



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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League Executive Board

25th meeting – Monday 27 March 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom

Note of meeting

Present: Matt Summerhill (chair), Terry Bateman, Gareth Davis, Mel Mahmood, Lindsay Pepper, Roger Pugh, Steve Ward, Nelson Windle

Apologies: Ashley Boothman, Chris Froggett, David Ward

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP said that there had been apologies from AB, CF and DW who are all on holiday.
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP had produced a summary of actions taken since the last meeting – see appendix 1. There were no matters arising.
3. **Reports from Members**
 - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report*
 - NW had provided a note in advance – see appendix 2.
 - MS asked about new members; NW said that there was nothing definite yet.
 - GD mentioned the anti-discrimination training. He had attended the face-to-face course at Headingley, which he said lasted for three and a half hours and was 'pretty heavy'. He asked how the information was to be disseminated in the League. RP said that the course is aimed primarily at adjudicators and those who will handle complaints of discrimination, so DW is to attend the course in York on 12/4; the two disciplinary officers have been asked to attend this or the 24/4 course at Trent Bridge if possible; and an E&DG representative will attend on the 12th. He felt that after these courses, we should ensure that clubs were made aware of those who have been trained, so they could seek advice if they had complaints. Meanwhile, everyone should be encouraged to undertake the online training. This was agreed.
 - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
 - LP said that a two Safe Hands courses have been delivered. She said that Elsecar had proved an excellent venue, and that Richard Wilkinson had done a very good job in delivering the course.
 - LP said that almost all necessary club personnel have been trained and we are ok on DBSs. TB to liaise about one umpire who does not yet have a DBS.
 - iii. *Participation Manager's report*
 - MM had provided a report in advance – see appendix 2.
 - LP praised the efforts of Worsbrough Bridge on participation initiatives, saying that they were a great advert for the league.
 - MM said that she was always happy to advise and support clubs on participation initiatives. **RP to include in the Bulletin.**

iv. *Umpires' representative's report*

- TB said that the four winter training sessions, covering the new laws and acting as a general refresher, had been a great success. Over 90 umpires had attended, including some from the Yorkshire & Derbyshire league. He complimented those responsible.
- MS said that we should not forget the women umpires in the SYW&GCL, and thought that some might want to join our panel. RP agreed, and said that he wanted to ensure that the promotional video aimed at encouraging new umpires, that Alex Fletcher has offered to co-ordinate, should also target women umpires.

v. *Scoring update*

- SW had provided a report in advance – see appendix 2. He said that he had been very busy with scorers' courses, concluding with Premier Section scorers' meetings on the previous Saturday.
- SW said that he would hold a short Zoom meeting for the scorers of the four Division 1 teams that would be participating in the Whitworth Cup.
- MS said that we need to start to talk about the possible use of DLS outside the Premier Section. **DW to be asked to raise at Senior Section committee.**

vi. *Treasurer's report. AB will provide a financial statement on return from holiday. [note: now circulated]*

vii. *Premier Section report.* RP had provided a report in advance – see appendix 2. He drew attention to the Pre-Season Premier Section Captains' Meeting, which will take place by Zoom on Monday 3 April.

viii. *Senior Section report.*

- DW had circulated the [notes of the last committee meeting](#).
- The LEB endorsed the committee's recommendation that non-turf pitches can be used in Divisions 7-9, provided that suitable sight screens and changing facilities are available. This is to be raised at the Pre-Season Meeting (PSM) on 5 April. GD asked if he could speak on the subject – **RP to include on the agenda.**

ix. *Compliance Manager's report*

- CF had provided a report in advance – see appendix 2.
- RP referred to the advice from ECB that the 210-day qualification rule need not apply in the case of bona fide students outside the Premier Section. All were in favour of this rule relaxation. RP emphasised that a record would need to be kept of such registrations, because otherwise, once registered on P-C as Category 1, they would remain so; and it would need to be made clear that they could not play in the Premier Section unless they satisfied the 210-day requirement. **RP agreed to draft a suitable amendment to the admin rules, and put on the PSM agenda.**

x. *Competitions Manager's report*

- MS said that five games were still to be rearranged.
- He said that the Senior Section committee had agreed that if a game could not be played on a scheduled date, and no agreement was reached between the two sides on an alternative date, then four points would be awarded to each team. This was endorsed by the LEB.
- MS said that the League needed to decide on promotion and relegation in the Senior section once the cut-off date for applications to join the League had been passed on 31 March. He said that Parkhead 2nds and Hallam 4ths had been approved, with applications so far from Brodsworth and Waleswood to be reviewed. This could mean six new teams, and we currently have six vacancies.

xi. *YCB update*

- *Coaching in schools.* GD praised the amazing work currently being done, with over 4,000 hours in 400 schools to 28,000 children in Yorkshire – of which around 40% was in high deprivation areas. In addition, there had been over 3,600 All Stars & Dynamos sign-ups.

- *Safe Hands*. GD gave an update on SHMS compliance. Some of the club volunteer officers have still not checked the update service, which means that they are not SHMS compliant. This must be done by the end of April, as it will otherwise put their Clubmark status at risk. **RP to put in the Bulletin and on the PSM agenda.**

4. Distribution of ECB funding

- RP talked through the recommendations of the sub-group, saying that they had tried to reflect ECB priorities and requirements – see appendix 3 attached.
- GD emphasised the support that he had given to HMCC towards establishing the required junior teams, but said that there was still some way to go
- RP said that the monitoring tool was simple to use and covered all injuries, from the very minor upwards, so it was unlikely that a club would not need to use it; use to be monitored via P-C
- The recommendations were agreed. **RP to publicise.**

5. Communications Working Group

RP reported that one meeting had taken place and that a number of issues had been raised. He would progress and report back in full at the next meeting.

6. Live-Streaming

- Following a suggestion from Andy Harrison, the Premier Section committee proposes that:

All clubs should be asked in advance of the start of the season

 - whether they intend to conduct live-streaming of home games and*
 - whether they are content for their away games to be live-streamed*

At the same time, umpires to be asked whether they are content. The information will be tabulated and published. This will alleviate the need for advance communication with visiting teams and umpires on a match-by-match basis. A final check to be made at the pre-match meeting, in case of any last-minute changes. Captains must have written parental permission for live-streaming of any juniors available for inspection.
- LP asked about the definition of junior [ECB Live-Streaming guidance clearly refers to written consent from a parent/guardian where a player is under 16]
- SW voiced concerns in relation to scoring. We must be clear that live-streaming technology such as *Frogbox* cannot be used for scoring purposes – scoring must be carried out in accordance with Playing Condition 17 using Play-Cricket Scorer/Scorer Pro; also, scorers must not be asked to operate live-streaming. These points were agreed.
- The proposal was agreed – **RP to put on the PSM agenda, amend the live-streaming guidance, and arrange a proforma to clubs and umpires.**

7. Overseas students

Covered under 3.ix above.

8. Saliva on the ball

Following discussions with some of the umpires, RP proposed that before instigating formal action under Law 41, umpires should give a public ‘first and final team warning’ to the fielding side. The Premier Section has already decided to implement this, and DW said that we should do the same throughout the League. This was agreed. **RP to put in the Bulletin and on the PSM agenda.**

9. Other business

- In response to a request from one club, RP and DW had considered a request for games to be rearranged so that players could watch the FA cup semi-final. Their view was that, as a League policy, no games should be rearranged to allow players to spectate at another sporting event. The LEB endorsed this view. **RP to put in the Bulletin and on the PSM agenda.**
- RP said that the clubs concerned had said that, due to premises work, no teas could be provided this season at Adwick-le-Street and Wentworth. **RP to put in Bulletin and on the PSM agenda.**

- iii. RP said that the hand book was on schedule to go to print this week, in order to be available for the PSM. It would also be available on the website. MM said that the SYW&GCL would be also published on the website and on the League P-C website.
- iv. TB said that Joanne Ibbotson had volunteered to join the E&DG. NW confirmed that he had spoken to her.
- v. The payment of £650 Development Fund money to Whiston Forge was approved. **AB to pay.**

10. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 8.32pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday 24 April.

Action point follow-up

- i. (ICEC report) **NW to feed back to the E&DG.**
- ii. (new Safe Hands course) will soon be available. **RP to include in the bulletin.** *Done.*
- iii. (Safeguarding concerns in respect of an SS club) **DW to write to club**
- iv. (Pre-Season meeting) **RP to publicise that the meeting will be at Shaw Lane not Phoenix.** *Done – reminder also to go in next bulletin.*
- v. (210-day rule for students) **DW to raise at the PLMB.** *Done – ECB say that below Premier divisions, leagues are free to decide on their own rule on this; meaning that we can amend our Admin Rules to allow bona fide overseas students to play in the Senior Section) – see item 7.*
- vi. (lack of pitches and use of non-turf pitches) **GD to ask the YCB board to raise at the ECB recreational assembly, and would send a full list of non-turf pitches in the area to DW.** *Done – list of non-turf pitches:*
 - Graves park: x 2
 - Cobnar Road: 1, 2, 4,
 - NTP in between Cobnar & Charles Ashmore: 0
 - Bents Green playing fields x 2: 1 (but showers are very poor),4
 - Ecclesfield Park: x 1: 1 (but no showers)
 - Mather Road: x 1: 0 but developments are in place but have no definite project completion date (SCC & FA initiative)
 - Matthews Lane: x 1 NWCC new ground
 - Hollinsend Playing Fields: x 1: 0
 - Don Valley Bowl: x 1: 1, 4 & has canteen in ICE Sheffield
 - Waterthorpe: x 1: 0
 - Firth Park: x 1: 0
- vii. (early decision on use of non-turf pitches in S/Sect) **DW undertook to raise at the March Senior Section committee meeting and would then take to clubs at the PSM.** *Done – S/sect committee in agreement for Divs 7-9 – to be advised to clubs at PSM.*
- viii. (Safe Hands compliance) **GD will put together a document for the league to endorse and issue to clubs.** *Done and included in bulletin – reminder to go in next bulletin and to be mentioned at PSM.*
- ix. (encouraging participation in Anti-Discrimination training) **RP to put in the bulletin.** *Done.*
- x. (Communications Working Group) **RP to follow up suggestion made and arrange first meeting.** *Done.*
- xi. (ECB update) **RP agreed to provide feedback on tomorrow's ECB and PLMB meetings.** *Slides still awaited from ECB but RP's feedback note is as follows:*

1 ECB call

- leagues are advised to proactively ask clubs if the celebration of Eid, forecast for 21/22 April, will cause any issues for them and whether they wish to seek any adjustments (we will consult E&DG about this and will propose a deadline for any requests)
- there is an ongoing Managed Migration consultation – if we have anything we want to feed in, we should email Emma Davis-Bidgood
- all clubs to be encouraged to ensure officials do anti-discrimination training
- reminder of the use of the Injury Reporting Tool by at least 12 clubs as part of the PRFP
- leagues to be required to adopt the [Code of Sports Governance](#) by 2024 (there are different Tiers, according to funding – Tier 1 is appropriate to us; we meet most of it but once members have had opportunity to read, we should have an LEB agenda item to discuss any necessary actions)
- the Premier League chairs meeting will be on 8 August

2 PLMB

- Roger Pugh will not be allowed to represent the YCSPL on the PLMB; the reason given is that the time is still 'not right', given the imminent ICEC report and the Azeem Rafiq hearings
- the £250 League membership payment (to finance the play-offs) will remain unchanged in 2023
- YCCC have offered the use of Headingley for the final, but not until 30 Sept/1 Oct – this was not considered suitable, and the PLMB will negotiate with York CC about hosting the 2023 final on their ground on 16/17 September
- the Greater Manchester and Lancashire Leagues have been given Premier League status
- Paul Bedford confirmed that the 210-day rule for Category 1 players applies only to the top two divisions in Premier Leagues; leagues are free to decide on their own rules in lower divisions

Appendix 2

II Reports from members

i. E&DG report

- Not had a E&DG meeting since Nov 22 due to personal circumstances of two key members of group.
- Attendance is a challenge and we are addressing this by developing a commitment code - e.g. must attend 75% of all meetings within a calendar year
- Also looking to recruit new members from all backgrounds, tbc when we have feedback/commitment from existing members
- EAD action plan to be developed and finalised after the ECB publish their report in the coming weeks. This will require input from YCB via a working group.

Nelson Windle

ii. Participation report

- Over 60 clubs have signed up for Dynamo and All Stars this season but registration is still open. I will report on final clubs' participation, when GD has the data for us.
- We are already aware of the clubs with issues.

Mel Mahmood

iii. **Financial report.** The treasurer is away and will report/update on return.

iv. Scoring report

The training period is coming to a close, and it has been a very busy time for myself and Sarah Pollard (Yorkshire ECBACO Scorers Officer).

Since November 2022, 90 scorers have attended various courses/Roadshows and one-to-ones in the South Yorkshire area. These figures include all abilities, and the Roadshows have been attended by Juniors and Parents who want to help at their Clubs. Even if a small proportion of the attendees go on to score regularly, it has been a worthwhile exercise.

The figures include a Level 2 course held at Wakefield, which means that our scorers are entering the Scorers Pathway, which will make them better scorers.

In addition to this, a good number of scorers have enquired about attending a further Level 2 Education Day, which has been pencilled in for October 2023.

Many of our scorers will be compiling their personal Scoring Portfolio during the season, which is all part of their development. This means that the League are front runners in the Country in Scorer Education.

Following discussion with David Ward, I will be asking him to authorise the funding of some of the education, (tutor fees) and clubs will be eligible for a rebate of candidate fees. I will do a full report for David in due course. This will not be for attendees of the Roadshows.

With the League's permission, it is hoped to run some refresher sessions during the season, and to run the same programme in the Autumn and Winter.

In addition to this, I held a couple of pre-season update sessions for scorers in the Premier Section yesterday. The sessions were attended by 15 of the scorers, who all enjoyed the sessions, and are up to speed with various matters.

One thing that we should consider is some DLS training for scorers whose clubs have entered the Whitworth Cup, but who play in Division 1. I will seek guidance as to whether this may also affect some teams who have entered the T20 Plate.

Steve Ward

- v. **Premier Section.** See [note of March meeting](#)
- vi. **Senior Section.** See [note of March meeting](#)

Appendix 3

III Item 4 - Allocation of ECB funding

Proposal

- 1 **Split of total money received.** To remain as before:
 - i. 60% to Premier Division clubs
 - ii. 30% to Championship Division clubs (maximum of 1/12th for each club without a first team in Premier division)
 - iii. 10% to League funds
 - iv. any money not allocated under i and ii above to go to the Development Fund
- 2 **Club allocations.** Revise as follows:
 - i. *pitch markings* (25% of available pot) – a full share is awarded where the average mark is at least 15/20 and a half share for 14/20;
 - ii. *outfield markings* (25% of pot) – a full share is awarded where the average mark is at least 3.75/5 and a half for 3.5/5
 - iii. *facilities* (10% of pot) – to be awarded unless any significant failures or shortcomings are identified during the season
 - iv. *All Stars/Dynamos or similar club programme* – must run, and must achieve at least 80% of the participation achieved in the previous season – full share where fully met and half share where within 10% (10% of pot)
 - v. *Junior players in senior cricket* – over the course of the season, the average number of games played by any players under 21 years old in the club's first and second teams together, must be at least five per game played – full share where fully met and half share where average above 4.5 (10% of pot)
 - vi. *Women's & girls' participation* – must have a W&G section and at least one soft or hard ball team playing in the SYW&GCL or similar league – half share where there is a W&G section only (10% of pot)
 - vii. *Use of injury surveillance reporting tool* – must be used to report any injuries (5% of pot)
 - viii. *Anti-discrimination training* – at least six club officials, including the chairman and secretary, to have completed online training (5% of pot)

In addition, where any club does not field three junior hardball teams, in line with the ECB Premier League requirement, a further 10% of their available pot will be withheld.