

The Shrubbery Hotel - Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Monday
April 9, 2018 at the Centre of Excellence, County Ground, Taunton.

Those present Malcolm Fox (Chairman), Derek Hicks, Tom Packman, Toby Strang, Amanda Counsell, David Derrick, Matt Counsell, Edward Martin and Ray Hancock.

1. Apologies were received from Martin King and Matt Lunn.
2. The Minutes of the previous Management Committee Meeting (February 15) were approved.
3. There were no matters arising.
4. Correspondence. A note regarding umpiring from Nick Keylock, Crewkerne CC was received. He requested clarification of the league's intended position on the possible application of law 42. This law encompasses players conduct. Derek Hicks suggested that this law only be applied by appointed umpires in SCL Premier and Division 2 (where official umpires had been appointed). It was agreed that **appointed umpires** should be the only ones to deduct points and apply other penalties as set out in Law 42 otherwise failure to follow this recommendation could be a source of contention. The Management Committee ruled that matches played in the SCL would follow this directive. It was emphasised that all umpires should continue to report abusive and dangerous behavior and the Committee will continue to support them.
5. Results Monitoring in 2018. David Derrick said that Amanda Counsell will monitor results in all divisions of the SCL. This includes both the inputting and verification processes. He would adjudicate as and when required. The finish time for inputting and verification had been brought forward to 10.00 pm from Midnight on Sunday and Monday respectively.
6. Assessment of Training Event – March 21. The Committee members expressed their concern over the poor presentation by the ECB representative of the use of play-cricket.com website by the SCL. It left much to be desired and was only ‘rescued’ by Matt Counsell giving a detailed explanation at the end of the meeting and agreeing to publish a guide incorporating the significant aspects of the system. NB. This has now been written and appears as Appendix A to these minutes. Concern was also expressed about the mal-function – at times – of the SCCC WIFI system.
7. play-cricket.com. The Committee noted the huge amount of time and expertise that the website Manager, John Squirrel had given to both the previous SCL website, which he had designed and built, and the installation of the ECB website play-cricket.com. The Hon. Secretary was asked to write a letter of thanks to John for his support in the past, his current role with the new site and his agreement to continue to manage all aspects of the League’s participation in the ECB’s play-cricket.com website.
8. Club Welfare Officers. Amanda Counsell gave details of the current situation. She explained that some clubs had booked CWOs into appropriate courses both in and outside the County and would thus meet the deadline. However, she had concerns about one club with 3 teams, youth teams and other relevant units. Nevertheless, she trusted that the CWO would be qualified before the start of the season and avoid any SCL cancellations being imposed by the Management Committee.
9. Loan Scheme and a pool of players. The Hon. Secretary said that a number of clubs had enquired about a ‘pool of available players’ within the loan scheme, but experience of this aspect of the

scheme indicated that it was not possible to motivate players to join. It was agreed to continue to action the existing system, but not to attempt to create a pool of available players. It was noted that social media was playing a large part in linking players who were available to clubs that needed additional players to fulfil a fixture.

10. Umpiring Arrangements with SACO. Derek Hicks said that SACO was confident that it could supply two umpires per match in the Premier Division, but only one umpire per game in Division 2.
11. The Team of the Month Award would be awarded immediately after the conclusion of a month's games, rather than at the end of the season. In the event of tied points for this prize, then the team with the best 'Don Crouch' sportsmanship score would be declared the winner. The Hon. Secretary agreed to discuss the availability of the prizes with the Manager of the Shrubbery Hotel.
12. Cricket balls had been distributed at the Special meeting on March 21. The Hon. Secretary noted that there were still some balls remaining and he anticipated that these would be purchased quite quickly as the season progressed. The quality of the ball was discussed, and it was decided that the current model was adequate. A higher standard of ball could result in a large price increase. Clubs that had problems with the state of the ball within a game should return it to the Hon. Secretary for replacement and analysis by the provider.
13. A few PL insurance certificates had been received by the Hon. Secretary. However, many clubs still needed to submit the PL certificates. A further copy had to be displayed in the clubhouse. See Rule 3 Administration (e) and the note on page 2 of the Pre-season circular.
14. The Pre-season Circular would be amended for Season 2018 and would be circulated to all clubs at a later date when modifications had been completed. The circular will contain advice, clarifications and additional statements that would supplement the SCL rules and be used in disciplinary actions if necessary.
15. Items raised by Committee Members a) It was noted that some games had been re-arranged and would be played on Saturday April 28. These games cannot be changed further if conditions prevent play on the 28th. b) Derek Hicks noted that SACO had agreed that in the event of only one umpire being available, then the £50 fee would be paid by £25 from each team.
16. The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.