



HUDDERSFIELD

CRICKET LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2023

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: President – W Andrew Sugden; General Secretary – N Clee; Media Secretary – J Harrison; Chair EDI Sub-Committee – Mushtaq Hussain

Life Vice Presidents: Geoff Crompton.

Club Representatives: Craig McCreddie.

Apologies

Treasurer – A Hill; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior; Administration Secretary – M Binns; Compliance Officer – Mrs Jackie Brook; Ron Tindall; Malcolm Westoby; Les Harrison; Roger Peaker.

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 11th October 2023

Approved.

Matters Arising

Readers vs Dukes Cricket Balls

Following consultation with the Premiership division teams it was overwhelmingly agreed to trial the Dukes cricket ball in 2024 Premiership matches, despite the cost being more expensive.

All other divisions and Sykes Cup/Paddock Shield matches would continue with the Readers Sovereign ball for the time being.

The Media Secretary reported that the artwork for the stamping of Dukes Cricket Balls with the HCL crest had been sent. Once a proof had been returned, the artwork will be approved.

It was confirmed that any remaining stocks of the Readers Special County Imperial Crown (SCIC) balls could be used up during 2024 matches in the six other divisions: Championship – Alliance 4.

Financial Report

The Chairman confirmed that the finances of HCL are in a satisfactory condition with an overall balance of just over £52k. A detailed statement will be presented at the upcoming AGM.

Since the last meeting the Treasurer had received the agreed annual sponsorship fee from Readers.

The only outstanding fines total was £47 from Linthwaite CC.

Compliance Report – JB / TA

The Compliance Officer was absent but reported via the Chairman that there is a Safe Hands Course being organised for February. The date will be announced as soon as fixed with Ray Knowles.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

The M&R Secretary was absent and there was nothing to report.

The Media Secretary will contact the M&R Secretary to check how to amend the name of the competition on play-cricket when it has a sponsor.

Disciplinary Report – TA

HCL Disciplinary Register											
Date	Name	Club	Match	Divn	Offence	Sanction	dates	details	Captain	Sanction	dates
2.9.23	Marlon Rodrigo	LH CC	LH CC vs Holmfirth CC	Champ	L3 Threatening behaviour	9 wks	19.4-21.6.2024	threaten Agummerson 7 grey	included	included	
2.9.23	Hardeep Singh	LH CC	LH CC vs Holmfirth CC	Champ	L4 violent assault of Grey	12 months ban	whole of 2024	headbutt causing actual harm	see above	see above	
2.9.23	Andy Grey	Holmfirth	LH CC vs Holmfirth CC	Champ	L3 Threatening behaviour	6 wks ban	19.4-31.5.24	Threatening behaviour and physical	Gareth myers	1 wk	19.4-26.4.24
2.9.23	Sarfraz Hussain	BRH	BRH vs Slaithwaite	Champ	Low level dissent	Final Formal Warning	24 months to 1.9.25		included		
9.9.23	Mohammad Jawad	BRH	BRH vs Denby CC	Alliance 3	aggressive&intimidating/al	Warning	24 months to 8.9.25		Tahir Iqbal	Reminded	
9.9.23	James Barber	Slaithwaite	Linthwaite vs Salithwaite	Alliance 2	L1 dissent	1 wk club imposed	19.4-26.4.2024 not re	Dissent vs umpire following dismissa	none	na	na

Marlon Rodrigo and Hardeep Singh from Lascelles Hall CC received bans for incidents during their match against Holmfirth CC. Rodrigo was banned for 9 weeks for a L3 offence and Singh received 12 months ban for a L4 violent assault. In the same match, Andy Grey from Holmfirth also received a lengthy ban for a L3 offence.

Sarfraz Hussain from Birkby Rose Hill CC received a final formal warning for a dissent offence in a 1st XI game vs Slaithwaite. Mohammad Jawad, also from Birkby Rose Hill CC received a warning for aggressive and intimidating behaviour during their 2nd XI match with Denby CC.

All sanction have been place on the players' records for 24 months.

Media Secretary Report

The media secretary will distribute the completed Commercial Opportunities PDF brochure to all committee members who are asked to forward it on to their own contact base.

The General Secretary, Media Secretary and Treasurer will agree a suitable system of invoicing times and frequency for sponsors. It was confirmed that sponsors who commence mid-season will be charged pro rata during the first year.

The Media Secretary reported that Swift Teamwear are on board to sponsor the 2024 Premiership with the division being titled The Swift Teamwear Premiership. Swift would also receive an advertising space on our website along with several other benefits agreed.

ACS (Sightscreens) have also agreed to take up a 'Gold' banner position on our website. The Media Secretary will liaise with ACS and the Treasurer to action this.

The Media Secretary reported that PA Media had informed the league (via the General Secretary) that our website contained an illegally shown licenced image of Tom Craddock within a news article published in 2019. Upon being informed the Media Secretary had removed the image from publication. This potential breach of copyright is now in discussion with the authorities.

Due to the current high workload of various media duties it was agreed that the Media Secretary would benefit from help to manage the website and its contents. The Media Secretary will issue a fresh appeal for a volunteer on the league website as well as via the distributed minutes. An ongoing task is to 'prune' and constantly update the website and reduce time-sensitive content which, if not actioned, becomes out of date. The task will take until the new season.

EDI Report – MH

The Chair of the EDI Sub-Committee reported that on behalf of the W&G's section Wendy Kemp had accepted HCL's offer to help and support the new initiatives within women's cricket.

Wendy will work with Sara Begg and also supply the Media Secretary with any content that will be required to go on the league website.

It was explained that more women were playing softball and that would be the main areas of focus. They had agreed to postpone their competitive league to the 2025 season to ensure everything was in place.

Wendy requested financial assistance with balls and umpire's fees when needed. HCL will monitor progress but it was confirmed again that it fully supports these initiatives and will assist wherever it was possible to do so.

ECB Premier League – TA

The Chairman confirmed that double sightscreens which will be required at all grounds in the Premiership and Championship in 2024 will each need to be a minimum of 4m wide x 4m high in overall size.

The relevant Clubs must put double sight screens in place by the **end of June 2024**.

He acknowledged that this will involve a financial burden upon many clubs. He will seek more information on costs of this from the new website sponsor, ACS who provide sightscreens. He will work with the General Secretary to explore financial support/grants regarding this matter.

Edgerton & Dalton Individual Award – TA / NC

The Chairman reported that E&D CC had lost the Ernest B Whittle trophy 'during a house move' of the winning player.

A replacement trophy will be obtained and E&D CC will cover the costs.

Disappointment was expressed by the committee at the loss of a trophy which had been in existence for over 50 years, along with the many names engraved on it.

Elland CC – TA

The Chairman had reported that Kevin Whiteley of Elland Community Sports Club had indicated the outstanding monies owed would not be paid since there was no money available at the club for cricketing matters. The Chairman had also spoken to the Treasurer who also indicated that ECC had no funds remaining to honour a debt.

The Chairman will seek another contact at the over-arching Elland sports club in the hope that a fresh approach in escalating the matter may achieve more success. Once a contact had been identified, the Treasurer will reissue the invoice.

Rule Proposals – NC

The General Secretary identified certain current rules that included fine amounts some of which had not been increased since as long ago as 1992, and informed the meeting that he intends to introduce proposals to increase these to suitable levels in line with inflation. These will be voted on by clubs in the Rules Revisions vote at the AGM.

Any Other Business

Annual Awards Dinner

The General Secretary expressed disappointment at the lack of responses to invitations to attend the 2023 awards evening.

The Media Secretary will be present at the event and proposed a slightly updated process that captures pictures of the award winners. The large banner which acted as backdrop to photos will be used as a focal point where the speakers will be and there will be a green screen area where award winners will present themselves for a photo opportunity. The Media Secretary and General Secretary will work together to implement this.

Please note: The next meeting will be of the HCL Council at its AGM. This will take place at **Honley CC on Wed 6th December 2023 commencing at 19.00pm and be immediately followed by a quarterly meeting of the Council of HCL's 40 Clubs.**

The December HCL Executive mtg will follow immediately afterwards.