



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section Cricket Committee

2nd meeting – Monday 15th February – 7.30pm by Zoom

Note of Meeting

Present: Mark Beardshall (chair), Jason Booth, Chris Cobb, Alex Fletcher, Mick Forrester, Chris Froggett, Andy Harrison, Bryan Lowe, Andrew Tipple (observer), Steve Ward

- 1 **Welcome.** MB welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2 **Covid contingency rules.** The draft rules had been circulated to the committee in advance. MB provided the background and said that he felt that they were the best possible solution in difficult circumstances. He said that the issue of league points for 'one off' cancellations had been discussed, with a proposal that eight points each be awarded. However, the sub-group had settled on no points being awarded, with positions in the league table being determined on percentages, which they felt fairer. Graham Swallow had done some comparative calculations on these, which MB would forward to committee members for interest. Members had no issues with the rules document.
- 3 **Sponsorship.** MB said that there had been no response to Matt Summerhill's appeal for clubs to provide potential sponsor leads, and that a small sub-committee would be convened to look at the issue urgently. AF and SW will represent the Premier Section on this. SW said that he had met with Solly Adam, who is interested in a sponsorship arrangement with the league. Ideally he would like to provide cricket balls for the League, but will consider alternatives.
- 4 **Honours.** MF provided an update from the Honours sub-committee. A paper has been prepared for the LEB that proposes a two-tier system, including two League Ambassadors, who will be prepared to represent the League at functions, etc, and a small number of Life Members. The paper proposes a continuation of Hall of Fame, but extended to the whole league.
- 5 **Play-Cricket.** A proposal has been made that a single person acts as administrator for Play-Cricket for the League, who will be responsible for all player registrations. This is to be considered by LEB next week. The issue provoked much discussion, which focussed largely on personalities. The strong consensus view of the committee was that they wanted a separate person to be responsible for Premier Section registrations, and wanted SW to take on this role. MB said that he would represent this view at the LEB.
- 6 **Captains' reports.** MB said that since the last meeting it had been clarified that captains' pitch markings are required for the end-of-season ECB return, and, although outfield markings are not, it is felt that they provide evidence of standards and should be retained. Reporting will therefore continue as in 2019.

7 **Equity & Diversity.** JB updated the committee on progress made in the group:

- The group has had several meetings so far. Milton Samuels has been elected chair; Shaaiq Choudhry and JB will share the role of representative to the Premier Section committee, and Irfan Mirza will be the Senior Section committee representative.
- The group are working with the YCB on a strategic plan, which they hope to release in mid-March.
- JB said that setting up the group was a great initiative and that all was going well so far, but the group will not rush anything; rather they will take the time to ensure that they get things right. He will continue to keep the committee updated.

8 **Other business**

- *U19s competition.* AT asked if there would be a competition this year. It was agreed that there is significant interest in this competition, and that it should go ahead if possible, but this will depend on potential delays to the season and consequent use of Sundays for league and cup fixtures.
- *Umpires' and scorers' awards.* AT suggested that there should be annual awards for umpires and scorers. There was an 'umpire of the year' award in the YSPL, which was entirely based on captains' marks, and tended to be won by the same person. It was suggested that there needed to be a smarter way to capture the 'common sense view' to supplement markings. A separate award for the best 'up and coming' umpire was also felt to be a good idea. A similar principle for scorers' awards was also felt to be a good idea, and it was thought that captains and umpires were in the best place to judge these. MB to take this issue to LEB.
- The discussion also covered umpires' marks, and BL described the measures to provide regular feedback to the umpires. CC suggested that because feelings can be high at the end of the game, captains should not complete markings until the Monday after a Saturday game. JB said that the focus must be on using marks to facilitate improvement, particularly for those umpires who are interested in progression. BL will circulate some ideas based on the reporting system used in the National Counties.
- *Teas.* AH asked what the position was on the issue of teas. BL said that the Senior Section had said that teas would be provided by clubs as before, if Covid rules allow. CF said that there had been contradictory information on the subject, firstly, saying that providing teas was optional, then saying that teas should be provided. MB said that if government guidance allows clubs to provide teas, they should do so.
- *Representative games.* AF said that as the 2019 u19 competition winners, Whitley Hall CC would be pleased to field a team to represent the League.
- *Virtual YSPL 2020 presentation night.* AF said that he was disappointed that several potential speakers had wanted money, which he did not think was appropriate. However, he felt that he could get two or three first class players with links to the League to participate. AF to work with SW on potential dates and an outline for the session.
- *Scorer training.* SW will be organising virtual scorer training on DLS v4 in March.

9 **Date of next meeting.** Next meeting will take place on 15th March 2021 (7.30pm)

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.