



## EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**In the Chair:** Trevor Atkinson

**Other Officers Present:** President – W Andrew Sugden; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior; Administration Secretary – M Binns; Media Secretary – J Harrison; Safeguarding and Facilities Secretary – R Peaker,

**Life Vice Presidents:** G Crompton; R Tindall

**Club Representatives:** Mushtaq Hussain; C McCreadie

### Apologies

General Secretary – N Clee, Treasurer - A Hill, Media Secretary – Jamie Harrison, Les Harrison, Jackie Brook, M Westoby,

### Minutes of Previous Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Approved.

### Matters Arising

#### Council Meeting Venue

As we search for a suitable and more centrally located venue (see narrative contained in defeated Rule Change Item 1, referring to L3.5.5) Honley CC will be approached with a view to hosting the next HCL Council meeting in April. This will be a trial, and other options are not ruled out.

#### 2023 Awards/Presentation Event

The meeting agreed to consult with Clubs and players regarding the preferred format for the 2023 Awards/Presentation Event. Whichever event style is chosen it will take place on a Friday evening in November.

There are three suggested options:

1. To continue with the smaller gathering format that was developed for 2021 in covid times, and replicated again last year. This informal event, held at Elland CC (or similar type venue), is attended by approx 80 invited guests who are all individual trophy winners (Team winners of Divisions, Trophies, Cups and Shields will be presented their winning silverware and medals on the day of the event or not later than the last game of the season). Hot food is served, but there is no entertainment. Attendance is free, and it costs HCL approx -£500 net to hold the event (excl cost of trophies)
2. To make this format bigger, attracting 100 – 150 persons, still including hot food, but with the addition of entertainment in the form of a comedian. Prize winners and other attendees to pay £12.50. HCL to pick up a likely net cost of approx -£500
3. Return to the big Cedar Court style formal dinner with entertainment being provided by a cricket speaker. Attended by 200 – 250 persons with each Club required to purchase a minimum of 4 x tickets at a cost of £30 - 35 each

It is agreed to consult with Clubs over the next few weeks so that arrangements can be put in place in good time.

#### Experimental Rules for 2023

There has been only a small amount of negative feedback regarding the experimental rules covering both League and T20 cricket for 2023 that were announced last December. It is important to explain that due the Huddersfield cricket community's likely wide variety of views about the structure of things and the best way to evolve them,

coupled with the complexity and breadth of changes linked to the re-structuring contained in the experimental rules it was strongly believed that none of these rules would have been adopted had the normal rule change voting process been followed.

Your Executive Committee's objective has been to catch the mood of the majority, to work out how things fit together for 40 Clubs and 80 first and second teams, playing across seven divisions, and to ensure we have structures in place that support the health of our sport and facilitate the highest quality and most sustainable, future focussed, cricket formats possible.

Furthermore it is anticipated that some aspects of these experimental rules may require adaption in the light of experience and feedback (which is welcomed).

Clubs are also reminded that at the end of the experimental period ongoing changes can only be consolidated into our handbook for the long term when voted on by Clubs, who will undoubtedly speak for themselves and the majority will prevail.

## **Cricket Balls 2023**

In order for Clubs to receive their 12 free cricket balls (provided as compensation for poor quality in 2022) Readers have asked that you reduce your intended order accordingly. Readers will then automatically add 12 balls to your order free of charge and dispatch them all together. In other words if you wish to order 24 balls, please order and pay for 12 balls, and you will receive 24.

Clubs with teams in the Premiership are reminded that you are required to play your 2023 League matches using the higher quality Special County Imperial Crown ball. So please place your order with Readers in good time. The website is already set up with both red balls available. The cost in the 2023 trial period remains the same at £16.50 per ball. You are requested to use up your Sovereign balls in 2<sup>nd</sup> XI matches (including the free 12 mentioned above which will be Sovereign type).

For the avoidance of doubt the higher quality Imperial Crown ball cannot be used in matches other than in Premiership League games (and not Sykes Cup).

## **Finance Report – AH**

The Report confirmed that the finances of the League are in a satisfactory state, with an overall balance of just under £49k.

## **Media Secretary Report - JH**

Nothing to report

## **Match & Registration Secretary Report – PS**

Fixtures and groupings for the 2023 T20 Trophy Group stage and the Shield knock-out competition were drawn as follows:

### **08-Jun-23 Thursday**

#### **T20 Shield**

##### **1st Round**

Meltham V	Shelley
Kirkheaton V	Upperthong
Thurstonland V	Rastrick
Denby V	Linthwaite
Cumberworth United V	Cartworth Moor
Mirfield V	Marsden
Denby Dale V	Holmfirth
Delph and Dobcross V	Elland
Golcar V	Hall Bower
Flockton V	Clayton West
Edgerton & Dalton V	Almondbury
Lascelles Hall V	Armitage Bridge

## T20 Shield Byes into 2<sup>nd</sup> Round - 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

Slaithwaite	V	Holmbridge
Birkby Rose Hill	V	Emley Clarence

### 28-May-23 Sunday

#### T20 Trophy Week 1 Groupings

##### Group 1 All played at Honley

Honley	v	Scholes
Almondbury Wesleyan	v	Moorlands
Honley	v	Almondbury Wesleyan

##### Group 2 at Mirfield Parish Cavaliers

Mirfield Parish Cavaliers	v	Kirkburton
Thongsbridge	v	Barkisland
Mirfield Parish Cavaliers	v	Thongsbridge

##### Group 3 at Broad Oak

Broad Oak	v	Shepley
Skelmanthorpe	v	Hoylandswaine
Broad Oak	v	Skelmanthorpe

### 18-Jun-23 Sunday

#### T20 Trophy Week 2

##### Group 1 All played at Scholes

Scholes	v	Almondbury Wesleyan
Moorlands	v	Honley
Scholes	v	Moorlands

##### Group 2 at Kirkburton

Kirkburton	v	Thongsbridge
Barkisland	v	Mirfield Parish Cavaliers
Kirkburton	v	Barkisland

##### Group 3 at Shepley

Shepley	v	Skelmanthorpe
Hoylandswaine	v	Broad Oak
Shepley	v	Hoylandswaine

Group Matches will start at 10.30am, 13.45pm and 17.00pm respectively.

For a variety of reasons including those connected to Cup fixture schedules of the Heavy Woollen Competition and the Bradford League the dates of the following HCL Finals are being adjusted:

- 6 Aug - T20 Finals Day
- 13 Aug - Sykes Cup Final
- 20 Aug - Paddock Shield Final + reserve date for the Oddfellows Cup and Earnshaw Cup Finals
- 27 Aug - Reserve date for the Sykes Cup and Paddock Shield Finals

## ECB Premier League – TA & MB

### Adoption and Implications of New Codes and Regulations

The meeting confirmed HCL's adoption of the ECB's General Conduct Regulations and Anti-Discrimination Code, which therefore come into force with immediate effect, and will become part of HCL's rules to be set out in the 2023 Handbook.

The General Conduct Regulations contain slightly revised disciplinary rules and procedures. The sanctions that these regulations require HCL to apply are slightly tougher than those applied previously and place a greater responsibility on Captains to manage events and the actions/behaviour of players during matches (especially in fielding situations), and to conduct themselves in a way that sets a good example to others.

Furthermore as part of working towards becoming an ECB Premier League HCL is required to adopt and apply new systems for Captains to mark Umpires officiating in Premiership and Championship matches, and for Panel Umpires to score the quality of cricket pitches used in Premiership and Championship matches. Umpires will continue to score teams for fair play/sportsmanship in the Premiership, Championship and Conference divisions, although using a slightly different scoring system, as now prescribed by the ECB.

Given the new arrangements for general conduct and the new responsibility for Captains to mark Umpires a pre-season Captains meeting will be arranged so that these matters can be fully explained and any questions/concerns ironed out before their introduction.

## **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – Creation of a New Sub-Committee**

A framework for HCL creating an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) sub-committee was agreed. It will comprise seven persons and include at least HCL's Chair and General Secretary, two women and two persons with an ethnic background. Neither HCL's Chair, nor its General Secretary will Chair this sub-committee. Other than HCL's Chair and General Secretary members of this EDI sub-committee do not need to be members of HCL's Executive Committee. Executive member Mushtaq Hussain has agreed to become the first Chair of this new body, and he will set about appointing suitable and interested persons to fill the positions described above. Target is to have this sub-committee up and running well before the start of the 2023 season.

## **EDI Training**

Members of the EDI Sub-Committee are required to undertake anti-discrimination training. Key Officers of HCL are also required to undertake this training.

As part of achieving Clubmark at least one member of the managing committee/managing officers of each Club is required to undertake the same training. This training is undertaken online and takes only 30 - 45 mins and can be accessed via the link below. The training is completed with the taking of a small test at the conclusion of the process.

<https://antidiscriminationrecreationalgame.ecb.co.uk/>

Other Club Officers, Captains and Coaches are also encouraged to undertake this valuable training.

## **Clubmark Accreditation**

Compliance Officer Jackie Brook submitted a report confirming that most Clubs have begun the Clubmark accreditation process. She will shortly be following up with those Clubs who have not. Jackie and YCB's Steve Archer remain available for help, guidance and support.

## **Sunday League - PS**

Norman Clee, Phil Senior and the Clubs involved in the 2022 Sunday League have reviewed the situation for 2023. With the exception of one team all others will be continuing for 2023. A number of potential new Clubs are considering entering a team. They have until the end of February to confirm their intentions.

Thoughts about any rule changes or adaptations should be communicated to Norman Clee as quickly as possible.

## **Umpires**

### **Umpires Fees for 2023**

Umpires fees for 40 over matches in Divisions 6 & 7 (newly named Alliance 3 & 4) will remain at £43. Fees for 45 over fixtures in Divisions 4 and 5 (Alliance and Alliance 2) will increase to £47. Umpires Fees for 50 over matches that are mainly staffed by Panel Umpires will therefore increase to £57, putting in place the £10 differential already announced last year.

### **Club Umpires and their Training**

Following the adoption of the rule change requiring regular Club Umpires to have undertaken at least a basic training Clubs are requested to nominate their regular Club Umpire (or more than one name if the role is shared) whose name will be published in the 2023 League Handbook/website, and for evidence of the training qualification of the Umpire to be submitted to Administration Secretary Mark Binns by no later than the second Saturday in April (7<sup>th</sup>).

### **Club Umpires Officiating in Conference Matches**

The likely strength of the 2023 Umpires Panel means that all Premiership and Championship matches can be staffed by independent Umpires. However there is likely to be a shortfall of Panel Umpires to officiate at every Conference fixture

every week (especially in August). Therefore when there is a shortfall, and in order to ensure that all Conference matches are officiated by two Umpires, the Club Umpire of a home team will, on an occasional basis, be required to step up to officiate at his Club's 1st XI fixture.

The need to do this will be equally shared around Conference teams. When such a situation arises the affected Club is requested to use its best endeavours to provide a stand-in Club Umpire for their 2<sup>nd</sup> XI fixture vacated by their regular Club Umpire stepping up.

Clubs are reminded that, in accordance with rule L9.3.7, failing to provide a Club Umpire at matches will incur a significant fine once it has occurred on more than two occasions in a season. Fines will not be applied as a result of a Club Umpire being required to step up to officiate at a Conference match on the day of the game.

### **Any Other Business**

Support was expressed for Kirkheaton CC who have recently suffered damage to their pavilion. Trevor Atkinson will facilitate access to grant funding from the cricket authorities should this prove to be helpful.

It was confirmed that the use of ECB approved hybrid cricket wickets in both 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> XI matches is authorised.

It was agreed to cancel the February Executive meeting.

**The next League Executive Meeting will be held at Almondbury Wesleyan CC on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023, commencing at 19.00pm.**