. MATCHES

(j) Results Sheets.

i) Each team is responsible for putting the names of all players, with ages if under 19 at the previous August 31st, **on the Team Card that was supplied at the start of the season** and hand it to the umpire, or in his absence, the opposing captain prior to the match commencing. Those players under 18 must adhere to the SCL Helmet Rule and those players under 19 must adhere to the ECB Fast Bowling Directive. Proposed by the Management Committee and seconded by Castle Cary and carried.

APPENDIX C

Qualifications for Club Welfare Officers

Rule 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 CRB/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 CRB/DBS and S&PC certification must be made available to the Hon. Secretary *or the SCL Welfare Officer – Amanda Counsell* before the season commences. The Safe hands certificate must be made available to the Hon. Secretary by December 31st 2014. Clubs that fail to appoint a qualified person and/or fail to provide evidence to the Hon. Secretary 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).

Please note the final two sentences of this rule, highlighted yellow below, which the Management Committee will enforce if clubs have not got a suitably qualified CLUB WELFARE OFFICER.

Clubs that fail to appoint a qualified person and/or fail to provide evidence to the Hon. Secretary 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).

Any club requiring help in interpreting this rule or in need of a course or other information should contact the SCL's Welfare Officer – Amanda Counsell.

**Amanda Counsell
SCL Welfare Officer**

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