



The Somerset Cricket League
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Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 3rd October 2023 At 7.30pm held by zoom

Present: Amanda Counsell, Andy Barrett, Toby Strang, Darren Taylor, Derek Hicks, Stuart Shepherd, Matt Lunn and Matt Counsell

Apologies: John Squirell

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

Matters Arising:

The new overseas players rules within Home Office requirements were shared (see appendix). All OP2 listed players will need to be removed and then re-registered if they fit the criteria. It was explained that this would not affect that many players in the league.

EDI – Amanda and Andy met with John Peplow from the B and D and discussed how we develop and manage a policy. It has been agreed to see how ECB requirements develop over the winter before we move forward. However, we will remain aware and mindful of EDI and look to ensure it is part of our new league structure.

Correspondence:

Further applications to join the league have been received and accepted.
WEPL confirming promotion and relegation – the way the final results went means the MSL will be 2 up 3 down, with Minehead and Templecloud being promoted to WEPL and Butleigh and Taunton Deane2 returning to our Premier division.
From Crewkerne withdrawing their 2nd XI and requesting a double drop for their first team so they can play competitively in 2024.
Several emails offering support to the league and thanking the league committee for their hard work on behalf of the clubs.
Various emails from clubs regarding ground unavailability dates

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer sent a report in his absence. John reported that following our registration with HMRC we were liable for corporation tax on monies received for sponsorship. We have had to pay for the last six years. This amounts to £3284.13 with interest of £354.72. This has been settled.

Company: the final documents are now being sorted. The meeting accepted the rules and to use the services of VCL to finalise the details for us.

Committee: As discussed at the last meeting, the SCL committee want to be more proactive rather than reactive to clubs and proposed some slight changes to the structure to help enhance this. This structure was shared, discussed, and approved by the committee.

Facilities: The data from the fair play reports are being analysed and will be looked at next meeting.

Composition of League Divisions for 2024 (attached), it was agreed that due to the numbers entering the league in 2024 that a new division was required. Various options were looked at and their merits. It was decided that the best option for our clubs was to place a new division alongside division 5. Division 5 will be regionalised, and this gives quite a bit of movement in the lower divisions with stops stagnation. Division 7s have not yet be finally regionalised due to us waiting to hear from three new sides. Once confirmed if they are entering, this will be finalised.

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 has been delayed due to one of the participants being abroad.

Darren Taylor – disciplinary lead shared with the meeting he has co-opted Megan Buller (from the FA), and Julian Marshall James to sit on the new disciplinary committee. He is in discussion with a third.

League Dinner: The 2023 dinner has been booked for Friday 20th October 2023, at the Somerset County Club at the County Ground. This will be a two course meal. 7pm for a 7.30pm prompt start.

We have secured the services of Harry Everett to MC the evening and have both Ben Peverall and Sophie Luff joining us as guests. We are waiting confirmation of a third guest.

As well as presenting our main trophies, this year we have purchased runner's up plaques which will also be presented, along with divisional player's players, young cricketer of the year and all rounder.

Rule changes: It has been suggested by the committee that we look at mirroring WEPL rules for the Premier Division, but remaining possibly at 45 overs, this will be for vote by Premier Division clubs only.

If any club has a rule change proposal, it needs to be sent to Amanda by November 1st completed with seconder so it can be placed on agenda. The seconder must be the club so email confirmation must come from secretary or divisional representative not an individual club member.

AGM: Various venues have been approached regarding the AGM and nowhere suitable has been found, therefore the decision has been taken to have the AGM by zoom, with a view of meeting face to face in the Spring.
AGM will be Monday 4th December 2023

Meeting closed 9.05 pm