

# **The Best Western Shrubbery Hotel**

## **SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE**

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday October 14 2009 at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.

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

- 1 Apologies were received from Amanda Counsell, Ian Stolworthy and Martin King,
2. The Minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (September 21<sup>st</sup> 2009) were approved.
3. The only matter arising from the minutes concerned an update from the Hon. Secretary on the action he had taken to bring the notice of clubs to the SCB programme of coaching courses that were available to League clubs.
4. The Hon. Secretary gave details of correspondence received from :- a) Stephen Edmonds, the acting Secretary of the WSCL had written to introduce himself and Ray Hancock had responded to say that he would set up a meeting with him to explore areas of common ground and establish a link with that league. b) Alisdair Easton of Huish & Langport to help towards the cost of his trip to the West Indies with the West of England Under 15s in March/April 2010. It was resolved to give a donation of £100 to Alisdair and the Committee sent their congratulations to him upon his selection for a place on the tour.
5. The Honorary Treasurer drew the Committee's attention to his Draft Report for 2009 and gave details of the various items of income, expenditure, other sub headings and the balance sheet. He explained that the current year had shown a loss of £824 and highlighted some of the items of income/expenditure that had caused this loss. He said that he would prepare a proposition to be put to the AGM to raise the subscriptions at a future date. The Treasurer explained that the final copy of the Annual Accounts would be available for circulation to the membership when the final accounts and bank statements had been received.
6. The Hon. Secretary reported that the arrangements for the Dinner and Presentation of Trophies at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster on 16<sup>th</sup> October by the Chairman of Somerset County Council, John Edney were in hand. There were more people attending the presentation evening this year, but the Committee was disappointed that some clubs would not be represented at the function. It was determined by the Committee that trophies not collected at the Presentation Evening would not be presented on any other occasion and would remain in store until the end of the next season. This would also be future policy for the presentation of the League's trophies.
7. The Hon. Secretary reported that the templates for clubs to complete their averages had been emailed out and many had already been received back.

8. The Committee confirmed the final tables for Season 2009 and noted that these appear on the League's website and were circulated with previous documentation.
9. The Committee determined the recipients of the two outstanding awards, which will be presented at the AGM. The award for the Young Player of the Year was given to Jack Sellick of North Newton. The Glastonbury Mowers All Rounders Award was given to Andy Mortimer of Horrington.
10. The Chairman reported on recent meetings with the WEPL. He said that the discussions were ongoing and could well result in changes to some of the parts of the lower areas of the pyramid.
11. The Hon. Secretary explained that there had been some further discussions regarding the composition of the divisions previously published for the 2010 season. However, it was confirmed that the original composition published with the previous minutes would stand.
12. The Hon. Secretary said that the fixtures for Season 2010 would now be completed as a result of the confirmation made in 11 above. The fixtures will be sent to clubs in a matrix form and displayed on the website in the conventional fashion. All clubs were asked to check their fixtures upon receipt of the matrix and report any problems to the Hon. Secretary.
13. It was noted that four Management Committee members were due for re-election at the AGM. Malcolm Fox, Tom Packman and Ian Latchem indicated that they were prepared to stand again and the members of the Management Committee unanimously agreed to make a proposal to the AGM that they should serve another 3 years. There was a space on the Management Committee for an additional member at the AGM in November. Clubs were asked to give thought to nominating a member, particularly one who was still an active cricketer within the league structure. It was suggested that if any member is interested in joining the Committee or wants further details of the commitment then it would be useful if the club could contact the Hon Secretary in advance.
14. The Chairman reported that he and the Treasurer had reviewed the level of Committee Officers/Members' expenses and determined that there should be an adjustment to the one paid to the Hon. Secretary.
15. The Committee asked the Hon. Secretary to contact Crusader Sports regarding the cost of the Crusader Cricket Ball as the standard ball for 2010. A final decision would be made at a future meeting.
16. The proposed rule changes submitted by clubs were discussed. The clubs' proposals and those proposed by the Management Committee are shown on a separate sheet as an appendix to these minutes. The main discussion areas were a) Proposal by Taunton to increase the points value of the cancelled game due to weather conditions to 15 points; b) Proposal by Horrington to abolish the regionalisation system at levels 3 & 4 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI competition. c) Proposal by Belvedere to introduce fielding circles for Division 1 matches only. d) Proposals by the Management Committee to limit overseas players to Division 1 only; to make a minor change to Rule 5 (d) (v) regarding weather conditions; make an adjustment to Rule 4 regarding rule changes; re-organise the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI competitions to make a continuous line

of 12 divisions comprising 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs all playing in the same structure and to start in season 2011.

17. The Committee determined that all results of matches in 2010 will be reported electronically after the match instead of by phone/fax. Result sheets for each match will still be required for the Results Secretary to verify the facts and record the Don Crouch scores. Furthermore, clubs will be required to input their club personnel details onto the League's database and keep it up to date. Fines will be issued to clubs that fail to update their database details when playing and administrative changes occur.
18. A Sub Committee comprising Derek Hicks, Tom Packman and Toby Strang agreed to prepare a "Minimum Standards Document" for grounds, facilities etc. and submit it to a future committee meeting.
19. There were no items of 'Any Other Business' raised by members.
20. The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on  
MONDAY NOVEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009 at 7.30pm at the Bridgwater Sports and Social Club.
21. The meeting closed at 10.10 pm.

Ray Hancock  
Hon. Secretary.

# Appendix to Minutes (16.10.09)

## Rule changes proposed by the Management Committee for Decision at AGM Nov. '09.

**Note** All proposed changes to rule are shown in bold within the proposal.

### Management Committee Proposition 1

#### 4. ALTERATIONS TO RULES

Any club or the Management Committee may submit proposals for alterations to the Rules **or may submit a new rule**. Such proposals shall be considered by the Management Committee and sent to all clubs in the League, then submitted to the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting and shall become effective provided that they are supported by two thirds or more of the votes recorded.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Management Committee Proposition 2

**Note.** This proposal represents a change of rule, an additional rule and a renumbering of Rule 5 (j)

#### **(j) Results Sheets.**

- i) Each team is responsible for putting the names of all players, with ages if under 19 at the previous August 31<sup>st</sup>, on the Results Sheet 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.
- ii) **The Reporting of Results Electronically** - to be done on SCL Website. The home team is responsible for entering the result of the match on the SCL website using the prescribed procedure before noon on the day following the match. This result must be verified by the away team before midnight on the day following the match using the prescribed procedure. Any team that fails to input/verify the result by the due time will be fined the sum of £10.00 on each occasion. The home team will then be required to input the complete scorecard using the prescribed procedure before noon on the Wednesday following the match. Any team that fails to input the complete scorecard by the due time will be fined the sum of £10.00 on each occasion.
- iii) **The completed Team Sheet/Result Sheet, with ages where appropriate, must be sent by the home team to the Results Secretary by post or Fax immediately after the match. The Result Sheet must be received by the Results Secretary no later than the Thursday following the game.** The captain of each team shall sign that the sheet is correct. Any team guilty of infringing this rule shall be fined the sum of £10.00.

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### Management Committee Proposition 3

v) If the weather interferes with play at any time and overs are lost, then a drawn match results, **except in Rule 5 (d) i) above**, and both sides will be awarded twelve points each plus bonus points accrued. However, a) if the side batting second scores more runs, even with reduced overs, then it wins the match or b) the side batting second is bowled out for a total less than that scored by the side batting first, even with reduced overs, then the side batting first wins the match.

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### Management Committee Proposition 4

**Note. Changes shown in bold. Additional Rule i), additions to Rules ii) & vi) and the re-numbering of the rules.**

#### (d) Overseas Players

- i) **‘Overseas Players’ may only play in Division 1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI competition except as detailed in iii) and iv) below.**
- ii) Only one ‘Overseas Player’ \* shall play for a club in **Division 1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI competition** for each season. This player must be registered with the Hon. Secretary 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May. (Form OP 1 applies – obtainable from the Hon. Secretary).#
- iii) An ‘Overseas Player’ \* who has played for six consecutive seasons for one club as the overseas player shall be deemed a home player for that club.
- iv) An ‘Overseas Player’ \* is defined as an overseas national who is not a holder of a United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport. Any person who falls into this category and wishes to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League may ask the Management Committee for permission to play at least 7 days before his first game and no later than 31<sup>st</sup> May. (Form OP 2 applies – obtainable from the Hon. Secretary).#
- v) Any player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Passport or an Eire Passport shall be deemed a ‘home player’. A player who holds a current United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Birth Certificate shall be declared a ‘home’ player.
- vi) Only one ‘Overseas Player’ \* can be registered for a club in **Division 1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI competition** for each season even if he leaves before May 31<sup>st</sup>. After that date no ‘Overseas Player’ \* may be registered. A club with teams in other league cricket outside of the Somerset Cricket League shall have those teams counted in relation to one player per club.
  - For the purposes of the Somerset Cricket League Rules, an ‘Overseas Player’ is defined in No. iv) above.
- vii)# In the absence of the Hon. Secretary, the Results Secretary will issue and receive forms OP 1 and OP 2.
- viii)

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## Management Committee Proposition 5

**Note. Changes shown in bold. Additional Rules (b) and (d); changes to Rule (c) and the re-numbering of the rules.**

### 1. THE LEAGUE

(a) The League shall be called "The Shrubbery Hotel Somerset Cricket League" and shall consist of as many divisions as necessary to a maximum of ten teams per division. Except in cases where the Management Committee determines that for a temporary period a division shall consist of more teams in order to accommodate all teams that wish to participate in the League. For the purposes of these rules, Division One shall be deemed a Senior Division and all other divisions Junior Divisions.

**(b) All teams (1<sup>st</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup>; 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> XIs) shall be placed in one single competition from 2011 onwards.**

**(c) Promotion and relegation shall be on a two up/two down basis, except that promotion within Divisions 9 – (S/W and N/E) shall be two teams per division and relegation from Division 8 to Division 9 shall be four teams, put into the most appropriate regional division, subject to amendments by the Management Committee; any such amendments to be notified to all member clubs as necessary.** Positions are to be determined by the aggregate number of points obtained during the season.

**(d) A club's 2<sup>nd</sup> XI (or lower level team) must be in a lower division than its 1<sup>st</sup> XI (or higher level team), and promotion will be denied to the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI (or lower level team) or relegation enforced on the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI (or lower level team) to ensure this so that a club shall have no more than one team in any one division.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Rule Changes Proposed by the Clubs  
for Decision at AGM Nov. '09.

**Proposals 1 & 2. Taunton Cricket Club.**

**5. MATCHES**

**PROPOSAL 1**

**If a match is cancelled due to adverse weather each team shall be awarded 15 points.  
(Currently 12 points)**

*Current Rule 5 (b) iii) says:- iii) If the game is cancelled by the weather, each side shall be awarded twelve points.*

**Rationale**

Whilst I appreciate that it is paramount that teams should be encouraged to play cricket whenever possible and the incentive of points for a cancelled match should not be too high, only 12 points seems low when many a losing team gains more than 12 points and a team can gain as many as 12 points even when losing heavily. E.g. Team A 250-8 Team B 80 all out. Team B would gain 12 points. (Nigel Manley).

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**PROPOSAL 2**

**If a match is rain affected after the start and overs are lost and the match ends in a draw each team will be awarded whatever bonus points it has earned plus 8 points subject to a minimum total of 15 points (note 12 points if proposal 1 above is not adopted)**

*Current Rule 5 (d) v) says:- v) If the weather interferes with play at any time and overs are lost, then a drawn match results and both sides will be awarded twelve points each plus bonus points accrued. However, a) if the side batting second scores more runs, even with reduced overs, then it wins the match or b) the side batting second is bowled out for a total less than that scored by the side batting first, even with reduced overs, then the side batting first wins the match.*

**Rationale**

Under current rules both teams can gain almost as many points for a rain affected draw as for a win. Also, more importantly, some clubs have taken advantage of the current rule to start a game in unacceptable conditions just to gain a few extra bonus points. (Nigel Manley).

**The Management Committee does not support this change.**

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### **Proposal 3. Horrington Cricket Club.**

**"We hereby instruct the League to abolish the Regionalisation of the 2nd XI Competition Divisions 3 and 4 North East and South West respectively (Rule 1(b) refers) at the end of the 2010 season and to reorganise these lower Divisions on a county wide structure thereafter".**

*Current Rule 1 (b) says:- (b) Promotion and relegation shall be on a two up/two down basis, except that promotion within the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Competition Divisions 3 – (S/W and N/E) shall be two teams per division and relegation from Division 2 to Division 3 shall be four teams, put into the most appropriate regional division, subject to amendments by the Management Committee; any such amendments to be notified to all member clubs as necessary.*

**The Management Committee does not support this change.**

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### **Proposal 4. Belvedere Cricket Club.**

## **5. MATCHES**

### **Additional Rule to be added at 5 (L)**

#### **5 (l) Fielding Circles in all Games played in Division 1 of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Competition.**

At the instant of delivery a minimum of four fielders plus the bowler and wicket keeper must be inside an area bounded by two semi circles centred on each middle stump with a radius of 30 yard and joined by parallel lines on each side of the pitch.

The fielding circle must be marked with painted white dots at 5 yard intervals , each dot covered by a white plastic or rubber (but not metal) disc measuring 7 inches in diameter.

In the event of an infringement, the square leg umpire shall "no ball". This requirement shall be fulfilled regardless of the number of fielding side players.

#### **Note from Belvedere to support proposal:-**

*"We do not have an exact wording but would base the new ruling on the current WEPL rule regarding the use of a fielding circle etc., although we have not seen the full wording of the rule.*

*Is the Somerset League able to use the wording of the WEPL league? This would be favourable as opposed to the wording being put forward by us that may contain mistakes or leave out key points".*

**Note from Management Committee.** The voting on this proposal will be restricted to the 10 teams in Division 1 for the 2010 Season.

**The Management Committee supports this change.**