



**The Somerset Cricket League**  
**Sponsored By**  
**World Class Willow**



**Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**  
**At 7.30pm held by zoom**

**Present:** Amanda Counsell, Andy Barrett, Toby Strang, Derek Hicks, Ben Pomeroy, Matt Lunn, John Squirrell and Matt Counsell

**Apologies:** none have been received

**Minutes of last meeting were approved and virtually signed by Andy Barrett the Chair.**

The chair welcomed Edward Martin as a co-opted member of the committee.

The committee remembered Ray Hancock who sadly passed away during the summer. The committee sent a donation from the league in his memory to the Princes Trust.

**Correspondence:**

From Cecelia Szczepanski raising the disparity of cost of umpires throughout the league. Currently the home side is responsible for the costs of umpires and the away side are not charged. The committee thought the cost was shared between the sides as both clubs are benefiting from a league umpire and found that is probably an overhang from when the division was fully covered by officials. It was agreed that from 2025 the costs would be shared by both teams.

From a club regarding clarification such as beamers – all clubs were emailed

From a member of the public who suggested the league moved to coloured kit as it would mean more people would watch matches.

From a club querying why we allowed a club to drop down and play in a lower division – the chair responded to them.

From two clubs requesting promotion to a higher league

From a club proposing a t20 division.

Many emails regarding team strengthening - each has been looked at and taken a lot of time. It was felt that quite a few clubs have really pushed the spirit of cricket. The committee feel this needs reviewing and will be looked at by the committee over the winter.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer reported there is still an ongoing issue with the sponsor, the chair has met them and is in discussion with them to seek a resolution.

**Cricket Balls:** Due to a stock being held we will only require 2000 balls for 2025.

**Composition of League Divisions for 2025:** The results from WEPL clubs mean that four teams will be returning to the Somerset Cricket League – although we await official confirmation of this. This means four teams will be relegated from the Premier Division and this will obviously have a knock on down through the other divisions. There are a few games which are due to be played next Saturday, and the results could change current relegation places. Two clubs have currently requested to enter new teams into the league and a possible third. It is unlikely we will be able to confirm the set up of the divisions until the end of October, following confirmation from the WEPL and new teams entering and any withdrawals.

**Disciplinary:** it was reported that there is one ongoing outstanding disciplinary issue, this needs a hearing and is being heard by a panel from outside the SCL.

It was reported that discipline has been poor this season and there have been 19 bans/suspensions.

**T30 league:** A club contacted the league with a proposal of a T20 division to stand alone to help the transition from youth to senior cricket. The committee felt that many young players were already playing 20 over cricket and this would not solve the transition, the idea of a T30 division was discussed – this is done very successfully in Bristol and District League, and it was agreed to email clubs to see if there is any interest.

**Facility Criteria:** the committee are going to draw up criteria for the Premier division for 2025, following the audit of clubs we have been doing for the last few years we do not visualise this being an issue.

**League Dinner:** The 2024 dinner has been booked for Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024, at the Somerset County Club at the County Ground. This will be a two-course meal. 7pm for a 7.30pm prompt start. Cost will be at the subsidised cost of £30 per ticket.

We have secured the services of Harry Everett to MC the evening and are currently waiting a confirmation of a guest.

The JC Bail trophy which has been presented to the league champions has had to be retired due to its age and condition and it was agreed that we replace the trophy and dedicate it to the memory of Ray Hancock.

Nominations have been received for All rounder of the Year and Young Player of the Year – voting forms will be sent to committee to decide the winner.

The winner of the Don Crouch Trophy for Fair Play will be confirmed after the final round of matches as will divisional player's players.

It was agreed North Curry were Team of the Year and Wincanton have the highest aggregate points and win the Sunday Independent Cup.

**Possible Rule Change proposals:** team strengthening – to look at our leagues and how they manage this; play registration for late call ups – possible deadline of Monday noon – as this causes a lot of admin issues.

**AGM:** It is proposed that we move our AGM to the new year – mid/late January which gives the committee time to review rules and plan for 2025. A few venues have been suggested for a face-to-face meeting and will be contacted for availability.

Meeting closed 9.05 pm