

# The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
at 7.30pm at The Centre of Excellence, County Ground, Taunton.

Those present Malcolm Fox, Tom Packman, Amanda Counsell, Edward Martin, Derek Hicks, Matthew Lunn,  
Matthew Counsell, David Derrick, and Ray Hancock.

1. Preliminaries. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies were received from Toby Strang, Martin King, Ian Latchem and Andy Fairbairn.
3. The Minutes of the previous meetings, (October 11; Rules Nov. 13 and AGM Dec 11'17) were approved.
4. There were no matters arising.
5. Correspondence. a) The Committee was advised that Middlezoy CC must re-arrange 6 fixtures during the season due to unavailability of their ground. It was hoped that opponents would make every effort to reach a satisfactory solution. **NOTE.** Any match cancelled by action from a 'third party' will count as a weather affected draw (12 points each team). b) Bagborough CC had indicated that it may like to re-enter the SCL at some stage in the future. The Hon. Secretary had advised the club that a request must be received by the end of September at the very latest. c) Some correspondence had been exchanged with Peasedown CC regarding the venue of league meetings. The Committee thanked Peasedown for their suggestions, but currently there was no plan to move the full membership meeting away from Ilminster and Taunton. **NOTE.** A full membership meeting requires a facility to accommodate approximately 100 representatives and 75 vehicles. d) The Committee had been advised by WEPL and Glastonbury CC that Glastonbury was withdrawing its 1<sup>st</sup> XI from Tier 2 of WEPL. The club would still participate in the SCL (Division 6N) and the team would be re-named Glastonbury 1<sup>st</sup> XI.
6. The Hon. Secretary said that most clubs had completed their entry of the club details on the appropriate sheet on the website. Clubs that had failed to meet the deadline by Monday February 19 would be fined. He had extracted the details and brought the league's data-base up to date with the exact details of the clubs' 2018 officers. In future, this element will not be required as the use of play-cricket.com will provide an 'up to date' note of ALL club officials and they will be contactable through the ECB site (play-cricket.com). The Hon. Secretary said that he had placed an order for 1,920 cricket balls and these would be delivered to the County Ground, Taunton on March 21 for collection by clubs after the Special Training Meeting for the use of play-cricket.com in the SCL.
7. A detailed analysis and explanation of the benefits of the use of the ECB play-cricket.com website was given by Matt Counsell, David Derrick and Edward Martin. It was recognised that some clubs will require more training on the use of the site than others and it was hoped that the ECB representatives, together with the SCL personnel, will be able to offer that during the special meeting on March 21. The Committee stressed the importance of attending the March meeting for the smooth running of the system during the season.
8. The Committee decided to cease the publication of the Handbook. All the information in the handbook will appear on the play-cricket.com website and/or on the existing SCL website. It was noted that 'playcricket' cannot currently cope with past statistical records and it was agreed

that the existing SCL website will remain for the foreseeable future. This will enable interested parties to access much of the past records/statistics of previous seasons and players.

9. David Derrick gave details of the various forms that he had updated. These included Loan Form; Tea Reclamation Form; Overseas Player Form (OP2); Ground Report Form. These forms will now be available online.
10. It was noted that all clubs had been advised of the revised venue for the special 'playcricket' training and ball distribution meeting on March 21. It will now be held in the Ground Floor Meeting Room of the Colin Atkinson Pavilion at the County Ground, Taunton. An agenda and other details will be circulated later in February. (See repeated note in Appendix A of original update on January 27).
11. Committee reviewed the loan scheme that was introduced in 2015. It felt that it had been a successful initiative and the Committee would continue with it in 2018. The Hon. Secretary noted that on a number of occasions he had been asked about a 'pool of players available for loan'. The Committee examined the possibilities, but it was felt that a note on the website would not satisfy the need. It was suggested that social media might provide a solution. It was noted that this form of communication had been used successfully in the past.
12. The results monitoring arrangements will take a slightly different approach in 2018. Amanda Counsell will check all entries in all divisions and record any inputs or verifications that do not meet the deadlines. David Derrick will be responsible for administering the fines and will also receive any appeals.
13. Derek Hicks said that it was most likely that the Premier Division, and to a very limited extent Division 2, would receive two umpires per match. The cost of an umpire in 2017 was £35. However, if he stood on his own it is £50 (ie. £25 for each team). More details on the arrangements, the payment of fees, the appointment procedure and other relevant aspects will be published after the meeting of SACO on March 13 at the Lawns Club.
14. It was agreed that the explanation of the Common Laws of the game will be outlined on the website. These laws had been previously detailed in the Handbook (Pages 47 & 49) and after ECB changes to the laws they will be updated and appear on line. The Committee was concerned about the effects of some of the changes, particularly when used in the lower divisions. The 'full pitch' no ball and wides could cause a team to 'run out' of bowlers and the game could be extended beyond a sensible finish time!
15. Amanda Counsell, the League's Welfare Officer, said that there were still a number of clubs that had not met the qualification standards for its club welfare officer. She had made every effort to contact them but had received no response in a number of cases. The Committee agreed that any club that failed to have a club welfare officer properly qualified at the start of the season would not be able to play cricket in the Somerset Cricket League. A club Welfare Officer must have attended an ECB Safe Hands course (or attended a SH Refresher if the original SH certificate is out of date); S&PC course and hold a current DBS certificate.
16. The Hon. Secretary said that he had sent out a reminder to all clubs to submit a copy of the club's Public Liability Insurance Certificate' to him before the season commences. SCL Rule 3 (e) applies. ***(e) Club Public Liability Insurance Policy. All member clubs must have a current Public Liability Insurance Policy in existence in order to participate in the Somerset Cricket League. A copy of this policy must be displayed in the clubhouse.*** The Committee debated the cover afforded by the PL Insurance and said that clubs **MUST** ensure that cover for volunteers is included in the policy.
17. The Committee noted that a few rule changes had occurred at the recent AGM. These changes will be incorporated into the SCL rules and published on the websites.

18. It was agreed that the 'Club Ground and Facilities Sub Committee' would continue checking on the state of grounds and the facilities at some of them. Currently, there were no outstanding problems, but any reported concern will be addressed by the Grounds Committee.
19. The Presentation Night 2018 will be held on Friday October 26<sup>th</sup>. It was agreed that the Chairman and Hon. Secretary would meet the Management of the Shrubbery Hotel, sponsors of the Somerset Cricket League, to discuss the financial arrangements of the event and, in a wider context, the future sponsorship of the League.
20. The Committee agreed to produce an updated version of the pre-season circular for subsequent distribution via email. A copy will also be displayed on the website. 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 as always would determine some decisions in the light of explanations/recommendations etc. that are recorded in the Circular.
21. The Committee confirmed the arrangements for the Special Meeting on Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup> in the Ground Floor Meeting Room of the Colin Atkinson Pavilion, the County Ground, Taunton. The play-cricket.com website seminar will be conducted by representatives of ECB. At the end of the meeting, the committee members will hand out team cards and cricket balls.
22. Any other business. a) The Treasurer requested that the two charities nominated by the principal guests at the Presentation Night, Tom Abel and Sophie Luff of Somerset County Cricket Club should be recorded. The proceeds of the draw, together with a SCL contribution, raised £600 for each charity. b) Edward Martin reminded the Committee that the Inter-League match against the WSCL did not take place last year. The Committee agreed to the hosting of this match during mid-season, probably at Kilve CC. Edward agreed to arrange it. c) Edward Martin gave notice of an event in memory of Clive Strong (Watchet CC and League Umpire) during the coming season. He said that he would bring the details to the notice of members of the SCL.
23. The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **The Special Meeting, Wednesday 21 March, for training on the use of play-cricket.com website by the SCL and the collection of cricket balls for the 2018 season.**

The venue for this meeting, which was scheduled to take place at Shapwick & Polden Cricket club, will now be held in the ground floor meeting room of the Colin Atkinson Pavilion at the County Ground Taunton. The reason for the change is that the Management Committee was concerned about the damage that could be caused by the parking of approximately 75 vehicles on the outfield at the S & P cricket ground.