



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

League Executive Board

30th meeting – Monday 21 August 2023 – 7.00pm by Zoom

Note of meeting

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

Apologies: Steve Ward

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP said that there had been an apology from SW (work).
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP had provided an update on action points – see appendix 1 attached.
3. **Reports from Members**
 - i. *Equity & Diversity Group representative's report.* NW said that there will be a meeting at the end of the season in order to:
 - *ascertain whether all existing members are committed to involvement in the group*
 - identify gaps in order to ensure that the range of protected characteristics are covered
 - agree on an action plan and how it is taken forward
 - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report.* Nothing to report.
 - iii. *Treasurer's report*
 - AB had provided a financial report – see appendix 2 attached.
 - no refreshments bill has been received from AHCC for the T20 finals day – **RP to follow up**
 - DW said that YPLN should be invoiced directly for K3 Dental balls
 - iv. *Participation Manager's report*
 - MM had provided a report – see appendix 3 attached.
 - MM said that grounds for finals were being sought – there are two games on Sunday 17 September
 - MS asked if W&G players will be registered on P-C from next season; it was agreed that they should be
 - GD said that 56 W&G teams had been registered for the indoor league across the close season – well exceeding expectations!
 - v. *Umpires' representative's report*
 - DW said that there had been a few incidents in games without umpires, which were the responsibility of captains to address
 - TB referred to an incident involving remarks directed at a junior player; he highlighted the difficulty of knowing that a player was a junior when wearing a helmet, suggesting that armbands could be used
 - GD said that ensuring appropriate behaviour towards juniors is part of the responsibility of captains, and made the wider point that captains may need some education about their roles and responsibilities in general. RP said he thought this was a good idea and would put on the agenda for the AGM – **RP to action**

- vi. *Scoring Manager's report.* SW had provided a report – see appendix 4 attached.
 - vii. *Premier Section report*
 - RP had provided the [notes of last week's committee meeting](#).
 - TB asked about the intended discussion paper on PS restructure, and the reason for possible reduction to ten teams. RP said that the overall objective is to raise playing standards and that the paper is intended to stimulate debate on different options.
 - viii. *Senior Section report*
 - DW said that there had not yet been a meeting this month, but there had been two incidents of possible breaches of rule 47, the first of which involved a team who had asked for the game to be rearranged for a Sunday subsequently reporting their opponents. A similar incident occurred last year, and he felt that teams will be less likely to agree to rearrangements in future.
 - The second instance involved an overseas player returning from serious injury. MS pointed out that this would have been acceptable for any other player, but RP said that there were separate rules for overseas players. The club concerned should have sought advice or permission to play the player.
 - ix. *Compliance Manager's report.* CF said that he and RP were fine-tuning a couple of proposed amendments to the overseas rules to enable refugees to play more freely, and to enable overseas players, who have returned home early to play in a competition sanctioned by the home nation's governing body, to be replaced up to an agreed point.
 - x. *Competitions Manager's report.* MS said that he had been looking at the Sunday cup schedule for 2024, and that there was very little flexibility. He said that it would be extremely helpful to know the dates of the ECB competitions as early as possible.
 - xi. *Chairmans'/ECB update.* DW said that he had attended the ECB PL managers' meeting earlier in August. The main issues discussed were:
 - the response to the ICEC report – which is the current ECB priority
 - officials' recruitment – to which there are no real solutions being put forward
 - reducing the carbon footprint
 - levelling pay between the mens' and womens' professional games
 - reporting of injuries – **RP to include a reminder in the bulletin**
 - xii. *YCB update.* GD said that:
 - the ICEC report should not be considered as simply relevant to the professional game. There needs to be change 'from the bottom up' and urged the league to be on the front foot. DW proposed that once the ECB response is published, we should set up a meeting to discuss what action we can take as a league, consistent with the ECB response – **DW to arrange for after the end of the season**
 - In addition, there are three areas currently being focussed upon:
 - supporting the girls' game
 - the action plan for Afro-Caribbean involvement
 - supporting the game in deprivation areas
4. **Cancellations & Get the Game On paper.** TB expressed concern about the proposal to reduce umpires' fees at a time when we are trying to recruit umpires. RP said that, in the same way, we are trying to ensure that clubs have an incentive to play, there should also be an incentive for umpires to get the game on. TB said that this would have the potential to increase the pressure on officials. RP said that there will always be pressure on umpires around ground and weather issues, but that the working group had identified that this was being exacerbated by over-emphasis on risk of injury. DW said that he felt that education was needed, and that the Get the Game On guidance needs reviewing. RP said that he would reflect this in the paper – **RP to amend paper accordingly.**
 5. **Discipline.** DW said that despite some perception to the contrary, there had been no worsening of standards this season. There had been two reports in the Premier Division last weekend, but that was very unusual.

6. **Hatfield Town.** The club have released three players and two more have left following the incidents at Thorpe Hesley. The club have done all that they could be expected to; Neil Vaughan and DW will meet with them at the end of the season.
7. **PLMB.** DW fed back on his meeting with Alan Birkinshaw:
 - AB accepted and apologised for the breakdown in communications over the play-off final venue and the transfer of Streethouse into the Bradford League
 - AB had questioned whether the PLMB was still required, now that the four Premier Leagues are now fully established and autonomous. Members expressed the view that the issue was not the PLMB itself but the way it is operated. The view expressed was that the PLMB was needed as much as ever to ensure that the four leagues work together, to provide strategic direction, and to share good practice – management of the play-offs is a subsidiary issue. It needs to be refreshed and reinvigorated.
 - AB also asked whether we were in favour of the play-offs continuing. DW said that YPLN had said that they felt that the play-offs should continue. RP said that the PS committee had discussed and were in favour of the competition continuing, but moved back by one week to allow two September Saturdays for league competition, with finals to be hosted on a rotational basis by the four leagues, and with a small committee appointed to administer.
8. **Rule changes.** RP had provided an update on proposals to far – see appendix 5. The following comments were made:
 - AB said that he understood that the ‘bond’ for new clubs was linked to probation, and said that it should be returned on satisfactory completion. This was agreed – **RP to amend.**
 - MS said that there was some disparity around the relative difficulty of obtaining bowling rather than batting points. So far this season there have been around three times as many batting points as bowling points in the Premier Section. RP said that this was partly due to fact that bowling points could be achieved only when the side batting second wins, which has not happened as much as the side batting first winning, but he would reconsider the revised proposals. **RP to consider.**
9. **Officials’ recruitment strategy.** RP had provided the paper in advance, and invited comments.
 - MS said that we need to be clear that we want to recruit for all levels, not just the Premier Division. **RP agreed and agreed to emphasise in the paper.**
 - There being no other issues raised, RP said that he would progress by inviting the Umpires Association to nominate a couple of representatives for the steering group. **RP to take forward.**
10. **Other business**
 - i. *ExtraCover insurance.* RP said that he had studied the document inviting the league to sign up to being an ‘introducer’. He agreed with DW that we can only signpost clubs to the company, but said that this is all they are asking. He did not know what they were asking that we were not already doing or have offered to do. **RP to speak to Anna Scott-Beer.**
 - ii. *Cancellations.* RP said that he would table some proposals for dealing with cup/T20 cancellations for discussion at the next meeting – **RP to take forward.**
 - iii. *Joe Lumb competition.* AB referred to the Doncaster team having won the Joe Lumb competition on Sunday. **RP said he would include an item in the bulletin.**
 - iv. *Yorkshire & Derbyshire League.* MS said that Waverley have been accepted in principle for 2025 and that Ridgeway are planning also to apply to us.
11. **Closure.** The meeting closed at 8.45pm. The next meeting will be by Zoom on Monday 25 September (7.00pm).

Action point update

- Play-Cricket removals – *item placed in last bulletin and on AGM agenda*
- Trophy invoices not received – *SW has followed up with supplier*
- Ackworth scoreboard – *RP to visit*
- ‘third place promotion rule’ – *see rule change proposals below*
- Hall of Fame – *item placed in bulletin, RP to follow up with reminder*

Treasurer’s report

- Twelve clubs that have pending orders awaiting response on Play-Cricket for the pink balls supplied for the cup competitions. These clubs will be e-mailed after the weekend as a polite reminder before we can generate an invoice. There are also five handbook adverts unpaid.
- Bar bills for three cup finals, and all other costs, have been paid.



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Financial statement August 2023

Year to date income & expenditure

Income	£
Ball sales	53,234.40
Clothing sales	-
Disciplinary hearing costs	332.80
ECB monies	16,087.33
Handbook adverts	525.00
Interest at bank	108.11
Penalties	6,707.00
Presentation evening tickets 2022	9,303.00
Sponsorship	7,975.00
Subscriptions	12,065.00

Total **106,337.64**

Excess income over expenditure (986.28)

Development Fund

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

less expenditure 2,250.00

Available balance 3,844.40

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/expend to date	(986.28)
Total	46,485.40

Represented by

Current account	31,978.77
Savings account (inc Dev't Fund)	25,752.63

Total **57,731.40**

Expenditure	£
Ball costs	56,046.85
Banking services	50.00
Clothing	680.00
Communications	706.69
Cup finals/finals days-Catering Costs	2,577.28
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 Match(s) costs	540.00
Room hire	50.00
Stationery & printing	1,056.92
SYCUA	600.00
Training costs(Rule 59,60)	1,310.00
Travel costs	946.20
Trophies & medals Annual Awards	1,539.00
Trophies & Medals -Cup finals/finals day	-
YCB fees	3,140.00
YPLMB subscription	-

Total **107,323.92**

Expenditure	£
Grants	2,250.00

Total **2,250.00**

Ashley Boothman
Treasurer
20 August 2023

Participation manager's report

The W&Gs Committee has now set up a bank account and Tracey Helliwell and I are on with sorting our sponsorships and trophies for the end of season finals on the 3rd of September.

We have managed to secure funding for several permanent trophies that will be handed down / passed on every season and funding for some individual awards that players can keep.

Mel Mahmood
16 August

Scoring manager's report

With the League looking to introduce DLS in Divisions 1 and 2 in 2024, I was asked to speak to the Umpires Association this week. The short talk was well received, and hopefully DLS will be embraced by all Umpires.

Once the implication of DLS is ratified, I will create a training package for all relevant umpires, scorers and captains over the winter months. As well as this, I will continue with the scorer training package for all our scorers, at the different levels and methods.

Finally, as of today, 93.37% of games in the League were scored electronically, an increase of just under 10% from 2022. I am sure we will hit 100% in 2-3 seasons.

Steve Ward
20 August

Rule change proposals

- i. 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.
- ii. 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 non-returnable £100 bond.
- iii. Cup & T20 competition player eligibility proposal – to be put to vote by all clubs
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.
- iv. Cut-off times – to be put to vote by all clubs
In Senior Section Divisions three and below, where DLS is not used, there will be a cut-off times of 7.50 (46-over games) and 7.00 (40-over games) after which play must cease at the end of the over in progress.
- v. I am currently also working on some amendments to the overseas rules with Chris Froggett.