



the Somerset Cricket League
Sponsored By
World Class Willow



SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of the E G M

Held on Thursday 20th April 2023 using Zoom.

All clubs were represented at the meeting except for Butleigh, Huish and Langport, North Petherton, Shapwick and Polden, Spaxton, Stoke st Gregory, Taunton st Andrews, Uphill Castle and Wells and Horrington. These clubs will be fined £40 as per rule.

Apologies were sent from Andy Barrett, Matt Lunn and Martin King

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman, Edward Martin updated the meeting on the progress of the transfer of the league to become a Company Limited by Guarantee . He explained that the paperwork had been completed and thanked John Carter from Bear Flat CC for all his support with the process.

Player Registration

Amanda talked through the player registration.

All players from last year are still registered. If players have left your club, please remove them to enable ease of registration to a new club.

Please register players in advance to enable scorecard completion and if you plan to play some of your youth players even if occasionally, start league registration now as parental approval is required and can take time. We know that last minute dropouts may mean a parent or mate are pulled in at the twelve hour, but you must register them straight after the match or even better at the game on your phone. This again makes for easier admin for the clubs as well as the league. It will also mean that you will know if the player is registered elsewhere.

We will put a guide on our website how do register players but please use play cricket help videos and guides to help you too – they are very helpful.

Reports Team and Fairplay

We are updating our reports and there will be more questions to answer – in most cases they will be yes/no or a number grade to enter. This will help us capture more data regarding facilities and to gain views on our cricket balls.

The fair play report will remain in place but if you have an issue, you will need to email the league with a full explanation so we can investigate. This will cut down on admin and issues can be investigated quicker. Last season, we found clubs marked down others and gave a brief comment but when asked for more information nothing was forthcoming.

Discipline and Captains' responsibilities

The General Conduct Regulations that we worked with last year have undergone quite a review over the winter following feedback from leagues. They will remain in place for Premier leagues such as WEPL. The ECB have developed a slightly (hopefully) simpler set of regulations called the Recreational Conduct Regulations which have been designed for leagues such as ours to use. The link to these will be placed on the website.

More onus will be on the clubs and captains for the responsibility surrounding discipline and behaviour not only of their players but also their members and spectators. Captains (they can delegate some of the tasks) should ensure that the ground is set up appropriately, scorebook is available and both books completed, swap team lists at the beginning of the match (in games with umpires – give them to the umpire before the game). Again, as a reminder this document will be on our website, and we ask you to share with your members and Captains.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

Around 20% of our registered players are under 18 so clubs need to ensure they safeguard them. Being a captains or vice captains is an ECB regulated role and they must have a DBS. Please ensure that your contacts are up to date on play cricket and that includes listing your captains.

Just a reminder that the DBS must be issued from the ECB not from anywhere else.

If you need help to get any one DBS ed please contact Amanda with their full name, preferred email, date of birth and role. Team Managers also require a DBS.

Clubs also need to ensure that their Club Safeguarding Officer is fully qualified with a current DBS, completed a face to face Safe Hands course (in last 3 years) and have a current (in the last 3 years) online safeguarding qualification either SYC or the new Safeguarding for Specialist Roles qualification. We do have a few clubs who are not compliant, and they will be getting a email in next day or so.

Any club who is not compliant by 5th May will not play in the league until they are.

Live Steaming more and more clubs are choosing to use Frog box or similar to live stream their matches, the league is happy for this to happen, however the bottom line is your need permissions. **You must contact your opposition in the days before the match – do not leave it to the day!! – to see if they are happy with this.** Please bear in mind there may well be young players who maybe in care or have other reasons why they cannot be filmed, remember the streaming does not just capture images it also shows names on scorecards and along the bottom. In our last minutes we shared the ECB guidance of how to manage live streaming – it is a really good document.

Public Liability Insurance

David Derrick spoke to the meeting and reminded the clubs that they are required to hold Public Liability Insurance in order to play under the rules of the league. Despite three emails, he is still waiting for some clubs to reply to him. He shared the clubs who he has not heard from and will be following this up with another email. Again clubs have until 5th May to contact him with the required information.

Rule Proposals

Two proposals had been put to the member clubs.

Proposal 1 proposed by Frome CC seconded by Ilminster CC

Proposal to change the points system to:

- Win = 12 points
- Tie = 9 points
- Draw = 7 points
- Abandoned (rained off without starting) = 7 points

MAXIMUM 5 batting bonus points

Result of online vote Proposal 1

Not carried

60 votes
2 void
1 abstain
23 for
34 against

Proposal 2 proposed by Frome CC seconded by Ilminster CC

Proposal for games which start on time and experience a rain delay which causes overs to be lost

Result of online vote Proposal 2

Not carried

60 votes
2 void
3 abstain
17 for
38 against

Arrangements for the distribution of Cricket Balls and Cricket Ball Trial

The Cricket Balls are ready for collection from our sponsor World Class Willow. All Clubs have been sent email of collection times. Around 60% of all clubs have already collected them.

We are trialling new cricket balls from WCW this year as well as our Lords balls. Each club have 2 balls per team and will be told which week to use your balls. On the fair play report, you will find questions to be completed about the balls to help us gather feedback.

AOB

Question as to whether we will return to face-to-face meetings. We had planned to do this for this meeting along with ball distribution however we felt it was unfair to get people together for a short meeting from all over the county when we were distributing balls in a different way. We also struggled with trying to find a big enough central venue that would not cost a fortune to hire. We would like to return to a face-to-face meeting for the AGM – please let use know if you know of a venue we could use.

Another question came in asking us if we would poll members as to how they met – this was agreed.

A roll call of missing clubs was taken to check if they had joined but not signed in chat box.

Meeting closed 8.01 pm