



# The Somerset Cricket League Supporting Cricket In Somerset

## Minutes of The Annual General Meeting held via zoom on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Apologies: Dan Vining, Ben Osborne, Matt Counsell

Non attending Clubs - Shaftesbury Road, Harptree Village, Yeovil Royal Blasters ,and Spaxton

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025:  
Had been were previously sent and then approved by the meeting

### Chairman's Remarks:

The Chair, Andy Barrett welcomed all members to the meeting and delivered his report on the season. He thanked the committee for all their hard work throughout the season and congratulated all clubs on their achievements in 2025 wishing them well for 2026.

Andy thanked those who attended the dinner and reported that the event's raffle raised £1030 for Dementia UK.

He noted that discipline is still an issue within the league and that it had in fact been worse than 2024. Dealing with discipline takes up hours of volunteer time. He noted that all previous cases had been dealt with and a line drawn under them and they were not to impact this season.

### Honorary Secretary's Report:

Amanda delivered her report to the meeting, highlighting that due to the popularity of the league we have been able to add a new Division 6 with 9 new teams entering in 2026. She reported that the league had 4,736 player registrations and urged clubs to review and update their registered players to improve the transfer process.

She remembered Malcolm Fox, former chair of the league and Martin King affectionally known as 'Our man in West Somerset', who both passed away in September

John presented the treasurer's report, which was accepted by the clubs, and the election of officers was discussed, with Dan's name mentioned for re-election.

#### Honorary Treasurer's Report:

John presented the treasurer's report, which had been previously circulated to all clubs. There were no questions and the accounts were accepted by the clubs. It was agreed that Dan Stone would continue to audit the accounts. Invoices for 2026 season will be sent out shortly.

#### Election of Officers:

Committee Members Andy Barrett, Derek Hicks and Toby Strang were all re-elected proposed by Milborne Port and unanimously agreed

#### Results of Proposal for Rule Change:

All three proposals were passed, making AGM and EGM attendance mandatory with a 10-point deduction per team for non-attendance in addition to monetary fine, reducing the penalty for late result submissions from 3 to 2 points, and adjusting the overseas player residency rule to allow players on certain work visas to play after 28 days of arrival.

#### Registration:

Amanda explained the new registration process for 'overseas players' which will require them to register directly with their club's Play Cricket website before the clubs registers them for the league. Temporary accounts will not be accepted. Moving forward every new player registration should be completed this way, as it aids transfers and keeps the players statistics and records together.

#### Umpiring:

It was explained that efforts were being made to improve the lack of umpires situation by working with Somerset cricket officials and the Cricket Foundation. The league is looking to organise hopefully two CPD sessions in early April so players can feel more confident in umpiring their matches. This CPD is not a certificate course, just an overview which will be run by Simon Pilgrim, the County Development Officer,

#### Safeguarding:

Amanda highlighted that currently 24 clubs in the league lack qualified safeguarding officers, with about a dozen clubs still needing to book courses. She advised clubs to book courses quickly and confirmed that ECB regulations and league require qualified safeguarding officers in order to play

cricket in the league. DBS checks for captains and vice-captains are required.

Anyone who needs help can contact Amanda and she will initiate an invite for a DBS

#### Changes to Fair Play Reporting and Discipline:

It was shared that the league proposes changes to the fair play reporting system. The reports will still be required but the comment box will be removed and replaced with a dedicated reporting form on the league's website to be completed within 48 hours of a game.

The Chair empathised the need for players to take discipline seriously and clubs to take a stronger stance on their own players if needed. He encouraged captains to discuss issues with each other after games.

The committee is also considering implementing point deductions for teams with banned players, similar to other leagues, and is currently consulting with the ECB about the best way to implement this. These changes aim to reduce administrative time and ensure that only genuine concerns are reported, while still maintaining the importance of fair play and discipline.

#### End of Meeting Business:

There are plans for two new trophies in memory of Martin King and Malcolm Fox – which will be for Bowling and Batting

Cricket Balls should be arriving mid April – clubs will be contacted with dates and venues for collection once they have arrived. If anyone needs extra balls please let Amanda know asap.

A check was made of attendees

There were no other queries

Meeting closed 8.05pm