



THE RYMAN SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP
Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Monday 14 October 2013– 1930

Location: Wimbledon CC

Apologies:	Virginia Edwards, Chris Evans.
Members Present	60 clubs out of a possible 68 clubs were present.
Clubs not present	Chertsey (apologies), Churt, Cranleigh, Egham, Farncombe, Farnham, Metropolitan Police (apologies), Southern Rail & Kenley.

Minute No.	Item	Action
	Introduction / Apologies	
CO 1/13	Apologies noted above. The minutes were prepared by Graham Jackson.	
	Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on	
CO 2/13	There were no challenges to the accuracy of the minutes and the Committee members present <u>agreed</u> the minutes of the last meeting. They were signed by The Chairman .	
	Matters Arising	
CO 3/13	There were no matters outstanding that would not be covered in the meeting.	
	Chairman's opening remarks	
CO 4/13	The Chairman drew attention to the meeting of the absence of our Secretary, Virginia Edwards owing to illness and that the meeting wished her well at this difficult time. He also asked that anyone wishing to volunteer to take over The Secretary's post should contact him before 16 December as Virginia had indicated that she was standing down at the AGM.	Clubs
	Secretary's Report	
CO 5/13	The Secretary's report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as an Annex to these Minutes.	
	Treasurer's Report	
CO 6/13	The Treasurer's report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as an Annex to these Minutes. The Treasurer had nothing further to report.	
	Year Book Report	
CO 7/13	The Editors report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as an Annex to these Minutes. In the absence of the Editor, there were a couple of queries, principally surrounding the issue of the separate Rule Books (new this season) and the observation that clubs had been issued with perhaps twice as many than were required. This was noted.	CLC

	Disciplinary Report	
CO 8/13	The Discipline report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as an Annex to these Minutes. In the absence of the Chair of the Disciplinary Sub Committee, The Chairman was pleased to report that only eight incidents were dealt with this season which was a substantial reduction on the 2012 season. This was remarkable as more cricket had been played!	
	Umpires Panel Report	
CO 9/13	<p>The Umpires Panel report was circulated prior to the meeting and is attached as an Annex to these Minutes. This detailed a decline in average weekly availability from 48 to 46 and had resulted in some matches having only one panel umpire appointed. As a result, there had been some discussion at the Umpires Panel Meeting the previous day about continuing to cover five divisions. However, from the floor, clubs were keen to maintain the <i>status quo</i> for next season as it was thought that one panel umpire “standing alone” was far more preferable than two “club” members standing. Notwithstanding this, some clubs thought that they had been unfairly treated in the allocation of a single umpire to their matches, although it was explained that on occasions this was due to a late withdrawal of an umpire which was beyond the panel’s control.</p> <p>The Chairman stated that a fund had been set up to encourage the training of umpires and appealed to clubs to assist in putting forward potential umpires for training with a view to eventually joining the panel – subject to minimum qualifications</p>	Umpires Panel
	Dinner Report	
CO 10/13	The Dinner was once again well attended and Geoff Miller was a good speaker.	
	Date of AGM	
CO 11/13	Date of AGM was confirmed as 27 th January 201 at Wimbledon CC. The Chairman indicated that although he was willing to continue hosting meetings at Wimbledon CC he welcomed interest from other clubs willing to do so for future meetings. Clubs wishing to put any motions to the AGM need to have them with the Secretary no later than 16 December 2013.	Clubs
	Cricket Sub-Committee Presentation	
CO 12/13	<p>In his opening remarks The Chairman stated that all clubs, in one shape or form, had participated in the survey, held towards the end of the season, and that he felt that a representative sample of opinion had replied. He introduced Ollly Roland-Jones, Chair of the Cricket Sub-Committee, to talk about the results of the Players Survey and about other aspects and conclusions with a view to introducing next season.</p> <p>These were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3rdXI and 4thXI matches to play limited overs matches only. 2. Whilst the 3rdXI Premier Division would be countywide, other divisions to be regionalised as already circulated. 3. Abolish the use of the “old ball” in the second innings of time matches. 4. To remove “power” plays from all “overs” matches with standard fielding restrictions being applied throughout the match, and simplify 	<p>RPC</p> <p>RPC RPC</p>

	<p>playing conditions in “overs” matches to make more equitable in the instance of interruptions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Introduce a system of bonus points at some stage in the future. 6. Perhaps introduce and rationalize playing times to enable matches to finish earlier. 7. Improve ground equipment to prevent too many possible unnecessary abandonments. <p>In return, from the floor, there were the following observations and reservations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. A view was expressed that starting earlier would deter as many players from turning out as it would assist those players who preferred to finish earlier. 9. An alternative 1-1-3 system was proposed by one club who perceived that they had been allocated to the wrong region at 3rdXI Level and also contended that had their players realised that regionalization would lead to such an outcome they would not have voted as such. 10. Matches to be limited to 45 overs per side at 3rdXI/ 4th XI level. 11. Perhaps leave a mixture of “time” and “overs” matches at 3rdXI and 4thXI level if only to encourage younger players to play / construct an innings on the traditional basis. 12. Limit the number of overs a bowler can bowl in time matches. 13. Devise a system of bonus points for the 2014 season. <p>In his closing remarks The Chairman emphasized that it was imperative to prevent more young players leaving the game. Although he noted the observations of the representatives, the results of the survey had been analyzed and the proposals were the wish of the majority of players.</p> <p>The Chairman also stated that he had come to an agreement with the Fullers League for clubs with 4th / 5th XIs who were not yet playing league cricket, to apply to join the Fullers League 3rdXI competition, to bolster their competition and provide more competitive matches at that level.</p>	<p>RPC RPC Clubs</p> <p>Rules & Playing Conditions</p>
	Rules & Playing Conditions 2014	
CO 13/13	Discussion of the proposed changes to the Rules & Playing Conditions was suspended pending a definite decision on regionalization. Richard Laudy suggested that there would need to be amendments to the Rules & Playing Conditions in any event and asked the meeting if it would acceptable to tender these to the AGM in January without discussion. This was agreed.	RPC
	Any Other Business	
CO 14/13	Clubs were advised to contact the SCB regarding deals / discounts on equipment.	
	Close of Meeting / Next Meeting	

CO 15/13	The meeting closed at 20.55	
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Date of Meeting	14 October 2013
Report From	Secretary
Subject	Various
Analysis	<p>1. Breaches of Playing Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 4th XI conceded games – 17 1st concessions, 6 2nd concessions 3 third concessions, 2 4th concessions and 1 5th concession. b) 1st – 3rd XI concessions: 1st XI – 1. 2nd XI - 4. 3rd XI – 9 c) Slow over rate: 1 club d) Scorecard points deductions: 1st XI – 14 and 3rd XI 8 e) Playing Conditions 11 (f) not playing 1st XI over 2nd XI – 1 2nd XI. f) Playing Condition 15 (c) (12 match PC) 1st XI – 1 g) Captains Reports 1st XI – 4 <p>2. Withdrawal from the Surrey Championship.</p> <p>Metropolitan Police have reluctantly withdrawn from the Surrey Championship due to problems with availability. This is due to a change in the practice of the Met Police in not allow spots leave and not allowing officers to switch duties. This has resulted in a massive drop in availability and they cannot guarantee that they will be able to put out two sides each week. They had a meeting and decided that they would only be able to play representative matches. They have thanked the Surrey Championship for all of the help we gave them in 2012 and the meeting we held with them to try and find a solution to their problems in the hope that they could continue playing in the Surrey Championship.</p> <p>3. Applications to drop players to lower XIs in the last 4 matches are as follows: 17 August – 9, 24 August – 7, 31 August – 8 and 7 September – 8. I am grateful for the members of the Rules & Playing Conditions Sub-Committee for making themselves available on a Wednesday so that I can get the decision out to clubs on a Wednesday evening.</p> <p>4. Wonderful news for the Ryman Surrey Championship is that Wimbledon won the ECB National T20 Competition for the 2nd year in a row. The first time this has been done. Theo Paphitis attended the day with guests and although disappointed that the matches were basically bowl out, he was very pleased that the Ryman Surrey Championship won.</p> <p>5. Once again this year, I have had to undertake work on replying to many emails where clubs have not looked at the Playing Conditions, emails or spreadsheets before calling me. This has involved a lot of time being taken up dealing with enquires which need not have come to me. It is therefore requested that before calling Clubs should look at the documentation already sent out. On several occasions when I have said that the information is in the Year Book or the Rules & Playing Conditions Booklets I have had the reply “it is easier to ask you”. Some of the emails I had were sent using the email I had sent out and the information required was actually answered in the email. Although I am more than willing to help if there is confusion over something it is more than a little annoying when the information is in</p>

the email being used to reply to me.

6. Giving up duties:

- a) I will not be standing for election as Secretary. I have been advised by my specialist that I must give up some of the work I do as she is concerned about my health. My current health situation puts that firmly in view.
- b) I have also advised the Executive that I will no longer run the T20 Competition. David and I have run it since it started and after some problems this year I have decided that now is the time to hand it over to someone else.
- c) I have found that this year, trying to cover all of the work that David and I did, has just not been feasible and I am not prepared to continue working myself into the ground. Whoever takes over from me has my best wishes and I will help with any guidance if required. I would like to thank the many clubs who have worked with me to ensure that we get the relevant information lodged. I would also like to put on record a thank you to all of you who have sent their thanks for the work that I have undertaken for the Ryman Surrey Championship. Hopefully I will be well enough to continue working for the Championship and will see many of you around the circuit next year.

Treasurer's Report to Council, 2013

As the 31 December year-end gets closer the essential financial health of the League remains sound and the best estimate that can be made is that there may be a small surplus on the year providing no unforeseen expenditure requirements arise in the next two months.

It is not pleasing to report that income from fines was up substantially (by some £3,000) in 2013 as compared with the previous year, although it is of course the case that in the absence of such income, club subscriptions would need to be increased. Other income streams have remained broadly unchanged.

In terms of cost reductions, splitting out the Rules and Playing Conditions from the Year Book and identifying a low-cost option for producing them resulted in a substantial overall saving on printing. There was a slightly smaller cricket ball order as a result of a slimmed-down 20/20 competition and a carry-forward of unused balls from 2012. Our main cost increases have arisen from a price-hike on dinner costs by the Oval (the first for several years) which we have chosen to absorb by keeping the ticket price the same as in 2012, and from higher Umpires' fees. Under the agreement with the Panel, there is an annual fees uplift indexed to inflation, but the greater part of the increase in total fees (amounting to nearly £3,000) is due to better weather and more matches played compared with soggy 2012.

The final, audited account will be presented at the AGM as usual. The Executive Committee will look at the accounts, review the trends in income and expenditure and make proposals on club fees for 2014. The Executive recognises that in these challenging financial times, there is an ongoing need for it to maintain downward pressure on costs and to avoid calling on clubs for any more funds than absolutely necessary.

Date of Meeting	Council Meeting – 14 October 2013		
Report From	Chris Evans		
Subject	League Year Book 2014		
Submitted for: <i>(If more than one item, please use a form for each)</i>	Information	Discussion	Discussion & decision
	YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO
Analysis	<p>The Year Book for 2014 to be in a similar format to the 2013 edition. However, some reformatting of statistics pages may occur.</p> <p>The 2013 booklet was full (128 pages). If we want to fit any more information in, the booklet will need to go to the next level of binding (“Perfect Binding” rather than “Saddle Stitching”) which is much more expensive.</p> <p>We were fortunate for this year in that there were very few Representative or Academy matches in 2012 to report on due to the weather thus saving space. For the 2014 booklet hopefully there will be more to report on.</p> <p>In the 2013 Year Book there were 195 club reports included; for the 2014 Year Book there are 205 reports to be included. This immediately potentially adds 3 – 4 more pages. I will need to enforce the club report word limits rigorously and maybe even edit them shorter. You have been warned.</p> <p>Having reviewed the 2013 Year Book any constructive comments or suggestions from the members will be greatly appreciated as I have had very little feedback to date.</p> <p>Photographs from 2013 have started coming in. Most are acceptable however, some are too small (taken on a mobile phone) or in very poor light conditions / backs to the sun etc. Space will be limited so only the best photos will be printed.</p> <p>Reports have started to come in too. Please remember these should be submitted by the Club not as individual teams. Someone from the Club must review all XIs reports as a whole prior to submission to remove ambiguities, duplication and personal feelings. All reviewed reports must be submitted by the October Council meeting or the club will be fined.</p>		
Recommendation/ Decision sought	See above		
Action/s	None – for information only		

Date of Meeting	Council Meeting - Monday October 14, 2013
Report From	John Bramhall
Subject	Disciplinary Committee
Analysis	<p>A very acceptable season with many fewer reports than has been the norm over the last decade. Indeed, in the first half of the season, there were so few reports that we did suspect that one or two of the changes in our IT systems may have led to the “missing” reports being trapped in the ether! But not a bit of it, and many congratulations to all of</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 the umpires for (we can but assume) dealing with many matters on the day, and developing an improving rapport with the clubs; 2 to the skippers for exhibiting a much greater degree of effective control over their teams than has previously been the case; and 3 to the players at all the clubs, whose behaviour has been significantly better than in previous years. <p>In the second half of the season, there was an increase in reports but still less in number and seriousness than in previous years, and again, aside from one occasion where a significant period of debate between club and Disciplinary Committee was necessary before an acceptable solution was fixed upon, clubs again dealt with matters internally, swiftly and effectively, and imposed penalties that the Disciplinary Committee were able to endorse. All in all, then, a very successful season.</p>
Recommendation/ Decision sought	None.
Action/s	Keep our fingers crossed that 2014 can be similarly uneventful.

UMPIRES PANEL REPORT FOR SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 2013

The Panel covered all the 450 matches from Premier to Division 4 during the season. The average availability of umpires fell from 48 each week in 2012 to 46 despite 10 new members joining the Panel over the winter, versus the 50 required to appoint 2 umpires to each match. This decline was due to a higher than expected number of retirements from the Panel and a slight decline in average availability of each Panel umpire. This time last year we had expected that the large number of new Panel members would have meant just about full coverage of all matches.

There were thus 72 matches during the season to which only one umpire was able to be appointed by the Panel, and these tended to be concentrated in Divisions 3 and 4. However each umpire standing alone affects 2 teams, and so clubs in Divisions 3 and 4 would have had 6-8 matches where only one Panel umpire was available. Clubs in Division 2 were also affected and there was one match in the last week when a Division 1 match only had one umpire. Our policy, when only one umpire is appointed is to use an experienced umpire wherever possible (generally someone not in his first season on the Panel), since umpiring alone, standing at the bowler's end throughout, is very demanding. The Panel is extremely grateful for the work of John White and Vernon Fallows in managing the whole appointments process.

As we look today towards next season, our best estimate is that the number of retirements will roughly offset the number of new Panel members, and so total availability will be similar to 2013. It clearly raises the question of whether the clubs want the Panel to continue to cover Division 4, when it is likely to mean only one umpire being appointed to many matches

Duckworth-Lewis was used a little more often this season. Apart from one unfortunate incident when the scorers input the numbers incorrectly, in those matches where it was used, the umpires and scorers worked together successfully to ensure its smooth operation. Experience shows clearly that although not currently a formal requirement, having a printer available at the ground to print off the over-by-over and wicket-by-wicket D-L par scores is seen as essential by the captains. We would strongly encourage all clubs in Divisions where D-L is used to ensure that printers are accessible to the scorers at their grounds.

The Panel continues to act as the pathway to officiating in higher level cricket. Roy Collins, Vernon Fallows and Jeremy Beckwith were appointed to County 2nd XI and Minor Counties fixtures during the season. John White was appointed to a 3-day U-17 international between England and Sri Lanka and Vernon Fallows was appointed to semi-final matches in both the ECB National Cup and the Minor Counties Trophy.

Lastly we would like to thank all the captains who have put considerable thought and insight into their weekly (now online) reports on the umpires. We welcome, encourage and value the specific, constructive feedback on each umpire that we receive from many of the captains.

JEREMY BECKWITH – UMPIRES PANEL CHAIRMAN

Date of Meeting	14 October 2013
Report From	Virginia Edwards
Subject	Annual Awards Dinner
Analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Andy Packham booked the Kia Oval for 4 October. Roger Dakin is to undertake his normal duties and the Geoff Miller has confirmed that he will attend. 2. Virginia Edwards dealt with the bookings and preparing the required paperwork to the Kia Oval for the evening. 3. We currently have bookings for 447. This represents 47 clubs and the guests. 21 clubs are not attending. We had 428 attendees in 2012 so we have an increase of players attending which is always good to see.



The Surrey
Championship Player Overs



SCHEDULE TWO 50



SCHEDULE xxx 50
Overs all other XIs 1