



# The Somerset Cricket League

## Supporting Cricket In Somerset

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March via zoom

Present: Andy Barrett, Amanda Counsell, Derek Hicks, Matt Lunn, Stuart Shepherd, John Squirrell, Lisa Burton and Matt Counsell

Apologies from Edward Martin, Ben Osborne and Toby Strang

The Chair welcomed Lisa and Matt to the meeting, both were they formally co-opted to the committee. Andy thanked them both for the continued support they were giving to the league, and all agreed they would be a real asset to the league. He also thanked them for the support they had previously given to the league through their work at the Somerset Cricket Foundation.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** read and approved

**Matters Arising:**

- All the proposals that were put forward at AGM were passed – rules will be updated shortly to reflect the changes.
- The committee were waiting for the contract for the 3 year price guarantee deal with Lords Cricket Balls.
- Disciplinary rules have not yet been updated as we have not had a response from the ECB

**Correspondence:**

- From clubs regarding rearrangement of matches
- From WEPL – they have set up a working group to assess facilities in tier 3 of WEPL
- Queries regarding overseas players/visas
- From SACO regarding umpires
- From clubs wishing to purchase additional cricket balls
- From a cricket team – looking for a tour fixture. – see bottom of mins
- PL insurance documents from 2 clubs

**Treasurer Report:** The treasurer reported that all clubs had paid their subscription and he was in process of producing cricket ball invoices. The League insurance has been renewed at a cost of £583.20.

It was reported that Darren Taylor is now the umpire appointer for league matches. Darren has informed us that there is a general lack of umpires and many umpires will not now umpire at clubs who do not provide teas. We did tell him that as league we do not mandate teas and this is a club decision. Umpire's fees were discussed and it was agreed that for 2026, the fees will increase to £65. Fees have not been increased for a few seasons. It was noted that WEPL umpire fees are £80 for tier 3, £90 for tier 2 and £100 for tier 1.

**Public Liability Insurance:** All clubs who are not on the SHMS scheme for free public liability insurance need to send a copy to admin@somerset-cricket.org.uk prior the start of the season – some clubs have already completed this.

**Umpiring CPD:** As discussed at the AGM, two sessions of umpiring CPD are being arranged. These sessions are not certificated. They are information/teaching sessions to give players more confidence and hopefully to improve the standard of understanding and umpiring across the divisions. A sign up form will be sent to clubs.

- Since meeting dates have been confirmed for Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April at the Wyvern Club in Taunton and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Winscombe CC both starting at 7pm.
- Sign up form below
- [https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAa\\_\\_ZjzWkFUNEVKRjFPOEiUUEJNSiNTSVeWVRVYN0VTOS4u](https://forms.cloud.microsoft/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSIkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAa__ZjzWkFUNEVKRjFPOEiUUEJNSiNTSVeWVRVYN0VTOS4u)

**Captain's meeting:** – date to be confirmed – likely to be mid April – details to follow

**Safeguarding:** It was reported that currently there are some clubs in the league without a qualified Safeguarding Officer – all clubs are reminded that they will be unable to play cricket in the league without one.

The committee had a discussion regarding the new ECB safety regulations **and that the wearing of a helmet neckstem/guard is now strongly recommended.** This is for clubs to manage and they should make sure any protection meets British Standards. Links around this will be provided to clubs and will be on website

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/concussion>

<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2025/12/16/28c76edf-7e04-4193-933d-cb2866010440/Recreational-Cricket-Safety-Guidelines-Dec-2025-Update.pdf>

**Website/ Rebranding:** The committee discussed plans for rebranding and improving the league's online presence. Lisa proposed creating a new logo for the league with defined brand colours, and templates to make communications more consistent. This was unanimously agreed and felt that this help with the search for a new league sponsor.

**Cricket Ball Invoicing and Distribution:** John is hoping to send out the cricket ball invoices by around March 25th. At present the cricket balls have not arrived – Amanda to contact to get delivery date. Clubs will be sent a collection point and date. Some clubs requested additional

balls and any club wishing to order spares will need to contact Amanda as previously requested.

Each teams will receive 18 cricket balls.

1 team – 18 balls (3 boxes), 2 teams – 36 balls (6 boxes) and 3 teams – 54 balls (9 boxes) etc

**League Presentation:** October 9th. It was agreed to acquire two new trophies for the League's Best Batter and Best Bowler in the league in memory of Malcolm Fox and Martin King.

There was no other business – meeting closed at 8.05pm

Club looking for fixtures – if interested please email direct to [robert.blythe@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:robert.blythe@hotmail.co.uk)

Hi there,

I'm Rob, fixtures secretary at Ponthir CC in South Wales. Each year we head off on a 'one day preseason tour' where we look to play two t20 games (bringing two sides) and spend a load of money in the bar of whichever club we visit.

We're very relaxed about the cricket, bringing a strong 1st XI and a very mixed second side.

Please can you forward this onto your leagues' clubs in the hope that someone might offer to host us?

Thanks,

Rob