

The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 26th January 2016
at 7.30pm at The Football Club Building, the BAY Club, Burnham on Sea

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

1. Preliminaries. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Matt Counsell for making the arrangements to host it at the football club.
2. Apologies were received from Ian Latchem, Martin King, Andy Fairbairn and Edward Martin.
3. The Minutes of the previous meetings, (October 21 and AGM Nov. 23. '15)) were approved.
4. There were no matters arising.
5. Correspondence. There was none other than items that had been received and circulated by email to members or related to items later in the agenda.
6. Sponsorship. The Hon. Secretary reported that he had had discussions in 2015 with Stuart Shepherd at the Shrubbery Hotel, but since his retirement from the hotel trade no ongoing arrangements had been made. The Hon. Secretary said that he would contact Stuart and explore the sponsorship arrangements further.
7. The club details sheets, which form the basis for the handbook entries and the data base information, were slowly being submitted through the website. A number had shown errors and omissions. These had been identified and would be returned to clubs as a draft document for final checking by clubs before the handbook is printed.
8. Club Welfare Officers' information forms, which had been previously distributed in the "Season 2016 - Update 1 on January 6th", indicated a wide range of 'missing qualifications' by club welfare officers. Each club was required to appoint a CWO and ensure that he/she had attended a 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children' course together with an 'ECB safe hands course' or an 'ECB safe hands refresher course'. These courses had to be attended during the past 3 years and their currency should not expire before the end of the 2016 season. A further requirement for the CWO was to hold a current DBS certificate. Again, the 3-year currency applies. It was resolved by the Committee to circulate a notice clearly explaining the fines and loss (non-playing) of cricket matches if clubs had failed to have a qualified officer in place by April 30th. (See appendix A).
9. Cricket balls. It was noted that a number of clubs had adjusted their orders for the 2016 season and the Hon. Secretary would place an order for 18 outers of balls.
10. The Assistant Secretary had produced a sheet listing the various monetary costs, fines etc. The Committee recommended that this document be circulated after the addition of a section on fines for failing to have a qualified CWO in position for the start of the season. (See appendix B).
11. The Committee discussed the quality of the debates and voting at the AGM (November 23 2015). A number of clubs had registered their dismay at the discussions and antics displayed at the meeting and the outcomes of the voting. The Committee explored a variety of ideas that included:- a) voting on propositions by club committees/full club membership and the ballot papers returned for counting prior to the AGM thereby getting 'a total club view'. b) changing Rule 4 which currently reads:-
"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.”

This could read:- a ‘simple majority’ or ‘a resolution which is carried by not less than 60% of the members present and voting”. The Committee resolved to review the issue at a future meeting following the outcome of a vote to have a simple majority, which has been proposed by a member club and will be put to the EGM in April.

12. The only proposal for a rule change to be placed before the EGM was:- We propose a change in Rule 4 so that the voting majority at meetings be changed from the two thirds or more majority to a simple majority of 1. This change of majority would commence at the 2016 AGM.
Proposed by Broadway & Horton CC
Reasons:-This change we believe will help the SCL modernise in line with the ECB player Survey. Also by changing to a simple majority it would be easier to reverse any changes.
13. The 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 2016. The Hon. Secretary noted that he had been asked about a ‘pool of players available for loan’. Unfortunately, none had put their names forward in 2015, so this aspect would be discontinued in 2016. It was suggested that social media could play a part in finding games for players on the loan scheme. See Appendix C for details of the Player Loan Scheme.
14. Derek Hicks explained the arrangements for umpiring in 2016 and the future seasons. The appointments will be made by Terry Sterland (league appointments officer) of SACO. He will inform teams and officials through the SACO website ie " WTU " (“whos the umpire website”). Contact details for the key representatives for the teams in the SCL Premier Division and Division 2 will be given to SACO by the Assistant Secretary once these details have been posted on the club details pages on the SCL website. The SCL will request details from SACO that appear in umpires reports where issues of ground facilities and discipline involve SCL teams.
15. The Hon. Secretary said that he was in the process of preparing the handbook for printing. It would take about a month to gather the material and work on the final content and the data base. He would use the same printing company and request help from Ian Stolworthy (Lydford) in setting up the arrangements etc.
16. It was noted that club representatives would be required to send copies of the club’s Public Liability Insurance Certificates to the Hon. Secretary before the season commences. A reminder will be sent out in a future ‘Update Email’. 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.
17. It was agreed that the ‘Club Ground and Facilities Sub Committee’ would check on the state of grounds and facilities at a number of school grounds prior to the season starting. In particular, the use of a temporary cover (gazebo), sufficient tables and chairs and a local toilet if at all possible. A further reminder will be made by the committee representatives at the EGM.
18. The Committee confirmed the arrangements for the EGM on Monday April 11th at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster. At the end of the meeting, the committee members would hand out a club package bag with handbooks, balls and pre-season circulars. Posters and agendas will be circulated to all SCL clubs by March 25th. Any proposals for rule changes must reach the Hon. Secretary by March 20th 2016. If passed the rule change will take effect immediately.
19. The arrangements for the Presentation Night for 2016 would be investigated and reported back to a future committee meeting.

20. Committee agreed to produce an updated version of the pre-season circular for subsequent distribution. 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. Any other business. a) A request had been received from Beaminster Cricket Club in Dorset regarding future membership of the SCL. It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary would discuss the issue with the club with a view to one or more teams joining. b) Promotion and relegation at the end of the season was discussed. Whereas it was clear in the SCL that two teams from Division 2 would be promoted and two teams from the Premier Division would be relegated, it was unclear about promotion and relegation between the SCL Premier Division and WEPL Somerset (Tier 3). The Hon. Secretary agreed to contact Chris Pannell, WEPL Administrator and express the Committee's intention to work towards a 'two up and two down' arrangement between levels 3 & 4. The Committee was concerned that a 'one up and one down' format would cause stagnation in a key area of the WEPL/Feeder Leagues structure. This needed urgent clarification so that teams were advised before the season started.
22. The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

APPENDIX A

SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE & THE CLUB WELFARE OFFICERS

Any club that has not appointed a fully QUALIFIED CLUB WELFARE OFFICER by April 30th 2016 cannot play league cricket in the Somerset Cricket League until such time as the CWO becomes qualified. See SCL Rule 3(h).

If clubs are barred from playing under this rule, {3. Administration (h)} then each club team will be fined £20 for the first incident and also receive a points fine of 30 points. Further cancellations will receive another 30 points fine until the situation is rectified.

The properly qualified CLUB WELFARE OFFICER needs to have met the THREE CWO conditions of:-

1. Attended a Safeguarding & Protecting Children (or work related education/health) Course within the last 3 years.
2. Attended either an 'ECB Safe Hands Course' or an 'ECB Safe Hands Refresher Course' within the last 3 years.
3. Holds a DBS certificate (Disclosure & Barring Service) that has been issued during the last 3 years.

Clubs should contact Amanda Counsell 01278 785324 if they have problems with this ruling

APPENDIX B

THE SHRUBBERY HOTEL SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE TARIFF

Annual Subscriptions

- £50 for a **Club**'s most senior team entered and then £25 for each subsequent team entered.

Meetings

- A fine of £40 will be levied for a **Club**'s non-attendance at any of the following official League meetings
- **AGM (held in November)**
- **Spring Meeting (EGM – held in April)**

Administration

- A fine of £20 will be levied on any **Club** that has not updated its Club Officer details for the season ahead by 1st February.
- A fine of £20 will be levied on any **Club** that has not registered a block of players (eleven minimum) so as to represent it in Match Play by 30th April.

Match Play

- When an official League match is cancelled in any season for any reason other than the weather the offending *side* will be deducted 30 points and fined a minimum of £20 in the first instance; any subsequent cancellations in the same season other than for weather by the same *side* will result in a further deduction of 30 points on each occasion, but no further monetary sanction will be applied.

Match Result Input and Verification

- A monetary fine of £10 and a deduction of six divisional points will be made if (a) the home *side* has not input full match result/scorecard records and SCL Sportsmanship Award ('Don Crouch Trophy') figures for the five categories involved by midnight on Sunday for matches played on a Saturday (for matches played on a Sunday and a Monday the deadline for performing these actions moves to midnight Monday and midnight Tuesday respectively) and (b) if the away *side* has not verified the full match result/scorecard records and provided SCL Sportsmanship Award ('Don Crouch Trophy') figures for the five categories involved by midnight on Monday for matches played on a Saturday (for matches played on a Sunday and a Monday the deadline for performing these actions moves to midnight Tuesday and midnight Wednesday respectively).

Hospitality

- Any official League match cancelled by the visiting team after 8.00pm on the day preceding the match will incur a £30 fine in addition to any other applicable fines. This sum to be passed to the home team to help defray expenses.

The non-defaulting Club is expected to claim these expenses through the League using the relevant pro-forma...

Club Welfare Officer - Failure

- If a properly qualified CWO has not been appointed to the complete satisfaction of the League's Welfare Officer by 30th April in any season then the club will not be permitted to play in the fixtures allocated to it. Such games will be considered to be forfeited games under the League's rules (Rule3 Administration (h) All clubs must appoint a Club Welfare Officer applies). The defaulting club's teams each lose 30 points on each playing occasion that a CWO remains un-appointed to the League's satisfaction (the non-defaulting side will receive 35 points on each occasion). Additionally, a fine of £20 will be levied on each team a defaulting club fields in the SCL on the first transgression under this process; as long as a CWO remains un-appointed defaulting Clubs (and their teams) incur 30 points deductions per playing occasion, but no further monetary sanction will be applied.

APPENDIX C

Player Loan Scheme

1. All players should be registered with their 'Parent' club.
2. A club that wishes to borrow a player, who is not currently selected for his parent club, should complete the Dual Player Registration Form and email it to Ray Hancock or David Derrick within two days of the completion of the first match. It will not be necessary to complete this form again for additional matches with this particular club.
3. Club officials, of the club borrowing the player, must register him for his 'new' club in the Club Details section on the website. This registration is in addition to his parent club registration.
4. A player may be 'loaned' to any number of clubs, but in each case another form must be completed as per instructions in No. 2 above.
5. Loaned players may not play against any team belonging to their parent club.
6. Players who become 'free' due to no game for their parent club **may not be loaned**.
7. A key aspect of this system is TRUST. The Management Committee will be keeping a watchful eye on the system and trusts that it will not be engaged in an investigation into Team Strengthening.
8. The system is designed to help fringe players get a game of cricket when otherwise they will miss out. Hopefully, it will also give teams that are struggling to find a full team of players, the ability to play a game, rather than cancel a match.
9. Ray Hancock (01823 444779) raysomcricket@randj.org.uk or David Derrick (01823 660687) or at david230275@googlemail.com) will be happy to answer questions about this scheme.