



Walker Timber
HUDDERSFIELD
CRICKET LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 1st May 2024

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: President – W A Sugden, General Secretary – N Clee; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior; Administration Secretary – M Binns; EDI Chair – M Hussain; Media Secretary – J Harrison; Compliance Officer - Mrs Jackie Brook

Life Vice Presidents: G Crompton; R Tindall

Club Representatives: Craig McCreadie; Les Harrison

Apologies

Treasurer - A Hill, LVP – R Peaker,

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 5th April 2024

Approved.

Matters Arising

Rain affected Fixtures – April

The meeting considered what to do about the weather cancelled fixture sets of 20th, 27th and 28th April.

The meeting took into account various feedback from Clubs and players which was predominantly in favour of re-arranging the League fixtures for later in the season rather than simply treating the fixtures of 20th and 27th as rain abandoned matches and awarding all teams with 2 points. This feedback was in line with the feedback received last season when Clubs voted overwhelmingly to re-schedule the cancelled first fixture set of 2023.

After careful consideration of the options available HCL has decided that:

The cancelled game of 20th April will be re-scheduled for Sunday 21st July

The cancelled game of 27th April will be re-scheduled for Sunday 1st September

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The cancelled 28th April first round date of the Sykes Cup and Paddock Shield matches has already been deferred to this coming Sunday 5th May.

As a result the following changes have been made to the remainder of the Cup schedules:

The reserve date for 1st round matches is now Sun 12th May (previously nominated as the actual date for the 2nd round).

The new date for second round matches is now Sun 19th May, with a reserve date of 26th May

3rd round matches will proceed as scheduled on Sun 9th June

As a result of the above changes HCL's schedules for the T20 Trophy competition Group week 1 fixtures are re-scheduled from Sun 26th May to Sun 2nd June but the reserve date of Sun 30th June remains unaltered.

Any team still involved in the Heavy Woollen Cup 3rd Round fixtures scheduled for Sun 2nd June will be allowed to honour that HW fixture. This will cause the Group that the involved team is in to be postponed to the reserve date of 30th June.

T20 Trophy Group week 2 fixtures scheduled for Sun 23rd June remain unaltered.

It was confirmed that the draws for the 2nd rounds of the Sykes Cup and Paddock Shield, and the draws for the Oddfellows and Earnshaw Cups would take place on Monday 13th May after the 1st round reserve date of 12th when it is expected that a number of postponed fixtures will take place.

Financial Report - TA

The Report confirmed that the finances of the League are in a satisfactory state, with an overall balance of just over £48k.

Previously outstanding payments from Kirkheaton CC and Almondbury CC have now been brought up to date.

Since last meeting HCL have paid Dukes for Premiership match balls.

Payment of the first year sponsorship has been received with grateful thanks from Walker Timber.

27 out of 40 clubs have paid their annual subs/YCB affiliation etc invoice

Media Secretary Report - JH

Nothing to report.

EDI Report – MH

The ECB has updated their Anti-Discrimination Code, and the meeting confirmed adoption of the updated code which is appended to our League Rules/Handbook – see L1.8.

The HCL website will be updated accordingly.

ECB Premier League & Clubmark Progress – TA, NC & JB

ECB Premier League

Please note important Correction to Minutes of March 2024

Promotion and Relegation into/from the ECB PL divisions (Premiership & Championship)

Clubs in the 2024 Conference Division who aspire to be promoted at the end of the 2024 season are reminded that they **cannot be promoted** into the Championship unless they have gained the Clubmark accreditation for 2025. This has not changed.

However following new guidance from the ECB, HCL will change the way that 2024 Premiership Division Clubs that either do not achieve, or lose, the Clubmark accreditation for 2025 are treated. In such a situation Premiership Clubs will be relegated into the Championship Division for 2025. If that Club then fails to achieve Clubmark in 2025 it will be further relegated into the **Conference** Division for 2026.

Clubmark

Jackie Brook has focussed on Clubs already accredited to Clubmark in 2023, to ensure that they remain fully compliant and maintain their accreditation for 2024 by updating their respective Clubmark Portal and Safe Hands Management System (SHMS).

Jackie continues to work with, and provide support, to all Clubs working towards achieving the accreditation in 2024.

It was agreed that ECB's new request for Leagues to develop and introduce a 'Listening to Children Strategy' would be best handled by HJCL in the first instance. HJCL's Chair was asked to pick this matter up.

It was confirmed that following changes to the DBS verification process, verification of the DBS application of a Club member must be done by an authorised verifier of that member's Club. HCL officers, who previously had the authority to verify a Club member, have now had that authority removed.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

The Registration Secretary was busy with registrations. He had processed more than 200 already and declared them on the website. Also another 60 had been recently processed plus 28 newly submitted applications are being processed now in time for this coming weekend (4th May).

Due to Emley Football Section being awarded a prestigious fixture against Huddersfield Town Emley Clarence CC's 1st XI home fixture on 29th June vs Clayton West will be played at the ground of Holmbridge CC.

Following a number of ground inspections there was concern that a number of outfields in particular would still not be fit to play fixtures on the upcoming weekend of the 4th and 5th.

Umpires - RT

The HCL UA have confirmed to HCL that due to a shortage of Umpires a number of Conference Division games will only be staffed by one Umpire in the upcoming season, including on Sat 4th May, where there will be at least 3x Conference fixtures where it has only be possible to appoint one umpire to officiate.

The acute shortage of Umpires is now hitting hard and despite HCL's extensive efforts (and those of the UA) there is no indication that matters will improve in the foreseeable future.

Any Other Business

None.

The next meeting of the HCL Management Executive will take place at Almondbury Wesleyan CC on Wed 5th June 2024 commencing at 19.00pm