



# The Somerset Cricket League

## Supporting Cricket In Somerset

Minutes of Committee Meeting held via zoom on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Present: Andy Barrett, Amanda Counsell, John Squirrell, Matt Lunn, Derek Hicks, Stuart Shepherd, Toby Strang

Apologies: Ed Martin, Gary Warren and Matt Counsell

There was no declaration of interests.

Matters Arising- Since the AGM, Gary Warren of Ilminster CC has been co-opted on to the committee

Correspondence:

- Emails from two clubs expressing concerns over Shapwick and Polden withdrawal from the league.
- Emails from a club enquiring about team strengthening rules with teams in parallel divisions
- Emails from both Shapwick and Polden and North Perrott withdrawing teams from the league.
- Emails from clubs who have rearranged fixtures dates – please note both clubs need to inform us of any change and the deadline is the beginning of the season.
- SACO – regarding clubs who are providing teas. All clubs in Premier and Division 1 have been asked to let SACO know if they are providing teas as some umpires are reluctant to umpire clubs without.
- Email from a club inquiring about coloured gloves and pads – coloured pads not permitted as red ball game
- From a player asking about the Chair's player forum – the chair will be contacting those who expressed an interest shortly
- Email from a club seeking entry into league – entry was too late for 2025.

Withdrawal of Shapwick 2:

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The committee were sad to hear of the withdrawal of Shapwick 2s but supported the clubs decision on the strength. There was a request to reinstate division premier to 10 teams, this was impossible as it would have meant a complete rewrite of 11 divisions including those of the 5 leagues that clubs either share grounds with or play in. Added to the complexity of ground availabilities in all the leagues. Whilst the committee acknowledged it wasn't ideal to have a Prem division of 9, there was little that could be done and last year there was only 9 in division 1 and 2. It was reported that a club had suggested that any team dropping a side should not be allowed to be promoted if they win the division –this would be a rule change which could only happen if it was proposed as an AGM and passed

### Treasurer's Report:

In line with the league's legal requirements, Dan Stone, the league's accountant has now filed the league's accounts with HMRC and Companies House. As no sponsorship money was received in the last accounting period ending on September 30th there was no liability incurred for corporation tax.

The invoices for outstanding fines incurred in the 2024 season and for the subs for the 2025 season were emailed out at the beginning of February and as usual most clubs have settled promptly. There is one club subscription still outstanding.

In January £1022 was paid to premier trophies. This should have been paid last October, but an oversight on their part meant that their invoice wasn't received until this year. In addition the league's annual insurance of £581.41 has been paid to Marshall Wooldridge.

### Sponsorship:

The treasurer reported the league are actively seeking a new sponsor. A few companies have been approached but nothing positive has come of it.

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### Public Liability Insurance:

Many clubs now have this through their activity on Safe Hands Management System, clubs that don't will be asked to send copy to admin before 21<sup>st</sup> April.

### Cricket Balls:

2000 Lords cricket balls will be delivered in April. The cost has risen due to the economic climate and is now £13 per ball. Each club will have 18 balls per team. The cricket balls will be available to collect at regional centres. Times and locations will be sent out once we received delivery from Lords. Clubs have been asked to let us know as soon as possible if they require an additional ball.

### Safeguarding:

All clubs will be reminded that they need to have a fully qualified CSO by the start of the season, any club who hasn't will **NOT** be able to play in the league. Currently there a **NINE** clubs who do not meet this requirement. They have been reminded. Captains and regular vice captains also need to have a DBS. There is no requirement for regular scorers to hold DBS - under ECB changes, however they do need to complete the new SGL2 online safeguarding available to book on the Somerset Cricket Foundation Website

### ECB Safety Guidance 2025:

The ECB have just released new safety guidance, one of the main changes is that players can now play in open age cricket as soon as they are 12 years old, not school year 8 as previously. All players under the age of 18 require parental consent forms completing and as a league we require sight of any under 13s form and reserve the right to request to see forms from any under 18 at any time. **As a league we will not be back registering anyone who is 12, they must be registered and consent form sent 7 days prior to playing. We would consider this as a breach of rules if this happens.**

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There is quite a lot of guidance around this which will be housed on the website, Clubs are asked to very mindful of playing these young players and consider their ability and maturity.

Pre- Season Captains Meeting – This is arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> April 7pm via zoom  
It will cover captain's responsibilities, safeguarding, EDI and behaviour regulations.

League Presentation – booked at the County Ground on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Website:

We are in the process of updating to reflect new ECB guidance and uploading these to play cricket

Umpires: Fees will remain the same as in 2024 and costs will be shared between the two teams playing and receiving the service.

Meeting closed 8.45pm

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