

Somerset Cricket League

Management Committee Meeting

Wednesday 13th September 2017

Held at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster

Present

Malcolm Fox (who chaired the meeting), David Derrick, Ed Martin, Tom Packman, Martin King, Amanda Counsell, Derek Hicks, Matt Lunn, Toby Strang, Matt Counsell (from Somerset Cricket Board) and Dave Counsell (attending ref Pitch Standard Matters)

Apologies for Absence

Ray Hancock and Andy Fairbairn

Minutes/Matters Arising/Correspondence

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12th July were approved and signed off, there were no matters arising and all correspondence would be looked at when relevant in the meeting ahead.

Treasurer's Report

Tom Packman advised the meeting that a small surplus of around £300 would be returned for the current FY; full figures would be forthcoming for the October 2017 MC meeting and these would be what would go forward for audit and issue to the member Clubs.

A debt of £90 in relation to two Clubs had been written off.

Autumn invoices would be issued with immediate effect and were payable by the end of September.

The League's cash balance was a solid one, but the meeting saw that it needed to invest some of it for the benefit of its membership, but although offers ref umpiring and scoring education had been made in the past with cost offset been allowed for by the League uptake had been disappointing.

Sportsmanship ('Don Crouch' Trophy)

Scores of below 80/100 as an average were scrutinised by way of Ed Martin's narrative of his work with some such sides to achieve an improvement in their score.

The use of this system as a management and continuous improvement tool was debated and it was popular to allow each team to see its ongoing average 'DC' score through its Club account as is already set up through the SCL website and to use this as a marker as to its conduct and to take action leading to improvement as, when and where necessary.

An overall League view will remain in place.

Once a final proposition has been made then John S would be asked to codify matters appropriately.

Ed Martin would frame a proposition in time for the October 2017 MC meeting.

Disciplinary Report

Ed Martin reported that he had had a generally quiet summer in respect of disciplinary matters; he was dealing with one matter from the most recent weekend and this gave credence to his proposed 'traffic light' system of advising when games were doubtful of play

in respect of weather conditions and would offer a way of mitigating unnecessary travel and tea preparation for example.

WEPL

It had been confirmed that each of Frome 1st XI, Uphill Castle 1st XI and Yeovil 1st XI would be leaving the SCL for season 2018 and would be playing in WEPL's Somerset Division.

Temple Cloud 1st XI and Wellington 1st XI were returning to the SCL's Premier Division for season 2018.

Final SCL Tables for 2017

David Derrick and Ian Latchem had some more results review work to undertake before these can be signed off.

This work would be completed by the end of the week commencing Monday 18th September and would be advised to both Ray Hancock ref divisional set up work for 2018 to commence and to John S ref archiving the 2017 season's data.

Trophy Winners 2017

Don Crouch Trophy for Sportsmanship - Wedmore 1st XI (average of 97.06)

Sunday Independent Trophy for Most Aggregate Points - Lympsham and Belvedere 2nd XI (583)

Ladbroke's Merit Trophy - Yeovil CC (combined performance of three sides)

Results System 2017

Once more the system had provided all that was required of it in 2017; David Derrick noted that the system would be ten seasons old in 2018.

Flexi League

Only the Weston Super Mare CC based side had really thrived here and it was most likely that they would enter the formal league structure in 2018.

Taunton Deane CC had played one game and no more, Uphill Castle CC had played in a couple of games of games with less than a full team and Shapwick and Polden CC had not played whatsoever.

Matt Counsell's comment that although the FL had not performed as had been hoped/wished for in pure playing terms that it showed what was possible and not possible ref extra playing capacity in respect of those Clubs who had entered had been of benefit to the League as a fact finding exercise.

Rule Changes for 2018

The meeting felt that the 'three strikes and out' rule ref cancellations for not being able to raise a side and allowing 'pure' overseas players were always liable to rear their head as Club based propositions.

Clubs had until early October to get such items to Ray Hancock.

Standard Cricket Ball

Some issues with seam lift/split and softening were cited, but no returns had been made to Ray Hancock to date was the assertion of the meeting.

Questioning of Clubs as to what they would be prepared to pay for a ball was to be undertaken.

Ground Standards Report

Recently three ground based matters had been reviewed and progressed by this subcommittee.

Dinner and Awards Event

Date was confirmed for Friday 20th October at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster; clashed date wise with WEPL's event, but both had to co-exist this year at least.

Tom Abell and Sophie Luff would be attending as Guests of the SCL as well as Mr Najmi from Lord's Cricket Balls.

Fixtures 2018

Once the divisional tables for 2017 had been agreed upon then the process of determining divisional structures for 2018 could begin.

Some new teams were known of and their, along with any withdrawals, inclusion needs to be confirmed by the end of September.

Once divisional structures had been confirmed then fixtures could be written.

At the time of writing these minutes it was thought that there would be ten divisions in operation in 2018 with four being county wide and six being regionalised.

Committee Membership 2018

Amanda Counsell, Martin King and Matt Lunn were all up for re-election for 2018.

Honoraria

Appropriate honorific payments were discussed and their levels for 2018 were confirmed.

AOB

Derek Hicks cited an issue with payment of Umpiring fees to SACO from a small number of SCL member Clubs who receive such services.

Some pressure had come from SACO insofar as contact details in a few cases were deemed to be unavailable and it had fallen on the SCL to become involved in a process that was part of the outsourcing of Umpiring provision and so was not an SCL matter any longer on a day-to-day basis at least.

A review of material supplied to SACO using the SCL's records showed that contact details for both captains and treasurers had been made available in March 2017 for the specific use of billing for officials supplied as and when appropriate.

Cost split where only one appointed official stands needs to be ruled on; both teams to pay 50% of the relevant cost was cited.

Matt Counsell gave details of an online portal that would give guidance for players umpiring in club games where they do, say, a fifteen over stint.

Amanda Counsell would review all current declared CWO appointees and their status with respect to DBS, Safe Hands and Time to Listen (or relevant variations) and advise who needed to update matters for 2018 and when/where these requirements could be sourced in conjunction with Somerset Cricket Board.

Meeting Schedule for Remainder of 2017

Management Committee - Wednesday 11th October at Somerset CCC from 7.30pm

Rules Workshop - Monday 13th November at Uphill Castle CC from 7.30pm

AGM - Monday 11th December at The Shrubbery Hotel, Ilminster from 7.30pm