



## Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday  
October 11 2017 at the Centre of Excellence, County Ground, Taunton.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Amanda Counsell, Matt Counsell, Tom Packman, Toby Strang, Andy Fairbairn, Derek Hicks, Matthew Lunn, Edward Martin, Martin King and Ray Hancock.

1. Apologies were received from committee members David Derrick and Ian Latchem
2. The Minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (September 13 2017) were approved.
3. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes, other than those that related to items to be discussed later in the agenda.
4. Correspondence. a) The Committee was concerned to note that abuse remarks, which were totally unfounded, had been made about a SCL committee member on a social website. It was agreed to convene a Disciplinary Committee meeting to establish the facts and the player(s)/club involved. This sub-committee meeting would deal with the written material as a technical offence without reference to the individual/club. (See "League Disciplinary Procedure" in the SCL rules – page 13 in the Handbook). Other aspects of this issue would be dealt with under the disciplinary procedures including notice of appeal. b) Derek Hicks distributed a document regarding the changes in the laws of the game which will become effective in 2018. The Committee noted with interest the various changes, some of which could apply to the SCL in 2018. It was agreed that Derek would prepare a document with the relevant changes applicable to the SCL. This would be distributed to clubs with the 'Rules Meeting' agenda and be discussed at the rules meeting on November 13.
5. Treasurer's Report. The Hon. Treasurer provided a written report that outlined the Income and Expenditure Account for the Year. The report showed a modest credit of £207.25 on the year's activities. The report will be published with the AGM notice and agenda and will show that the SCL has a healthy general account balance at the end of the financial year. He went on to describe the various facets of the income and expenditure account and answered members' questions.
6. Umpires and SACO. It was noted that a meeting will be held shortly and a report will be submitted to a future SCL meeting.
7. The Hon. Secretary reported that the Presentation Night at the Shrubbery Hotel on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> will be attended by approximately 180 players and guests. Tom Abell, Captain of Somerset County Cricket Club and Sophie Luff, Captain of Somerset Ladies CC will be the principal guests and they will be joined in a question and answer session by Richard Walsh, the

Somerset County Gazette, the Sunday Independent and Wellington Weekly News. Tom will then present the trophies to the divisional winners. A draw for cricket equipment, which has been given by Mr Najmi, Lords Cricket Balls, will take place during the evening. The proceeds of the draw, together with a contribution from the SCL will be given to two charities named by Tom & Sophie.

8. The Committee noted that the clubs that won the 'Team of the Month' prizes had received a letter from Best Western with details of the prize and venues that had been allocated. The teams were:- May, Lympsham & Belvedere 2<sup>nd</sup> XI; June, Yeovil 2<sup>nd</sup> XI; July Wells 1<sup>st</sup> XI; August, Shapwick & Polden 2<sup>nd</sup> XI.
9. The Committee determined the winner of the 'AVCO Trust Young Player of the Year' Trophy as Matt Kingdom of Taunton Deane 2nds & 3rds. The Glastonbury Mowers All Rounder's Trophy was awarded to Reece Croker of Frome CC playing in the Premier Division of the SCL.
10. Amanda Counsell, the League's Welfare Officer said that a small number of club welfare officers needed to complete either a refresher or full safe hands course. A number of CWOs had asked for a weekend course in preference to an evening one. Two courses have been planned for 2017. A full safe hands course on Sunday November 19 at 9.30 am. at the C of E, Taunton and a refresher course at Clevedon CC on Tuesday December 5 at 6.30 pm. Any club and/or CWO who needs guidance should contact Amanda at the earliest opportunity rather than wait to the beginning of the next season. Ray Hancock noted that the process for obtaining a DBS check had changed and it could now be carried out online.
11. It was noted that three teams (Frome, Uphill Castle and Yeovil) had been promoted to WEPL. However, only two teams (Wellington and Temple Cloud) had been relegated to the SCL Premier Division. This will cause an adjustment beyond the usual 'two up, two down' movement in drawing up the 2018 SCL composition.
12. The Committee discussed the cricket balls used in 2017. The members were advised that the Hon. Secretary had received a couple of complaints, but no defective balls had been returned to him for investigation by the supplier. The committee saw a sample ball from another supplier, but chose not to change the current supplier this season. However, it was aware that a range of cricket balls was available from Lords International and the Hon. Sec. was asked to obtain some samples with prices for viewing at the Rules Meeting.
13. Final Tables 2017. The Committee confirmed the final divisional tables for season 2017 and these are shown in Appendix A.
14. Composition of Divisions for 2018. The agreed composition is displayed in Appendix B. Unfortunately, the number of teams that have now registered to play in the SCL in 2018 has dropped to 106, but the divisional structure will remain the same with five county wide divisions (1 -5) and 6 regionalised divisions (6N & 6S; 7N & 7S; 8N & 8S). However, there will only be 8 teams in each of Divisions 8 N & S. The Hon. Secretary said that he would endeavour to make fixtures within Division 8N & 8S to give a full set of 18 games in the season.
15. The Hon. Secretary said that he had started preparing the fixtures for 2018 and they would be published later in October.
16. The Committee discussed some possible rule changes that had been proposed by clubs and the Management Committee. The Hon. Secretary said that he would put them into a 'Rules Format' and they will be published with these minutes as Appendix C and circulated to all clubs. This will give clubs sufficient time to hold club discussions before the Rules Meeting on Monday November 13 at Uphill Castle CC, Weston super Mare. The AGM will then be held

on Monday December 11 at the Shrubbery Hotel. The publication of the official AGM notice and reports will be carried out by November 20 as per Rule 3 Administration 9 (c) General Meetings.

17. Toby Strang, Chairman of the Grounds Committee, said that the Grounds Sub-Committee would maintain a careful watch on ground issues and would also be available to assist clubs with obtaining specialist advice on ground developments.
18. The Committee discussed the use of the ECB's play-cricket website in conjunction with its own. Edward Martin and the Hon. Secretary would make arrangements to discuss the issue with the SCL's website manager.
19. Any other business. The Treasurer and Secretary re-stated the League's offer to financially assist members of the SCL clubs with attendance on cricket courses. The courses could be for coaches, umpires, scorers and groundsmen.
20. The meeting closed at 9.55 pm.
21. The dates of future meetings were confirmed as:-  
The Rules Meeting on Monday November 13<sup>th</sup> at Uphill Castle Cricket Club, Weston super Mare at 7.30 pm.  
The AGM on Monday December 11 at 7.30 pm. at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.