

# The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

## Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday May 13 2010- at The Bridgwater Sports and Social Club, Bridgwater.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Ian Latchem, Derek Hicks, Tom Packman, Matthew Lunn, Amanda Counsell, Toby Strang, Martin King, David Derrick, Ian Stolworthy and Ray Hancock.

1. Apologies were received from Miles Knight.
2. The Minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (February 9 '10) were approved.
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes included:- a) [Min. 6.] The Hon. Secretary reported that the ECB Guidelines regarding juniors in adult cricket had been clarified and that the outcome was that children in Year 7 could not play in SCL cricket. Children in Year 8 could play providing a parental consent form had been given to the club. b) [Min. 10] The Hon Secretary reported that there had been a considerable drop in the number of overseas players registered in the SCL this season in comparison to previous years. c) [Min. 12]. The Hon. Secretary said that there had been insufficient handbooks delivered and the printer had to do a re-print to make up the order. There was concern over the poor finishing of the book and the cost of it. It was determined to seek a number of quotes for next year's version and possibly reduce the number of books issued to each club to help economise. d) [Min. 13] Toby Strang reported that 35 clubs had returned the Ground Facilities Survey form and he gave a resume of the main points that these forms had highlighted. The Committee resolved to fine those clubs that failed to submit a form by the required date of May 31<sup>st</sup> and the Hon. Secretary would circulate a note to warn clubs and list those clubs whose response was still outstanding. *See Appendix 3.* e) [Min.14] The Hon Secretary said that he had a number of boxes of cricket balls that clubs could purchase if they needed them during the season. f) [Min.20] The Committee discussed a number issues regarding the Presentation Night at the end of the season including a suitable speaker, the need to increase the number of participants, the provision of new trophies at the end of season 2011 and the possible inclusion of 'Runners Up' trophies.
4. Correspondence had been received from:- a) Glastonbury CC regarding the ongoing issue of the provision of facilities for the club's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XIs. The Chairman said that he was monitoring the situation and would continue to pursue the club officials to resolve the situation. b) The Hon Secretary reported that he had been advised by the Bristol & District League that Whitchurch CC had made a request to join this League in 2011 and it had been accepted. Whitchurch CC had not written to the SCL to resign at this point in time, but no doubt would do so shortly. c) The membership of the League Cricket Conference had been renewed and the Treasurer and Secretary were in possession of Handbooks of the Conference for those who may wish to consult them. d) The Hon. Treasurer noted that some information on the Club Details/Email addresses area of the website was totally out of date. Clubs will be reminded to correct this information or face fines as the inaccurate detail was causing the Committee members unnecessary problems in accessing it when they were 'chasing' results, verification, scorecards etc. e) The Hon. Secretary reported that he had received an email from a member club concerning the movement of a player to another club between seasons. This player had debts to his original club and the club

asked the League to rescind his new registration. The Committee noted that it had no rules to make this decision, but it would consider future legislation and check with other similar bodies about procedures in the case of bad debt between player and club. f) The Treasurer raised the issue of the affect of cancelled games through the late cancellation by a team that failed to raise a side to meet its commitment. This situation caused expenses in pitch preparation/fees, provision of teas and loss of match fees amounting to large unnecessary debts. The Committee was unable to find a solution to the problem but it would monitor the situation and look for a future resolution. Meanwhile, the Committee strongly recommended that any team that intends to cancel as it has insufficient numbers should give **maximum** notice to their opponents as late cancellations cause much unnecessary expense, particularly for those clubs that rely heavily on match income and also pay fees for the pitch. g) Concern had been raised by a club during the recent spate of inclement weather and why a particular match had been cancelled. Members who lived in the area concerned said that some of the rain had been very heavy and concentrated locally where the game had been due to be played. It was agreed that home teams needed to have the final decision on such games, but should endeavour to give maximum time for a match to take place.

5. The Chairman, Malcolm Fox gave details of meetings that he and the Hon. Secretary had had with officers of the WEPL and the Feeder Leagues. He explained that Paul Bedford of ECB had chaired the recent meeting and would do so again in the near future. There was an expressed wish of all concerned at the meetings to address the issues of:- cricket should be organised by the 'local' leagues where the competition was between clubs within their local boundaries; reduce travelling wherever possible; create meaningful cricket for 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs and allow the Premier League to concentrate on the provision of a high quality experience just below 'County Level' for those clubs/cricketers who wished to play at the highest possible level. He said that the intention was to have a new structure in place for the 2012 Season and that he would keep the Committee informed of progress during the year.
6. The Committee discussed the various aspects of the re-formatting of the divisions at the end of the season to create the new 'continuous' set of 12 divisions for the 2011 season. They examined the two written proposals from Ian Latchem & Tom Packman and determined that the model put forward by Tom would meet the criteria and would also be the simplest to administer in the first year. The Hon. Secretary pointed out that divisions that comprised a mixture of 1<sup>st</sup> XIs and 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs would create a fixture nightmare. However, it was decided to publish the new format for 2011 and he would investigate a range of fixture matrices that may have been developed to cope with the issues that he highlighted. The format for the composition of the divisions in 2011 is shown in *Appendix 1*.
7. The Hon. Secretary reported that the electronic system for reporting results and scorecards was working well - indeed as planned! However, any failure in the system was entirely due to human error and frailties. He showed 'print-outs' of results/scorecards of the first two weeks of the season that demonstrated that those clubs that followed the inputting procedures and the time scales had done so perfectly. The Committee had received a number of congratulatory messages regarding the system and resolved to take drastic action to ensure that those clubs that failed to meet the deadlines would be fined both money and points. The Committee agreed a 'Fines Structure' that is shown in *Appendix 2*. Basically, this structure will fine clubs money for failures to meet the timescale set out in the rules from Week 4 until Week 9 and then after that time (ie. Weeks 10 -18) the fines will be both monetary and a points deduction.

8. The Hon. Secretary described how the marking system for the Don Crouch Trophy (sportsmanship award) was working and drew the Committee's attention to the monitoring of these marks that will be carried out on a regular basis. Clubs scoring an average of less than 5 during each third of the season will be scrutinised by the Disciplinary Committee and asked for a club response to the team's failure to reach a satisfactory level of sportsmanship.
9. The Treasurer gave a financial update and expressed his concern over the likely deficit for the season. He suggested that he would need to consider raising the club subscriptions in the future because the current over reliance on the League's sponsorship income is unsound and likely to have repercussions in the longer term. In particular, he highlighted particular areas of expenditure and agreed to the Hon. Secretary checking with other secretaries as to the level of subscriptions in neighbouring leagues. It was noted that the increase agreed at the AGM in November 2009 represented the first increase in the past 8 years.
10. There were no items of any other business.
11. The date of the next meeting was recommended for early July and a date for it would be circulated shortly.
12. The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

# APPENDIX 1

## Format of Divisions for Season 2011

All positions determined **after** promotions and relegations have been made

### New Division

1. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 1. (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
2. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 2. (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
3. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 3 (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
4. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 1. (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)
5. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 4. (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
6. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 5. (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
7. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 2. (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)
8. Comprises top 10 teams from Div 6. (1<sup>st</sup> XI Comp.)
9. NE Comprises the 10 teams from Div 3NE (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)
9. SW Comprises the 10 teams from Div 3SW (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)
10. NE Comprises the 10 teams from Div 4NE (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)
10. SW Comprises the 10 teams from Div 4SW (2<sup>nd</sup> XI Comp.)

## APPENDIX 2

### Fines Schedule for failure to meet the deadlines for :-

1. The input of Results;
2. The verification of results;
3. The input of scorecards;
4. The verification of scorecards.

#### Deadlines shown below

**Week 4 – Week 9 (May 22 – June 26)**

**Any of the above 4 deadlines not met on time  
= £10 fine per failure.**

**Week 10 – Week 18 (July 3 – Aug 28)**

**Any of the above 4 deadlines not met on time  
= £10 fine and 3 points deducted per failure.**

If there are any mitigating circumstances that prevent a club from meeting the deadlines, as set out below, then they should contact their monitor – see list below or Ray Hancock (League Secretary) if they are unobtainable in the first instance. This contact will relieve the club of any fine. Note. If a club has not input the result/scorecard then it can't be verified and the club verifying will not be fined. However, they should advise the home team by phone and the monitor by email.

**RESULTS SUBMISSION (HOME TEAM)**  
**DEADLINE NOON THE DAY AFTER THE MATCH**

**RESULT VERIFICATION (AWAY TEAM)**  
**DEADLINE MIDNIGHT THE DAY AFTER MATCH.**

**SCORECARD SUBMISSION (HOME TEAM)**  
**DEADLINE MIDNIGHT MONDAY.**

**SCORECARD VERIFICATION (AWAY TEAM)**  
**DEADLINE MIDNIGHT TUESDAY**

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David Derrick (2<sup>nd</sup> XI comp. Divs. 1, 2, 3NE, 3SW)  
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Toby Strang (1<sup>st</sup> XI comp. Divs. 4 – 6)  
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Tom Packman (2<sup>nd</sup> XI comp. Divs. 4NE, 4SW).  
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Ray Hancock (01823 444779)  
[raysomcricket@btconnect.com](mailto:raysomcricket@btconnect.com)

## APPENDIX 3

### **The Following Clubs have not completed the Ground Facilities Survey Form. A further copy is attached.**

**Please note this should be returned to:-**

**Toby Strang – SCL Grounds Standards Sub Committee.**

**35 Walnut Drive, Somerton, Somerset TA11 6LL by Monday May 31<sup>st</sup> at the latest.**

**Failure to do so will result in a £20 fine.**

**Email [toby@strang35.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:toby@strang35.freeserve.co.uk)**

**Clubs still to complete the form are:-**

BAGBOROUGH \*  
BALTONSBOROUGH \*  
BARRINGTON \*  
BARTON ST DAVID \*  
BRIDGWATER \* second ground  
BRIDGWATER SPORTS \*  
BROADWAY & HORTON \*  
CHARD \* second ground  
CHEDDAR \* two grounds  
CHILTON POLDEN \*  
CURRY RIVEL \*  
EAST HUNTSPILL \*  
FITZHEAD \*  
GLASTONBURY \* second ground  
HORRINGTON \*  
LEIGH ON MENDIP \*  
LONG SUTTON \*  
LYDFORD \*  
MARK \*  
MEARE \*  
NORTH CURRY \*  
NORTH PETHERTON \*  
PEASEDOWN ST JOHN \*  
SAMPFORD ARUNDEL \*  
SOUTH PETHERTON \*  
SPARKFORD \*  
SPAXTON \*  
STOGUMBER \*  
STREET \*  
TAUNTON \*second ground  
TAUNTON C S RADIAC/OUTCASTS \*  
WEDMORE \*two grounds  
WELLS WANDERERS \*  
WINCANTON \*