

SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

Held on Monday 28th November 2022 using Zoom.

All clubs were represented at the meeting with the exception of Butleigh, Wincanton and North Petherton. These clubs will be fined £40 as per rule.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting (AGM 6th December 2021), which had been circulated beforehand, and were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

There were no matters arising.

The Chairman, Edward Martin thanked representatives of the member clubs for their attendance to the AGM and welcomed the new teams to the MSL family. He congratulated the divisional winners and the winners of the new Player's Player awards.

Edward announced to the meeting that the league was delighted to have a new sponsor - World Class Willow, a local bat maker who are based in Edington. The new sponsorship will be for 3 years. The league will be known as the Somerset Cricket League sponsored by World Class Willow. He noted that over the next few weeks members will see an update to our social media and website to reflect this.

Edward also thanked David Pomeroy and Monmouth Scientific for their past sponsorship of the league

Edward thanked the committee members for organising our end of season presentation at the County Ground in Taunton which was well attended and enjoyed by all. He informed the meeting that at the dinner, Martin King had received his Chairpersons Award for his long service to the league. The raffle raised £600, and this sum was donated to The Tony Coles Trust who supports cricket within the county. He also thanked World Class Willow who kindly donated vouchers for the Team of the Month prizes.

Finally, he expressed his thanks to the Committee for all the hard work and time they have given freely to the league, and wished all members his best wishes cricket in 2023 of which will be our 50th anniversary year.

The Honorary Secretary delivered her report. She reported that we have four new teams joining us for the 2023 season. She noted that the league were early adopters of the General Conduct Regulations and whilst they had not always been straightforward to administer, they had at least given us a structure to work with. As a committee we have given feedback to the ECB to use as part of their review and adaptations over the winter and it is hoped they will be more workable going forward. Amanda also informed the meeting that the league have had to deal with several safeguarding issues and breaches of the anti-discrimination code. It is very important that clubs ensure that their CSO is up to date with their training. As 1 in 5 players in the league are under 18, it is vital that captains and vice captains have an up to date DBS. At the end of the season a few clubs had to stand down their captains from regulated roles as they did not have a DBS, and in

one case we had to get mitigation from the ECB to allow a game to go ahead as they had no one with a DBS in their club.

Amanda confirmed that Ray is in the process of drawing up the fixture list for 2023, which are planned to be released to clubs mid December. She also noted there had been a significant number of requests from clubs regarding fixtures.

The Treasurer John Squirrell had produced a written report which had also been previously circulated

Election of Officers: -

- a) Committee Members – Edward Martin, John Squirrell, Toby Strang and Ray Hancock were all re-elected proposed by Long Sutton and seconded Bear Flat
- b) Honorary Auditor. Andy Stephens Winscombe CC

The membership of the SCL unanimously agreed the election of all the above-named officers to the Management Committee of the Somerset Cricket League.

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The results of club voting for the proposed rule changes were reported – see appendix A

An overview of the current minimum league standards was shared with the meeting, but it was acknowledged that not all clubs can necessarily meet them if they 'hire' grounds as circumstances are often out of their control.

Rupert Cox of Long Sutton CC shared his and his club's concerns regarding falling standards of grounds and outfielders and of facilities. The Chair offered to discuss this further with the club outside the meeting.

Matt Counsell of the SCF gave an outline of how the grounds reports came into existence and how they are shared with the Somerset Grounds Committee to aid their work in supporting clubs and to help them work with clubs to improve. He shared the data the league received in 2021 and 2022 and the comments – see attached PowerPoint. He also confirmed that the grounds report form will be updated for the 2023 to capture more information.

Any Other Business.

Please ensure that your play cricket contacts are up to date – we only get the information from the contacts you enter, also please note we cannot change details or remove peoples – only clubs can.

Chris Golding of the Somerset Seniors let the meeting know that they now had 3 over 50s teams, 3 60s and an over 70s team all playing competitive cricket. If anyone who is 49 and over and interested in playing to contact him

Details of the Harry Burden Lunch – Thursday 8th December was shared with the meeting .

The meeting was closed at 8.25pm

Rule Changes and Votes

Wellington CC proposes that the fielding restrictions that apply to the leagues that run on a county wide basis are implemented in the regionalized divisions as well from the 2023 season.

Proposed by Wellington seconded by Taunton CC

NOT PASSED 19 for 23 against