



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

League Executive Board

25th meeting – Monday 22 May 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom

Note of meeting

Present: David Ward (chairman), Ashley Boothman, Gareth Davis, 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 apologies from TB. DW said that he had arranged for a card to be sent to Terry expressing our sympathies on his sad bereavement.
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP said that he had cleared his actions except for the revised religious festivals guidance, which would be addressed before the next meeting. GD said that he and MM had met with Melvyn Bond and had resolved the W&G registration issues.
3. **Reports from Members**
 - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report*
 - NW said that members were being chased up to check whether they wished to remain in the group; those that did not respond would be removed
 - GD referred to the need for the group to ensure a wider approach to discrimination issues; NW confirmed that members were being sought from all backgrounds, and that a number of potential new members had come forward
 - GD asked if there had been reports of any disgruntled players – DW said 'yes, but not due to discrimination issues'
 - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
 - LP voiced concern about disciplinary issues involving young people, citing a recent game between Barnsley Woolley Miners 4 and Frecheville Community 2, in which there were no umpires, but the issues still needed to be followed up
 - LP said that it was a two-way issue – there are instances where juniors' behaviour was not acceptable – and we must also remember that it is an adult game
 - GD said that there are a lot of good things that go on in the League, and asked that umpires report these as well as disciplinary breaches (there have been two reports from umpires so far this season, whilst MS highlighted positive Facebook comments) – **RP to follow up in the bulletin and to ask Steve Taylor to feed back from social media**
 - it was reported that a Wath player is wearing a head cam – this is not allowed, and umpires will be advised – **DW to action**

- there is also some poor behaviour in the W&G game – it is an education matter, and we need to get the message out about how the game should be played
- iii. *Treasurer's report*
- AB had provided a financial report – attached at appendix 1.
 - He said that all subs were now paid; the League still has to pay YCB subs and a substantial account from *Readers* is expected.
 - AB suggested an item in the bulletin about the availability of Development Fund money as there is still a large amount available – **RP to arrange.**
- iv. *Participation Manager's report*
- MM had provided a report – attached at appendix 2
 - On the issue of sponsorship, MM suggestions about the use of the money were agreed; MM was congratulated on obtaining this sponsorship
 - MM said that Marshall Wooldridge were also happy to help new W&G team set-ups
 - Reference was made to the bursaries available for womens' coaching courses – **RP to include in the bulletin**
- v. *Umpires' representative's report.* In the absence of TB, DW said that we are about 50 umpires short of where we need to be, and said that there had been complaints from clubs about not being allocated umpires, despite having put them into the system.
- vi. *Scoring update*
- SW had provided a report in advance – see appendix 3
 - DW thanked SW for the report he had done on the use of DLS in Divisions 1 & 2 and said the issue would be on the agendas for the June Senior Section committee meeting
 - SW said that the current Play-Cricket Live Scores issues were a distraction for scorers, and he was advising them just to concentrate on scoring, which is their main role
- vii. *Premier Section report*
- RP had forwarded the notes of [last week's Premier Section committee meeting](#) and said that two of the main issues arising would be covered at items 4 & 6.
 - In addition, he referred to the umpire recruitment video he and Alex Fletcher were planning, and sought any advice on it being edited and produced in a way that he and AF did not have the capability to do. MS said that given the money we have in the bank, we should simply organise for it to be done professionally. GD said he would make enquiries with the YCCC – **GD to follow up.**
 - RP mentioned the complaint about the effort made to get a recent Premier League game on. The committee had as a result decided that stronger clearer and enforceable guidance should be issued, focusing on what efforts had been made, and said that JB had offered the help of the Grounds Management Association with this, an offer which RP has taken up – **RP to take forward.**
 - SW said that the first set of ball trials in the Premier section, using the *Dukes* ball, will take place on 17 June – **RP to put in bulletin.**
- viii. *Senior Section report*
- DW had circulated the [notes of the last committee meeting.](#)
 - DW said that following the rearrangement of a SUCC 2nd XI game to a Sunday due to Eid, there had been a complaint that the club had played four first team players in the game. DW said that the Senior Section committee had decided to dock the 12 points for the win and impose a 12-point penalty for breaking admin rule 47.1. MS expressed serious concern about the incident, saying that it could have consequences for clubs trying to make future, genuine, rearrangements. GD felt that this was an issue that the E&DG should be aware of – **NW to report back to E&DG**

ix. *Compliance Manager's report*

- CF had provided a short report in advance – see appendix 4
- CF said that the 'overseas student' issue had been resolved, and agreement reached on P-C entries.
- CF also commented that leagues next season will need to ensure that those overseas professionals who enter the UK on PPE visas, rather than via the normal ISP route, will be subject to the same safeguarding checks as the latter, thereby closing the existing loophole – **CF & RP to consider a rule amendment.**

x. *Competitions Manager's report*

- MS updated LEB on outstanding cup-ties:
 - in the K3 Dental, the outstanding Stamford Bridge v Treeton tie is to be played on 4 June
 - in the Whitworth, the outstanding Shiregreen v Rotherham tie is to be played on 29 May
 - in the Presidents, there are two outstanding 2nd round ties, with Wath v Doncaster scheduled for 28 May and the other to be confirmed
 - in the two T20 competitions, the group stage produced the required four semi-finalists; the semis are scheduled for 25 June, start times to be confirmed
 - the T20 finals are at Aston Hall CC on Sunday 16 July (Plate at 11am; Blast at 3pm)

xi. *Chairmans'/ECB update*

- DW said that the ECB had sent more information and a request for more information from leagues for Premier League Accreditation and PRFP purposes – **RP to complete**
- ECB payments are expected to be made in two tranches - Fixed Fee payments made on or by 31 July; PRFP Fee payments on or by 31 December

xii. *YCB update*

- *Safe Hands.* GD reported that all YCSPL clubs were fully compliant, and thanked the league for its' support. GD said that YCB will continue to make checks throughout the year.
- *Clubmark.* GD said that HMCC are making good progress on junior teams.
- *All Stars and Dynamos.* GD said that the latest South Yorkshire sign-up figures are excellent (All Stars: 1,347 and Dynamos: 438).
- *Thornccliffe & Wentworth.* YCB are working with the club to address their pavilion issues, but the local parish council are unhelpful.
- *Adwick upon Dearne.* YCB are working with Whitley Hall to make the ground re-usable and have enlisted support from ECB for a pavilion upgrade. The idea is to use the ground for WHCC 3rd XI and potentially Elsecar 3rd XI.
- *Health & Safety.* MS asked that publicity be given to the recent YCB communication on Health & Safety – **RP to arrange via the bulletin.**
- *Aurora ground.* GD said that Sheffield Hallam University have been in communication about the Aurora ground, saying that they would like to put cricket back on it. There is therefore the possibility of another ground being available to our clubs.
- *Brodsworth & Waverley.* Following a question from MS, DW said that site visits will be made in the next few weeks.

4. **Cancellations of league games**

- Current procedure.* RP will remind clubs of the need to advise David/Lindsay so that umpires can be reallocated – **RP to arrange via the bulletin.**
- Payments to the home club when teams insist on the game being on and the game is not played.* RP said that the current limit of £150 in admin rule 18.iii/iv was unrealistic, particularly for the Premier Section, given that umpires cost £140 and the maximum cost for teas is £130 – **DW & RP will make a proposal for revision.**

- iii. *Arrangements for full league programmes to be rearranged in the event of severe inclement weather conditions.* RP said that this subject had been raised at the Premier Section committee meeting, as a result of feedback at the first weekend of the season. The suggestion made at the PS committee was that a small working group be set up to examine the issue and make proposals, taking into account what is done in other leagues. The idea is to have an impartial view on the subject and establish principles in advance, rather than when people have vested interests according to the fixtures concerned. Issues to be considered include circumstances where adequate ground preparation work has been impossible, severe weather during the season, the provision of a blank Bank Holiday for such eventualities in the calendar, and whether there should be separate arrangements for the Premier Section, given the accent on quality of grounds and playing standards. MS has asked to be involved – **RP to co-ordinate.**
5. **Sheffield United banned player.** There was a discussion about the recent incident whereby SUCC had played a player in their 2nd XI who is banned from playing until 2060, pending an ECB hearing which is to be held on 26 May. This followed an incident at Conisbrough in September 2021, following which the player was told to go on a safeguarding course but declined to do so. The club has said that they were unaware of the ban, but have been advised by the P-C co-ordinator, where the ban is recorded, and the player himself certainly knows. This extremely serious breach, and the breaches of admin rule 47 (see 3.viii above), raise real concerns about the administration and management of the club. It was decided that the club be placed on probation until the end of 2024, and warned that any further significant administrative failures could result in expulsion from the league. **DW to action.**
6. **Premier Leagues Management Board.** There was a discussion about the issues raised at the Premier Section committee meeting, where serious concerns were voiced about the failure to consult with, or communicate with, our League about the change of venue for the 2023 Champions Play-Off final, and the refusal to allow our Premier Section representative to take his seat on the Board, despite having been democratically elected and having the full support of the League's E&DG. Concerns about PLMB governance are heightened by the reduced number of Board meetings now being held, and the apparent decision-making processes behind closed doors. The PS committee questions whether the YCSPL is seen as an equal partner and has asked for a letter to be written to the Board chairman, copied to the YCCC CEO and YCB chairman, expressing these concerns. This was agreed. **DW to take forward.**
7. **Other business.** There was no other business raised.
8. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 9.00pm. The next meeting will be face-to-face on Monday 26 June at Shaw Lane Sports Club, Barnsley (7.00pm).

Financial statement – May 2023



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

Financial statement May 2023

Year to date income & expenditure

Income	£
Ball sales	42,418.40
Clothing sales	-
Disciplinary hearing costs	-
ECB monies	4,261.33
Handbook adverts	375.00
Interest at bank	53.85
Penalties	6,227.60
Presentation evening tickets 2022	9,303.00
Sponsorship	3,500.00
Subscriptions	12,065.00

Total	78,204.18
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Excess income over expenditure	17,720.19
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Development Fund

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

less expenditure	650.00
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Available balance	5,444.40
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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	17,720.19
Total	65,191.87

Represented by

Current account	50,614.50
Savings account(Inc Development Fund)	27,298.37

Total	77,912.87
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Expenditure	£
Ball costs	17,190.67
Banking services	35.00
Clothing	605.00
Communications	479.92
Costs of cup finals/finals days	-
Digital Laptop Scoring	200.00
Disciplinary hearing costs	145.60
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 game costs	-
Room hire	25.00
Stationery & printing	1,056.92
SYCUA	600.00
Travel costs	750.20
Trophies & medals	1,414.00
Umpires' training costs	1,250.00
YCB fees	-
YPLMB subscription	-

Total	60,483.99
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Expenditure	£
Whiston Forge CC	650.00

Total	650.00
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Ashley Boothman
Treasurer
31 May 2023

Participation Report – May 2023

Since our last meeting, a Zoom meeting was held on the 10th May 2023, between myself, Gareth Davis, Dean Smith of the YCCC and Melvyn Bond, Play-Cricket manager.

Discussion was held around player registration and the creation of a specific W&G's sub-committee which will eventually take over the general administration and running of the W&G League. This I have been assured by Dean, will be a gradual process and he will continue to support until the committee is set up and bedded in.

Key roles have been identified and an email was sent out on the 15th May, to all W&G's Teams, Clubs and volunteers requesting volunteers for the various roles and a submission date of the 31st May. Gareth, Dean and I will then meet again, collate the responses and determine the result. More information to follow when this process has been completed.

Melvyn Bond has very kindly sent out several Play-Cricket 'How to' guides, which have also been sent out to all W&G Teams. Requesting that all players be registered to their league, the hope being that this prevents the issues experienced last indoor season.

I have managed to secure £750 of sponsorship money from Marshall Wooldridge for the Softball League. They are very keen to sponsor grassroots cricket and in lieu of the fact that we don't have a W&G's committee set up as yet I am seeking views on what would be the best use of the money, that would be fair to all teams and clubs. My thoughts are around using the money to pay for finals across the divisions or paying for silverware and awards. A key question is, who would the money go to for the uses we decide – the YCSPL or somewhere else? Once I know I can get the funds sent directly from Marshall Woolridge. They have also stated that they would be happy to help fund coaching initiatives if we have any in the pipeline? I would like input on what people think would be best, then I can approach MW about it.

Mel Mahmood

Scoring Report - May 2023

It has been a very difficult start to the season for scorers, with external and internal factors all coming into play.

The Play-Cricket Live Scorers system is not fit for purpose. I have sent lots of emails to the Play-Cricket Helpdesk, but the lack of up-to-date Live Scores on the system is countywide, and not exclusive to this League. I keep explaining to scorers that the most important thing is to score the game, and not to worry about Live Scores. However, scorers are being side tracked by players, officials and spectators, who are bombarding them with calls, complaining of the situation.

There is an issue with the uploading of the Doncaster Town 2nds vs Wickersley Old Village game in the Championship last Saturday. Various factors caused this. Suffice to say that it is being sorted by someone who is watching the game on YouTube, and scoring it as he goes along!

The de-registering of players on Play Cricket, of players who haven't accessed their account within a time period, is unnecessary and creates issues for club administrators, players and scorers. I have yet to see a directive from ECB that says Leagues must do this. I understand that it is to do with GDPR, but I think we, as a League, are taking one step too many. Players who have played in this league (in its different guises) for 20 years have had their account de-registered.

David has asked me to do some work around scoring methods in Division 1 and 2, to see if DLS could be used to determine the result of games in those divisions in 2024 and beyond. There have been 285 games in the whole of the League so far, with 90.85% of those games scored electronically. Just over half of those are scored on a laptop. DLS can be calculated on both a laptop and tablet, although it is more difficult to issue printed DLS Par Score sheets on a laptop. Only Wickersley Old Village 2nds have scored manually so far in Division 1 and 2 this season.

Training for scorers is ongoing, I am going to Warmsworth CC on Wednesday evening to show some youngsters the benefit of electronic scoring and aim to hold a couple of refresher sessions at the end of June for scorers. I am doing a talk to the umpires' group tomorrow night on DLS.

Finally, several of our scorers are scoring for the Yorkshire Age Group Teams, from under 10's to 18's, both male and female. This is testament to this League, and the way this League backs officials.

Steve Ward

Compliance report – May 2023

- in order to satisfy the requirements of Play-Cricket and registration issues, we have introduced a new Overseas Student Registration form - four clubs/players have utilised this
- there are 39 successfully registered overseas amateurs and 18 professionals in the YCSPL
- given that the Permitted Paid Engagement visa is now a permitted entry method by the Home Office/ECB, on ECB advice we as a league need to introduce a mechanism by which we can be assured player safeguarding checks are carried out as for International Sports Persons' visas

Chris Froggett