



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section Committee

21st meeting – Wednesday 19 March 2025 – 7.30pm by Zoom

Note of Meeting

Present: Roger Pugh (chair), Mark Beardshall, Jason Booth, Mick Forrester, Andy Harrison, Neil Vaughan.

Apologies: Nick Kendall, Steve Ward

1. **Welcome & apologies.** RP welcomed everyone and gave apologies from Nick Kendall and Steve Ward
2. **Matters arising from last meeting.** RP updated the meeting on item 3 at the last meeting, advising that the new competition rules and the league/cup/T20 playing conditions are now all completed and posted on the League website.
3. **Club visit.** RP reported back on the recent club visit. A GMA pitch report is imminent and YCB have made funding available for dressing room improvements. **RP & GD to follow up.**
4. **Grounds & facilities.** RP asked members to flag up any grounds where they thought standards were not being met, and where an inspection was required. RP will also periodically circulate information from ground & facilities reports for consideration during the season.
5. **Premier Leagues play-offs.** The committee unanimously agreed that the play-offs should be played in the same season as that in which the clubs qualified for them. A similar type of cut-off date on the same basis as used in the old YCC play-offs was advocated, to enable use of the Sunday in the second week of September. **RP to put a short paper on the subject to the captains' meeting and seek feedback.**
6. **Safety and concussion rules and guidance.** RP summarised the changes that will come in for 2025:
 - i. **ECB guidance on concussion.** From 2025, any head impact during play will result in an immediate call of dead ball, and no runs or dismissal thereafter will count. In addition, each club must nominate a responsible adult, and deputy, who will be asked by the umpires to check whether a player is fit to continue after a head impact. If no other person is nominated, these roles will fall to the captain and vice-captain. If there is any doubt about the fitness of a player to continue, they should leave the field for medical attention. If the umpires are not satisfied that a player is fit to continue, they may insist that he leaves the field.
 - ii. **Fast Bowling Match Regulations.** The new [ECB safety regulations](#) refer to the 'ages' rather than the 'age groups' of players. However, following adverse feedback from clubs and officials, and given the short timescale at which this change was discovered, the League proposed to continue to use age groups in all games in the YCSPL in 2025, in line with the ages shown on the umpires' match cards. *However, following further representation from the umpires' associations, and taking into account the need for clarity with the start of the season less than three weeks away, we have subsequently decided to go with the requirements of the new ECB Safety Regulations. Team sheets must now show the ages of all junior players.*

- iii. **Parental permission for junior players to play on open-age cricket.** [ECB safety regulations](#) now *require* that junior players should have written permission to play in open-age cricket. It is entirely up to clubs as to how they want to manage this, for example, as part of registration processes. The signature of captains on match cards will include confirmation that any juniors are playing with parental consent. Neither the League nor the umpires are required to check that consent has been received, this is entirely the responsibility of clubs.
- iv. **First aid.** Under [ECB new safety guidelines](#), it is *recommended* that:
 - each club appoints at least one first-aider, and that a first-aider is present when any cricket-related activity takes place.
 - each club has a medical emergency action plan and risk assessment
 - leagues should ensure that medical emergency action plans are in place at clubs used for League finals or representative games.

7. Other business

- i. There was some concern expressed about whether there was an imbalance around the YPLN/YCSPL input into the Premier League umpires' appointments. It was suggested that a levy might be imposed if one league was contributing significantly less than the other. **RP to discuss with David Ward.**
- ii. RP said that the LEB were looking at long-term planning, including succession planning to cover temporary or longer-term unavailability of key officials. It was suggested that this is something that clubs need to look at too, and **RP agreed to raise at the Pre-Season Meeting.**

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