



# Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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## League Executive Board

41<sup>st</sup> meeting – Monday 16 August 2024 – 7.00pm by Zoom

### Note of meeting

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

1. **Welcome & apologies.** DW welcomed Liz Harris, the chair of the Women's & Girls' League, to the meeting.
2. **Matters arising and action points from last meeting.** The feedback on action points is attached at appendix 1. In addition:
  - i. RP read the advice provided by the National Scorers Office, which is summarised as:
    - There appears to be no directive for the age of a scorer
    - the age for a Play-Cricket account is 13 years, which would seem a starting point, although there are very competent scorers who are 11 and 12
    - the issues are more of concentration in a 40/50-over match and how they are able to handle the pressure that sometimes comes into matches from players and officials, and even spectators
    - it would be imperative that any young scorer (probably u/15s) should have an adult alongside them
    - there is the issue of safeguarding to consider for any u/18s
    - there is also a concern about young scorers using a phone for scoring over 20 oversLP said there was also a responsibility for clubs and umpires to maintain regular checks on young scorers, and to deflect players from them. **RP & SW agreed to produce some wording on the issue for League rules.**
  - ii. In the absence of RP, TB will represent the LEB at the Cleethorpes v New Farnley play-off game.
  - iii. The proposed wording on Registration & Transfers and Overseas Students for the Administrative Rules was agreed.
3. **Reports from Members**
  - i. *Equity & Diversity Group report.* NW had provided a report – attached at appendix 2. No issues arising.
  - ii. *Safeguarding Managers' report*
    - LP reported on a small number of incidents that she had dealt with
    - the issue of support for LP was raised. RP said that SW had agreed to act as Safeguarding Manager for the Premier Section, and would work with LP
  - iii. *Treasurer's report*
    - AB had provided a financial report – attached at appendix 3. He said that the outstanding ball invoices have now been paid.
    - AB said that the cost of a protective case for the transportation of the Whitworth Cup, which is valued at £16.5k, would be around £400 - this was agreed

- TB asked about the item of £933 for clothing; AB clarified that this included clothing for the visiting umpire, coloured kit for the under 21s, and umpires' cup final clothing
- iv. *Participation manager's report.* MM had provided a report – see appendix 4. She added that:
- agreement has been reached with S20 The Boundary about the cost of the venue for the W&G indoor games
  - she understood that ECB wanted to set a national target for a further 1,000 women's & girls' teams by 2029; this was something that we would support, although in South Yorkshire we are already well ahead of many parts of the country; the key issue is that of ground availability and facilities for W&G cricket
  - DW said that the arrangement reached with Reader's for ball supply will be available for the WGL to use; he will provide the link for balls to be ordered as soon as we receive it – **DW to chase up**
  - MM will liaise with MS about the scheduling of W&G finals in 2025
- v. *Umpires' representative's report*
- TB said that there had been some issues with DLS operation, of which SW is aware
  - the umpires' social nights continue to be well-attended and will continue during the winter
- vi. *Scoring Manager's report*
- SW said that the ECB target for the use of electronic scoring is 50% - our performance is 94.72%, which is an increase of 2% on last year and is the best in the country; thanks are due to the clubs – **RP has undertaken to include thanks to all in the bulletin**
  - currently around 35% of this is tablet/mobile scoring – SW will continue the push to increase laptop scoring, and will provide more training on this during the winter
- vii. *Premier Section report* RP had provided a report – see appendix 5 – and after discussion on the proposed rule changes, the following were agreed:
- the proposals on losing bonus points, 'rain points', overseas player registration and teas would be put to the clubs at the AGM – **RP to include in AGM documents**
  - the principle of asking umpires to be more proactive in ensuring that genuine efforts were made to get the game on, and asking them to include in their reports where they considered that efforts had not been made, or reasonable requests not followed up, was agreed
  - the proposal that umpires should receive only two-thirds of the match fee where play did not take place was not agreed
- In addition, RP said that the trial of the best quality Reader ball did not go well and these balls will not be proceeded with. One club had asked that we use the Dukes ball. DW said that the current cost of the Dukes ball is £27.50. He will obtain 12 balls for trial purposes in the Premier Division in 2025. RP said that a provisional date for the trial would be set, then confirmed in the week beforehand, taking into account the weather forecast.
- viii. *Senior Section report.* DW said that Jonathan Crabtree had agreed to join the Senior Section committee and act as secretary.
- ix. *Compliance manager's report.* CF said that he and RP would be meeting to look at potential clarification of overseas player rules at the end of the season, and they had in addition noted that the issue of dual registration for students had arisen during the season, and it was agreed that this needs to be covered in League rules; DW said that it had been covered in the SYSL rules – **DW to supply the wording used**
- x. *Competitions Manager's report*
- MS said that the few remaining league games would be played this coming weekend, 21/22 September
  - working is now going ahead on scheduling of cup-ties in 2025; there are now provisional dates for the National competitions which will be confirmed in November, but there is uncertainty about the HWC/CC scheduling – **CF said that he would speak to David Young/Mark Heald about the latter**
  - MS said that Monday 5 May would not work for the final of the K3, because YPLN were scheduling a full League programme that day; RP had suggested that the final could be played on the same day as the first round, if new seeding proposals were adopted – **RP to take up with the K3 organising committee**

xi. *YCB update.* No update in the absence of GD.

xii. *Chairmans'/ECB update.* DW said that there will be an ECB meeting at Headingley on 2 October, which he will attend.

4. **Disciplinary issues.** DW said that there was an ongoing serious issue involving SUCC, which was being dealt with.

5. **Houghton Main CC.** DW said the meeting scheduled with the club for 9 September took place, following which it had been made clear that:

- in 2025, the HMCC teams in Divisions 1 and 8 must fulfil all their fixtures
- in 2025, the two junior HMCC teams, at u/11 and u/15 in the Barnsley Junior Cricket League, must fulfil all their fixtures
- in 2025, HMCC must run All Stars and Dynamos cricket – the costs of these will be met by the YCB.
- HMCC Safeguarding officers must be nominated by 1.10.2024, and must be registered on the earliest available Safeguarding course.

DW said that this was very much a 'last chance' for the club.

6. **Rule changes.** The LEB was content with the changes that had been detailed by RP in advance – see appendix 6.

7. **Other business.** There was no other business.

8. **Close.** The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

**Item 2 - Feedback on action points**

- 3.i – *E&D*. RP has talked to Jason Booth – E&DG report refers.
- 3.ii – *Scorer ages*. SW to feed back at meeting
- 3.iv – *W&GL finals*. Actioned.
- 3.v – *Umpires*. League representation at Cleethorpes to be agreed, also arrangements for paying umpires
- 3.v – RP is liaising with Philip Hulme on playing conditions review
- 3.vi – *Scoring*. Item on electronic scoring included in bulletin – **further reminder on L2 course to be arranged (RP)**
- 3.ix – Compliance – proposed wordings:

**Registration & transfers**

**36** Players may register for any YCSPL cricket club at any time in or out of the season, providing they have not played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday league, **or in a comparable or higher standard of cricket**, in the current or previous season. A player who has played in any other ECB-affiliated Saturday league in the current or previous season must be transferred from their previous club in accordance with paras **46-48** below. **Any player who has not played in an ECB-affiliated league, but has played in a comparable or higher standard of cricket in the current or previous season, may only be registered before 31 July.**

**46 Transfers in the period prior to, and during, the season.**

- ii** **No registration of players into the YCSPL from ECB-affiliated leagues or a comparable higher standard of cricket will be allowed between 1 August and 30 September in any year, except under 43.v above.**

**Overseas students**

43 In respect of overseas player registration, the following conditions 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, **and the latter category may include either an asylum seeker or overseas student.**
- ii. No overseas player may be registered after 30 June, except as in **43.iv.b** below. An overseas player may be replaced before this date,
- iii. In the Senior Section, overseas players, including students and asylum seekers, may only be engaged with the permission of the Senior Section Cricket Committee, who will take into consideration the standard at which the player has previously played.**

5 – Ball trials – arranged and completed.

**Equity & Diversity report**

- i. EAD group has become stagnant and a drive including YCB, new members and league will reset post season.
- ii. An administrator is really required for the EAD to keep up and abreast of what is required from the group - JB is looking into potential individuals.
- iii. On the radar and to be discussed/agreed to be included in the future plans are;
- Cricket's CEC report
  - Clubs' EAD officer role
  - Areas across the league(s) where EAD can support best
  - Equity and Diversity name. Does it require a new name in the reset to include the word inclusion?

## Treasurer's report



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## Financial statement 14 September 2024

**Year to date income & expenditure**

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
	£		£
Ball sales	49,147.80	Ball costs	47,831.59
Clothing sales	-	Banking services	30.00
Disciplinary hearing costs	338.80	Clothing	933.00
ECB monies	15,883.00	Communications	794.08
Handbook adverts	325.00	Cup finals/finals days-Catering Costs	3,463.07
Interest at bank	305.55	Digital Laptop Scoring	100.00
Other income	370.00	Disciplinary hearing costs	368.00
Penalties	6,667.00	Donation	-
Presentation evening tickets 2023	11,158.10	ECB monies to clubs	9,740.00
Sponsorship	5,958.00	Electronic media	1,800.00
Subscriptions	12,345.00	Entertaining at cup finals/finals days	153.00
		Honoraria	1,800.00
		Insurance	3,091.95
		Payment Refunds	419.00
		Phone & broadband costs	464.92
		Presentation evening 2023 costs	11,372.64
		Presentation evening 2024 costs	500.00
		Professional Services	200.00
		Representative Match(s) costs	1,200.20
		Room hire	50.00
		Stationery & printing	2,664.75
		SYCUA	1,035.00
		Training costs	690.00
		Travel costs	414.80
		Trophies & medals Annual Awards	5,438.91
		Trophies & Medals -Cup finals/finals day	-
		YCB fees	5,070.00
		YPLMB subscription	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>102,498.25</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>99,624.91</b>

**Excess income over expenditure 2,873.34**

**Development Fund**

<b>Income</b>		<b>Expenditure</b>	
	£		£
c/f	2,844.00	Brookhouse CC	400.00
ECB Money 26th March 2024	6,103.00	Fishlake CC	1,000.00
		Parkhead CC	500.00
		Penistone CC	900.00
		Stocksbridge CC	280.00
		Thorpe Hesley & High Green CC	900.00
		Warmsworth CC	1,000.00
		Whiston Forge CC	900.00
less expenditure	5,880.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,880.00</b>
<b>Available balance</b>	<b>3,067.00</b>		

**Balance sheet**

Current a/c at 30 September 2023	32,027.67
Deposit a/c at 30 September 2023	24,915.91
Excess income o/expend to date	2,873.34
Development Fund Expenditure	5,880.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,936.92</b>

**Represented by**

Current account	28,605.26	<b>Ashley Boothman</b>
Savings account (inc Dev't Fund)	25,305.34	Treasurer
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,936.82</b>	15 September 2024

## In addition:

- We are just 16 Days until the financial year end.
- We have three clubs who have overdue invoices for Pink Cricket Balls for the Cup Competitions played in 2024 (Shiregreen £59.20, Darfield £66.00, Wickersley OV £104.00). Houghton Main have not completed the order form requested for Pink Balls. Administrative Rule 13 will now apply to these clubs. Invoices to process
- Wadworth have not paid for their entry fee for 2025 of £100.00; will chase them up.
- One handbook advert has not been paid, will chase for this.
- Whitworth Cup – sourcing of a safety protection case. I have received details – to be discussed at meeting.
- A proposal to award annually hand-painted shields for the Premier Division winners and the Whitworth Cup winners.

## **Participation report**

**Softball Finals Day** – due to inclement weather and unfit pitches at Frechville, Elsecar and Wombwell – only the Div 2 Softball finals were able to be completed on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> September – won by Sheffield Super Queens. As such these will be rolled over to the opening of the next Season, which has had a knock-on effect with regards to an Awards Night, which had been planned for Oct 6<sup>th</sup> but is now being re-assessed and will be held at a later date to be decided after the next W&G's league meeting.

### **2024 Winter Season**

20 weeks of indoor cricket fixtures have been set up for the coming Winter Season, with 47 Teams from 30 clubs signed up to compete at S20. Including 13 Hardball Teams. A 5 team discrepancy from last indoor season, which is mainly due to the clubs either changing up to Hardball or not fielding as many softball teams as last Winter.

The Indoor season will comprise of 2 Hardball Divisions and 4 Softball Divisions over 20 weeks commencing Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> Oct.

This will be the first year this has been funded directly from club subscription and match day fees, complaints have already been lodged with regards to costs – majority of which is the £12.5k fee charged by S20 for hosting the games. Due to fixtures already having been set and short notice, S20 will be the venue for this indoor season but alternative, cheaper venues will be sought next year – *any contacts for suitable venues will be greatly appreciated.*

### **Readers ball account / contract.**

Due to rising costs, cuts in funding from YCC/ECB and administration etc – we will also be informing all clubs that they will be expected to provide their own balls for all formats, for all games, moving forward and I cascaded the information with regards to the **Readers** account for all clubs under the YCSPL umbrella, as discussed at the last LEB meeting.

*Has this agreement now been formalised, and would the W&G's Teams be able to access the account to purchase their required balls for matched this indoor season?*

If so, I will require details as soon as possible to allow teams to purchase in time to prepare for the coming season.

Respectfully submitted for your attention and consideration.

M Mahmood

## **Premier Section report**

*Feedback from meeting on 11 September:*

### **Rule changes**

- i. *Losing bonus points.* The thinking behind a proposed change to the bowling bonus points is that it is too easy to get two points for four wickets – a team can get four wickets and still be soundly beaten. The proposal is that half the wickets should be taken to gain points, ie, two for 5 wickets; four for 7 and six for 9. No change is proposed to the batting points.
- ii. *Rain points.* The issue of rain points was raised, and a proposal was made that where there had been an attempt to play, and some play had taken place, more points should be given than where no play had taken place, ie, four (where play took place) and two (no play) *or* six and four.
- iii. *Umpires*
  - The view is that umpires need to be more proactive in ensuring that the home team made genuine efforts to get the game on, and if the home team failed to follow reasonable requests, or the umpires decided that reasonable efforts had not been made to get the game played, they should put this in their report, which may result in two of the rain points being removed.

- There was concern that some umpires, once they had received the full match fee, were not really interested in whether play took place. An increase in fees from £70 to £75 is proposed, but this should be only £50 where no play has taken place. This should provide an incentive for umpires to play.
- iv. *Overseas player replacements.* CF had done some informal research about what captains felt should be allowed and what other leagues do. Whilst there is not much consensus, he felt that something closer to the NY&SD rule would satisfy the majority. Accordingly, the following rule is proposed for replacement of overseas players in 2025 onwards:
- A replacement overseas player shall only be permitted once only in a season, where:*
- a. *the replacement player is registered by 31 July, **and***
  - b. *the originally-registered overseas player is unable to play cricket through genuine injury or illness confirmed by a medical certificate **or***
  - c. *returns home for the remainder of the season due to selection at international level or equivalent and has not been selected at that level within the previous five years; such selection to be confirmed in writing by the appropriate body.*
- v. *Teas.* It was proposed that, in the Premier Section at least, a motion should be put to clubs that teas should be provided on a voluntary basis, with the clubs that will provide teas notifying same at the start of the season, and visiting clubs to be required to pay for 12 teas where teas are provided.

**ECB funding.** It was agreed that the funding should not be linked to safeguarding measures, as these are mandatory anyway, and that the ED&I activity suggestion should be deferred until proposals are made about club ED&I activity. Rewarding clubs' umpiring recruitment is a valid suggestion but should include any clubs who have not previously nominated umpires, not just Premier Section ones through ECB money allocation.

**Reader ball trial.** The ball trial with the more expensive Reader ball had not been as success. Some had quickly gone out of shape. Several committee members said that there was nothing wrong with the Oxbridge balls currently used. RP said that Matt Morland at AFCC had said that his club's experience was the Dukes was much better. RP agreed to obtain a price for the Dukes ball and arrange a proper trial in the Premier Section next season.

**Shields/replica trophies.** The treasurer has suggested that the winners of the league's top competitions (Premier Division, T20 Blast, Whitworth Cup) are presented with a hand-painted shield as a permanent momento. Last year the Premier and Blast winners were given a replica trophy. The committee feel this should be continued and extended to the Whitworth Cup.

Roger Pugh

*Appendix 6*

**Rule changes** (agenda item 6)

- Constitutional changes (CoSG & W&GL) to be put to AGM
- Countback rule to be put to AGM
- Admin rules – revised wordings under compliance above, also revision to wording of 13.ii and 13.iv in the compliance rules:
  - ii *Points Deductions.* **Except where specifically provided for under 13.iv below,** all points penalties must be approved by the LEB chair and the head of the relevant Section, and will be applied in the season when the breach occurred, unless their application makes no material difference to whether a team wins the divisional championship, is promoted, or is relegated in the current season, in which case the penalty will apply in the following season.
  - iv *Administrative failures.* Failure to complete, within the relevant specified period, captains' reports, play-cricket actions, and requests for information by the league will, in the first instance, result in a formal warning by email, clearly stating the nature of the failure. On the second occasion, a final warning will be given by email, a £10 fine **may be imposed, and the club will be advised** that on the next occasion **a £20 fine and a** two-league point deduction may be **imposed.** On the third, and each subsequent, failure, a £20 fine and two-league point deduction may be **imposed.**