



Walker Timber **HUDDERSFIELD** **PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 5th March 2025

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: General Secretary – N Clee; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior;
Administration Secretary – M Binns; Media Secretary – J Harrison

Life Vice Presidents: G Crompton; R Tindall

Club Representatives: Craig McCreadie; Les Harrison

Apologies

President - W Andrew Sugden; Treasurer - A Hill; Compliance Officer - Mrs Jackie Brook; EDI
Chair – Mushtaq Hussain

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 29th January 2025

Approved.

Matters Arising

Emley Clarence CC

Emley Clarence CC continue to have ongoing discussions with Emley AFC about their ground sharing situation which is becoming more difficult due to potentially unresolvable home fixture clashes on Saturdays in April, August and September. Previously such matters have been amicably dealt with by both football and cricket Leagues agreeing informal arrangements with their respective Clubs that have adapted fixture calendars to accommodate all matches in both sports. However EAFC's movement up the divisions of their League has resulted in the football authorities (Northern Premier League - NPL) wishing to command priority use of the ground, and refuse such adaptations in future.

Representatives of HPCL and ECCC met recently to informally explore possible options that may provide them with some flexibility which might help them resolve these potential fixture clashes.

In the meantime ECCC were reminded of their default obligations that are a fundamental condition of their membership of HPCL, and which must be fulfilled unless agreed otherwise.

Within an outline framework it is now for ECCC to reach a mutual agreement with EAFC. ECCC will keep us informed of developments.

Umpires' Expenses for Premiership and Sykes Cup Matches

These are now confirmed at £67 per match for the 2025 season.

ECB Premier League - TA/NC

HPCL have been informed that the winners of our Premiership will participate in the annual White Rose Cup against other Premier division winners of all ECB PL's in Yorkshire.

Double Sight Screens

All Premiership Clubs are reminded of the need to have double sight screens in place from the first game of the 2025 season on 26th April. Clubs are requested to send photographic evidence to the Administration Secretary showing the screens in place at both ends of your ground.

As a further reminder Championship Clubs are required to put double sight screens in place for the start of the 2026 season, and this includes the two current Conference division Clubs who gain promotion into the Championship at the end of this year.

In response to a requested clarification it is confirmed that the ECB specification guidelines for recreational cricket state that "the size of sight screens must be adequate and appropriate for the size and contours of the ground". HPCL therefore expects that in all cases a single sight screen should be a minimum of 4m wide x at least 4m high, although it may need to be taller if ground contours result in the boundary edge where a sight screen is located being lower than the pitch.

Sight screen coverage at 2025 Premiership grounds should be a minimum of 8m in width, at each end.

Financial Report – TA (on behalf of AH)

The Report confirmed that the finances of the League are in a satisfactory state, with an overall balance of just on £50k. Only one HPCL Club has an ongoing interest free loan.

Thongsbridge owe fines of £30, Birkby Rose Hill £40 and Clayton West £30, and there are monies also outstanding from Clayton West £30 and Upperthong £30 related to the 2024 Presentation Evening.

Disciplinary Report – TA/MB

None

Media Secretary Report - JH

George Sommerville's Sixers Cricket are showing interesting in advertising/sponsorship.

A further problem with copyright legacy images is being dealt with.

EDI Report – MH

None

Clubmark, Safeguarding and Compliance - JB

All Clubs are reminded to review and update your Play-Cricket 'About Us' page. Please ensure that in addition to your Officers (normally Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and sometimes Cricket Manager) your Safeguarding Officer, Club Umpire(s) and Captains details are correct.

The Safe Hands course being run in Huddersfield on 13th March at Almondbury Wesleyans is now fully booked.

All HPCL Panel Umpires are now required to complete the ECB Safeguarding for Umpires training course prior to the beginning of the season. HPCL Club Umpires are also encouraged to undertake this awareness training which is free and only takes 60 mins to complete on-line.

With regard to Junior Hardball cricket teams the YCB development team have arranged a meeting with Linthwaite CC to discuss how to support them to achieve the requirement.

The YCB's Steve Coulthard has already met with Shelley CC and Hall Bower CC and support has been arranged as required.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

There are a huge number of player registrations and transfers currently being processed. Player registrations up to the beginning of March 2025 are now available on the HPCL website.

The non date stamping of many passports and the now frequently used electronic version of some player Visas is making it difficult to understand/interpret key qualifying information on the Category 1 registration application forms of certain players.

Cricket Balls for 2025

2025 LEAGUE Matches:

- Premiership and Championship: Each team shall use its own new Dukes County International 'A' cricket ball.
- Conference: Each team shall use its own new Reader Sovereign Grade 'A' cricket ball.
- Alliance matches: Each team shall use its own ball. It shall be a new Readers Sovereign Grade 'A' cricket ball, or a ball which need not be new, but must be of acceptable quality, approved by the Executive and purchased from the League.

2025 CUP Matches:

- Sykes Cup: New Dukes County International 'A' cricket ball.
- Oddfellows Cup: New Readers Sovereign Grade 'A' cricket ball.
- Paddock Shield & Earnshaw Cup: New Readers Sovereign Grade 'A' cricket ball, or a ball which need not be new, but must be of acceptable quality, approved by the Executive and purchased from the League.

Pre-Season Meetings – TA/MB

It was confirmed that a series of pre-season meetings will be held, including a meeting with all Club Umpires. Meeting dates as follows:

HPCL UA Panel Umpires	Thursday 20 th March	19.30pm	Broad Oak CC
HPCL Club Umpires	Thursday 3 rd April	19.00pm	Almondbury Wesleyan CC
HPCL 1 st XI Captains	Wednesday 9 th April	19.00pm	Almondbury Wesleyan CC

Any Other Business

The next meeting of the HPCL Management Executive will take place immediately following the Meeting of the HPCL Council which is being held at Honley CC on Wednesday 2nd April 2025, commencing at 19.00pm.