

Somerset Cricket League

Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20th February
2019

at 7.30pm at The Centre of Excellence, County Ground, Taunton.

Those present Malcolm Fox, Tom Packman, Edward Martin, Derek Hicks, Matthew Lunn, Matthew Counsell, David Derrick, Toby Strang, Martin King, Andy Barrett, Andy Fairbairn, Stuart Shepherd and Ray Hancock.

1. Preliminaries. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies. Amanda Counsell and Ian Latchem.
3. Minutes of previous meetings. (October 11 and AGM Dec 10'18) were approved.
4. There were no matters arising.
5. Correspondence. a) Club Resignation. b) Players owing money!
 - a) The Hon. Sec. reported that he had received a letter of resignation from Barrington Cricket Club. Jesse Patisson, Chairman of Barrington CC had previously indicated that the Club may have to withdraw from Division 4 of the SCL. He had hoped that the current shortage of playing resources could be overcome, but unfortunately this had not been the case. Division 4 will now have only 9 teams and 16 league matches.
 - b) Two clubs (Street CC & Taunton CC) had reported that two players had left at the end of the 2018 Season still owing money to the clubs. Clubs that find themselves in this situation should retain the registration of the defaulting members which will prevent the player joining another club until the debt is settled. Clubs with such a problem should contact Amanda Counsell in the first instance.
6. Officers' Meeting January 23 '19. The Chairman explained that a meeting had taken place with himself, the Hon. Secretary and the Treasurer to discuss the future shape of the SCL and the persons involved.
7. The Future Sponsorship. The League's officers had met with David Pomeroy and Lewis Irish of Monmouth Scientific Ltd. to discuss a change in Sponsor of the SCL. The Committee had been disappointed with the very much reduced income from sponsorship by the Shrubbery Hotel as will eventually be outlined in the accounts for the 2018/19 financial year and are shown in the Treasurer's Report (Minute 8 below). The officers were offered a much better deal from this Bridgwater Company and recommended it to the Committee. The Committee studied the offer and its implications for the future and unanimously agreed to accept David's offer forthwith. The new sponsorship arrangements will start immediately and Edward Martin (committee member and John Squirrell, Website Manager) will meet with MSL to discuss formats, exposure and other issues.
8. Treasurers Report. The Treasurer reported on various items that had been dealt with since the previous meeting including matters relating to the Presentation Evening. £355 had been raised by raffle during the evening which was matched from League funds and a donation of £700 had been sent to the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance Charity. The net Income (Sponsorship) from the Presentation Evening was £1539. This led into a discussion relating to future Sponsorship. The usual League Insurance Policy had been renewed, effective from 1st March 2019, with a premium increase of just one pound. Disappointment was expressed that the uptake of the League's 50% subsidy of ECB/SCB courses was still below expectations. After discussion of the reasons for this it was decided to place a simple

application form on the League's website to hopefully make the process simpler and more streamlined.

9. Club details sheets. The Club Contacts Form for 2019 will be via the Play-Cricket website. More details regarding this will be sent to clubs shortly. This will enable us to share with member clubs key contacts from other clubs so they can contact each other in the event of Bad weather, last minute changes and confirmations.
10. Cricket balls have been ordered for the 2019 Season on the basis of 18 balls per team. Some clubs had made an adjustment to the list to reflect current needs. (See appendix 1 - Any variations should be notified to the Hon. Secretary immediately).
11. play-cricket.com website and SCL Website. It was noted that the websites would be operated as before, and any queries should be addressed to Amanda Counsell.
12. Player registrations. Players can now be registered for the 2019 season. Amanda Counsell will be the point of contact for any problems and other issues.
13. Committee membership. The future roles and incumbents were discussed and a plan was formulated to be implemented later in the year.
14. Date, venue and arrangements for 'balls distribution meeting'. This year there will be a 'Special Meeting' to deal with a number of agenda items and this will be coupled with the distribution of cricket balls. The meeting will take place at the Victoria Rooms, the home of Street Cricket Club on Monday April 8 at 7.30 pm. All clubs will be expected to attend and a £40 fine will be levied on the non-attendees.
15. The loan scheme will continue to operate in the 2019 season. It may prove useful for clubs needing some players and those without a game in Divisions 3 & 4 due to the withdrawal of Kilve and Barrington.
16. The Results Monitoring Arrangements for 2019 will follow the same pattern as previously. Amanda Counsell will carry out the weekly monitoring and David Derrick will receive appeals against fines etc.
17. Umpiring arrangements in 2019 including payments. Derek Hicks said that it was expected that the Premier Division would be covered with 2 umpires per match. On some Saturdays, Division 2 would also have some umpires. Attention was drawn to the payment of umpires and division 2 teams should be aware of these costs. On a separate issue, clubs were encouraged to put forward persons who may be interested in umpiring. There are courses, usually organised by the SCB, and financial support is available from the SCL. Those interested should contact the Somerset Cricket Board at the County Ground.
18. Common Laws and changes for 2019. Derek Hicks said that there were minimal changes for the season, but he did highlight the no ball rule. The number and calling of no balls for high deliveries was now at the discretion of the umpire. Matt Counsell explained that clubs should link to the "beamer law" : <https://www.somersetcricketboard.co.uk/somerset-cricket-board-welcomes-change-to-beamer-law/> this will enable clubs to read about the positive changes to the law after the issues it caused in 2018.
19. Club Welfare Officers had been appointed in most clubs, but there were Safe Hands courses still available for those who needed them. Any CWO needing a Safe Hands course should contact the SCB at the County Ground.
20. Public liability insurance certificates. All clubs must send a copy of their Public Liability Insurance Policy to the Hon. Secretary to indicate that they hold the appropriate certification. (As per Rule 3 Administration (e) Club Public Liability Insurance Policy).

21. Rule changes/additions. It was noted, that at the AGM five rule changes had been carried. These affected championship points awarded in cancelled games; completion of results sheets; earlier starts with both teams agreeing; 30 yd fielding circles for Divs. 1 -5; declarations and early dismissals – points awarded. The Hon. Secretary said that the rules section on the website will be updated with these changes.
22. Ground Facilities. The SGA (Somerset Groundsmen’s Association) produced a Pitch Marking Report Form. This Play-Cricket Marking Questionnaire will be monitored by the SGA. It is hoped that the initiative will help gain a better picture of the standard of cricket pitches in the league and help to identify poor pitches easily (with supporting evidence) so support can be provided to help improve the pitch standard moving forward. The questionnaire can be found in Appendix 2.
23. Presentation Night 2019 – The Committee agreed that the Presentation Night will continue to be run in October 2019. A suitable venue will be investigated.
24. Pre-season Circular. It was agreed that this document will be updated by the Hon. Secretary and circulated to all clubs before the commencement of the season.
25. Items raised by Committee Members. There were none.

Ray Hancock.
Hon. Secretary.
March 1, 2019