



SCL Minutes for meeting 9th September 2026 at 7.30pm via zoom

Present: Andy Barrett, Amanda Counsell, Lisa Burton, Matt Counsell, Gary Warren, Stuart Shepherd, Ben Pomeroy, Derek Hicks, John Squirell and Matt Lunn

Apologies: – Edward Martin , Toby Strang and Ben Osborne

Minutes of any previous meeting. – previously sent and were approved

Correspondence:

Many emails have been received re general enquires

Entry requests by Wrington 2, East Huntspill 2, Over Stowey and another team who has since withdrawn request – it was agreed to accept all entries as we have space in divisions 6 and 7.

Meeting request to discuss umpires with ECB Michael Grossett

Emails regarding a request young umpire joining the panel and ensuring safeguarding him

Many discipline emails

Nominations for young player and all-rounder of the year

Emails from members of one club which personally attacked AC

Sponsorship:

LB discussed sponsorship efforts, explaining that pursuing partnerships rather than traditional sponsorships due to companies' need for demonstrable returns on investment was the direction we were looking at.

Disciplinary Update:

AC reported that she had met with Maralyn Smith CEO SCF as part of her understanding of league cricket in Somerset. Behaviour and discipline within the league formed part of the discussion and was agreed to issue a joint statement from multiple organisations at the beginning of the season to address behavioural issues.

Discipline is still a big issue but 3 recent disciplinary issues have resulted in clubs themselves taking action on their players. The league commended the clubs for taking this action and feel this is what the clubs should be stepping in and doing. Hopefully more clubs will take this on board and self-police. It was reported that there was still one discipline issue ongoing due to nature of the case, Amanda has sought advice and escalated it with the Cricket Regulator and is awaiting a response.

It was noted that nearly every game this year probably involved offences that could have been reported and lack of accountability within clubs is a big issue. It was suggested that holding captains accountable alongside players for disciplinary violations should be considered and that the "spirit of cricket" had been lost with a win-at-all-costs mentality.

Amanda stated that at times it was hard handling difficult emails and complaints especially when they became personal and thanked the committee, particularly Andy for their support when this happened during the season.

LB raised concerns about inappropriate emails sent to committee members, particularly Amanda, and suggested the need for better ways to address and prevent such behaviour.

Moving forward the committee agreed to look at possible further sanctions for disciplinary breaches, including banning captains or deducting points from teams. A tariff document will be prepared for points-based system for consideration at the AGM. MC explained that any variations to the recreational cricket regulations would need ECB approval, so once prepared we will send to them for their consideration.

Cricket Balls:

We are halfway through our contract with Lords Balls and an order will be placed for 2600.

WEPL:

Congratulations to Taunton Deane 2 and Lympsham and Belvedere have been promoted to WEPL, we are waiting to hear from WEPL whether the clubs meet the facility standards. North Perrott and Taunton will be returning to our Premier Division.

Applications for 2027:

Wrighton 2, East Huntspill 2, Over Stowey and another team who has since withdrawn requested to join in 2027 – it was agreed to accept all entries as we have space in divisions 6 and 7. There is a possible further interested team but currently they are seeking a ground.

All rounder and Young Player of the Year:

Following nominations from clubs, the committee voted to present the Young Player Award to Harry Frake of Uphill and the All Rounder Award to Wayne Spencer of Butleigh.

Players Players Award:

From votes from each weeks team reports; These will presented at the dinner to W Spencer, A Latifi, w Creaser, J Chanter, D Redwood, R Appleyard, E Dummett, J Jacon, S Goodhew, A Prakash, D Rowe , M Steeds and J Davies.

LB will publicise all on our social media.

Presentation Night:

LB is organising the evening, emails and forms have been sent out to all and will be resent as regular reminders. Adverts are all over our social media too.

At present we are waiting on a guest from SCCC, sadly the guest, Lewis Gregory, we had lined up has double booked themselves. The family of Malcolm Fox and Martin King will be attending to present the new trophies in their name to Simon Manley and Jibin Jacob.

Possible Rule Changes:

It has been suggested that all transfers must be completed by Thursday to allow time for processing, as clubs were submitting requests too late on Fridays and expecting them to be completed by match day. Concerns were also raised about slow over rates in lower divisions taking in some cases over three and a half hours to bowl 40 overs and suggested potentially implementing guidance or rules to address this issue -although we are not sure how this could work in practice.

AGM:

The membership appear to want a face to face agm so the committee agreed to hold the AGM in person at Bridgwater Rugby Club if we can get the venue in late January or early February, with BP tasked to confirm venue availability.

Meeting closed 8.50pm

Next meetings: 19th October 4th January