



Yorkshire South Premier League and South Yorkshire Senior Cricket League



Formal proposal for the merger of YSPL & SYSCS

Background

- 1 Following the suggestion made by clubs that the two leagues be merged into a single structure, a discussion paper was produced in consultation with the two league committees and the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Management Board (YPLMB). A Merger Working Party (MWP), with representatives of both leagues, was subsequently set up. Responses to a subsequent club consultation paper and player survey indicated strong support for the merger. As a result, the following proposal is put to clubs for voting at league EGMs in October.

Proposal

- 2 That the two leagues are merged to form the Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL).

Reasons for change

- 3 There are a number of significant reasons for making the change, as follows:

Administration

- i. Economies of scale – there will be a single treasurer, safeguarding manager, disciplinary manager, etc.
- ii. The number of administrative meetings will be reduced.

Communications

- iii. Communication to clubs will be streamlined, removing duplication and inconsistency.

Consistency

- iv. A single leadership for all the clubs in the southern pyramid will result in a consistent approach to issues.

Finance

- v. A league that includes all senior Saturday cricket in South Yorkshire, with approximately 60 clubs, will put us in a much stronger position to attract significant sponsorship than the present separate arrangements.
- vi. The merger will potentially allow more clubs to benefit from future ECB funding.

Strength

- vii. A single league, as part of the Yorkshire Cricket Pyramid, will be in a stronger position to deal with the challenges that the future will undoubtedly bring.
- viii. The merger will put us on the same footing as most other Premier Leagues, where leagues below the Premier League are part of the same structure.

General principles

- 4 There is a great deal that is good in both leagues and we do not want to lose that, or to make unnecessary changes. The leagues have different cultures, which must be respected in the merger process. We will also ensure that:
 - i. we take into account the needs of **all** our clubs, regardless of status
 - ii. there is minimum disruption for clubs as a result of the merger
 - iii. the new governance structure is as lean and streamlined as possible
 - iv. the newly formed league will have a strong working relationship with the YCB Head of Region (South), who will be invited to any appropriate meetings.

Organisation

- 5 The divisions in the league will be split into two sections:
 - i. The Premier Section – the top two divisions, currently the YSPL and SYSCL Championship, to be named Premier League and Championship as now. They will play under identical playing conditions and will be expected to comply with all ECB Premier League accreditation criteria and Premier League ground and facilities standards
 - ii. The Senior Section – the current SYSCL divisions 1 and below, to be named ‘Divisions 1-8’ as now. They will follow the playing conditions and requirements currently set in the SYSCL.
- 6 The rationale for this split is that the requirements for Premier Leagues, as detailed in the annual ECB Premier League Accreditation document, are comprehensive and detailed. A higher level of governance is therefore required. It is also ECB policy for the top 24 clubs in an accredited ECB Premier League to conform to these Premier League standards, and for common playing conditions to be used. In the Senior Section, playing conditions can be more relaxed to take into account the needs and wishes of clubs and players.

League aims and objectives

- 7 To work collaboratively with ECB, YCB and the YPLMB to:
 - support and grow the game across South Yorkshire
 - support and encourage take-up of ECB participation initiatives
 - support the development of the ground and facilities standards at all our clubs
 - foster the highest possible playing standards at all levels
 - help and support clubs to play at the highest level that they aspire to

Governance

- 8 The overall governance of the YCSPL will be the responsibility of a League Executive Board (LEB). The LEB will have accountability for the League as a whole; responsibility for any issues that are common across the whole League, for setting longer term strategy; and for the endorsement of changes to playing conditions and other initiatives proposed by the cricket committees.
- 9 Responsibility for the issues that are specific to the two sections of the League, including their day-to-day running and playing conditions, will be delegated to two cricket committees. These will be:
 - i. The Premier Section cricket committee – to have responsibility for the rules and playing conditions governing the Premier League and Championship divisions and associated cup competitions, subject to endorsement by the LEB and voting at AGMs as appropriate.
 - ii. The Senior Section cricket committee – to have responsibility for the day-to-day running, rules and playing conditions governing Divisions 1-8 and associated cup competitions, and for deciding on applications by new clubs to join the league, in accordance with YCB rules. This committee will also include persons responsible for any necessary specific roles, such as Play-Cricket administration, scoring issues, results recording, etc, in the Senior section.
- 10 The LEB will include the following positions, of which no single person shall hold more than two:
 - i. Chairman – who will be ultimately accountable for the governance of the League, and for ensuring that it is run in accordance with its constitution and rules, and in accordance with ECB guidance and requirements. The holder of this post be subject to the endorsement of the YPLMB.
 - ii. BAME Representative – who will provide a wider diversity of input and opinion; gather intelligence on BAME topics from players, clubs and communities in order to provide advice and insight for the Board; and be an advocate for the BAME development programmes. To assist in this, the representative will chair a standing sub-group of BAME representatives.
 - iii. Competitions Manager – who will be responsible for season scheduling, all league fixtures, cup draws, and co-ordination of final venues in consultation with the cricket committees.
 - iv. Compliance Manager – who will be responsible for ensuring that the Premier Section clubs meet all relevant Premier League accreditation, grounds and playing criteria; and that all overseas players registered in the League are compliant with League, ECB and Home Office rules, and for giving advice to clubs on matters concerning overseas players.

- v. Leaders of the Premier Section and Senior Section cricket committees (two positions) – who will be responsible for reporting back on activities of the committees and the leagues that they are responsible for; and for seeking LEB approval for proposed new initiatives and rule changes.
 - vi. Premier Section Manager – who will be responsible for overseeing arrangements in the Premier section for DLS usage, live scoring, match-day ball provision, player registration, results recording and general conduct of match-days; and who will support clubs throughout the league on scoring issues. The holder of this post will be subject to the endorsement of the YPLMB.
 - vii. Participation Manager – who will be responsible for promoting to clubs, giving advice on, and signposting further information about, all ECB participation initiatives, including supporting and developing womens' and girls' cricket; and championing inclusivity issues.
 - viii. Safeguarding Manager – who will be responsible for ensuring that clubs comply with YCB safeguarding requirements as detailed by the County Safeguarding Officer.
 - ix. Treasurer – who will be responsible for making and receiving all payments on behalf of the League, for ensuring that proper accounts are kept, and for providing financial statements to the LEB as required.
 - x. Umpires' representative, to represent the interests of the SYLUA and the YPLUA; the delegate to be agreed with the two associations
 - xi. YCB representative; the delegate to be agreed with the YCB
- 11 The constitution of the membership of the LEB shall be, aside from the YCB representative, a minimum of 60/40 split in favour of members who have been nominated by current Premier League clubs (or, at the outset, from the YSPL committee). The 60/40 split is a requirement of the YPLMB to ensure that the Premier League status of the league is safeguarded.
 - 12 The LEB will elect a vice-chairman from its members. For each of the other positions, the position-holder will nominate a deputy or assistant, to be approved by the LEB, to ensure representation in the event of absence or illness, for continuity purposes, and to assist with workload as necessary. The precise way in which the two will work together to be decided by the individuals concerned, but the named LEB member will have overall responsibility.
 - 13 With the exception of 10.11, 10.x and 10.xi above, the members of the initial LEB for 2021 will be nominated by the two league committees through the MWP as shown in appendix one. Nominations for the LEB in subsequent seasons will be made in accordance with the procedure laid out in the constitution and voted on at the AGM. The post of chairman will be subject to the veto of the YPLMB. The tenure of LEB members will be until they stand down, are asked to resign by majority vote of LEB members, or are defeated at a vote at the AGM.
 - 14 A secretarial assistant will be appointed to take notes of meetings, deal with incoming and outgoing correspondence, including circulating information to clubs. This post will not be a member of the LEB and may be appointed on a remunerative basis.
 - 15 The LEB will in addition appoint individuals or sub-committees to take on specific roles, for example, cup competition organisers, disciplinary manager, functions organiser, PR officer, social media officer, trophy steward, etc.
 - 16 The initial members of the two sectional cricket committees will be nominated by the current YSPL (Premier Section) and SYSCL (Senior Section) management committees and shall have no more than eight members each. Nominations for new members of the committees from 2021 must be made in accordance with the procedure laid out in the administrative rules and voted by clubs in the relevant sections at the AGM.
 - 17 Meetings of the LEB and cricket committees will normally be by video-conference in order to reduce time and travel commitments.
 - 18 YCSPL rules will be divided into five main groups:
 - i. Constitution – to apply across the whole league; to be proposed by the MWP and formally adopted as part of the merger proposal at the EGMs of member clubs (para 1), and subsequently changed only by vote of all clubs at an AGM/EGM.
 - ii. Administrative rules – to apply across the whole league except where specifically stated; to be drawn up by the MWP and agreed (and in the future amended as necessary) by the LEB.
 - iii. Playing conditions –
 - i. Premier Section – initially to follow 2020 YSPL/SYSCL Championship rules, aligned as necessary and subject to any amendments voted on by Premier Section clubs. To be amended from 2021 following

recommendations of the Premier Leagues cricket committee, endorsed the LEB, and voted on by Premier Section clubs at the AGM.

- ii. Senior Section – initially to follow 2020 SYSCL playing conditions for relevant divisions. To be amended from 2021 following recommendations of the Senior Section cricket committee, endorsed by the LEB, and voted on by Senior Section clubs at the AGM.
 - iv. Disciplinary procedures – to be agreed, and in the future amended as necessary, by the LEB and to apply across the whole league.
 - v. Other subject-specific guidance – for example, Diversity & Inclusion, Electronic Media, Safeguarding, t20 competitions – to be agreed, and in the future amended as necessary, by the LEB and to apply across the whole league except where specifically stated
- 19 EGMs of all member clubs in the two leagues will be arranged for clubs to vote on the proposal in autumn 2020. If the merger is agreed by both leagues, an Inaugural Meeting of Clubs will be held to:
- formally adopt the LEB and committee members
 - vote on any proposed amendments to the league rules
 - agree the league subscriptions
 - vote on any proposals for Sunday/cup competitions
- 20 In subsequent years, an AGM will be held at the end of each season of the operation of the League, at which reports from the principal officers will be presented, any proposed amendment to the constitution will be voted on, and elections for LEB positions held.

Finances

- 21 The financial assets of the YSPL and SYSCL at the 2020 year-end will be transferred to the YCSPL.
- 22 League subscriptions will be charged to clubs on the basis of the section of the number of teams they have playing in the League, at a rate to be recommended by the MWP.

Feeder league

- 23 The current arrangements, detailed in the MoU between the SYSCL and the Pontefract & District Cricket League, will continue to apply, unless negotiated otherwise, with the point of entry into the YCSPL for P&DCL clubs being at Senior Section division 1 level.

Club accreditation

- 24 ECB Club development and safeguarding accreditation (formerly *Clubmark*) will be required for all teams down to and including Senior Section division 3.

Cup competitions

- 25 The primary focus of these proposals is on Saturday league cricket. Any proposals for Sunday/cup competitions for 2021 will be considered and voted upon as in 19 above. These competitions will be reviewed during 2021.

Overseas players

- 26 We propose that one overseas player be allowed per team down to and including Senior Section division 2. These may be either a professional and amateur, subject to Home Office/ECB regulations being met. No overseas player may be registered without clearance from the Compliance Manager. Where a club with more than one team in Senior Section division 2 and above registers more than one overseas player, these may be interchangeable between teams, subject to league rules on fielding players from higher division teams in lower division teams. Further overseas players, such as the current Category 3 exempt players, may be registered only in accordance with ECB regulations.

Communications

- 27 We will review communication processes to ensure a single, streamlined process for information to be channelled from the YCB and League to the clubs, with a weekly summary of communications that will be posted on the league website.

Player registration

28 We will review the player registration process, to make it uniform throughout the league, and as simple to use as possible.

Umpires

29 We will work with the relevant umpires' associations to ensure that the right organisation is in place to provide umpires for the YCSPL; to address any concerns; and to support the recruitment and retention of umpires.

Endorsement

30 This proposal has been endorsed by the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Management Board.

Timescales

31 The timescale for taking forward the proposal is:

- EGM of clubs – by 31 October 2020 (*dates to be notified*)
- Inaugural Meeting of Clubs – by 31 December 2020
- Pre-Season Meeting of clubs – by 15 April 2021
- Start of inaugural season – 17 April 2021

32 The EGMs and Inaugural Meeting may be conducted by electronic or digital channels in order to comply with any Covid-19 restrictions.

Matt Summerhill
Chairman
Yorkshire South Premier League

David Ward
Chief Executive
South Yorkshire Senior Cricket League

September 2020

League Executive Board responsibilities

<p>Chairman (nominated by the SYSCL & YSPL and subject to the veto of the YPLMB)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall personal accountability for the governance of the League • Ensuring that the YCSPL is run in accordance with its constitution and rules, and in accordance with ECB and YPLMB guidance and requirements • Representing the YCSPL at meetings of ECB chairmen and at the YPLMB • Arrangements for, and chairing, the League Executive Board (LEB) • Liaison with the PLMB, other PLs and partner leagues • Ensuring that, as agreed by the LEB, specific individuals or sub-committees are tasked with specific responsibilities and for ensuring report-back on their activities • Press and publicity for the Premier Section
<p>BAME representative (new post, to be filled by advertisement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairing a standing sub-group of BAME representatives • Providing a wider diversity of input and opinion • Gathering intelligence on BAME topics from players, clubs and communities in order to provide advice and insight for the LEB • Advocacy for the BAME development programmes
<p>Competitions Manager (nominated by YSPL & SYSCL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of divisions • Season scheduling • Arrangement of all league & t20 fixtures • Initial cup draws • Co-ordination of final venues in consultation with the cricket committees • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with fixture issues • Advice to LEB on the promotion and relegation protocol following closure of the YCB club transfer deadline
<p>Compliance Manager (nominated by YSPL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for ensuring that the Premier Section clubs are aware of and meet all relevant Premier League accreditation, grounds and playing criteria, and bringing any failures to LEB attention • Approving the registration of all overseas players in the League, ensuring that they are compliant with League, ECB and Home Office rules • Advice to all Premier and Senior Section clubs on matters concerning overseas players, bringing any concerns to the attention of LEB and the relevant section cricket committee • As a member of the Premier Section cricket committee, ensuring that any relevant issues are brought to its attention • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with compliance issues
<p>Leader of Premier Section cricket committee (nominated by YSPL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangements for Premier Section cricket committee meetings • Day-to-day issues affecting the Premier Section that require cricket committee decisions • Review of Premier Section playing conditions as and when issues are identified by the committee or are raised by clubs, and seeking LEB endorsement for changes as necessary • Reporting to the LEB on Premier Section activities and issues and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Responsibility for ensuring that LEB decisions are carried forward in the Premier Section

<p>Leader of Senior Section cricket committee (nominated by SYSCL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day-to-day management of Senior Section operations, specifically ensuring that arrangements are in place to manage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring compliance with any specific divisional requirements • player registration • match-day ball provision • live scoring issues • checking and locking results on PC • senior section t20 and Cup competitions • advice and support attaining ECB club accreditation standards • press and publicity for the Senior Section • Arrangements for Senior Section cricket committee meetings • Day-to-day issues affecting the Senior Section that require cricket committee decisions • Review of Senior Section playing conditions as and when issues are identified by the committee or are raised by clubs, and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Reporting to the LEB on Senior Section activities and issues and seeking approval for changes as necessary • Responsibility for ensuring that LEB decisions are carried forward in the Senior section • Liaison with Senior Section clubs • Supporting the Safeguarding Manager on any safeguarding issues concerning Senior section clubs
<p>Participation Manager (nominated by YSPL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison with ECB/YCB on participation initiatives • Responsibility for promoting to clubs, giving advice on, and signposting further information about, all participation initiatives • Supporting and developing womens' and girls' cricket • Maintaining a register of female and junior participation teams and initiatives • Championing inclusivity issues • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with participation and inclusivity issues
<p>Premier Section Manager (nominated by YSPL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day-to-day management of Premier Section operations, specifically including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • player registration • match-day ball provision • live scoring issues • DLS support • checking and locking results on PC • liaison with clubs • Advice and support to clubs on attaining ECB club accreditation standards • Lead League responsibility for scoring issues • Day-to-day management of Premier Section cup competitions • Supporting the Safeguarding Manager on any safeguarding issues concerning Premier Section clubs • As a member of the Premier Section cricket committee, ensuring that any relevant issues are brought to its attention
<p>Safeguarding Manager (nominated by SYSCL)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for ensuring that clubs comply with YCB safeguarding requirements as detailed in the League Safeguarding Policy • Liaison with the County Safeguarding Officer • Advice to the LEB about actions necessary in connection with safeguarding issues

Treasurer (nominated by SYSCL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsibility for making and receiving all payments on behalf of the League • Responsibility for ensuring that proper accounts are kept • Provision of financial statements for LEB meetings • Preparation of end-of-year accounts • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with financial issues
Umpires’ representative (nominated by SYLUA and YPLUA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representing the interests of the SYLUA and the YPLUA
YCB representative (nomination to be agreed with YCB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To represent the interests of the YCB at LEB meetings • Advice to LEB about actions necessary in connection with YCB issues

Draft constitution

1. **Title.** The League shall be called the Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League (YCSPL), which may be preceded by an agreed sponsor's name.
2. **Aims and objectives.** To work collaboratively with ECB, YCB and the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Management Board (YPLMB) to:
 - support and grow the game across South Yorkshire,
 - support and encourage take-up of ECB participation initiatives
 - support the development of the ground and facilities standards at all our clubs
 - foster the highest possible playing standards at all levels
 - help and support clubs to play at the highest level that they aspire to
3. **Authority.** The YCSPL is owned by its member clubs and is one of the four constituent Premier Leagues in the Yorkshire Cricket Pyramid. In all matters pertaining to the progression of clubs within the pyramid, the feeder leagues, and the White Rose Yorkshire Championship, it is answerable to the YPLMB. The YCSPL will be solely responsible for all its internal organisational and operational matters, which will be conducted in line with ECB & YCB policies.
4. **Membership.** All clubs who are in South Yorkshire and the surrounding area shall be eligible for membership of the YCSPL. This will include the two former Yorkshire League clubs in North Lincolnshire. All clubs must be primarily affiliated to the Yorkshire (or relevant) Cricket Board. Any club wishing to join the YCSPL should contact the League chairman. All transfers of clubs must be conducted in accordance with YCB rules.
5. **Probationary period.** A new club will be required to serve a two-year probation period, during which time membership for the YCSPL may be terminated if the:
 - general conduct and administration of the club is unsatisfactory,
 - club has brought the league into disrepute *or*
 - club fails to comply with league rules and procedures
6. **Organisation.** The YCSPL will be split into two sections – Premier and Senior. The Premier Section will comprise two divisions; the Premier League and the Championship, each to comprise 12 teams. The Senior Section will be divided into the required number of divisions to accommodate all remaining teams; the aim will be to have 12 teams in each division, but this may need to be varied according to the number of clubs. Promotion and relegation between the divisions will be as laid out in the League administrative rules.
7. **Governance.** The governance of the YCSPL will be the responsibility of a League Executive Board (LEB). The LEB will have responsibility for any issues that are common to the whole league, for setting longer term strategy, and for considering and endorsing any changes to playing conditions proposed by the cricket committees. The chairman of the LEB will consult with the YPLMB on any matter that may have a bearing on:
 - the League's Premier League status,
 - YCB rules, *or*
 - the Yorkshire pyramid structure
8. **Membership of the LEB.** The LEB will comprise a maximum of ten positions in addition to the chairman and including a YCB representative. The specific roles of the LEB members will be detailed in the League administrative rules. The following will apply to all LEB positions, other than the BAME representative, the Umpires' representative and the YCB representative:
 - i. The tenure of board membership will be indefinite, ending when:
 - a member elects to stand down,
 - a member is removed from the LEB for reasons of misconduct, by a majority vote of the other LEB members, *or*

- a member loses his position following a vote at the AGM
- ii. In order to ensure that the Premier League status of the league is safeguarded, the constitution of the LEB shall be a minimum of 60/40 split between members who have been nominated by current Premier League clubs (or, as original members, from the former YSPL committee) (60%) and others (disregarding the BAME and YCB representatives) (40%).
 - iii. Subject to the provisions of 8.ii above, any person may be nominated and seconded for any specific LEB role. Nominations must be made by a proposer and seconder, by 30 September in the year of the AGM. Proposals and nominations must be made either by a club or a member of the LEB.
 - iv. Nominations for the post of Chairman will be subject to the veto of the YPLMB.
 - v. The LEB will elect a vice-chairman from within its members.
9. **Cricket committees.** Responsibility for the administration of the Premier and Senior Sections will be delegated to two cricket committees, one for each section, whose leaders will be members of the LEB. These will be:
- i. the Premier Section cricket committee – to have responsibility for the rules and playing conditions governing the Premier League and Championship divisions and associated cup competitions, subject to endorsement by the LEB and voting at AGMs as appropriate
 - ii. the Senior Section cricket committee – to have responsibility for the day-to-day running, rules and playing conditions governing the Senior Section divisions and associated cup competitions, and for deciding on applications by new clubs to join the league, in accordance with YCB rules; this committee will also include persons responsible for any necessary specific roles, such as Play-Cricket administration, scoring issues, results recording, etc, in the Senior section
10. **Other roles.** The LEB will be empowered to appoint individuals or sub-committees to take on specific roles that they deem necessary; for example, cup competition organisers, disciplinary manager, functions organiser, PR officer, social media officer, trophy steward, etc.
11. **Inclusion & diversity.** The YCSPL will aim to ensure that its committees reflect the diversity of our clubs. The League will maintain and ensure adherence to an Inclusion & Diversity Policy in line with ECB policies.
12. **Termination of membership.** The LEB will have the right to terminate the membership of any club where they deem that:
- despite two formal written warnings, the general conduct and administration of the club concerned is unsatisfactory
 - the club has brought the league into serious disrepute
 - the club has persistently failed to comply with league rules and procedures
- A club will have 14 days in which to appeal against such decision to the YPLMB from the date of the decision being notified to them.
13. **Resignation.** A club wishing to resign from the YCSPL to move to another league must:
- i. give notice to the League chairman by email by 30 June in the season before they wish to move
 - ii. follow YCB club transfer rules
 - iii. fulfil all fixtures and financial obligations for that season – failure to comply with this requirement will render the club liable to penalty
- Any club ceasing to be a member of YCSPL for any reason shall at once forfeit automatic rights to any distributions from the League’s assets or ECB monies.
14. **Partner league**
- i. The YCSPL’s partner league is the Pontefract & District League (P&DCL). A Memorandum of Understanding will be agreed and signed by representatives of both leagues to provide a framework for the relationship between the two.

- ii. The P&DCL Division One champions will have the automatic right to be promoted to the YCSPL Division 1 if they meet all the criteria required by the Senior Section cricket committee.
 - iii. If the champions do not wish to be promoted their place will be offered to the team that finishes in second place, provided they meet all the relevant criteria. Any former P&DCL team that finishes in the relegation positions of Division 1 will return to P&DCL. Any deviation from this arrangement must be agreed by both the YCSPL and P&DCL.
15. **Clubs with more than one team.** Clubs will be allowed to play a maximum of four teams in the League. No more than one team from any club may play in any division, other than in the bottom division in the league. A team may not be promoted into a division if another team from their club will be in that division in the following season. Where a team from a club is relegated into a division in which that club already has a team in the following season, the team already in the lower division will be relegated.
16. **Changes to constitution and rules**
 - i. Clubs may propose changes to the constitution or playing conditions, which will be debated and voted upon at the AGM. Proposals must be notified to the League chairman no later than 31st August, in order that these can be considered by the LEB, and notice given to clubs for debate and vote at the AGM in accordance with paras 17 and 19 below.
 - ii. Any proposals from the LEB for changes to the constitution or playing conditions will be notified to clubs for debate and vote at the AGM in accordance with paras 17 and 19 below.
 - iii. The LEB will be empowered to make additions and changes to existing league administrative rules and policies. Clubs may request a change of any administrative rule or policy at any time. Any proposed change may, at the discretion of the LEB, be debated and voted on at the AGM.
17. **Annual General Meeting.** An annual general meeting (AGM) of clubs shall be held by 30 November each year. All clubs must attend the AGM; failure to attend may result in a penalty being imposed. The date of the AGM will be set before the start of the season. After the end of the playing season, clubs will be given formal notification of the date of the AGM and given three weeks to make any nominations for positions or proposals for changes to rules, etc. A minimum of a further three weeks' notice will then be given to the clubs of the agenda and issues that are to be voted on. Business to be conducted at the AGM shall include:
 - i. reports from the Chairman, Treasurer, Competitions Manager, leaders of the two cricket committees and any other LEB member as necessary
 - ii. election of LEB and cricket committee members where appropriate
 - iii. proposals for changes to the constitution and playing conditions in either the Premier Section or the Senior Section
 - iv. other relevant business allowed by the Chairman
18. **Extraordinary General Meetings.** Either the LEB or a two-thirds majority of clubs in membership may call for an extraordinary general meeting (EGM) to discuss and vote on a specific issue at any time. Clubs must be given 21 days' notice of the date of the EGM, of the subject matter, and of any proposal to be voted on at the meeting. Any vote will take place in accordance with para 19 below.
19. **Voting at AGMs/EGMs**
 - i. any changes to the constitution must be passed by a simple majority and will be subject to ratification by the YPLMB
 - ii. changes to playing conditions must be passed by a simple majority of the clubs in membership of the divisions affected by the changes in the following season
 - iii. each club will be entitled to one vote in any ballot at the AGM
 - iv. in the event of voting being tied, the Chairman will have a casting vote
20. **Finance.** The financial year will run from 1st October to 30th September each year. All monies received will be paid into a bank account in the name of the League. Accounts will be maintained using online banking.

21. **ECB funding.** ECB funding will be distributed to clubs in accordance with ECB directives and LEB policies agreed with ECB and notified to clubs. ECB funding may be withheld where a club has failed to take actions required of them.
22. **Subscriptions.** The LEB will have the power to set a club membership subscription, which will be reviewed annually. YCB subscriptions will be collected with League subscriptions, which will be due by 30 April each year.
23. **Penalties.** The YCSPL may impose penalties for failure to follow league rules or directives. Such penalties may take the form of a formal written warning, fine, suspension (in the case of a player), deduction of league points, or expulsion (see 12 above).
24. **Disputes and complaints.** All disputes and complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the dispute procedure laid down in League administrative rules.
25. **Safeguarding.** The League will maintain and adhere to a Safeguarding Policy, in line with current ECB policy, and ensure that all clubs are aware of safeguarding requirements and that all relevant club officers have the necessary checks and training.
26. **Life members.** The LEB may approve proposals for life membership of the League. Life membership may be awarded to persons who have given outstanding service to the YCSPL, its' predecessors, or its' clubs. Life members will be entitled to attend:
 - League general meetings
 - League presentation functions, without charge
 - cup finals organised by the League, and will be entitled to partake of a tea without charge
27. **Dissolution.** In the event of the dissolution of the league, the YPLMB will become the trustees of the assets of the league and will distribute those assets to the member clubs, on a pro rata basis in accordance with the number of teams from each club competing in the League at the time of the dissolution.