

# The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting  
held on Tuesday March 17 2015 - at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Derek Hicks, Tom Packman, Ian Latchem, Matthew Lunn, Edward Martin, David Derrick, Toby Strang, Andy Fairbairn and Ray Hancock.

1. Apologies were received from Amanda Counsell, Matthew Counsell and Martin King.
2. Minutes of previous meeting. (February 3 2015) were approved.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. All relevant correspondence since the previous meeting (February 2015) had been circulated.
5. David Derrick noted that the database of player registration for 2014 had been deleted and clubs would need to re-enter player details for 2015. He said that the results pads would not be issued this season and he would liaise with Ian Latchem on a weekly basis to check and correct points' totals. The results system, monitoring and website would function in the same way as previous seasons. The changed arrangement for scoring of the Don Crouch marks was discussed, but in the absence of Matt Counsell, who had devised the new scoring system, it was left for the Hon. Secretary to contact him and agree the new structure. This information would be corrected in the handbook rules, addressed in the preseason circular and displayed on the website. David explained that a set of dedicated email addresses had been developed and these would be used by Committee members in due course.
6. The Hon. Secretary gave details of a working group meeting that had taken place earlier when he, David Derrick, Glyn White (Evercreech) and Chris Vigar (Long Sutton) had met to discuss a player loan scheme as muted at the AGM (minute 11). The group had sight of similar schemes in Gloucestershire and York and District which gave good examples of how a sharing of fringe players could work. The outcome of the discussion was to recommend to the Management Committee that a scheme be put into operation for the forthcoming season and that a proposal to incorporate it into the SCL rules be put before the EGM on April 13. The details of the scheme are shown in Appendix A.
7. The Committee noted with regret the withdrawals from the SCL of Horrington CC & North Curry CC due to a shortage of players in their respective clubs. The Hon. Secretary said that he had extended an invitation to both clubs to return to the SCL if player numbers improved in the future.
8. The Chairman and Hon. Secretary gave details of the background of the recently published restructure of WEPL and its implications for the feeder leagues. It was noted that all SCL clubs had been circulated with details of the restructure that will take place at the end of the current season. The SCL officers will address the EGM and take questions on the restructure and its effect on the SCL in the future.
9. Derek Hicks reported that he anticipated that there would be 10/12 panel umpires on the SCL list in 2015. As there would be a maximum of 4 games to cover in Division 1 there may be occasions when umpires could also umpire in Division 2 if clubs in that division needed them. However, he

was more pessimistic about future years when the re-organisation of WEPL and its implications for umpiring in the SCL were known.

10. The Hon. Secretary and David Derrick had attended an ECB workshop in Exeter entitled "Get The Game On". They had found it an interesting experience, gained some insight into the concern about the numbers leaving the game and heard of a number of issues that were being pursued to address the problem. Use of 'loan players' was one of the recommended concepts that the SCL was already pursuing.
11. Club Welfare Officers. It was understood from an emailed report from Amanda Counsell (SCL Welfare Officer) that all club Welfare Officers had either attained the necessary qualifications or would be attending workshops next week. A few CWOs still needed to complete their DBS applications, although she believed that these were now underway.
12. The SCL Handbook had gone to the printers and the Hon. Secretary was awaiting a delivery of the proof copy which he would be checking for error and updating. The handbooks would be delivered to the Shrubbery Hotel on the day of the EGM.
13. The Hon. Secretary said that 2,000 Cricket balls had been ordered. This gave a slight surplus at this point in time. The balls would be delivered to the Shrubbery Hotel on the day of the EGM. The Treasurer noted that he would be invoicing clubs for balls shortly and any club that failed to send a cheque in advance or pay on the night would not be supplied with their cricket ball allocation. Separately, he said that clubs that failed to register their membership with the SCB (Rule 3 (d) applies) would be invoiced through the SCL system later in the season.
14. The Hon. Secretary reported that clubs were now sending in copies of their club's PL insurance cover since the recent reminder in the 'March Update'. Clubs that failed to remit copies of the PL cover would be unable to play league matches in the SCL until such time as the copy certificates were received by the Hon. Secretary. *(See Rule 3 Administration (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).*
15. Club Ground Facilities Sub Committee. Toby Strang gave details of the current situation. In particular, he expressed his concern over teams that played on school/college facilities. It was agreed that the Grounds Sub Committee would continue to monitor the situation at the known 'trouble spots' and unannounced spot checks would also be made. Reports from teams visiting the grounds that lacked the basic facilities would be sought by the Committee. It was emphasised that the FIVE elements must be in place for match grounds to meet the required standards. Adequate cover against bad weather (RAIN) for a minimum of 26 persons: Sufficient chairs for non-batters etc., together with a table for the scorers: A toilet close by: Changing room and showers (can be on main ground; 1<sup>st</sup> Aid Kit and bottled water if water is not available through a mains supply. These facilities MUST be put into place during the current season, otherwise membership of the SCL will be withdrawn for the 2016 season.
16. The Committee noted that there will be Rule Change proposals on the agenda for the EGM, which if passed would become effective immediately and apply to the 2015 season. These proposals include a) No match can start after 3.30 pm (Wells CC); b) Restriction of bowlers to a maximum of 20% of available overs (Wellington) ; c) All clubs must forward a copy of PL insurance to Hon. Secretary before season (add to Rule 3 (e) (Man. Comm.) ; d) "leg side wide", for divisions 1 and 2 should any ball go past the leg stump it should be called a "wide" (the umpires panel) ; e) Loaning of fringe players (Man. Comm.). f) 40 overs for Divs. 6-9 or 8 & 9. (Shapwick & Polden). g) more

regionalised divisions (Man Comm.). All of these proposals are written up in 'Rules Terminology' in Appendix B.

- 17.** The Committee discussed the arrangements for the EGM at the Shrubbery Hotel on Monday 13 April 2015. The agenda will include an item on the WEPL restructure and its implications for the SCL. This will include a statement about the changes and be a 'question and Answer' session. Committee members will again assist with the distribution of handbooks and cricket balls.
- 18.** The Hon. Secretary spoke about the revised Pre Season Circular. This year it will contain a list of Rule changes; a reminder of the late cancellation policy; a new scoring system for the 'Don Crouch' marks; scorebooks and the recording of results; the restructure of local cricket at the end of the 2015 season (WEPL & SCL); copies of the Transfer Form, the Tea Reclamation Form and the Loan Arrangement Form – ie. Dual Player Registration Form (note – these forms will also be available for downloading on the SCL website. The circular will also include the usual contents for club reference. The Management Committee determined that the Pre-Season Circular will not be produced in hard copy this year, but it will be emailed out prior to the season commencing and will also be available on the website.
- 19.** Items raised by Committee Members. The Treasurer expressed his concern over a late payment of a September invoice by one club. He will deal with the problem with a telephone call. It was noted that the Treasurer will be the officer in receipt of the "Tea Reclamation Form".
- 20.** The meeting closed at 10.06 pm.

## APPENDIX A

### 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. Another aspect of the loan scheme. A player who wishes to make himself available for local clubs may put his details (name, club, tel. no., email address) on the SCL website. He must do this by emailing these details to Ray Hancock or David Derrick who will put the information on line. Needy clubs can then look for players in this "Player Pool".
6. Loaned players may not play against any team belonging to their parent club.
7. Players who become 'free' due to no game for their parent club (eg. some teams in divisions 1 & 5 will have free Saturdays due to withdrawals of North Curry and Horrington) may not be loaned.
8. 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.
9. 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.
10. Ray Hancock (01823 444779) [raysomcricket@randj.org.uk](mailto:raysomcricket@randj.org.uk) or David Derrick (01823 660687) or at [david230275@googlemail.com](mailto:david230275@googlemail.com)) will be happy to answer questions about this scheme.

## APPENDIX B

**Proposals for debate and decision at the EGM Monday April 13 at the Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster.**

### **Proposal 1 – Wells CC**

#### **5. Matches (d) Weather Conditions**

i) In the event of a late start because of weather conditions, overs shall be deducted, and the remaining overs shall be divided equally between the two sides. A full match of 90 overs cannot start after 2.00 pm. and **no match can start after 3.30 pm.**

**Reason for change:-** *In the interest of the whole league we (Wells Cricket Club) believe that waiting 120 minutes beyond the designated start time is sufficient to allow players to get home to their families and enjoy their Saturday afternoons. We therefore withdraw our proposal of a cut-off time of 4.00 pm and propose a 3.30 pm. cut-off time instead. **Therefore no match can start after 3.30 pm.***

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### **Proposal 2 – Wellington CC**

#### **5. Matches Rules of Match Play**

vi) No bowler shall bowl more than **nine** overs in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one **fifth** of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

vii) In the event of a match being affected by weather conditions and overs are lost a side bowling second is restricted in overs. In this situation, the maximum number of overs that can be bowled by any one bowler shall be one **fifth** of the permitted overs, rounded up to a complete over. Once the second innings has started, the maximum number of overs, calculated and agreed, may be bowled by any bowler irrespective of any further loss of overs due to weather conditions.

**Reason for change:-** *No bowler may bowl more than 20% of the overs available in any SCL game's innings; thus the maximum that may be bowled is nine overs per bowler in a full match of 45 overs per side and pro-rata thereafter in the case of rain or bad light curtailing a game.*

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### **Proposal 3 – Management Committee**

#### **3.Administration (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 **and a copy of the relevant Public Liability section must be sent (email or postal) to the Hon. Secretary before the season commences or as soon as the policy becomes current.**

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### **Proposal 4 – Umpires Panel**

#### **5. Matches. (m) Divisions 1 & 2 Only "leg side wide" New rule**

**The umpire shall call "wide" for any ball that passes the leg stump without making contact with bat or player**

**Reason for addition:-** *I think we should consider the "leg side wide", we are probably the only league with this law not in place. So I propose that for divisions 1 and 2 should any ball go past the leg stump it should be called a "wide". Proposed by the umpires' panel. Derek Hicks*

## **Proposal 5 – Management Committee**

### **7. Players (g) Loaning of Players**

**A player may be loaned to another club by agreement of both clubs upon completion of a ‘Loan Form’ which must be emailed to the secretariat no more than 2 days after the match. A player may play for an unlimited number of other clubs, but must complete a further form for each new club that he represents. He may not play against his parent club, Hosting clubs are required to enter the registration of each ‘guesting’ player in the club details section on the website.**

**Reason for Addition:-** *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.*

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## **Proposals 6 – 8 – Shapwick & Polden**

### **Proposal a)**

**5. Matches v)** A game will consist of a **maximum of 40 overs per innings for divisions 6-9** except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter.

vi) No bowler shall bowl more than **ten overs** in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one quarter of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

### **Proposal b)**

**5. Matches v)** A game will consist of a **maximum of 40 overs per innings for divisions 8 & 9** except as provided for in (d)(i)(ii), (e) and (f) hereinafter.

vi) No bowler shall bowl more than **ten overs** in any one innings. Should a match be restricted in overs prior to the start, the maximum overs to be bowled by any one bowler shall be one quarter of the permitted overs rounded up to a complete over.

### **Proposal c)**

**5. Matches vi)** 10 overs per bowler if proposal a) or b) is carried

**Reason for change:-** *Following the narrow defeat at the AGM of the same proposal we would like to propose 40 overs again following discussions with our players and management committee.*

*With numbers participating in cricket decreasing these proposals will encourage our younger players (aged 14-19) to play adult cricket in line with their opinions based from the 2014 players survey;*

*"Their views were to play fewer overs, start and finish earlier and contribute to the game."*

*We feel this will also encourage other older players as their biggest dissatisfaction is the time in which matches finish. With a 1pm start rejected at the AGM the only way this can happen is with reduced overs to ensure games are finished by 7pm.*

*I'm sure that half the people and many people here will disagree and resist change but consider who you will play with if you lose the other 50% and don't change in line with the thoughts of our players?!*

*Forgive the number of proposals but thought if it runs in this order will make sense and hopefully will cause less confusion.*

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## **Proposal 9 – Management Committee**

### **1. The League**

c).Promotion and relegation shall be on a two up/two down basis, **except that promotion within Divisions 6 – (S and NE) shall be two teams per division and relegation from Division 5 to Division 6 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.

**Reason for change:-** *The Committee has taken note of the outcomes of the ECB National Playing Survey and its many findings. The overall concern to finish earlier and travel less distance is reflected in this proposal.*