

## The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

### Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday March 13 2008- at The Ruishton Inn, Ruishton, Taunton.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Ian Latchem, Derek Hicks, Tom Packman, Amanda Counsell, Matthew Lunn and Ray Hancock.

1. Apologies were received from Toby Strang, Martin King and Ian Stolworthy,
2. The Minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (Oct. 2 '07) were approved.
3. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.
4. Correspondence had been received from:- a) South Petherton regarding disciplinary action and the Club's self disciplinary policy. b) Butleigh had sent an OP2 registration form for Craig Bartlett having registered him for 2007 as their OP1 player. The Committee determined that once a player has been registered as an OP1 player he must remain so until he qualifies for 'home status' after 6 continuous years and becomes an OP3 registration. There have been a number of examples where a player had decided to 'stay on' after coming to the club as an overseas player and these players had remained OP1 registrations. It is therefore important that the integrity of the system remains intact by this ruling. c) The County Development Officer, Andrew Moulding, endorsed the literature that the Hon. Secretary had prepared for club distribution regarding the appointment of Club Welfare Officers. The SCL reiterated the requirement that all clubs must appoint a welfare officer and arrange with Andrew Moulding to place the officer on a Safeguarding and Protecting Children course. d) The Hon. Secretary had confirmed the order of 1440 cricket balls for the coming season and reminded David Cooper of Crusader Sports that these will need to be delivered to the Shrubbery Hotel on April 13 for the EGM. e) The Hon. Secretary reported that he had received the proof copy of the Handbook and after checking it would be printed and delivered to the EGM on April 13. f) The Results Secretary produced a list of clubs that had not yet sent in their fixture lists for 2008. It was agreed that this list would be circulated with these minutes. g) Crewkerne had confirmed that the Club will play their home matches at Merriott Recreation Ground during 2008 and hoped that the developers of an adjacent supermarket would re-instate their ground for use in the future. h) A letter of thanks from the Coate family for receipt of the Leagues publications that Terry Mockridge had written on the history of the League and which featured Mel Coate. i) Wellington and Ilton regarding a request for a fixture change that the latter had not agreed to. Malcolm Fox, the Chairman, gave details of his involvement in the discussions. j) The Somerset Cricket Board held its AGM at Weston on February 13 and it was noted that Tom Packman, the League's Treasurer, was a member of the Board's Committee.
5. The Hon. Secretary gave details of the League Insurance Scheme to provide Public Liability cover for clubs in the SCL. He said that 39 clubs had joined the scheme with 90 teams covered. A further 12 clubs had indicated that they had made their own arrangements. The Hon. Secretary said that he was awaiting decisions from the remaining clubs. The Committee determined that ALL clubs that were not members of the League's scheme should send a copy of their Public Liability Insurance document to the Hon. Secretary before the season commences. Failure to do so would incur a fine of £20 per SCL team (ie the cost of the League's insurance cover). Clubs were reminded of Rule 3 (e) that a copy of their Public Liability Insurance policy must be

clearly displayed in the clubhouse. The Hon. Secretary was asked to ascertain the exact conditions, benefits and details of the current PL insurance with the insurers. The Committee was advised of two further insurance concepts. Mann Broadbent had offered clubs a Personal Accident cover of £17.50 per team with a benefit of £20 per week for loss of work and Phil Higginson of Curry Rivel had requested a meeting with the Committee to discuss another insurance offer. Both of these would be investigated and clubs would be informed of the details at a later date.

6. The Chairman, Malcolm Fox gave details of meetings that he and the Hon. Secretary had had at Taunton with Andrew Moulding and Brian Hoyle of the Somerset Cricket Board and an ECB regional discussion meeting that took place at the County Ground, Bristol. The main thrust of the Bristol discussions was the ECB centred view that the only cricket to be worthy of consideration was at Premier League level where investment was being made at the expense of 90% of other cricket that was being played by minor leagues and in cup/friendly cricket in the country. The main area of discussion with the Somerset officials was the concern that the Chairman had discovered about the total lack of coaching opportunities and the stringent rules laid down by ECB for those who held coaching certificates for levels 1 & 2. The many clubs that comprise the SCL were unable to access the courses, which were limited mainly to the focus clubs. It was quite clear that without an increase in coaching opportunities for the 'village' and small town clubs, local cricket would perish through lack of legally qualified coaches. The League officials gave details of a negotiated arrangement with the SCB whereby the League would part fund a level 1 course and, ultimately, a level 2 course in the future. The course would be organised by the SCB, as it is this organisation's responsibility to do so, but the SCL would select the persons after careful consideration of applications. The financial aspects have still to be finalised, but the Committee endorsed the Chairman's initiative that further talks with SCB should take place and it would financially support the outcome.
7. The Committee considered the agenda items for the EGM at the Shrubbery Hotel on Wednesday April 16 2008. The Committee suggested that the strengthening of teams, as discussed by the AGM in November, should be an important issue. The Committee explored some ideas and determined that the one proposed by Toby Strang should form the basis of the Committee's recommendation. A few salient points were added and after a small refinement, the proposal will be put to the EGM. The ongoing insurance investigations would also be aired.
8. It was agreed that similar arrangements to last year would be made for the distribution of club packages, which contained the Handbooks, result sheets, circulars and cricket balls at the EGM on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Club representatives would be warned that without a cheque for balls it would mean that balls could not be issued until the Treasurer had received payment. Clubs could send their ball payment in advance to either the Hon. Secretary or Hon. Treasurer if they wished.
9. It was agreed that the pre-season circular would feature many of the usual facets. There was a slight revision of some of the items and the Committee's regulations regarding the strengthening of lower level teams would be incorporated for the first time.
10. The only items mentioned under any other business were:- i) the Treasurer who gave details of clubs that still had outstanding accounts; ii) Derek Hicks who gave details of an umpires meeting at the Shrubbery Hotel on Monday April 7.
11. The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.