



SOMERSET CRICKET LEAGUE

Minutes of Committee Meeting held over zoom on 3rd November 2022

Present: Edward Martin, Amanda Counsell, Martin King, Derek Hicks, Ray Hancock, John Squirrell, , David Derrick, Andy Barrett, Matt Lunn

Apologies: Tom Packman, Toby Strang, and Matt Counsell

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes of last meeting were approved and virtually signed.

Correspondence:

Richard Yandle (Long Sutton CC) regarding ground and facilities – Richard's concerns were discussed by the committee, we also acknowledged that for some clubs have little control over what they can provide if hiring a venue and also that clubs we have worked with have always worked with us or the Somerset Grounds Committee to improve. It was noted that very few complaints have come through from Ground Reports received. We have plans to review the questioning on ground reports for 2023 and will discuss this matter at the AGM with clubs.

Query regarding matches on the Coronation Date – we understand some clubs may not have their ground if it is a village field and hope that clubs will work cooperatively if rearrangements need to be made nearer the time.

Several emails of thanks regarding the Presentation Evening and the introduction of the Player's Player Awards which were seen as a positive addition.

Bishops Hull accepting entry into the league

Treasurer's Report: End of year accounts were being prepared and will be sent out with AGM documentation. The Chair recorded his thanks to John and Tom for all their hard work with this matter. There were 17 clubs who had outstanding invoices and John will resend these,

Report from Joint Leagues Meeting: AC attended this meeting and reported that there had been discussions around the possible date of the coronation and how leagues may handle this. The meeting consensus was to see if ECB issued guidance – although this may be quite last minute and if there was no mandate to work with clubs who may not have their grounds on the date (at time of meeting it had not been announced as 6th May) . Fixtures across the leagues were currently in progress.

There was also a discussion around umpires, the WEPL continue to have the points for umpires' scheme in place and although that produced new umpires it is unclear whether that will mean feeder leagues will have additional umpires but it is hoped the Premier division will have umpires.

Sponsorship: Edward informed the meeting that World Class Willow would be the new league sponsor for initially the next 3 years. The league will revert to being known as the Somerset Cricket League sponsored by World Class Willow. Once we have logos, our social media and website will be amended to reflect this.

Cricket Balls: We have placed an order with Lords Balls and are awaiting a new sponsor logo to be imprinted on them. We plan to trial some new cricket balls in 2023

League Dinner: The Presentation Evening was very well attended. Martin King was presented with a Long Service Award by the League Chair. The raffle was well supported and raised £600 for the Tony Coles Trust which support cricket development in the County.

The 2023 dinner has been booked for Friday 20th October 2023, at the Somerset County Club at the County Ground.

Safeguarding: AC has shared the upcoming Safe Hands Courses with all clubs to ensure they have fully qualified Club Safeguarding Officers. Clubs have also been reminded to get their captains DBS.

Fixtures: We are currently waiting for confirmation from a team who wish to drop a division before we start. The WEPL fixtures are underway, and we will dovetail with these. It is planned to release fixtures mid-December.

Rule Changes: The only proposal for rules changes has come from Wellington and seconded by Taunton to have bowling circles in all divisions from Prem to 7. This will go on ballot at AGM.

Umpires: AC is planning a meet with SACO to see how we can strengthen our relationship in 2023.

AGM: 28th November , documents will be sent out with zoom link. All committee who are up for re-election are happy to stand.

AOB: Our governance documents will be reviewed over the winter ready for EGM in April.

It was noted that 2023 is our 50th Anniversary , we would welcome ideas to celebrate and any historical documentation.

Next meeting AGM 28th November 2022 via zoom.

Any Other Business:

It was agreed to award a players player award for each division this year at the dinner. Clubs will be asked to nominate one player from their division – but not one of their own players. Amanda will circulate form shortly to each club.

As a committee it was felt the Don Crouch Fair Play Award is not working in its current form, and we will review it over the winter months.

It was felt that the committee needed some new 'blood' to help us develop and run areas of the league. Note to be put on newsletter.

Meeting closed at 8.50 pm