

Drakes Huddersfield Cricket League

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

Wed 5thth February 2020

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: The President – RF; General Sec – NC; Child Welfare, Facilities & Trophies Secretary - RP; Match & Registration Secretary - PS; Media Secretary – JH; Administration Secretary – MB; Finance Secretary – AH

Life Vice Presidents: Geoff Crompton; Ron Tindall.

Club Representatives: Craig McCreadie, Malcolm Westoby

Apologies

L Harrison

Minutes of previous meeting Wednesday 8th January 2020

Approved.

Finance Report – AH

Current A/C £17636.19, Money Manager Savings Account: £35001.11, Loans to clubs £10154.34, Totalling £62791.64

Invoice still to be received from Cedar Court for the Annual Dinner.

Almondbury CC had not been in touch about the interest free loan offered in support of them installing new practice nets. Shepley's application for a loan in support of a new scoreboard had not yet been received.

Elland CC are applying for a £2k loan repayable over 3 years, to help them install practice strips.

Almondbury Wes CC are applying for a loan of £5k repayable over 3 years, in support of a new practice facility of £27k and extended bar social facilities of £20k.

As agreed NC will be in touch with C Ridler regarding collection of the umpires pool stock of coats.

North Light Physio are still to pay their bill.

Ground & Facilities - RP

The difficult situation at Denby Dale CC with a flood damaged ground was discussed, and they are awaiting further expert reports regarding the state of fitness for the 2020 season. The Old Almondburians ground at Arkenley may be available if DDCC need a temporary season long alternative.

Improvements at Linthwaite CC are underway.

Disciplinary Report

Nothing to report

Media Secretary Report - JH

The League Podcasts trials will start being recorded by JH with support from League Umpire and former cricketer Andrew Crawshaw and Golcar cricketer Steve Whitwam who have agreed to be co-hosts. The initial themes of the 30 minutes programmes will be news and old memories.

The meeting agreed to purchase a new lead for the PA kit.

The website continues to prominently contain information regarding the recruitment drive for both regular and pool umpires. It is hoped that everyone who was part of the successful informal 2019 Umpires Pool will continue to offer their services on an occasional basis again in 2020.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

PS will attend the UA meeting in March to brief umpires regarding the implications of introducing the DL method as the new rain rule for DHCL in 2020. A further briefing document will be produced to inform captains, scorers and umpires of how to apply the rule in 2020. This will be available for the April meeting or earlier if possible.

The investigation into an allegation that a cricketer had played for a club under a false name on the last weekend of the 2019 season had now been completed with Kirkburton CC admitting that they had played Sam Carroll, who was registered with Lepton Highlanders CC, in a match against Clayton West CC. The result of the game that was won by Kirkburton, had no material bearing on end of season league positions. In accordance with rules 6.2.1, 6.2.2 and 6.2.3, the match points had been re-awarded to CW, with also KB suffering a 6 point deduction penalty and a £20 fine. The meeting further agreed that, in accordance with previous rulings on similar incidents, and given KB's conscious action, their Captain James Newsome would be banned for the first match of the 2020 season. It was also agreed that in support of Lepton Highlanders' decision to suspend the player concerned for bringing his club into disrepute for the first two match of the 2020 season, the League would not accept the transfer form for the player from LHCC to KBCC until that disciplinary sanction had expired.

Nortonthorpe are enquiring of the League as to whether it would be acceptable to field only one team in the 2020 season, as they did not have the playing strength to field two teams each weekend. The Executive have the clear view that allowing clubs that find themselves in a long term weak position would not be helped by agreeing to such a request, which is also against the rules and the principles of the League. Nevertheless it was agreed that the Chairman would attempt to meet with officials from Nortonthorpe to explore what plans they are developing to create a sustainable long term future. A decision would then be made at the next meeting of the Executive in March.

General Secretary Matters - NC

There is currently no sponsor for the 2020 T20 competition.

The Administration Secretary was reminded to ensure that each Club has the necessary Public Liability insurance in place for the coming season

Umpires Matters - RT

It was agreed that the League and UA should do everything they can to support making sure that as many games as possible are staffed with umpires, and that both the club umpire arrangements for 2nd XI cricket and the Clubs themselves would be supported in fulfilling their obligations in 2020.

The Registration Secretary had established the names of at least five Pool Umpires from the 2019 team sheets and will provide them so that contact can be made to establish if they are willing to respond again in 2020.

A lengthy debate took place regarding options for best managing the staffing of games, and the deployment of all panel umpires together with use of pool umpires. The possibility of appointing a person to oversee, on behalf of the League Executive, all umpire arrangements for 2nd XI cricket, working with Club umpires and coordinating the Umpires Pool with the UA was discussed. It was agreed that more work needed to be done on the detail of how this could operate, and a thought through proposal would be brought to the next meeting in March for review and final decision.

It was confirmed that so long as Club Umpires are members and the Club has the insurance recommended by the ECB via Marshall Wooldridge/Allianz then the umpires are fully covered for both home and away matches. Clubs are reminded to make sure that their regular club umpires are DBS'd

Any Other Business

In relation to the letter sent to Holmfirth CC regarding their nomination of C Ridler for the office of League Chairman, HCC had met to discuss this on 30th January, but due to their President being on holiday for one week, immediately after that meeting, they had asked for more time to consider their position and what response they would make, and whether they would take up the offer of a meeting with representatives of the Executive.

It was agreed to await developments and report back at the next meeting in March.

It was agreed that the paper circulated by C McCreddie regarding the concept of a points cap system designed to make cricket more competitive, whilst rewarding player loyalty and production of home grown talent will be circulated and discussed at the March meeting.

The next Executive Meeting will be held on Wed 4th March 2020 at Broad Oak, commencing at 7.00pm