



TRAVELBAG SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP

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THE TRAVELBAG SURREY CHAMPIONSHIP Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Monday 15th October 2018

Location: Wimbledon CC

Apologies:	Alex Anderson (Executive - AA), Roland Walton (Executive - RW), Valley End CC, Dorking CC
Members Present	Peter Murphy (The Chairman), Helen Ross (HR), Denham Earl (DE), Crispin Lyden-Cowan (CLC), Brian Driscoll (BD), Denham Earl (DE), Graham Jackson (GJ), John Bramhall (JB), Mark Babb (Minutes)
Clubs not present	Alley, Bank of England, Chessington, Cobham Avorians, Cranleigh, Dorking (Apologies above), Hampton Hill, Haslemere, Merrow, Old Whitgiftians, Purley, Sinjungrammarians, Staines and Laleham, Thames Ditton, Valley End (Apologies above), Worcester Park

Minute No.	Item	Action
	Apologies for absence	
C/O 01/18	Apologies noted as above.	
	Minutes of last meeting – 16th October 2017	
C/O 02/18	It was noted that there had been some opposition to the Super Monday proposal for the T20 Edwards Cup, not no opposition as stated on the minutes.	
	Matters arising	
C/O 03/18	No matters arising.	
	Chairman’s opening remarks	
C/O 04/18	The Chairman has no specific remarks to make.	
	Sponsorship	
C/O 05/18	Travelbag have verbally committed to one further year of sponsorship. The league is also actively seeking sponsorship from other sources, either to utilise alongside the existing Travelbag deal, or should the Travelbag Sponsorship end.	
	Finances and future fee levels	
C/O 06/18	CLC reported that the league will break even this year. He noted that a large tax rebate had been received, which has meant that finances are in good health. Around £15,000 of Surrey Cricket Foundation / Surrey Championship grants were given out to clubs in 2018, and CLC urged clubs to apply for funding in 2019, as there is still money in the pot. Clubs	



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	<p>can apply for funding for a wide variety of projects, although they will be required to evidence an impact on participation. A list of the projects which have been funded will be sent out in the next newsletter along with a link to the funding criteria.</p> <p>CLC noted that this year had seen a reduction of around £10,000 in the total subs collected from clubs. He reported that there will not be an increase in subs, and that he will try and reduce the subs for some clubs if he is in the position to do so as he would like to keep money within clubs where possible.</p>	HR
Playing Conditions in the new 3rd / 4th X1 Structure		
C/O 07/18	<p>There was an objection to the proposal to move to limited overs games across the whole season from several clubs. It was felt that timed games give younger players the opportunity to learn their skills, and that these games can be more enjoyable than limited overs games. It was suggested that the points system needs to be improved to give more incentive for clubs to go for the win rather than blocking out for a draw. Feedback from Wimbledon’s younger players suggested that they wanted to play limited overs cricket only. Old Rutlishians reported the opposite from their younger players, who enjoy playing the timed format. Ashford advised that playing timed cricket in 3rd and 4th elevens allows younger players to prepare to make the transition to higher elevens which is encouraged. Reigate Priory are in favour of having a combination of timed and limited overs cricket in the Premier Division and Division One. Spencer questioned whether those in attendance at the meeting are truly representative of players views. CLC noted that a large majority of the players who took the survey indicated a preference to play limited overs matches throughout the season. Guildford feel that the major issue facing cricket is recruitment and that shorter overs matches are the way forward to attract new players, and to encourage lapsed players back to the game. Epsom feel that the small changes proposed will not have a major impact on participation levels. Spencer would like to see a consistency of format throughout all tiers, which will help players move between teams. Sanderstead have polled their younger players, the results from which suggested that they would like to play a 40 over format. Esher feel that consideration needs to be given to those players who play regularly throughout the season, as well as to younger players within clubs.</p> <p>It is proposed that ‘Tier One’ play 50 overs games, ‘Tier Two’ 45 overs, and ‘Tier Three’ 40 overs. Reigate Priory would like to see an 80 over (40-40) game in all divisions. It was suggested that a shorter timed game could offer good middle ground, but others in the room felt that a</p>	



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worthwhile timed game should be a minimum of 100 overs. Players from Kingstonian are of the view that there is no real difference between 40 and 45 over games and would prefer to play the slightly longer format. It was felt that a shorter game gives captains less opportunity to give their younger players a game. East Molesey felt that 45 overs are a suitable length of game for 4th elevens.

Premier and Division One matches are proposed to start at noon, with matches in the lower divisions to start at 1pm, unless both captains agree in the week prior to the match, in which case a match can start up to 1 hour earlier. In principle it was felt that having flexibility in start times is a good idea. It was noted that a change in start time would have to be agreed by both parties. Spencer feel that the proposal could prove problematic and suggested that there is no need to have flexible start times. The Chairman noted that the earliest start time of 12pm had been proposed, as although the league wanted to give clubs some flexibility, they wanted to avoid a situation where a club could gain an advantage by starting extremely early, say to avoid bad weather. Some clubs felt that the start times should be set in stone, as having flexibility could cause problems throughout the season. A question was raised whether the executive had discussed 2pm start times for 40 over matches, which they hadn't. One club felt that finish times are more important than start times, as younger players often want to go out and socialise after games. Other clubs felt that start times are important as either their players work on Saturday mornings, or they have junior fixtures taking place. It was noted that matches in a league affect all ten teams, not just the two teams involved, as such the flexible start times could have a wider impact on a division rather than just on the two teams playing.

It was proposed that two sides from the same club will not be able to play in the same division. This would either mean the side in the lower division being relegated, or the higher side avoiding relegation should they be dropping down into a division in which their lower side already plays. Sunbury questioned the reason behind the rule, and several clubs felt that there is no need for this to be introduced. It was felt that there was a very small chance of this occurring. MA noted that in Hockey, fixtures between two sides from the same club are played in the 1st and 10th rounds which minimises the affect that the fixtures will have on a division. It was felt that selection for these fixtures is easily monitored. Streatham and Marlborough feel that these proposals create an artificiality around divisions with promotion and relegation not being decided purely on results. East Molesey feel that sides from the same club should be kept apart, as they enjoy visiting a variety of clubs during



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	<p>the season.</p> <p>CLC suggested that a decision on a Playing Condition need not be taken now, but instead discussions could be held at council meetings prior to a season where a conflict is due to occur.</p> <p>It was felt that lower teams should not be able to overtake higher teams (A 4th eleven will not be promoted above a 3rd eleven)</p> <p>The Chairman noted the wide range of views which had been given. He feels that the major decision to be taken is whether to move to a limited overs only format. He reported that the executive would bring forward suggested Playing Conditions to the AGM in January. The Chairman favors a 3-tiered structure which allows clubs the opportunity to vote on Playing Conditions relevant to their own tier. The Executive will consider whether to bring the proposal for flexible start times forward to the AGM as there was little appetite in the room for this. The Chairman also noted the greatest appetite in the room was to allow two teams from the same club to play in the same division. The Chairman is thinking about instigating a further consultation with clubs within the upcoming weeks to help drive the proposals brought forward to the AGM.</p> <p>CLC reported that the league uses Play Cricket to communicate with clubs and urged each club to check and update their contacts on their own Play Cricket site, to ensure that communications are being sent to the appropriate contacts. HR reported that there is an article on the league website advising how to update contacts, but clubs can contact her if they are having any issues. No contact information is collected centrally, and it is up to clubs to keep their contacts up to date. The results from the 3rd and 4th eleven survey will be distributed to clubs. Difficulties are often found on who to send communications to, as the executive would like to avoid sending information to too wide of a distribution list. Although important correspondence requires a response from club Chairmen, the majority of correspondence is distributed to multiple representatives within a club.</p>	HR
	Other Playing Condition changes proposed by the Executive Committee	
C/O 08/18	<p>The Chairman reported that the league does not have a major solution to the problem of concessions, and that the league does not want to unduly punish clubs who are unable to raise sides, as they want to encourage participation where possible. It was noted however that where clubs have had many concessions this will have a large impact on the league table, and where clubs are expelled and their results are removed towards the end of the season this has an even bigger affect. As such it is</p>	



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	<p>suggested that the executive take decisions on expulsion prior to the start of August. Old Wimbledonians suggested trialing the new format for a year, and then potentially moving to divisions where clubs only play one fixture against each other, which means the loss of only one fixture should a club either drop out of the division or be expelled. The Chairman noted that data from the previous season had shown that there was a significantly larger number of concessions in August than in other months. Clubs should concede fixtures prior to midday on a Thursday to allow their opposition enough time to arrange an alternate fixture. Some clubs felt that the Thursday lunchtime deadline is too late, as it doesn't allow them enough time to find an alternate fixture. The Chairman feels that the deadline given is arbitrary as clubs often don't take this into account when selecting teams for games. CLC asked clubs who are conceded against to inform the league who will then try to assist in putting fixtures together towards the end of a week.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that an issue of communication had occurred following an over rate penalty issued to a club during the season, where the club were unaware that they had received a penalty until a significant time after the game. Following this two points have been proposed – 1) the league will send written correspondence to the club after the match to inform them that they have been given an over rate penalty. 2) Clubs will not be able to appeal against over rate penalties issued by umpires during matches.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that errors in the Tier 3 Playing Conditions are to be addressed, relating to the start times and end times listed. CLC / PM suggested that any views that clubs have on this point are to be addressed to Alex Anderson (Chair of Rules and Playing Conditions Committee). The Chairman requested that clubs flag any Rules and Playing Conditions which are causing concern to the executive committee who will consider each one on an individual basis.</p>	
	20/20 Edwards Cup	
C/O 09/18	<p>The consensus was the move to the Super Monday format was successful, despite some issues found with clubs dropping out of the Bank Holiday fixtures at the last minute. It was felt that this may have been caused by the location of the Super Monday host clubs which meant large travel times for some clubs, who were then unable to fulfill their fixtures. Sunbury would like to see a Super Over decider for a tied game rather than a bowl out, which would bring the competition into line with the professional format. In particular it was felt that this rule needs to be introduced for final's day matches. It was noted that a bowl out would be more appropriate where weather or bad light has an impact.</p>	



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	Weybridge Vandals enquired whether the number of wickets lost is considered when deciding the winner of a tied game, and it was reported that this method had been used in previous years.	
	Yearbook	
C/O 10/18	Clubs to send their reports and photos in to Chris Evans as soon as possible, as the deadline for these reports to be submitted is today!	Clubs
	Fixtures	
C/O 11/18	<p>HR reported that the fixtures for the 2019 season will be created via Play Cricket, and that these should be distributed in around 4 weeks' time.</p> <p>The 2019 season will start on 11th May and finish on September 7th. Start and end dates for future seasons can be found on the website.</p> <p>HR asked clubs who groundshare to note this on Play Cricket, so this can be considered when the fixtures are set.</p>	
	Any other business	
C/O 12/18	There being no other business the meeting closed at 21.08.	