



Note of 16th committee meeting

Wednesday 15th May 2019 – Toby Inn, Bessacar, Doncaster

1 Introduction

Present were Mark Beardshall, Chris Cobb, Gareth Davis, Alex Fletcher, Mick Forrester, Chris Froggett, Andy Harrison, Ray Knowles, Roger Pugh, Matt Summerhill and Steve Ward. Apologies were received from Paul McFarlane.

2 Chairman's report

- *Ground drying equipment.* Following an issue in the Viking Cup game at Doncaster Town, RP will write to clubs to advise that umpires have been asked to check ground drying equipment before the start of games, and ensure that this is used if and when required. Clubs should ensure that equipment is available for use during games.
- *Captains' reports.* The umpires' chairman, Dave Sharp, had raised an issue where comments had been made about an umpire on a report that had not been made by a captain. Dave had pointed out that any umpires report should be made by the umpires, not a third party, and that it should be the same for captains. RP said that it had been accepted in the old Yorkshire League days that another club official could complete the reports after discussion with the captain – the key issue was to ensure that reports were received. After discussion, it was agreed that the reports must be completed by captains. RP to advise clubs that this will be enforced once the WtU app is available to captains.
- *Treasurer's report.* In the absence of PM, who was at a Heavy Woollen meeting, RP reported that there is £5,752 in the bank, and we owe £200 YPLMB subs. RP had prepared a forecast for the remainder of the year, detailing anticipated income and expenditure, which estimates that there will be a £4,000 surplus at the end of the year. This does not include ECB fixed payments for clubs or website sponsorship, the income and expenditure on which will both balance out. Overall, this is an acceptable situation but we will need to review our income and expenditure if there is a reduction in ECB money or sponsorship.

3 Secretary's report

- SW reported on the happenings around DLS in the first few weeks of the season. He has been fielding enquiries from the YPLN and SYSCL as well as from the YSPL, most of which were to ask to him to produce par score. Although it is not his role to do this for other leagues, his helpful nature means that he is the first port of call – if it becomes a problem SW must advise that he is scoring his own game, and is unable to help.
- SW provided an update on the Viking Cup, and the arrangements for replayed first round games.

4 Fixture secretary's report

MS said that the only current fixture issues were around the three Viking Cup first round games that were not resolved on the original date. SW clarified that these must now be played on the second round date, 2 June, and that results must be reached on that day. The second round games affected must be played on 9 or 16 June.

5 Overseas Liaison officer's report

CF updated the committee on overseas registrations. There was only one minor issue where an ECB registration number had not been provided, and CF is following up.

6 Compliance officer's report

RK reported that there has been one disciplinary report so far this season. This was a level one breach, for which a formal warning has been accepted. This will mean that an automatic two-week ban will be imposed in the event of a further level one breach in the next 12 months. RK said that there had been a significant number of safeguarding issues in the county already this season – thankfully none of these concerned our clubs.

7 Hallam CC

- RP updated the committee on the ECB/YCB meeting at Crimicar Lane:
 - ECB said that they viewed development of Crimicar Lane as the acceptable long-term option. They have agreed a grant of £200k towards a new pavilion to be built on the site. They clarified that the remaining nine years on the lease before the break clause could come into effect is sufficient to justify funding. The grant will not be available until 2020, so work will not start before autumn that year.
 - The ECB grant will not be sufficient to cover the full cost of the pavilion, but ECB/YCB will support the club towards accessing other funding streams, to supplement the grant and the £70k already raised.
 - ECB/YCB will also help the club in meeting the cost of ball-strike netting at Sandygate that will enable them to continue to play lower standard cricket on that ground.
 - GD advised that the portakabin changing facility for away teams is now in place, and that the new scoreboard is operational.
 - The immediate concern is the pitch. In one YSPL and two SYSCL division one games so far played there the highest team score is 140, and the pitch has been very slow and low. There was a general consensus that for the remainder of this season, if the pitch is up to PL standard, that will satisfy clubs and players.
 - The league will continue to monitor the situation closely, and will revisit the issue in the light of reports received from visiting teams at the next meeting. At that meeting, the committee will decide whether YSPL games can be played at Crimicar Lane in 2020.
 - RP will write to the club to advise the above.

8 Future format of the League

- RP introduced the options paper, prepared by MB and himself. He clarified that this contained possible options, but that they were not exhaustive.
- The reason for this work is twofold. Firstly, the point made at the September meeting about the need to increase our appeal to younger players, and the popularity of coloured clothing and the shorter format of the game. Secondly, part of the ECB funding this year will be based on reviewing league formats. RP pointed out that the latter does not mean that we must change, but that we should review and consult.
- MS said that in any options paper, the option of remaining exactly as we are should be an upfront option, which was agreed.
- It was agreed that the paper be redrafted to cover options for specific aspects separately, to include:
 - league composition (one/two divisions, number of teams)
 - format of games (one 50 over comp, two 50-over comps (pink & red ball), mix of 50 over & t20)
 - compulsory number of u/23s in t20 games
 - 'player points cap' for league games – for example, with one point for players coming through junior set-ups; two points for players transferred from clubs below PL; three for players from other PL clubs; four for transfers who have played county seconds/Academy; five for first class; six for internationals
- RP to circulate a draft to go to clubs to committee members

9 Website

RP said that the new website should be up-and-running by early June. He apologised for his earlier misunderstanding about the timescales.

10 Participation manager

RP had discussed with GD and SW the idea of recruiting a Participation Manager onto the committee. The person in the role would champion ECB participation initiatives, working with YCB and our clubs. Taking into account that another element of the ECB performance payments refers to the recruitment of women onto league committees, RP believed that this was a role that a female committee member could fulfil. He was against tokenism or quotas, but fully agreed that a woman committee member would bring fresh ideas, perspectives and skills to the committee. GD and SW to work up a role description and look at suitable candidates.

11 Sponsors

RP to remind all clubs that the two sponsors' banners must be prominently displayed on all our grounds. MB suggested that this requirement should be reflected in CotY assessment. RP to include in criteria and advise clubs.

12 Representative teams

Alex Fletcher will join the selection committee along with Mark Beardshall, Andy Harrison and Chris Marples. SW to circulate clubs to ask for nominations for the League team to face YCCC and for the u/23 squad.

13 Other business

Committee members to let SW know if they would like a seat at the hospitality table for committee members at the Lashings v Elsecar game on 16 August; RP to invite sponsors.

14 Next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.15pm. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 17th July.