



Meeting Date/Time: Monday 22nd January 2018 – 7.30pm

Location: Wimbledon CC – Lakeside Room

Subject: Surrey Championship Annual General Meeting Minutes

Apologies:	Thames Ditton (Andrew Salter) Churt (Ian Leek) Staines & Haleham (Brett Archer) Haslemere (Michael Walshe)
Committee Members Present:	Peter Murphy (The Chairman), Brian Driscoll (BD), Crispin Lyden-Cowan (CLC), Graham Jackson (GJ), Anthony Gamble (AG), Denham Earl (DE), Jeremy Beckwith (JYB), Chris Evans (CE), Roland Walton (RW), Helen Ross (HR), Paul Taylor (PT)
Clubs Not Present:	Bank of England, Chertsey, Churt (Apologies Above), Guildford City, Haslemere (Apologies Above), Lingfield, Mitcham, Old Whitgiftians, Purley, Staines & Haleham (Apologies Above), Thames Ditton (Apologies Above), Worcester Park

Minute No.	Item	Action
	Apologies for absence	
AGM 01/18	Apologies noted as a above.	
	Chairman's opening remarks	
AGM 02/18	The Chairman noted the full agenda for the meeting and drew attention to the different voting procedure to be used for selected items.	
	Welcome to New Clubs	
AGM 03/18	The Chairman welcomed Teddington Town into the third eleven regional league.	
	Minutes of Annual General Meeting on 23rd January 2017	
AGM 04/18	The minutes were accepted as a true record of the 2017 AGM.	
	Matters Arising	
AGM 05/18	Any matters arising will be covered later in the meeting.	
	Financial Report 2017 and Budget 2018	
AGM 06/18	<p>CLC presented the accounts for 2017 and announced a surplus of £12k in 2017, which means the league has a total fund invested of just over £100k. There was a substantial increase in expenditure and income noted in the accounts during 2017 principally because the balls money is now collected in the league account rather than a separate account.</p> <p>CLC referred to a small loss in the cost of running the annual dinner, as well as on the balls purchase, as the cost of the 1st eleven balls is subsidised. There has been a large decrease in printing costs, as formerly published items are now available as online documents only (including the Year Book)</p> <p>CLC said that the Committee did not aim to make significant surpluses and that the intention was for the bulk of the 2017 surplus to be passed back to clubs, via reduced</p>	

	<p>fee rates. The revised calculation of fees would provide larger reductions proportionately for clubs with 1st XIs in lower divisions although no club would pay more than at present. The reductions will be reflected on the annual invoices to be sent out well before the start of the season.</p>	
	Sponsorship and Partnership	
AGM 07/18	<p>CLC reported that Travelbag have renewed their sponsorship on the same terms as previously. He noted that Travelbag are looking to increase the benefits of the sponsorship agreement and have commissioned a marketing agency to assist them.</p> <p>RW further reported that the marketing agency would work with the league to develop an improved marketing and promotional plan, to lead to a higher level of business for the company than has been seen up to now. One of the plans likely to be taken up is a travelling gazebo branded by Travelbag, visiting clubs around the county, allowing greater conversations between Travelbag and members at clubs. It is hoped that there will be an increase in holidays purchased by league members. RW hopes that there will also be the opportunity for plenty of 'spot' prizes for players throughout the season.</p> <p>CLC announced that the league is delighted to have signed a partnership agreement with Surrey CCC which will see funding from the County Club available for distribution amongst Championship clubs. PT further explained that the partnership is for 3 years, and that this year £15K is available in the form of small grants funding, with the focus being on increasing participation both within junior and senior cricket. Distribution of funds would be in response to requests from clubs and overseen by the Championship and the Surrey Cricket Foundation. More details would be provided to clubs as soon as possible.</p> <p>PT reported that the ECB Small Grants scheme is also currently open for clubs to apply for funding and noted that the county club has been allocated £98K this year to distribute to clubs. The deadline to apply for this funding is 23rd February. All details about the pot can be found on the Surrey Cricket Foundation website here: http://www.surreycricketfoundation.org/news/ecb-small-grants-scheme-launched-for-2018-21434/</p> <p>PT took the opportunity to announce that the Foundation are running two captain and 'player umpire' workshops in April in Guildford and London, which Rory Burns and Gareth Batty will be attending. Further details about these evenings will appear on the Surrey Cricket Foundation website once known. He asked all clubs to encourage their captains and players to attend one of the evenings.</p> <p>In answer to a question PT said that the ECB offer £50k interest free loans to clubs seeking to undertake capital projects.</p> <p>David Hallam from Slate gave a presentation to clubs:</p> <p>Slate is being used by a number of clubs within the Surrey Championship and has had positive feedback from these clubs, so it was felt that it would be useful to share this across the league. It is an App that helps take the away the hassle involved in collecting weekly match fees, helps bring more money into the club, and can also be used for winter nets, annual subs, dinners etc. The link to the presentation can be found here: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N_YS7mYa7Vha8z20ICHog9QpCgUuuHWj/view?usp=sharing</p>	

	Changes to Rules & Playing Conditions	
AGM 08/18	<p>BD explained that each club had been given coloured cards corresponding to the tiers which their teams are in. Clubs are to only vote on those Playing Conditions which are related to the tiers they play in. The voting went as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) JYB explained that the first set of rule changes, which consist of clarifications, corrections of errors and other changes to reflect the new version of the laws of cricket, would be voted for as a block (Point A on 1st page of rule proposal document). Motion Carried. 2) Free Hits for all No Balls except over head-high bouncers to come in line with the professional game. Motion Carried. <p>The next vote was on a proposal to extend Duckworth Lewis into limited overs matches within all Tiers via the use of the designated Duckworth Lewis app. CLC explained that the ECB APP can be used offline and it was stressed that both captains, in matches without panel umpires, must agree with the Duckworth Lewis calculation before setting a par score.</p> <p>AG reported that Duckworth Lewis Stern, which is the system currently used by Tier 1 clubs offers the ability to download a par score per over and per ball, which the ECB APP doesn't allow. Tier 1 clubs would be voting to either stay using the current Duckworth Lewis Stern system, or to switch to the app, which would bring them into line with other Tiers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3) Duckworth Lewis Votes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Tier 2: Motion Carried b. Tier 3: Motion Carried c. Tier 1: Motion Not Carried – To continue to use the Duckworth Lewis Stern. 4) Tier Three – Schedule 9.1.e – part of over shall be considered a whole over. JYB explained that this proposal seeks to bring Tier Three into line with other tiers, in that a part over bowled in the first innings would count as a full over for the purpose of the minimum number of overs in a match. - Motion Carried 5) Constitution amendments – clarifications and correction of errors (not substantive rule changes) – Motion Carried 6) It was proposed to reduce the number of days after a match that captains have to submit their report on umpires from 10 days to 5. It was felt that now this can be done online the greatest value would be found in completing the reports in the week following the matches. – Motion Carried 7) It was proposed to amend the number of matches at the end of the season in which clubs must ask permission to drop a player who has played for a higher side 12 or more times from the last four matches to the last five. Games of significance to the top and bottom of leagues can be earlier than the current regulation reflects and the change would also mean that this playing condition takes effect at the same time as the change of format at that stage of the season. – Motion Carried 	

	<p>8) JYB explained that an addition would be added to the constitution, which means that player umpires do not have the powers to apply the New Law 42 within non-panel umpire games, - Motion Carried</p> <p>9) Walton CC proposed that the 3rd eleven Premier Division changes its start time to more accurately reflect start times in second eleven cricket, which plays a similar format. It is proposed that start times for rounds 1-16 will move from 1pm to 12pm.</p> <p>Streatham & Marlborough voiced a concern over earlier starts, and the impact which this has on junior cricket matches which are often played in the morning prior to senior matches taking place in the afternoon. The Chairman noted that the same point had been made previously and that the league was aware of the concerns from some clubs. Another issue which was noted is that 12pm start times can affect lower elevens who are made up predominantly of junior players who play their games during the morning.</p> <p>Wimbledon suggested that common sense needs to be shown by teams, as grounds may not be available for warm-ups etc at 11am and flexibility will need to be shown. A further observation was that a vote for a change of timings in one division should not only involve those clubs currently in that division as the result of the vote may well affect clubs in other divisions in later years. The Chairman noted that the league is committed to implementing changes that the players want and he would allow the vote to proceed. However, he committed to bringing the issue back to next year's AGM for further consideration. Motion Carried 7 for and 3 against.</p>	
	<p>3rd & 4th Eleven Cricket</p>	
<p>AGM 09/18</p>	<p>The Chairman reported that the terms of the partnership agreement with Surrey CCC commit the Championship to embark on a drive to expand participation first within Fourth XIs and then Third XIs by experimenting with different formats of cricket offered at these levels.</p> <p>The Chairman said that clubs are ultimately in control of the formats which they play but there is a wide range of options for changing 3rd and 4th eleven cricket and the committee will be exploring these with clubs. The next stage will be to consult captains and other club representatives at clubs with 3rd and 4th elevens. He noted that there may need to be a wider range of formats offered within each tier of the league in future seasons and feels that this may reduce the number of concessions occurring at 3rd and 4th team level.</p> <p>The Chairman has been liaising with Gordon Robinson (Fuller's Brewery Surrey County League Chairman) with regards to the 3rd eleven regional leagues, which are currently played under Fuller's playing conditions. It is not proposed to change this in 2018 but it has been agreed that even if no other changes are made come forward in 2019 there needs to be a harmonisation of 3rd eleven Playing Conditions by that year.</p> <p>CLC noted that 3rd and 4th eleven captains will be invited to a meeting prior to the season starting to discuss views and ideas from clubs. It was felt that any changes made within 3rd and 4th eleven cricket need to be implemented as soon as possible. The Chairman suggested that the earliest any changes can be agreed will be for the 2019 season. Guildford feel that there needs to be radical changes to ensure an increase in participation and better retention of players. It was felt that any changes</p>	

	<p>made within the league should be done in line with the Surrey Cricket Foundation, as well as other leagues across the county.</p> <p>PT noted the National Playing Survey findings indicate that 3rd and 4th eleven players wish to play 40 over, win lose cricket.</p> <p>The Chairman noted the complexity which already exists with the Championship's Playing Conditions. It should be recognised that giving players a wider range of formats to choose from would increase complexity further and this would need to be factored in to future debates.</p> <p>PT stressed that need for clubs to come to meetings with a fair representation of their players' views.</p>	
	Overseas Player Registration	
AGM 10/18	<p>The Chairman stated that Overseas Playing Registration has been a difficult topic for the league over the past season, with increased scrutiny from the Home Office. The Chairman feels that this is a complicated area and noted that there are now parallel issues when considering registration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Is the player concerned complying with Visa regulations? and 2) Is information given on Player Registration Forms correct and accurate? <p>There were one or two cases in 2017 of incorrect registrations from clubs, which is not acceptable regardless of whether the club falls foul of the Home Office scrutiny.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the Home Office regulations are expected to remain the same as they were in 2018, although they are likely to be altered in 2019.</p> <p>The league will be further scrutinising Overseas Player Registrations, and it is likely that photographic evidence of passport and Visa requirements will need to be provided along with an application.</p> <p>There will be very little tolerance if it is found that false information has been provided on a player's registration form. Clubs will be contacted about this issue shortly and clubs will be encouraged to confirm that they have received these communications from the league.</p> <p>AG noted that if clubs are seeking advice over a particular player they need to contact either the Home Office, or a Home Office accredited Advisor.</p>	
	Election of Officers and Executive Committee	
AGM 11/18	<p>a) Election of officers and Executive Committee: Proposed on bloc. Proposed by Wimbledon and Seconded by Woking & Horsell. Carried Unanimously.</p> <p>Roland Walton – President Peter Murphy – Chairman Crispin Lyden-Cowan – Treasurer Brian Driscoll – Secretary Denham Earl – Fixture Secretary Anthony Gamble – Registration Secretary John Bramhall Chris Evans Helen Ross</p>	

	<p>Graham Jackson Phil Trayner Alex Anderson</p> <p>b) Jeremy Beckwith – Umpires panel</p> <p>BD reported that no other candidates had been formally proposed to join the executive committee. However, the Chairman noted that Simon Robins and Oliver Roland-Jones had decided not to stand for election to the Committee and at least one replacement was needed. He was extremely grateful for the work they had done for the League over a number of years. Olly had been the sole member of the Committee in recent years who brought with him experience of playing regular Premier 1st XI cricket and this was a gap that it was important to fill. The Chairman was therefore pleased to announce that Neil Baker, currently playing in Banstead' 1st XI, had accepted an invitation to join the Committee as a co-opted member.</p>	
	50th Anniversary	
AGM 12/18	<p>RW reported that this season is the 50th anniversary of the Surrey Championship, and that a 50th anniversary commemorative booklet will be published. RW encourages clubs to share the booklets with their members to read about the history of the league. He noted that there is still some advertising space within the booklets, and please can interested companies contact RW or CE.</p> <p>RW reported that there are many special events taking place during the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 13th April - The 17 original clubs will be invited to the Committee room at the Kia Oval for a reception. • Friday 18th May – Surrey Vs Somerset – the county club will host capped players from Surrey Championship clubs along with a representative from the clubs from which they came. • Thursday 7th June: The Surrey Championship will be playing an Australian aboriginal eleven at the Kia Oval. The Australian eleven will have one or two first class players within their team. JB will undertake the selection process for this fixture. • Sunday 8th July: Surrey Championship day at the Kia Oval. Surrey Championship fixture on the square at the Kia Oval, following which representatives from the Surrey Seniors will be taking on a Surrey Masters eleven. • August – Surrey Championship Eleven Vs a Travelbag Eleven. • 5th May – Sutton Vs Banstead which is a replay of one of the early competitive fixture of the league. • Last league fixture of the season – end of season BBQ at a club. <p>Further details about all events will published in due course. If clubs have any ideas for further events, please provide any feedback to RW.</p>	Clubs
	Dates of Future Surrey Championship Meetings	
AGM 13/18	<p>A. Balls and Year Book Collection – 11th April 2018 at Wimbledon CC</p> <p>B. Annual Dinner – TBA at Kia Oval. The Chairman noted that the 19th October is a potential date for the dinner.</p> <p>C. Council Meeting – 15th October 2018 at Wimbledon CC</p>	

	Any Other Business	
AGM 14/18	<p>Surrey Championship T20 Competition – PTR will be taking on the organisation of the T20 competition in 2018. PTR thanked Simon Robins for organising the competition in previous years. The format of the competition will change slightly in 2018, with Round Two being played at 8 venues on the second bank holiday in May with four teams attending each venue. The winner from each venue will go through to the quarter finals of the competition. The communication on entries will go out shortly, and please can any feedback be sent to PTR.</p> <p>JYB reported that the laws of cricket have been completely rewritten and noted that the Surrey ACO are hosting 3 events across the county which are open to all players and officials. Details on how to book are on the latest communications to clubs, and please can all clubs pass the information on to members. CLC noted that the Championship will cover the £5 cost of any participant attending from Surrey Championship clubs.</p> <p>The Chairman said that the league had once again found difficulty in producing fixtures as early as they had been promised. There are various reasons for this, but the number of special requests from clubs to avoid having 1st XI fixtures at home on particular dates when their main ground is not available is a major factor, especially when some of these dates are not known specifically at the time the fixture-making process ought to be starting. The Chairman stated that he is renewing their commitment to publish the fixtures at an earlier date. As such there will be a hard deadline for clubs to submit requests for fixture dispensations. The league is investigating using the Play Cricket fixture generating function rather than its existing software package, but it is not yet clear whether it will cope with the particular demands we put on it, including the need to make fixtures also within the Fullers' League as part of a single process.</p> <p>HR asked clubs to complete their Club Information Sheets within Play Cricket, and HR will notify clubs via the system where sheets are outstanding.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.30.</p>	Clubs