



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section Cricket Committee

19th meeting – Wednesday 11th September 2024 – 7.30pm by Zoom

Note of Meeting

Present: Roger Pugh (chair), Mark Beardshall, Chris Froggett, Mick Forrester, Alex Fletcher, Andy Harrison, Steve Ward

Apologies: Nick Kendall, Bryan Lowe

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP welcomed everyone and gave apologies from NK and BL.
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP said that all the action points were cleared and asked if there were any matters arising. There were none.
3. **Rule changes**
 - i. *Code of Sports Governance.* RP summarised what the changes would mean for the LEB and Premier Section. There were no issues arising.
 - ii. *Losing bonus points.* RP explained the thinking behind the proposed change to the bowling bonus points, ie, 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.
 - iii. *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.
 - iv. *Umpires*
 - Allied to the above, the suggestion was made 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. proposed an increase in fees from £70 to £75, but that this should be only £50 where no play had taken place. This should provide an incentive for umpires to play.
 - v. *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.*
 - vi. *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.
4. **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. No change is recommended to the draft proposal – attached.
5. **LEB and Premier Section committee representation.** RP said that he hoped that all those present would be able to continue on the PS committee next year, but to let him know if they do not wish to do so. He also said that a third Premier Section representative would be required for the LEB, alongside CF and himself, and to let him know if anyone was interested.
6. **Other business**
 - i. *Umpire age limit.* AH said that he knew that there was some disenchantment amongst umpires of 60 and above that they are not able to get onto the Premier League list if not already on it. The view of the committee was that being on the PL list should be based on ability and fitness rather than age – **RP will follow up with DW.**
 - ii. *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.**
 - iii. *Saturday start times.* Some clubs had asked whether the start times of games this coming Saturday could be brought forward to 11.30 in case the light deteriorated later on. This was agreed, provided both clubs were in agreement and the umpires notified.
 - iv. *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 memento. 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.
 - v. *Dressing room sizes.* RP asked that anyone who had not done so would send him the dimensions of their away dressing room
7. **Closure.** RP thanked everyone for their input, and closed the meeting at 9.00pm. The next meeting will be arranged for early in the New Year.

Cup rules – player eligibility

Proposed amendment to prevent players being recruited for the later stages of the cup competitions

20. *Player eligibility*

- i. Players will only be eligible to play in the cup competitions if, as bone fide registered members of their club, they were eligible to play in the YCSPL by 30 June in any season.
- ii. A player may only play for one club in any cup competition in a given season.
- iii. Overseas players and contracted county staff are eligible to play in the competition, provided that they comply with the above *and have already appeared in at least one league game for their club before playing in the cup competition.*
- iv. The provisions of administrative rule 47 must be followed in relation to team selection for all cup games.