



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

League Executive Board

28th meeting – Monday 26 June 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom

Note of meeting

Present: David Ward (chairman), Ashley Boothman, Gareth Davis, Mel Mahmood, Roger Pugh, Matt Summerhill, Steve Ward, Nelson Windle

Apologies: Terry Bateman, Chris Froggett, Lindsay Pepper

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP said that there had been apologies from TB (umpires meeting), CF (working away) and LP (work).
2. **Matters arising from last meeting**
 - RP had provided an update on action points – see appendix 1 attached.
 - There was a discussion on umpire recruitment:
 - GD suggested that we look at other sports and how they tackle the issue, also that we should audit how many umpires we have, and at what levels, and how many we need to cover progression and cover at all levels
 - MS supported the above, also suggesting that we should include the Mosque network, where there is significant interest in cricket, in recruitment work
 - MS said that to justify £3k expenditure on a promotional video, we need to identify the success criteria for evaluation purposes
 - MM referred to recruiting women umpires, saying that Andrew Payling and Alison Gressor were putting on a course targeted at women
 - AB said that he was sure that player behaviour negatively impacted recruitment and retention
3. **Reports from Members**
 - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report*
 - NW had provided a report – see appendix 2
 - MS said that he was concerned that the Group made a very positive start but it feels that it has stalled recently, and asked about progress on the action plan
 - NW said that the action plan was awaiting publication of the ECB/YCB EDI action plan; but GD was not aware that this was imminent – **GD/NW to take forward**
 - RP said that he felt that most of the work in the group falls to three individuals, who are all busy people
 - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
 - LP had reported that she was aware that behaviour within the league is still unacceptable at times and, with juniors playing in all divisions, is monitoring weekly

- DW said that the SUCC player involved in the incident at Conisbrough has been banned by the ECB until 4.9.2024, and will have to take a safeguarding course and obtain ECB permission before he can play again
- iii. *Treasurer's report*
- AB had provided a financial report – attached at appendix 3
 - AB said that there was significant anticipated expenditure now that cup finals were on the horizon, as well as Development Fund payments
 - AB raised the issue of teas for officials at cup finals, and suggested that these could be trimmed; RP said that other than officials responsible for organising, and League Ambassadors/Life Members, he could not see why teas should be automatically provided for League officials; it was agreed that organisers would check before hand whether any attending officials would require teas
- iv. *Participation Manager's report*
- MM had provided a report – attached at appendix 4
 - MM said that there were some on-field behavioural issues – Wendy Crabtree and herself were working on raising awareness of standards required
 - there has also been an incident where the behaviour of non-playing spectators was an issue; DW has spoken to the club concerned and advised of the consequences of repetition
 - DW clarified that any disciplinary reports must be channelled through the League disciplinary adjudicator; Brian Hepworth could be used as a panel member in the event of any hearing
 - the payment of £60 for two female university students to complete the stage 1 umpires course was agreed
- v. *Umpires' representative's report.* No report – DW said that there is a SYUA meeting that night, which TB was attending.
- vi. *Scoring Manager's report*
- SW said that against an ECB target for use of live scoring of 45% of all games, the league was achieving 94% this season (84% last season) – **RP to thank all concerned via the bulletin**
 - DW said that Divisions 1 & 2 would use DLS next season – SW will arrange training as required
- vii. *Premier Section report.* RP had provided a report in advance – see appendix 5. He said that the outstanding K3 *Dental* cup game had been arranged for 9 July.
- viii. *Senior Section report*
- DW had circulated the [notes of the last committee meeting.](#)
 - DW said that there had been some registration irregularities involving an HMCC player and that he had arranged to meet the club to discuss.
- ix. *Compliance Manager's report.* No report.
- x. *Competitions Manager's report.* MS said that he was looking at options to compress the first rounds of all the cup competitions, alleviating the need to start the cups so early in the season and perhaps freeing up a Sunday. This would involve the first rounds of all cups being played on two Sundays. This was agreed.
- xi. *Chairmans'/ECB update*
- DW said Brodsworth could not join the League in 2024 as they are unable provide two umpires. GD said that they were also struggling with Clubmark compliance. DW said that Hallam 4ths and Parkhead 2nds will still be joining. **MS will provide a revised promotion/relegation schedule to reflect that Brodsworth will not be in the league in 2024.**
 - DW & SW provided an update on cup competitions:
 - Three of the K3 *Dental* Cup quarter finals will be played this Sunday 2 July, with the fourth being played on Sunday 9 July
 - the Whitworth Cup semi-finals will be played on Sunday 9 July – Cawthorne v Shiregreen & Whiston PC v Sheffield Collegiate 2nds

- the Mick Savage Trophy semi-finals will be played on Sunday 23 July – Aston Hall 2nds v Hallam 2nds & Coal Aston v Warmsworth
 - the President’s Trophy semi-finals will be played on Sunday 9 July – Monk Bretton v Oughtibridge WM 2nds & Wath 2nds v Wombwell Main
 - the Billy Oates Cup quarter-finals will all be played this Sunday 2 July
 - T20 Blast Final (Barnsley WM v Doncaster Town) and the T20 Plate Final (Cawthorne v Wath) will be played at Aston Hall CC on Sunday 16 July (Plate final starts 11am and Blast final at 3pm)
- SW has arranged a Zoom meeting for next Wednesday 5 July with all relevant parties about arrangements for the T20 finals day.
 - SW has offered to organise both the T20 Blast and T20 Plate next year, as both are competed predominantly by Premier Section clubs and have a shared finals day. This was agreed.
 - RP said that he and SW agreed with Simon Widdup’s proposal that the semi-finals of both Blast and Plate competitions be played on neutral grounds in future – one ground each for both semis in each competition. MS suggested that we wait before agreeing this until after this year’s finals day to see how the new format works. This was agreed.
 - DW said that a full response to the PLMB letter was awaited from Alan Birkinshaw.

xii. *YCB update*

- *Safe Hands*. GD asked that we emphasise to clubs the importance of keeping up-to-date with SHMS notifications, to avoid a situation where a club become non-compliant. **RP agreed to put in bulletin.**
- MS said that there were still issues with the system, citing a case where a DBS had been updated but the system still issued a notification that it was expired.
- GD agreed that there were still glitches, as was also the case with uploading onto the Clubmark system.

4. **Cancellations of league games.** RP said that he now had five members of the Working Group, and was awaiting to hear from another. CF, Andy Harrison, Kris Jowett and Simon Widdup were now all confirmed, and MS confirmed that he wished to be involved.

5. **Dinner.** RP updated the Board on the recent planning meeting as follows:

- the price is slightly higher at the OEG and the tickets will be £32 each
- minimum ticket allocation per club to change slightly to increase the overall number of tickets sold
- a cricket speaker is to be sourced – cost potentially £1k
- dress code to be specified *‘smart casual – no trainers, sportswear or headgear worn for other than religious reasons’*

The Board agreed the cost of the speaker and agreed that £150 should be made available for the purchase of the smaller raffle prizes – **RP to advise GS**

6. **Play-Cricket: removal of players from the system**

- SW said that a number of players had been deregistered who had played last year because they had not accessed their P-C accounts. He said that this was creating work for clubs and causing aggravation for players, and asked what rule it was being carried out under.
- MS said that, for GDPR reasons, if a player has not logged into their account for two years, their status is automatically changed to ‘temporary’ on the system, which means that they are no longer registered. It is nothing to do with the League. He felt that it was not too much to ask players to log into their accounts once every two years to preserve their status, and pointed out the benefits to the League, viz, prevention of suspended players playing, safeguarding, prevention of unregistered players, players avoiding transfer system, GDPR
- RP said that he thought it was an issue of education, and would put something in the bulletin and speak to captains – **RP to action**

7. Sponsorship

- i. MS said that he feels that we have never really maximised our sponsorship potential, and that whilst we are not short of money, either every pound we receive in sponsorship is a pound less we have to charge clubs, or it can act to boost the Development Fund, or be used for other purposes to benefit the League. He said that we need to pull together a group of individuals who can drive sponsorship forward – these might not be people on LEB, but others who have the relevant skills.
- ii. RP agreed with the principle and asked how the matter should be taken forward. He pointed out that there was no point in asking clubs, because if they could find sponsors they would use them themselves. MS said that he would start by talking to other Leagues to find out how they got their sponsors. RP suggested that this is something for which the PLMB should be a starting point.

8. Other business

- i. NW asked about the process for returning defective balls. DW said they should go to him.
 - ii. MS said that we need to advise Brodsworth about 2024 and clarify what they need to do if they wish to join in 2025. **DW to take forward.**
 - iii. RP asked if the League could make an ex gratia payment of £25 each to the two umpires who were at Doncaster Town on Sunday, as they had a very difficult situation to handle, which they did very well and were on the ground much longer than would be expected for a single T20 game, but they received only £30 each. This was agreed. **AB to action.**
 - iv. DW said that two payments of £1k were agreed at the Senior Section meeting. MS said that at the end of the year, a Development Fund report would be produced, detailing all of the projects and clubs that we have supported and a total investment of the fund, but not individual club grants.
 - v. DW said that the SYUA had requested a payment of £75 towards shirts. This was agreed.
 - vi. DW said that the issue of Cleethorpes concession in the T20 Blast semi-final would be considered by the Premier Section committee on 19 July. **RP to take forward.**
9. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 8.45pm. The next meeting will be face-to-face on Monday 24 July at Shaw Lane Sports Club, Barnsley (7.00pm).

Action point follow-up

- i. (reporting positives) **RP to include in the bulletin and ask ST to feed back from s/media.** *Done.*
- ii. (use of head cam) **DW to follow up.** *Done.*
- iii. (availability of Development Fund) **RP to include in bulletin.** *Done.*
- iv. (availability of money for women's coaching) **RP to include in the bulletin.** *Done.*
- v. (umpire recruitment video) **GD to follow up with YCCC.**
Additional information. RP has contacted a small private contractor who has been recommended to him by Hull KR (Influence Media) and has had a preliminary discussion with the Managing Director about what we are looking for. He is keen to work with us on it and has quoted a cost of approx £3k for filming, editing and video production, to include filming at a game and a session of 'talking heads'. This is a recent sample of work he did for the HKR Foundation - <https://hullkr.co.uk/video/hull-kr-foundation-get-inspired-documentary/>
- vi. (getting the game on - guidance) **RP to take forward.** *See ix below.*
- vii. (ball trials) **RP to put in bulletin.** *Done.*
- viii. (breach of admin rule 47 by club playing game rearranged due to Eid) **NW to draw to attention of E&DG.** *Done.*
- ix. (overseas professionals on PPE route) **CF & RP to consider rule amendment.** *Carry forward*
- x. (ECB request for more information for accreditation & PRFP) **RP to complete.** *Done and acknowledged by Paul Bedford.*
- xi. (publicity for YCB H&S communication) **RP to arrange via bulletin.** *Carried forward – clarification required.*
- xii. (cancellations – reallocation of umpires) **RP to arrange publicity via bulletin.** *Done.*
- xiii. (payments to clubs when teams insist on the game being on and the game is not played) – **DW & RP will make a proposal for revision.** *Proposal in bold below:*
 - iii *the home side may insist that the fixture is not cancelled and that the visitors must travel. Should they do so and there is subsequently no play, they **must pay both the umpires' fees and a maximum of £50 towards the visitors' travel expenses** or*
 - iv. *the visiting side may insist that the fixture is not cancelled and that they will travel. Should they do so and there is subsequently no play, they **must pay both the umpires' fees and the cost of teas up to a maximum of £60.** This liability will not apply where, in the opinion of the umpires, the pitch, surrounding areas or run-ups have not been adequately covered, when the home team will be liable for all such expenses.*
- xiv. (cancellations – rearrangements) **RP to co-ordinate working group.** *A bulletin item has been issued publicise the creation of a working group to look at cancellations – including rearrangements and getting the game on. Prospective members were given until 26 June to indicate interest – RP to update at meeting.*
- xv. (letter to PLMB) **DW to take forward.** *Letter slightly redrafted to cover Streethouse situation, sent and acknowledgment received from Alan Birkinshaw.*

Equity & Diversity report

- i. E&DG now part of disciplinary process - either by consultation or in attendance, although a permanent role/named person yet to be confirmed (Jason Booth has been on the panel twice and the E&DG get regular emails to feedback/in)
- ii. Future meetings yet to be confirmed due to availability - hopefully within the next month



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Financial statement June 2023

Year to date income & expenditure

<i>Income</i>	<i>£</i>
Ball sales	46,156.40
Clothing sales	-
Disciplinary hearing costs	332.80
ECB monies	4,261.33
Handbook adverts	375.00
Interest at bank	71.10
Penalties	6,207.00
Presentation evening tickets 2022	9,303.00
Sponsorship	3,500.00
Subscriptions	12,065.00

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>£</i>
Ball costs	48,818.05
Banking services	45.00
Clothing	680.00
Communications	620.31
Cup finals/finals days-Catering Costs	-
Digital Laptop Scoring	400.00
Disciplinary hearing costs	328.00
ECB monies to clubs	10,211.10
Electronic media	-
Entertaining at cup finals/finals days	18.40
Honoraria	1,700.00
Insurance	2,942.25
Phone & broadband costs	273.45
Presentation evening 2022 costs	7,966.48
Presentation evening 2023 costs	500.00
Representative Match(s) costs	540.00
Room hire	50.00
Stationery & printing	1,056.92
SYCUA	600.00
Training costs(Rule 59,60)	1,250.00
Travel costs	820.20
Trophies & medals Annual Awards	1,489.00
Trophies & Medals -Cup finals/finals day	-
YCB fees	3,140.00
YPLMB subscription	-

Total **82,271.63**

Total **96,569.16**

Excess income over expenditure **(14,297.53)**

Development Fund

<i>Income</i>	<i>£</i>
c/f	1,370.00
ECB monies	4,724.40

<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>£</i>
Whiston Forge CC	650.00
Coal Aston CC	600.00

less expenditure **1,250.00**

Available balance **4,844.40**

Total **1,250.00**

Balance sheet

Current a/c at 30 September 2022	32,702.09
Deposit a/c at 30 September 2022	14,763.16
Excess income o/expend to date	(14,297.53)
Total	33,174.15

Represented by

Current account	18,654.53
Savings account(Inc Development Fund)	26,715.62
	4,844.40

Total **45,370.15**

Ashley Boothman
Treasurer
28 June 2023

Participation Manager's report

W&G Committee

The W&G Committee had now been set up and are as follows:

- Chair/EDI Lead: Nicola Saunders - email - nicola.saunders@veolia.com
- Vice Chair & Treasurer: Tracey Helliwell - email - traceyjanehelliwell@hotmail.co.uk
- Fixtures & Disciplinary: Brian Hepworth - email - anchorrecords@googlemail.com
- Play-Cricket leads – Ros Miller email - ros_miller@outlook.com & Pauline King – email paulineking@sky.com
- Umpires leads: Wendy Crabtree wendycrabtree@tiscalli.co.uk & Andrew Edward- email andy.edwards@live.co.uk
- Safeguarding: Eleanor Barber – email - eleanorbarber41@googlemail.com

The committee met for the first time on Monday the 19th June and will continue to meet on a regular basis during the summer and winter season. A bulletin will also be sent out to all clubs with any relevant information/decisions.

The committee will report any issues that may require LEB intervention or support via me and I will report back to this committee as appropriate.

Sponsorship will now be being led by Tracey Helliwell and I will be meeting with her to hand over – I have already introduced her via email to Anna Scott-Beer at Marshall Woolridge and we are meeting to arrange setting up a League bank account for sponsorship monies etc. The Senior league offered to match / contribute to the W&G League when it was created – does this still stand please? We are in need of silverware for the competitions and awards. We are also in the process of setting up a presentation evening for the league – however, there have been issues around some players being able to afford to attend -so any financial support would be put to good use.

Issue around discipline and reporting

As was alluded to in the last meeting by Matt Summerhill - we have had another issue surrounding safeguarding and discipline around the W&G's softball league, which has now been concluded and resulted in spectators being banned until 2024.

It would appear that clubs are not using the correct channels to report such issues and are reporting directly to Dean Smith and Gareth Davies at the YCC. It is my opinion that this needs to stop forthwith and the correct SYCPL means of reporting adopted – it is difficult due to Umpires not being generally in place and are the usual means of match issues being reported but as far as I can ascertain – all clubs can use the reporting section in the Disciplinary Section of the website – this would ensure any issues are captured and are sent to the correct leads and nothing important- especially safeguarding issues- is missed. Could a message be sent out to the clubs to remind them of the correct reporting pathways? I will also do the same via the W&G Committee.

New Umpire Training

The Sheffield University Hard Ball Team have requested to join the SYWGCL and this has been agreed on the proviso that the two Umpires they use, complete the Level 1 ECB ACO course, due to issues around consistency and standard level. They have replied that there are willing to complete the course but do not have the funding to pay for it- is there any funding available from the Senior League to assist in this please? It would be £60 for both, £30 each and this would include their first year ECB ACO membership. Andy Paling and Alison Gressor have agreed to set up a female only training day, to encourage more females to enlist on the courses and I am hoping that our Umpire Leads – Wendy and Andy will be drumming up some new officials from the soft and hard ball league very soon.

Mel Mahmood
25 June 2023

Premier Section report

- The semi-finals of the T20 Blast are complete, and the final is Barnsley Woolley Miners v Doncaster Town. Cleethorpes' concession against Barnsley will be dealt with by the Premier Section committee at its next meeting.
- The quarter-finals of the K3 Dental Cup will take place this coming Sunday, 2 July, with the exception of one game which has to be rearranged as neither of the clubs' grounds are available. YCSPL has four representatives – Barnsley Woolley Miners, Cleethorpes, Wakefield Thornes, Whitley Hall.
- The first tranche of the ball trials (*Dukes* ball) has been completed, with mixed feedback – on the positive side, the ball is harder and retains its shape better; on the negative, the laquer is thicker, last longer, and it is difficult to obtain any swing. The next tranche, the *Reader*, will be on 8 July.
- There has been a disturbing incident, involving a report by a scorer, of which I will appraise the committee verbally and not for the notes of the meeting.
- The Premier Division is wide open, with four teams within six points of each other at the top; Aston Hall and Hallam occupy the bottom two places but Whitley Hall and Elsecar are within ten points of Aston Hall; In the Championship, 14 points separate the top five, with Houghton Main leading the table. YCB confirm that if Houghton Main finish in the top two, they will be eligible for promotion as they now satisfy the junior teams requirement.
- The next committee meeting will be on 19 July.

Roger Pugh
25 June 2023