



# Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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## League Executive Board

**31<sup>st</sup> meeting – Monday 25 September 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom**

### Note of meeting

Present: David Ward (chairman), Ashley Boothman, Chris Froggett, Mel Mahmood, Lindsay Pepper, Roger Pugh, Matt Summerhill, Steve Ward, Nelson Windle

Apologies: Terry Bateman

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP said that there had been an apology from TB (holiday).
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP had provided an update on action points – see appendix 1 attached – there were no matters arising.
3. **Reports from Members**
  - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report.* NW said that the scheduled meeting did not take place due to illness and work commitments.
  - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
    - LP to attend a safeguarding meeting at Headingley and will report back
    - there is a suggestion that all safeguarding seminars will take place at Headingley – members felt strongly that this is not a good idea because it will be difficult for people from South Yorkshire to get to Headingley for 6.00pm, particularly if they are working
    - a Safe Hands seminar has been arranged for Elsecar on 11 October – **RP to publicise in the bulletin**
    - LP said that she remained concerned about the behaviour of some juniors in senior cricket – **LP will include this in her report to the AGM**
    - DW clarified that the definition of a junior is 'in the under 19 age group or below' – irrespective of their physical maturity
  - iii. *Treasurer's report*
    - AB had provided a financial report – see appendix 2 attached
    - SW requested that AB issue an invoice to Ollie Beukes at *K3 Dental* for the cup sponsorship
  - iv. *Participation Manager's report*
    - MM had provided a report – see appendix 3 attached
    - MM said that W&GL clubs were being reminded that they must be Safe Hands compliant
  - v. *Umpires' representative's report*
    - TB had provided a report – see appendix 4 attached
    - DW said that the YPL AGM has been fixed for November

- vi. *Scoring Manager's report.*
- SW had provided a report – see appendix 5 attached
  - SW is working with Eleanor Barber of Treeton on training for W&GL scorers
  - LP voiced concerns about the ability of some Div 1 & 2 clubs to cope with the demands of DLS next season
- vii. *Premier Section report.* RP had provided a report – see appendix 6 attached.
- viii. *Senior Section report*
- DW referred members to the [notes of the last Senior Section committee meeting](#)
  - DW said that the SS committee were considering an issue where a scorebook entry appeared to have been manipulated in order to achieve additional bonus points
- ix. *Compliance Manager's report*
- CF said that all current issues covered in the rule changes item – see agenda item 9
  - CF also mentioned that there is a rumour that ECB rules may be changed to allow UK passport holder to play as non-overseas players, but this had not been confirmed
- x. *Competitions Manager's report*
- MS said that the ECB had changed the dates for the national competitions again. This causes him (and other fixture secretaries across the country) significant additional work. RP proposed that the league should write to the ECB to express our disappointment about the lack of consideration shown towards volunteer fixture secretaries.
  - Rearrangement of fixtures. Referring to the recommendations of the Cancellations & Get the Game On working group, it was agreed that all the Premier Section fixtures, on the opening day of the season only, could be rearranged where the weather had prevented adequate pitch preparation. MS will nominate a reserve date that will be notified to clubs.
- xi. *Chairmans'/ECB update.* Nothing to report.
- xii. *YCB update.* There was no update from GD, but DW said that GD had been involved in the issue at Wentworth, where Whitley Hall 3rds have been told that they will not be able to use the ground next season, and Elsecar 3rds will use it instead. Similarly, Sprotbrough 3rds will no longer be allowed to play at Hooton Pagnell, and the ground will instead be used by Upper Haugh 3rds. SW said that the old Hampole & Skelbrook ground was still not being used. DW will write to Sprotbrough.

#### 4. **Discipline**

- DW said that the Disciplinary Panel and himself would be meeting with Hatfield Town later that week
- there was also an issue being dealt with that involved a Handsworth JSC player who has been reported for three Level 3 offences in one game

#### 5. **Hall of Fame.** The six inductees for 2024 that had been recommended by the sub-group were endorsed by the LEB.

#### 6. **Merit awards.** The LEB agreed the reduced qualification criteria recommended by DW & RP to take into account the increased number of cancelled and abandoned games in 2023. These will apply in all divisions, irrespective of whether some players have met the original criteria. The revised criteria will be published alongside the list of winners. **RP to action.** *[note: the chairman has subsequently decided that the reduced criteria should apply only in divisions where no player has met the original criteria].*

#### 7. **Officials' recruitment strategy.** RP reported that:

- the recruitment video filming had been completed; he placed on record his thanks to Barnsley Woolley Miners CC for their assistance in providing facilities for this
- two more members were sought for the Steering Group; to comprise, two club representatives (one each Premier and Senior sections), two umpires' representatives, one W&GL representative, League Ambassador, chairman
- to be placed on the AGM agenda – **RP to action**

## 8. Trophies

- there are a number of clubs who are yet to return trophies – **RP to include a bulletin reminder**
- LP, RP, Graham Swallow and Linzey Scothern to look at trophies and arrange repairs and replacements where necessary, utilising trophies held in stock where possible

9. **Rule changes.** RP had provided an update on proposals to far – see appendix 5. It was also agreed that a proposal be put to clubs to remove the extra 30 minutes grace before overs would be reduced; this would apply to the Premier Section, Senior Section Divisions 1 & 2 – **RP to action**

## 10. Other business

- i. *PLMB.* CF raised an issue around a Woodlands player being allowed to play in the final who was not eligible due to being allowed to play only for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI in league games. SW was unhappy that the game was moved onto a hybrid pitch at very short notice and that spectators were charged for entry. He also queried why the costs for the semi-finals were to be borne by the host leagues – why were these not met from the £250 PLMB subscriptions? **These issues to be taken up at PLMB.**
- ii. *Dinner raffle.* DW said that once again Readers had generously donated some very good prizes.
- iii. *League response to ICEC report.* MS suggested that the December meeting should be given over to discussion on this topic. **RP to arrange.**

11. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 8.30pm. The next meeting will be by Zoom on Monday 30 October (7.00pm).

## Item 2 – Feedback on Action Points

- 3.iii Account for T20 final refreshments cleared
- 3.xi Reminder about ensuring injuries reported in Bulletin No 16
- 3.xii Reponse to ICEC report – ongoing
- 4 Cancellations & Get the Game On guidance amended as requested; meeting to be arranged with umpires' association
- 8 Comments on rule changes adopted in revised document – attached for item 9
- 9 Amendment made to document as requested; six members for steering group recruited, awaiting confirmation of two more – RP to update
- 10.i RP has contacted Anna Scott-Bear at *ExtraCover* and is to talk to her on return to UK
- 10.ii Proposals for cup/T20 cancellations contained in rule change document (agenda item 8)
- 10.iv Joe Lumb team item included in last bulletin

Appendix 2

## Treasurer's report (Ashley Boothman)

- financial statement up to & including 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 on next page
- invoice from MS Sports for trophy & medals for cup finals to be provided within the next few days
- the end of our financial year is 30th September and the accounts on that date will be sent to our auditor to prepare the statement for the AGM

Appendix 3

## Participation manager's report (Mel Mahmood)

- all finals are now completed and the indoor league is starting in two weeks
- the presentation evening is booked for 5<sup>th</sup> October at Niagra Sports Club

Appendix 4

## Umpires' representative report (Terry Bateman)

- monthly meetings for umpires scheduled – social and for reviewing the season – open to all umpires
- AGM arranged for November
- looking to set a programme of meetings for education and law refreshment

Appendix 5

## Scoring manager's report (Steve Ward)

- work is now starting to get together various training packages for the Autumn/Winter period
- I have been asked to devise a training programme for all the scorers in the South Yorkshire Women's and Girls League, on both paper and electronic scoring, and this will start once dates have been finalised
- we have utilised a WhatsApp group for Premier Section Scorers in 2023, to provide ongoing advice and support during the season and beyond.; this will be extended to all scorers in the League in the coming weeks
- I have been asked to provide training for all scorers in Division 1 and 2 on DLS; this training will also be extended to the umpires and I have advised the Umpires Association meeting at Tickhill that this will be happening during the winter
- I will be extending last winter's offering of Scorer Roadshows to all clubs in our league, and various courses are already in the diary, including a Level 2 Education Day at Wakefield Thornes next month
- finally, my thanks go to all the scorers in our league for their hard work during the summer, and to all the umpires and the LEB for their support of scorers throughout the League



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## Financial statement September 2023

### Year to date income & expenditure

<i>Income</i>	<b>£</b>
Ball sales	56,509.40
Clothing sales	-
Disciplinary hearing costs	332.80
ECB monies	16,087.33
Handbook adverts	750.00
Interest at bank	132.17
Penalties	6,717.00
Presentation evening tickets 2022	9,303.00
Sponsorship	7,975.00
Subscriptions	12,065.00

<i>Expenditure</i>	<b>£</b>
Ball costs	56,046.85
Banking services	55.00
Clothing	680.00
Communications	777.48
Cup/T20 finals catering	3,045.03
Digital laptop scoring	400.00
Disciplinary hearing costs	328.00
Donation	250.00
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
Payment Refunds	50.00
Phone & broadband costs	594.75
Presentation evening 2022 costs	7,966.48
Presentation evening 2023 costs	500.00
Representative games costs	540.00
Room hire	50.00
Stationery & printing	1,056.92
SYCUA	750.00
Training costs (rule 59,60)	1,450.00
Travel costs	1,096.20
Trophies & medals - Annual awards	1,164.00
Trophies & medals - Cup/T20 finals	-
YCB fees	3,140.00
YPLMB subscription	-

**Total** **109,871.70**

**Total** **107,932.46**

**Excess income over expenditure** **1,939.24**

### Development Fund

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

<i>Expenditure</i>	<b>£</b>
Grant/Donations	3,250.00

less expenditure **3,250.00**

**Total** **3,250.00**

**Available balance** **2,844.40**

### 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/pend to date	1,939.24
<b>Total</b>	<b>49,410.92</b>

### Represented by

Current account	34,325.23
Savings account (inc Dev't Fund)	24,776.69

**Total** **59,101.92**

**Ashley Boothman**  
Treasurer  
23 September 2023

**Premier Section report (Roger Pugh)**

- no meeting since last LEB; meeting provisionally scheduled for next week
- Meetings with Shiregreen and Ackworth to be set up following their promotions, and Cleethorpes, following the T20 issue

**Officials Recruitment strategy update**

- amendment made to document as requested
- six members for steering group recruited; John Harrison & Graham Hudson (umpires), Andrew Edwards (WGL), Jack Pearson (club), Terry Bentham (ex officio), Roger Pugh (LEB) – and we are awaiting confirmation of two more
- the video recording sessions are completed and we await the draft video – many thanks to Barnsley WMCC for use of their facilities

**Item 9 - Rule change proposals**

**Administrative rules.** The League Executive Board is asked to approve the following amendments to the League Administrative rules for 2023 (not for voting at AGM) as follows:

13.iii *Unpaid monies.* All fines, invoices, subscriptions and any other monies due to the League should be paid within 14 days of the date of the invoice. If any such monies are not paid within this period, an additional 20% surcharge will be applied. If after a further 14 days, payment has still not been made, and all league points gained by the club, after that date and prior to payment, will be deducted. If the expiry of the second 21-day period falls in the close season, then points earned by the club will be deducted from the start of the following season for a period equivalent to the that between the expiry of the second 14-day period and the payment being made. Any further breach will be dealt with at the discretion of the LEB.

19.iv *Religious festivals.* The YCSPL respects the implications of significant religious festivals. If a fixture will clash with such a festival and a club is going to be significantly depleted, rearrangement will be permitted. A club wishing to rearrange under this rule should, in the first instance, contact their opposition and, if possible, reach agreement about playing the game on a mutually convenient date outside the religious festival period. In the event of no agreement being reached between the clubs, the league will work with the Equity & Diversity Group and any other relevant parties to ensure that the request is dealt with as fairly as possible. We encourage all clubs to be flexible and accede to requests of this nature, and advise that the opposing club should be given priority in providing two dates convenient to them on which the game can be re-arranged. Where the two clubs cannot agree on rearrangement, the following principles will apply:

- religious festivals are those widely recognised within a particular religion, not family festivals such as weddings;
- 'significantly depleted' will be defined as 'missing four or more regular players from a specific team because they are observing the festival and unable to play any cricket on that day', ie, in addition to any other players who may be missing for other reasons of unavailability;
- where a club has more than one team in the League, consideration should be given to rearranging a second, or lower, team game;
- where no rearrangement is agreed and, as a result of the unavailability of players due to the festival, a club will be unable to fulfil a fixture, the lowest division fixture should be cancelled (unless there are less than four players from the lower team who have played six or more games at the higher level)
- in any fixture cancelled under this rule, two points will be awarded to each side;
- when a game is re-arranged, if there is no result in 75% or more games in that division on the original date, then the re-arranged match will also be regarded as an abandoned game;
- in order not to disadvantage the opposition, if ground and weather conditions would, in all probability, have allowed the game to be played on the original date, but there is no result on the rearranged date, it may be rearranged again, but once only;

h. if a club needs support when they believe a request is not being managed appropriately, they should contact the Equity & Diversity Group.

37 **Overseas players.** Unless 'ordinarily resident' under 33.i above, overseas players are Category 3 (Unqualified Players). In registering overseas players, all Home Office and ECB rules and guidelines must be followed, the correct visa obtained, and the approval of the Compliance Manager obtained before registration. The Compliance Manager will make such checks as he deems necessary before giving approval to register. Category 3 players fall into **four** categories:

- i. 'Overseas professionals' who, in order to be registered on Play-Cricket, must furnish the Compliance Manager with a copy of:
  - the registering club's Certificate of Sponsorship for the player, issued by ECB
  - a Tier 5 International Sportsperson's (ISP) visa or the Permitted Paid Employment (PPE) visa
  - a completed copy of the YCSPL Overseas Professional Registration form
  - for players on PPE visas, verification of DBS and Police checks (as already required for players on ISP visas)
- ii. 'Overseas amateurs' who, in order to be registered on Play-Cricket, must furnish the Compliance Manager with a copy of:
  - British or European Passport (or document confirming spouse/dependent of); *or*
  - an Ancestral Visa; *or*
  - a relevant visitor visa, eg, a Standard Visitor Visa, Tier 5 Youth Mobility Visa, or Tier 4 (Student) Visa; *and*
  - a completed copy of the YCSPL Overseas Amateur Registration form
- iii. Refugees/asylum seekers, who will be allowed to play in the league without restriction, and will be exempt from the overseas player registration cut-off in para 38.ii below, subject to:
  - Home Office verification of their refugee/asylum seeker status
  - their not meeting the playing qualification criteria for Tier 5 Overseas Professionals
  - players granted 'refugee status' or 'leave to remain in the UK' may be paid to play, but an asylum seeker who is awaiting a decision on his status cannot be paid
- iv. Overseas students, who will be allowed to play without restriction in accordance with 39 below

38 In respect of overseas player registration, the following restrictions will also apply.

- i. Clubs will be allowed to register up to two overseas players on the basis of one per team for teams in the Premier Section and Senior Section Division 2 upwards. The team for whom the player is registered must be specified. Overseas players may be either a professional or an amateur.
- ii. No overseas player may be registered after 30 June, **except as under 38.iv.b below.**
- iii. Below Division 2, overseas players may only be engaged with the permission of the Senior Section Cricket Committee. At the end of the season, all overseas players will be removed from YCSPL Play-Cricket registration.
- iv. An overseas player in any one team may be replaced once during the season. This will include:
  - a. replacing a first team overseas player, **who has not yet arrived in the country**, with a second team overseas player, at the start of the season only, who, if the need arises, may be returned to the second team without infringing para 47;
  - b. **engaging a replacement overseas player if a team's registered overseas player returns home early to play in a competition sanctioned by the home nations governing body and accordingly evidenced to the compliance manager; the deadline for replacements under this rule will be 14 August**

53.ii *Promotion from third place.* Where, for any reason, a team in a promotion position will not take their place in the higher division, they will only be replaced by the next-placed team where that team **finishes within no more than 12 points of** the team in the second promotion position.

**56** *New clubs.* Applications to join the YCSPL must be made in accordance with YCB club transfer rules, the YCSPL guidance [Applications from clubs to join the YCSPL](#) and, where appropriate, the Memorandum of Understanding between the YCSPL and P&DCL. Before entering into any negotiations with the YCSPL, clubs must first obtain the permission of their current league. Applications to join the League must be made by 31 March for the season starting the following year, and must be accompanied by a £100 bond, which will be returned on the satisfactory completion of the probationary period.

**Playing conditions.** The following proposals are for vote at the AGM:

**5.v** (new rule) Where there have been stoppages due to weather play can continue until 19.50 in games of 46 overs per side, and until 19.00 in 40-over games. After these cut-off times, play will cease at the end of the over in progress, unless a result is achieved before then.

Existing rules 13.v and 13.vi to be removed and replaced with the following rule to apply in both Sections.

**13.v** *Reducing overs before the start.* If bad weather is forecast on the day, teams may play a reduced-over game of a minimum 20 overs per side. If captains cannot agree on a reduction, the status quo will apply. The umpires' fees will remain unchanged in a reduced-over game.

**19.ii** In the Senior Section Divisions 3 to 9, where the allotted overs cannot be bowled in the second innings due to ground and/or weather conditions, provided that at least 20 overs have been bowled, the result will be determined by comparing the score at the last completed over when play ceased in the second innings with the score after the same number of overs in the first innings. If the scores are equal at that point, the result will be a tie.

**19.iii** *Award of match points.* Points will be awarded in both Sections as follows, irrespective of whether the game has been played over 100 overs, overs are reduced, or whether the DLS method has been used:

- 12 points for the winning side
- eight points for both sides in a tied game
- two points for both sides in any game where a result cannot be achieved
- bonus points for the losing side based on their second innings performance:
  - a. batting
    - six points for scoring 90% of the total of the side batting first
    - four points for scoring 75%
    - two points for scoring 60%
  - b. bowling
    - six points for taking eight wickets
    - four points for taking six wickets
    - two points for taking four wickets

**19.iv** *Bonus points in games affected by the weather.* Bonus points will be awarded to the losing side irrespective of whether they are bowled out or whether the allotted overs are bowled.

- In games decided by DLS the batting percentages will be based on the DLS par score at the conclusion of the game; bowling points will be based on the actual number of wickets taken as in 19.v below
- where DLS is not used, the batting percentages will be based on the countback score; bowling points will be based on the actual number of wickets taken as in 19.v below

**19.v** Where the allocated overs are not bowled, bowling bonus points for the losing side will be calculated as follows:

Minimum wickets taken	Minimum overs bowled 50 over games			Minimum overs bowled 46 over games			Minimum overs bowled 40 over games		
	20	30	40	20	29	37	20	27	33
8	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts	6 pts
6	6 pts	5 pts	4 pts	6 pts	5 pts	4 pts	6 pts	5 pts	4 pts
4	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts	4 pts	3 pts	2 pts
2	2 pts	1 pts	0 pts	2 pts	1 pts	0 pts	2 pts	1 pts	0 pts



## **Cancellations procedure** (to be moved from the Administrative rules into playing conditions, amended as shown)

- i. Clubs must take all possible action to ensure that games are played, covering the pitch, repairing used wicket ends, covering run-ups and any vulnerable areas in the days before the game, and using drying equipment where necessary. Where bad weather is forecast, covering should take place at least three days prior to a game.
- ii. If, having taken all possible action to prepare and protect the pitch and surrounding areas, and taking into account the ground conditions and weather forecast, the home club believes that **the prospect of play is remote**, they should make verbal contact with the visitors (it is not acceptable to just leave or send a message), no less than three hours (Premier Section) or four hours (Senior Section) before the scheduled start time. At that stage:
  - a. the clubs may agree to cancel the game; *or*
  - b. agreement may be reached to delay a decision for up to three hours; *or*
  - c. **where there is no agreement**,
    - 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 will be liable to pay a maximum of **£250** to cover the cost of umpires' fees and visitors' travel expenses; *or*
    - 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 will be liable to pay a maximum of **£250** to cover the cost of umpires' fees and all teas. 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.
- iii. In addition to the above, where the visiting club believe that the home club have not taken all reasonable steps to get the game on, they should report the circumstances to the relevant Section Head. This report should be accompanied by all available evidence, including a report from the match umpires. Prior to reporting, it is advisable for a member of the visiting club to visit the ground to assess the state of the playing area. The home club will be asked to provide evidence of whatever action they had taken to get the game on. Where the relevant section committee believe that, on the balance of probability, the home club have not made adequate efforts to get the game on, the game may be awarded to the opposition, and/or penalties applied under administrative rule 13.
- iv. When a game is in doubt, it is the responsibility of the home club to keep the match umpires apprised of any decisions made under ii above. If a game is cancelled, the home club is responsible for verbally notifying both umpires and the relevant umpires appointments officer **without delay** – see <https://www.ycspl.co.uk/umpires-section/>
- v. In the Premier Section, clubs must have:
  - a. adequate covering to protect the pitch, run-ups and any vulnerable areas on the square
  - b. at least one squeegee, waterhog, or similar machine for removing surface water
  - c. suitable matting to be used to cover any small unplayable areas on the square during play
  - d. adequate brushes, towels and sawdust

## **Cup & T20 competition proposals**

- 14.iv **T20 Blast & Plate semi-finals and finals days.** (add) Wherever possible, there will be a one-hour break between the two games to enable proper preparation prior to the Blast final.
- 21 **Player eligibility.** (add) To play in a semi-final or final of any League cup or T20 competition for a specific team, a player must have already played in a minimum number of league games for that team in the current season as follows; three (semi-final) or five (final); except in the case of bona fide club players who may be promoted from a lower team.

(new rule) **Failure to field a team.** A club entered in any League cup or T20 competition that fails to field a team with less than eight days' notice, will be liable to disqualification from future cup and T20 competitions and a penalty under Admin Rule 13