



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

League Executive Board

24th meeting – Monday 27 February 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom

Note of meeting

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

Apologies: Ashley Boothman, Steve Ward

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP said that there had been apologies from AB (work) and SW (meeting with Paul Cummins).
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP had produced a summary of actions taken since the last meeting – see appendix 1. He said that the meeting to review the ECB money distribution criteria had been fixed for 20 March.
3. **Reports from Members**
 - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report*
 - NW said that the last E&DG meeting had to be cancelled but that a meeting had been arranged for this Thursday.
 - GD said that the ICEC report, which will we will make recommendations on the measures required to improve equity in cricket, is due to be published soon. He felt that the support of the E&DG will then be critical. **NW to feed back to the E&DG.**
 - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
 - LP said that a new Safe Hands course will soon be available. **RP to include in the bulletin.**
 - LP said that she was concerned about a lack of activity at a Senior Section club. **DW to write to the club concerned.**
 - iii. *Participation Manager's report.* MM had provided a report in advance – see appendix 2 – and had nothing to add.
 - iv. *Umpires' representative's report*
 - TB said that the winter training sessions were ongoing and had been well-attended.
 - DW recorded his concern about the lack of new umpires coming into the system, saying that the situation was dire.
 - v. *Scoring update.* SW had provided a report in advance – see appendix 3.
 - vi. *Treasurer's report.* AB had completed the summary sheet in advance, but there was a significant discrepancy included. It was also pointed out that a second sheet had been included in the summary in error. **DW to speak to AB to resolve.**

- vii. *Premier Section report.* RP had provided a report in advance – see appendix 4 – which covered the Premier League accreditation and PRFP criteria. He drew attention to the Anti-Discrimination training which he had completed, and he encouraged all board members to do so - <https://antidiscriminationrecreationalgame.ecb.co.uk/>
- viii. *Senior Section report.* DW had circulated the [notes of the last committee meeting](#). He said that all is 'ready to go' – the balls are ordered and the Pre-Season Meeting arranged for 5 April. **RP to publicise that the meeting will be at Shaw Lane not Phoenix.**
- ix. *Compliance Manager's report*
- CF had provided a report in advance – see appendix 5 – emphasising that a player being registered under the 210-day rule could not be registered as 'qualified' until they had actually satisfied the rule. RP to publicise this point in the bulletin.
 - MS queried whether students would have to satisfy the 210-day rule, saying that this could certainly preclude first year students, particularly if they go home for holidays. MS said that this was contrary to what had been said at an earlier ECB meeting. RP asked whether the 210 days had to be continuous, and CF said that this was not stipulated. **DW to raise at the PLMB.**
- x. *Competitions Manager's report*
- MS said that one fixture had already been conceded, as Elsecar were unable to find a ground for a game on a Saturday, and their opponents had refused to play on a Sunday
 - he said that six games were still to be rearranged – only one of which was because a team did not have a ground – the others were due to community events and rugby
 - MS said that the fixtures were becoming more and more difficult to manage, as rearrangements were increasingly problematic
 - GD said that whilst clubs wanted to expand and increase participation, they were hampered by the problem of the local infrastructure
 - MS suggested that the problem might be alleviated by allowing lower division clubs to play on non-turf pitches – DW said that he would not object, for example, to allowing this in divisions 7 to 9
 - GD said that playing on non-turf pitches could be a better experience than playing on poorly-prepared grass pitches, adding that local authorities had neither the time nor experience to prepare pitches properly – **GD would 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**
 - MS stressed the importance of making an early decision on use of non-turf pitches for planning purposes – **DW undertook to raise at the March Senior Section committee meeting and would then take to clubs at the Pre-Season meeting**
- xi. *YCB update*
- *Safe Hands.* GD stressed the importance of clubs complying with the requirements of the Safe Hands Management System by the end of April – specifically in relation to club welfare officers and captains. If they are not compliant by 30 April, this could impact on Clubmark compliance – **GD will put together a document for the league to endorse and issue to clubs.**
 - *Clubmark.* GD said that the three clubs that need to get accredited this year are on course – otherwise we are all ok for 2023.
 - *All Stars, Dynomos and Women's & Girls.* The club sign-ups for 2023 are going well. Dean Smith wished to pass on his thanks to the League for taking on board and supporting the Women's & Girls League – this had been particularly appreciated by those involved.
 - *Anti-Discrimination training.* GD asked the league to proactively encourage clubs to take part. **RP to put in the bulletin.**
- xii. *ECB update.* DW & RP will join the ECB online meeting tomorrow, and will feed back.
4. **Payment of Premier Division umpires.** DW reported that the umpires had rejected the proposal to make match fee payments by BACS.

5. **Communications Working Group.** RP reported that he had three volunteers, including a club captain and a club secretary, and was seeking a Senior Section representative; recognising that there are different communication issues in larger and smaller clubs. **RP to follow up suggestion made and arrange first meeting.**
6. **Photo ID on Play-Cricket.** DW said that the overwhelming response to the paper circulated to LEB members had been that it was not something that we should pursue at this time. He has confirmed this to Melvyn Bond. DW will observe the experience of the Pontefract & District League in taking this forward.
7. **Memorandum of Understanding with the Pontefract & District League.** DW said that agreement had been reached on changes to the MoU, which he would take to the Premier Leagues Management Board for signature by Alan Birkinshaw tomorrow.
8. **Trophies.** The paper circulated by RP in advance – see appendix 6 – was discussed. Graham Swallow had commented by email that he ‘totally agreed - some of the trophies are really poor’. LP agreed and RP said that some were not in keeping with the image our League would want to project. The paper was agreed and LP, RP & GS will conduct an audit of all trophies at the end of the season. Any trophies otherwise ok but needing minor repair will be repaired, those in a poor state will be replaced. LP said that she did not think we should spend a huge amount on trophies and RP said that we should not need to.
9. **Other business.** In response to a request from MS, **RP agreed to provide feedback on tomorrow’s ECB and PLMB meetings.**
10. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 8.00pm. The next meeting will be held on Monday 27 March by Zoom.

Action point follow-up

- (DBS changes) **RP to put something in the bulletin to warn clubs.** *Done.*
- MM and LP asked if they could have some training on P-C and WTU. **DW to arrange.** *MB has done some training with LP. MM given the necessary access rights and will contact MB if she needs any help.*
- (details of junior and W&G sections for the handbook/website) **RP to arrange for clubs to be asked for the relevant information.** *GS has asked clubs to provide.*
- (treasurer's financial statement) **RP volunteered to adapt a form of statement he used, incorporating the Development Fund point, and DW would speak to AB about using it.** *DW has made contact with AB, who is ok with the form, but is concerned about publishing too much financial information as part of the LEB minutes. To discuss at the LEB.*
- (cut-off date for fixture rearrangements extended to the end of February) **RP to put in the bulletin.** *Done.*
- (ECB funding) **RP will write to all the clubs advising their allocation and how it has been calculated, after which AB will make payments.** *All clubs duly advised and payments being made.*
- (review the criteria for future ECB funding allocation) It was commented that these should be challenging but achievable. **RP to arrange meeting.** *RP arranging meeting for March.*
- (Communications sub-group). **RP to take forward.** *RP finalising the group; E&DG invited.*
- (photo ID) **DW to circulate the paper and seek views** *(agenda item 6) The LEB agreed following the last meeting that at this stage Photo ID would be voluntary. Discussed at the February Senior Section CC meeting - see minutes. MB said it would help him when identifying players but the LEB see no benefits at this stage.*
- (polo shirts) **DW to take forward.** *Delivered and issued to SSCC. We may need to order a few more at £23 p/shirt because some members ordered the incorrect size.*

Participation manager's report

I am delighted to report for the W&G cricket registration, and we have had a great number signed up once again for this summer, with 36 teams in Softball and 11 teams in Hardball Super 8's. That is an increase of 10 teams from last summer – an amazing response, as I am sure all will agree. The structure of the league will be as shown below:

Division 1 (9 teams)

1. Eckington Emeralds
2. Hatfield Town
3. Higham
4. Millhouses Works
5. Rockingham Rubies
6. Sheffield Collegiate
7. Stainbrough
8. Tickhill Tigers
9. Worsbrough Bridge

Division 2 (9 teams)

1. Anston Arrows
2. Hallam
3. Oughtibridge
4. Parkhead Panthers
5. Sheffield Super Queens
6. Tickhill Panthers
7. Whiston Belles
8. Whitley Hall Witches
9. Wickersley Vixens

Division 3 South (9 teams)

1. Anston Arrows 2
2. Bradfield Bernadettes
3. Frecheville
4. Hallam 2
5. Hollinsend Hollies
6. Norton Oakes Acorns
7. Parkhead Panthers 2
8. Treeton Go Greens
9. Wickersley Vixens 2

Division 3 North (9 teams)

1. Adwick-le-Street
2. Barnby Dun
3. Darfield
4. Doncaster Town
5. Elsecar Stingers
6. Fishlake
7. Higham 2
8. Wombwell Main
9. Worsbrough Bridge

Super 8's Hardball (11 teams)

1. Anston
2. Doncaster Town
3. Hallam
4. Hatfield Town
5. Millhouses Works
6. Norton Oakes Acorns
7. Sheffield Collegiate
8. Sheffield Transport
9. Tickhill Panthers
10. Whiston Belles
11. Wickersley Vixens

I am looking forward to getting out and about – hopefully with Lindsay, to see and support as many of the teams as I can this season – time permitting and once I have the match dates and contact details.

Mel Mahmood
21 February

Appendix 3

Scoring manager's report

It has been a very busy period for scorer training, and there is more to come:

- more Roadshows at Millhouses, Elsecar and Cawthorne are arranged, an Electronic Scoring Course at Whiston and a Level 2 course at Whiston
- as well as this, the phone has been ringing with clubs in the Senior Section wanting general scoring advice.
- the icing on the cake is that I've had a conversation with Dean Smith, who wants me to hold sessions for the W&G league, focusing on the scoring rules for their competitions.
- finally, an Education Day has been arranged for all Premier Section scorers on March 26th at Whiston

Steve Ward
26 February

Premier Section report

There has been no committee meeting so far this year, the next is scheduled for 15 March, but we have now heard from ECB details of the Premier League requirements for 2023, which are summarised below:

ECB Premier League requirements 2023

ECB-accredited Premier Leagues are expected to:

- collaborate with other parts of the cricket network, in our case the YCCC and YCB to provide an attractive offer to players and clubs and a coherent player pathway – national and local strategic priorities are contained within the County Partnership Agreements
- comply with the ECB General Conduct Regulations and the Anti-Discrimination Code.
- A designated member of the Premier League executive must undertake EDI training – <https://antidiscriminationrecreationalgame.ecb.co.uk/>

As a condition of funding, accredited Premier Leagues are required to comply with the set criteria and submit the following information to the ECB;

- League structure and playing conditions
- Standards of fair play, pitches, officials
- Junior cricket - any club without three junior sides, which could include a girls' hardball team, up to and including u/15 level playing hardball cricket in 2022 to be identified and an action plan put into place to correct this. ECB to be advised of the clubs, in the top two divisions, without three junior sides playing hardball cricket in the league.

Set criteria

1. *ECB Clubmark accreditation.* For 2023, in addition to clubs being compliant on the Safe Hands Management System, ECB require clubs to upload key governance documents to the Clubmark system for review by 30th June. A list of any non-compliant clubs will then be shared with individual Leagues by 30th September. This timescale is important for clubs seeking promotion or to obtain or renew an International Sportsperson Visa licence
2. *P-C websites.* All Premier League clubs are required to update P-C within 24 hours of the end of play each week with fixtures and summary results to ensure League tables are correct. Clubs in the top two 1st XI divisions must submit complete full scorecard details within 24 hours of the end of play. The League 'About Us' section on P-C must be kept up to date and all clubs must enter, as a minimum, ground and clubhouse details, team information with at least three contacts and e-mail address in this section of the site.
3. *Player registration:*
 - Leagues must ensure, as a minimum, that all players in the top two 1st XI divisions of the League are registered on Play-Cricket.com. Players will need to have agreed to abide by the ECB General Conduct Regulations, the Anti-Discrimination code and the Spirit of Cricket.
 - All Premier Leagues must ensure that their registration procedures identify the categories of players below.

Category 1. In the top two 1st XI Divisions of the League, a player may be registered as a 'Category 1 player' if they:

 - a. are either (i) a British or Irish citizen; or (ii) an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen, with settled or pre-settled status under the EU Settlement Scheme; or
 - b. have been resident in England and Wales for a minimum of 210 days between 1 April and 31 March in the year preceding their participation in the relevant premier League; and
 - c. have not played cricket played as a local/domestic player in any ICC full member country (except England) in the 12-month period up to and including 31 March before the season in question, or at any time subsequently before or after applying to be and being registered as a Category 1 player.

Category 3. Players not eligible to be registered as a Category 1 player must be registered as a 'Category 3 player' if they wish to take part in the League. Teams may register more than one Category 3 Player as part of their club (subject to League rules) but must not field more than one Category 3 Player in the 1st XI at any one time.

4. *Coaches.* All coaches in open age cricket need to have completed the ECB vetting procedures.
5. *Player discipline.* Leagues must inform players that Leagues will be providing to ECB, using the Player Suspension system on Play-Cricket, details of any players who are suspended during the 2023 season, and that this information may be shared with other Leagues and will be accessible by County Cricket Boards. The details to include name, club, nature of offence, sanction and the start and end dates of any suspension.
6. *Disparity policy.* In 2022 ECB introduced a Disparity Policy as a pilot scheme in the recreational game, which provides a mechanism to address issues of disparity in respect of players where concerns are raised. For 2023, use of this Policy, which is still operating as a pilot study, will become part of the accreditation criteria. Further information will be provided separately.

Performance related fee payments

There will be three components to the PRFP payments in 2023:

- i. 90% of clubs in top two divisions of 1st XI cricket to be running an U/9 to U/12s programme, either All Stars/Dynamos, or the club's own programme, including girls' softball or hardball teams
- ii. provide details of diversity on the 2023 League Committee and confirm that the adoption of the Sport England Code for Sports Governance will be implemented in the 2024 season, subject to League AGM approval
- iii. Use of the Injury Surveillance reporting tool by more than 12 clubs on P-C

Payment will be made in two tranches and allocated as 75% Fixed Fee and 25% Performance Related Fee payment.

Action timescales

By Friday 26th May 2023:

- submit a list of any top two division 1st XI clubs without three separate Junior hard ball cricket teams
- ensure all registered Category 3 players are listed on P-C.
- submit a list of any major changes to playing conditions in top two divisions of 1st XI cricket e.g 120 overs to 110 overs or timed cricket to Win/Lose.

By Friday 27th October 2023:

- submit pitch & fair play markings for top two division 1st XI clubs.
- notify any clubs in top two 1st XI divisions that do not meet Clubmark requirements.
- confirm that the League will adopt the Sport England Code for Sports Governance in 2024

Roger Pugh
24 February

Compliance manager's report

The adoption of the ECB Criteria for Category 1 players (resident in the country for 210 days for the year preceding registration) has led to a significant increase in the number of enquiries regarding eligibility. The majority of these can be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

However, can we outline to clubs, perhaps via the next bulletin, that you can't do this 'in advance', ie, register a player now on the basis that they will have done 210 days prior to the season! If they're registered now and they haven't done 210 days then they are 'Unqualified'. They don't become 'Qualified' until they've been here for 210 days.

Chris Froggett
27 February

Trophies

At our two Annual Presentation Dinners so far, several comments have been passed about the standard of some of the trophies that we are presenting. They are certainly not in keeping with the image of the league we would wish to project.

I therefore propose that:

- once trophies are returned to the Trophy Steward by the due date at the end of the season (30 September), we convene a small group from the Boards/committees, to conduct a proper audit of all trophies
- any trophies that are damaged or are otherwise in a poor state should be replaced
- replacement trophies should be of an agreed standard design, with a standard size differential between team (larger) and individual (smaller) trophies
- any new trophies should be named after people significant to our league and, where possible to the division concerned; for example, 'Hall of Famers', Life Members of our League, etc.
- redundant trophies should be offered to the last winners to keep if they wish, or otherwise disposed of as the auditing group sees fit

Roger Pugh
24 February