



## SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

*Hon. Secretary*  
**Ray Hancock, MBE**

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### Zoom Management Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 20th October 2020

#### Present

Ed Martin (who chaired the meeting), Martin King, David Derrick, Ray Hancock, Matt Counsell (SCB), Toby Strang, Simon Glover, Stuart Shepherd, Amanda Counsell, Derek Hicks, Andy Fairbairn (SCB), Matt Lunn and John Squirrel

#### 1. Preliminaries

EM welcomed all who were present to this meeting.

#### 2. Apologies

Andy Barrett, Malcolm Fox, Tom Packman, Nicola Clarke.

#### 3. Declaration of Interest

There were none declared

#### 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting– July 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 (copy attached)

There were some amendments raised by committee members. Minutes to be amended as requested by Ed Martin and Ray Hancock would sign them off

#### 5. Matters Arising

All matters will be covered in later agenda items

#### 6. Correspondence

Ray Hancock confirmed that all correspondence received had been previously shared with committee members.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report

The meeting placed on record its thanks to Tom Packman for an excellent set of figures and supporting report. The League Treasurer presented a provisional account for the year ending 30th September 2020, The Committee discussed the report and noted that a formal report will be released ahead of the AGM .

#### 8. Updating play-cricket website

New templates were being rolled out by ECB. It was agreed to update the website during the close season. John Squirrel agreed to undertake this update.

Ed Martin expressed the Committee's thanks to John Squirrel for his diligence in maintaining somcl.play-cricket.com in these challenging times.

9. Report on the 'bubbles' initiative in July/Aug/Sept 2020

The bubble leagues had been well received. Playing members of the committee commented on how they found the bubble leagues. Amanda Counsell reported that games had been played in the spirit which matched the Committee's hopes. There was a level of flexibility over the use of loan players and a few clubs played less games than originally planned due to player numbers or Covid-19 issues. Feedback received included, it was good to play some different oppositions, 40 overs was popular with teams who normally play 45 overs and some teams preferred not to have to prepare and eat teas!

The Committee expressed its grateful thanks to both AC and RH for their sterling work to set up, maintain and manage the bubble system in 2020. Andy Fairbairn also added his thanks from the Somerset Cricket Board.

10. Report of WEPL Leagues Meeting – October 15<sup>th</sup> 2020

Ray reported that he and Amanda had attended this meeting via zoom and felt it had been a very useful meeting of the representatives of WEPL and the feeder leagues. Andy Fairbairn reported that WEPL was planning a full season per their default playing model in 2021. The feeder leagues expressed their intention to take a similar approach but reserved the right to change this format if the situation dictates.

All feeder leagues understood that in the light of the current Covid-19 situation, clubs may not be in a position to confirm their entries for 2021. As a result, clubs will be given an extended entry date of December 31. This will provide sufficient time to circulate the fixtures by early February 2021. The WEPL and its feeder leagues will meet again in January to review the situation.

11. An update of ECB activities with current action

MC noted that ECB is currently going through a restructuring of staff due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Unfortunately, this puts some jobs at risk.

The ECB has approved guidance for indoor cricket activity which is available at:

<https://www.somersetcricketboard.co.uk/ecb-indoor-guidance-october-update/>

All Welfare Officer Training Courses are currently online and DBS verification will be via video call from 1<sup>st</sup> November.

The ECB Playing Survey has been completed and we are awaiting the results. The survey was the best one which has been produced in a number of seasons and specifically asked questions regarding changes which happened this summer due to Covid-19. e.g. Less Overs, No Teas and less travel.

12. Future Administrative Structure of MSL

Amanda Counsell detailed a potential new MSL Man Comm member - Nicola Clarke from Weston super Mare CC. Nicola has lots of experience at club and league level and will be a valuable asset to the MSL. The committee unanimously co-opted her to the committee.

Ed Martin noted that as 2020 had not been as expected, he was pleased to note that Ray Hancock had agreed to stay in post for a further 12 months to aid the smooth transition when his successor is in place. It was unanimously agreed to ask Tom Packman if he is happy to remain in post as well. This would provide a transition period in order to assist Simon Glover to take over the role of League Treasurer. Ed Martin agreed to speak to Tom.

It was discussed that in order to 'share the load' committee members should have a clear role and focus within the management committee. Ed Martin asked the current membership to let him know if there was something they were particularly interested in pursuing.

13. A future League Dinner.

A discussion took place, but the uncertainty of the covid situation made any forward planning difficult to make. It was noted that Stuart Shepherd, the President was keeping this item in abeyance. RH noted that attendance levels outside of the 'successful' Clubs is an on-going issue.

14. Cricket Balls

Some of the 2020 ball order was used in 2020. Orders for the 2021 season will need to be assessed. RH will liaise with Clubs and then place an order with the supplier. A very small stock of Shrubbery balls are still held.

15. Composition of the SCL Divisions for 2021 – as per 2020

The composition of divisions for the 2021 season will be those originally designed for 2020. However, a final composition will depend on predicted entry levels at the end of December.

16. Fixtures 2021

It is planned to use 2020 fixtures where appropriate, however this will wholly depend on entries and ground availability. The Division 8S may need to be rejigged due to entry numbers and geography. The committee is currently looking at options, however until final numbers are known they cannot be finalised.

17. Rule Changes

Ray Hancock said that based on no play taking place in 2020 few proposed changes were anticipated. However, clubs can propose rule changes, and these would be voted on at the AGM. Andy Fairbairn reported that the ECB had conducted a survey and there were some questions around, overs, teas and length of travel. He thought that there may be some rule change suggestions which had been prompted by the survey questions.

18. AGM 2020

The AGM will be held as planned via zoom on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Matt Counsell detailed how this would work, citing an example of another sporting AGM that he had attended and that was hosted via Zoom. He noted how successful it had been.

19. Any Other Business.

There were no matters raised by committee members.

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Chairman