



Note of 16th committee meeting

Wednesday 20th March 2019 – Toby Inn, Bessacar, Doncaster

1 Introduction

Present were Mark Beardshall, Alex Fletcher, Andy Harrison, Roger Pugh, Matt Summerhill and Steve Ward. Apologies were received from Chris Cobb, Gareth Davis, Mick Forrester, Chris Froggett, Ray Knowles and Paul McFarlane. RP welcomed AF on board at his first full committee meeting.

2 Chairman's report

- *Sponsorship.* 4 Probate & Wills, a new subsidiary of Hudgells Solicitors, have agreed to sponsor the league in 2019, the sponsorship to be reviewed at the end of the season. RP is meeting with the MD of the company on Friday, after which a press release will be issued. RP to ask if they would like to attend the t20 finals to make the presentations, also the annual dinner, and whether they would like us to distribute any publicity materials at the pre-season meeting.
- *Treasurer's report.* There is £5,437.96 in the bank, and there are no creditors, which is an acceptable situation. The only potential problem is that there will be a large bill for balls which will be slightly more than that. PM is seeking to mitigate any cash-flow difficulty by getting the invoices out to clubs as early as possible.

3 Secretary's report

- *Player registrations.* Clubs have been reminded of the need to ensure that all player registrations are up-to-date. Overseas player forms have been distributed to clubs, and once completed, these will be sent to Chris Froggett for approval before the registration is completed on Play Cricket.
- *Scoring.* Two scorers' meetings have been arranged, at the Toby Carvery, Doncaster, on Monday 8 April and at Wakefield Thornes on Thursday 11 April. Scorers will be given tuition on the Play Cricket Scorer Pro software, and will be given a copy of the Duckworth Lewis Stern v3, which will be used in all our competitions in 2019.

4 Overseas Liaison officer's report

CF had forwarded a report to say that:

- he has had four enquiries from clubs seeking guidance, principally around amateurs and visas required
- only two registration forms have been received so far, but CF believes this to be quite understandable, as clubs will want to be sure that the player will arrive before registering him

5 Hallam CC

- RP updated the committee on the developments since the informal committee meeting at Crimicar Lane:
 - Hallam have sourced a portakabin changing facility for visitors and have put in a planning application for it to be used. Richard Storer feels that it is unlikely that this will be cleared in time for the start of the season.
 - The groundsman, Mark Beccles-Wilson, is now acting upon the recommendations made by Mark Pearson in his IoG report.
 - Andrew Watson has met with RP to advise that no grant money is likely to be released to Hallam until 2020, so temporary arrangements may need to continue into 2020. He has asked that the League is understanding of Hallam's situation.
 - A small working party has been set up, comprising representatives of ECB, YCB, YSPL, SYSCL and HCC, to oversee and support the club in bringing ground standards up to the required levels. The first meeting will be on 16 April. CF will be the YSPL representative and RP will also attend the first meeting.

- This issue will be carried forward to the next meeting, when RP & CF will report back on the working party meeting.

6 Grounds & facilities criteria

The draft criteria document was discussed and the following were agreed:

- *2 (boundary)*. The requirement for a 40-yard boundary needs to be amended to 'the recommended minimum boundary length is 40 yards over at least 75% of the total boundary.'
- *2 (Practice facilities)*. Should be amended to read 'a minimum of one net.'
- *3 (Rollers)*. Amend second sentence to read, 'A light roller must be available for use during the game.'
- *5 (First Aid)*. Amend to read 'It is recommended that a person qualified in First Aid must be available during games.'
- RP to raise with the Umpires Association that umpires should be encouraged to undertake First Aid training.
- RP to ask umpires to inspect the available drying equipment before the game and ensure that all declared equipment is available to be used in the event of wet conditions, and that only declared equipment is used

7 Club of the Year

The draft criteria document was discussed and the following were agreed:

- the All Stars criteria will be based on new entrants as a percentage of the previous year's participants
- Changing facilities and teas would be marked by captains in their reports (RP to arrange with David Ward)
- Hosting should reflect whether clubs make their grounds available for junior representative games
- Safeguarding should reflect the number of officials who are trained; if there is an incident, points should only be deducted when an incident occurs that is not adequately dealt with

8 Website

RP said that the current website, provided by Pitchero, is unsatisfactory. It is not mobile/tablet friendly, therefore unsuitable for younger audiences and not attractive to sponsors/advertisers; there are ongoing issues with broken links and incorrect headings; and the response and support from Pitchero is very poor. Even when they were offered to pay to upgrade, calls were not returned. RP has been investigating options and obtaining quotes. For a decent website with ongoing support, the going rate appears to be around £400 for initial build and £40 per month hosting and support. RP said that he would be happy to pay for the build himself, but that we really need a website sponsor to cover the monthly outgoings. SW had a couple of ideas about potential sponsors, and will talk to PM. AF agreed to talk to someone he knows who does this kind of work.

9 Pre-Season Meeting

Arrangements are in hand for the meeting, which will include a presentation from Simon Widdup on completing captains' reports. We will follow this up with written guidance.

10 Future format of the League

MB outlined ideas for possible league restructuring to create more interest and attract younger players. These were based around an expansion of the League to 16 clubs, with two divisions, Premier 1 and Premier 2, with two up/two down promotion and relegation between the two and one up/one down promotion and relegation with SYSCL. There would be a mixture of a traditional 50 over competition involving the eight clubs in each league, plus either a 40 or 45-over coloured clothing competition or a t20-equivalent competition. After discussion of various ideas and permutations, it was agreed that we would put together an options paper for clubs, and that MS would need to be satisfied that options were feasible from the fixtures angle.

11 Other business

- AF has arranged for a hospitality table for committee members at the Lashings v Elsecar game on 16 August; this will cost £60 per head and committee members should contact AF to reserve their place
- AH suggested that clubs be asked to nominate players for consideration for the under 23s at an early stage in the season; this was agreed

12 Next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.10pm. The next meeting will be the Pre-Season Meeting on Wednesday 17 April.

Update

- we now know that the ECB performance funding is to be cut by 50% to around £1,500
- the Pre-Season Meeting is now to be held at Treeton, due to availability issues at Wickersley
- Clubmark has been removed from the CotY criteria as all clubs will have it, and most of the Clubmark criteria are covered by other CotY criteria

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