



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

1st Annual General Meeting

Monday 15 November 2021 – Phoenix Sports & Social Club, Rotherham – 7.00pm

Notes of Meeting

1. **Welcome.** David Ward welcomed all delegates, including those from new clubs for 2022, to the league's first AGM, and said that chair, Matt Summerhill, would not be attending due to his wife's ongoing health issues.
2. **Reports**
 - a) **Chairman's report**
 - DW said that 2020 and 2021 had been very difficult seasons, especially with Covid restrictions and the merger of the leagues. He thanked clubs, officials and sponsors for their support during this time.
 - DW welcomed Imran Khan and Dominic McMullan from [ExtraCover Insurance](#). Imran and Dominic then gave a summary of their work which involved over 2,000 clubs across the country, with an emphasis on grass roots cricket. They asked clubs to contact them regarding the services they can offer, or for any ongoing advice.
 - b) **Head of Premier Section's report**
 - Mark Beardshall reported that clubs had coped well in the new league structure and with the ongoing Covid issues. He acknowledged that, at this level, matches do not take place without a lot of hard work, and he thanked everyone for their efforts. Out of 264 scheduled games, only one was lost to Covid and play was possible in 238 (over 90%) with a result obtained in 224 of those.
 - MB said that discipline had been an issue, that umpires have adopted a stricter policy, and more issues have been reported. He felt that we need to keep on top of this, to prevent it from developing into a problem. MB hoped that lessons had been learned and the number of incidents would reduce next season. He commended the high standard of umpiring on the Premier Section panel and thanked them all.
 - For the future he suggested two priorities; firstly, ground and facilities standards, where he urged clubs to identify two or three things they can do to improve their facilities in the close season; and secondly, participation, which is a key area for the ECB. Strong junior sections will produce players for the future whilst thriving women's and girl's sections attract a new membership that can add value to clubs in many ways.
 - On the playing side, he congratulated Appleby Frodingham on their remarkable treble of Premier Division Championship, T20 Blast and *Viking Cricket Cup*. He said they had set a standard that he hoped others would emulate. He also congratulated Cleethorpes and Whiston PC on achieving promotion to the Premier division. MB commiserated with Hallam and Wickersley OV on their relegation to the Championship, and Oughtibridge and Warmsworth to Division 1, and wished all four every success in their efforts to achieve promotion very soon.
 - Over the year, he had begun to fully appreciate the amount of time and effort that volunteer officials freely devote to administering the League, a very time-consuming and sometimes thankless task.
 - Finally, he thanked his colleagues on the LEB and the Premier Section committee, in particular Steve Ward and David Ward, for their support.

c) **Head of Senior Section's report**

- DW welcomed Ackworth CC, Hatfield Town CC, Sheffield University Staff CC and Stocksbridge CC into the League for 2022; and he confirmed that in 2022 no club would be joining the League via the pyramid agreement with the Pontefract & District League.
- He said that the provision of a League handbook for 2022 would be reviewed, with a possible alternative being to replace it with a rule-book and a separate fixture booklet.
- DW confirmed that over 3,000 players were registered on Play-Cricket, and asked that all junior players be registered by clubs prior to the start of the 2022 season. This would then eradicate problems with issues such as parental consent, and would save a great deal of unnecessary work.
- He asked if scorers could help by providing as much information as possible on Play-Cricket scorecards, in order to make the end-of-season awards and statistics as accurate as possible.
- DW thanked all clubs who had staged cup finals in 2021, and he for expressions of interest from clubs who might like to stage cup finals in 2022.
- He said that of 1,035 Senior section fixtures, 43 had been cancelled due to Covid. A significant issue had been the volume and complexity of the guidance received on Covid procedures.
- Matt Summerhill is currently compiling the 2022 fixtures and the initial draft will be issued shortly.
- DW said that the YCSPL is now the largest league in Yorkshire and the second largest in the North of England.

d) **Equity & Diversity Group report.** See attached at appendix 1.

e) **Safeguarding officer's report.** Maurice Gilliatt said that a Safeguarding course, which provided several updates for members, had recently been held by Ray Knowles. He was disappointed that four clubs who had booked a place had not attended. He reported there had been several incidents during 2021 with junior players, some involving players not registered or underage. He stressed the importance of umpires not leaving team cards on club premises; they should be retained in case any incident from a game has to be investigated, before being carefully disposed of after the end of the season.

f) **Treasurer's report**

- Ashley Boothman reported that all invoices to clubs were now issued by Play-Cricket, which made his job much easier. To facilitate this, he asked clubs to ensure that their details were kept up-to-date on P-C. He clarified that the preferred payment method was by BACS, although cheques were still acceptable. He requested that clubs check that any cheques were made payable to 'Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League' in full, and that the amounts are entered correctly, as the bank will not accept any anomalies.
- He said that although the accounts showed a surplus over the year of more than £21,000, the ECB Performance incentive payments still had to be agreed and paid, in addition to the Honorarium for 2021, which would reduce the balance at the bank substantially.
- The Sheffield United delegate asked how many cup finals had taken place in 2021 and AB confirmed the number as seven. He also said that the cost of £5,208 included the cost of trophies for each, and the delegate asked if this figure could be shown on the accounts separately in future.

g) **Disciplinary report.** Mick Bocking thanked umpires and players for their support during the season and said there had been 56 reported offences. He also thanked club officials as the majority had acted promptly, but said that some clubs do not read the disciplinary code. He said that the punishment for a Level 1 warning had been amended mid-season, and that other rules were being revisited during the winter months and some changes would be made.

h) **Umpires' report.** DW confirmed a shortage of umpires during the 2021 season of 35 to 45 each week but said that this was better than in other leagues. He believed that all Premier Section clubs should be providing umpires. There had been over 2,000 appointments during the 2021 season. He asked that WTU registrations are kept up to date and that captains' reports are sent when they are due. From 2022 these will have to be sent within three days rather than five in 2021. He reported that umpires' fees will not increase in 2022 and that, as part of the club application criteria, 'new' clubs joining the YCSPL had to provide at least one umpire per team. The Sheffield United delegate asked if the E&D Group were working with umpires. DW said not specifically, but they would be working with all officials during the close season.

3. **Adoption of Financial Accounts.** The accounts were accepted by delegates – see attached.
4. **Changes to Constitution & Rules.** The Maltby delegate proposed, and the Wakefield Thornes delegate seconded, that the rule amendments notified be accepted en-bloc. Delegates agreed this. In addition, DW said that, in all cup competitions excluding the *Viking Cricket* Cup, a result must be achieved on the day; up to but not including the semi-finals. If necessary, this would be achieved by a bowl out or toss of a coin.
5. **Election of League officials for 2022.** DW reported that Matt Summerhill did not wish to continue as LEB chair due to his ongoing family situation, but he was willing to continue as Competitions Manager and as a member of the LEB and Senior Section committee. Delegates reluctantly accepted his decision and he was thanked for his efforts over the past twelve months. League Ambassador Terry Bentham said that the LEB had recommended that David Ward be appointed LEB chair, and this was agreed by delegates. DW said that all Premier and Senior committee members were willing to continue in 2022 and asked for them to be re-elected en bloc. The Conisbrough delegate proposed this, the Whitley Hall delegate seconded, and all delegates agreed.
6. **ECB update.** There was nothing to report.
7. **Other business**
 - DW requested approval for Honorarium payments of up to £2,000 for 2021, to be allocated as determined by the LEB. This was proposed by Whiston PC and seconded by Barnsley Woolley. All delegates agreed.
 - The Tickhill delegate asked if clubs were expected to provide teas in 2022 and DW confirmed that they were.
 - Maltby CC said that they were happy to play friendly Sunday fixtures in 2022 with teams of a similar standing. GS would circulate clubs accordingly.
 - Several awards and trophies were handed to clubs and individuals who were not present at the recent Presentation evening.
8. **Roll call.** The end of meeting roll call showed that Adwick-le-Street, Brookhouse, Dearne, Hampole & Skelbrook, Higham, Kilnhurst Colliery, Oughtibridge MW, Upper Haugh, Wentworth and Wombwell Main were not in attendance.

The meeting closed at 8.16pm

Equity and Diversity Group report for the YCSPL AGM

The Equity and Diversity Group (EAD) was formed and had its initial meeting in January 2021. More details on the group and its members can be found here <https://www.ycspl.co.uk/equity-diversity-group/>

The members of the group were approached by the YCSPL committee individually. This first year has been focussed around:

- Creating Terms of Reference for the group
- Developing an action plan
- Identifying what the current landscape is around the area of diversity within the League

The EAD group have received assistance and guidance from the Yorkshire Cricket Board (YCB) and the League Executive Board (LEB). It now includes the YCB's Diversity Officer within its meetings and is working with Leeds Beckett University, utilising their specialism and expertise around this area.

The EAD group have devised, circulated, and are currently analysing the results of the survey titled Racism in the Game, which was released in June of this year. These results will help finalise the action plan and areas of priority work for the EAD group and its members.

The future aims and objectives for the group are to:

- Finalise actions off the back of the Racism in the Game survey
- Work alongside stakeholders to finalise the action plan
- Identify and assist in any areas that will benefit an inclusive environment in which to play cricket
- Assist with any related matters within the league that would benefit from the EAD groups input

We continue to look at areas of expertise that the group would benefit from along with identifying other members to be part of the group so that we can truly represent all races and backgrounds that play cricket within the YCSPL.

The Equity and Diversity Group – Nov 2021

Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

Income and Expenditure Account Year ended 30 September 2021

	£	£
Income:		
Cricket ball orders		49,645
ECB Criteria Incentive		11,621 (i)
Sponsorship:		
Readers	4,000	
Nicholas Associates Group	2,000	
Marshall Wooldridge	<u>500</u>	6,500
Subscriptions		7,995
YCB affiliation fees		5,390
Umpire & other surcharges		3,514
Handbook advertising		150
Annual dinner (Magna) (2021)		30
Bank Interest		2
Total Income		<u>84,847</u>
Expenditure:		
Cricket ball purchases		44,628
YCB affiliation fees		5,390
Cup Final expenses		5,208
Insurance		783
Trophy valuation		600
Cost of Ties etc		741
Handbook		996
Media reporting		1,000
Website / Zoom		712
Annual dinner (Magna) (2021)		600
Honorarium		0 (ii)
Administration & other expenses		2,416
		<u>63,074</u>
Surplus of income over expenditure		<u>21,773</u>

2019-20 Summary:

Lloyds Bank - Opening balances 1 Oct 2020		0
Bank transfers:		
SYSL	15,130	
YSPL	<u>4,777</u>	19,907

Surplus of income over expenditure (above)		21,773
		<u>41,680</u>

Lloyds Bank - Closing balances 30 Sep 2021:

Current account		26,925
Deposit account		14,755
		<u>41,680</u>

Checked and found correct

John Wilson ACMA, CGMA, FInstLM

Notes:

- (i) A proportion of the ECB Criteria Incentive is to be distributed to Clubs.
- (ii) Honorarium for 2021 has yet to be agreed and paid.