

DARLINGTON
Building Society

North Yorkshire & South Durham ECB Premier Cricket League

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at
Billingham Synthonia Cricket Club on Monday 28th November 2016

PRESENT

President C.W.West, General Secretary D. Watchman, Treasurer D. Stanwix, Fixture Secretary, N Hutchinson, Results Secretary G. Smith and Vice President A.B.Bainbridge.
Representatives of all clubs in the League with the exception of Marske and Preston

Before dealing with the agenda items the president asked all attendees to stand and observe a minutes silence in memory of Stewart Clarke and Keith Hopper who had passed away in the last twelve months. Both men were League vice-presidents, Mr Hopper having served for many years on the committee, with Mr Clarke being a long serving general secretary and treasurer of the League.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

S. Donlan

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 7th December 2015, which had been previously circulated to all clubs, were signed as a true record.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2015

The report was received and adopted. On behalf of the member clubs the president thanked the general secretary, who was officially retiring after this meeting, for the work he had done for the League over the eight years he had been in office.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Copies of the audited accounts were distributed to clubs before the start of the meeting. The president gave an overview and explanation of the key items comprised in the accounts. There were no queries raised from the floor and the final accounts for financial year 2015/2016, as presented and certified by Anderson and Barrowcliff, were unanimously adopted.

HONORARIA

Honoraria for 2017 had been increased by the LMC as follows:

General Secretary:	from £750 to £800
Treasurer:	from £450 to £500
Fixtures Secretary:	from £450 to £500
Results Secretary:	from £450 to £500
Umpires Coordinator:	from £700 to £750

In accordance with Rule 11 honoraria require ratifying at AGM. The revised honoraria were ratified by the meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President – Mr. C.W. West had been nominated by Stokesley and was seconded and duly re-elected.

As only one nomination had been received for each position, the president suggested that the nominations for re-election of existing officials and the election of Umpires Coordinator should be taken en bloc and this was agreed by the meeting.

The nominations were:

- a) **General Secretary** – Mr. J Dykes had been nominated by Barnard Castle
- b) **Treasurer** – Mr. D. Stanwix had been nominated by Barnard Castle
- c) **Fixtures Secretary** – Mr. N. Hutchinson had been nominated by Normanby Hall
- d) **Results Secretary** – Mr. G. Smith had been nominated by Blackhall
- e) **Umpires Coordinator** – Mr. D. Oliver had been nominated by the LMC

The nominations were seconded with all being duly elected. The president welcomed the two new officials and paid tribute to the work done for the league by Mr M Kirkbright who had retired as Umpires Coordinator.

- f) **Hon. Auditor** – Anderson Barrowcliff had been nominated by the Management Committee and were seconded and duly re-elected.

g) **Management Committee** –

The president suggested that the nominations for re-election of existing committee members, of which there were eight, should be taken en bloc and this was agreed by the meeting. The nominations for re-election were:

- Mr. A.B. Bainbridge nominated by Middlesbrough
- Mr. T. Briddock nominated by Stokesley
- Mr. M. Christon nominated by Wolviston
- Mr. Steve Clarke nominated by Marton
- Mr. S. Donlan nominated by Guisborough
- Mr. K. Forbes nominated by Richmondshire
- Mr. C. Nicholls nominated by Guisborough
- Mr. D. Austin nominated by Marske

The president thanked the re-elected officials and members of the committee for the outstanding work they had done over the last twelve months and continued to do on behalf of the member clubs.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The address began with a reminder to the members that the League was founded on the 3rd November 1892 and therefore the coming 12 months represented the NYSD's 125th anniversary year.

Only one or two senior leagues in world cricket can boast such longevity, but ironically the game of cricket itself now stands at the crossroads, with a further fall in participation seen during 2016. The number of players, officials and, crucially, volunteers seemed to be dwindling and the fourth National Player Survey undertaken by the ECB during the summer had not produced any surprises.

The ECB's new five-year strategy to address these issues, called Cricket Unleashed, had still to be fully unleashed, with the 2017 emphasis to be on the new All Stars Cricket programme, aimed primarily at 5 to 8

year olds, and womens and girls cricket – this to coincide with the Womens World Cup being held in England next year.

The ECB were urging leagues to promote and pursue change to meet the changing lifestyles and demands of players, and even though the NYSD were a UK leader in change and initiatives, having instituted major reforms over the last decade via their 2004 business plan, there was still need to be vigilant and respond to current playing dynamics. They had done so via insight gained from an internal NYSD player survey undertaken in August and September.

It was considered pleasing that 2017 was likely to see the most competitive cricket ever at all levels in the NYSD following the successful completion of the two year league re-structuring programme, and allied to the new structures in cup and junior cricket the League continued to be at the very forefront of innovation and change.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE

Resignations

Redcar and Sildon had withdrawn their second teams from Division 3 during the 2016 season.

Applications

No applications had been received.

As previously agreed the league would expand to 5 Saturday divisions in 2017 with 8 teams in Division 4 and 12 in each of the other divisions.

ALTERATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO RULES AND PROPOSED NEW RULES

These had been circulated to all clubs in early November with full explanatory commentaries attached.

LEAGUE RULES – PROPOSED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UNLESS NOTED

Rule 1

The proposed alteration was needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions – this had been a result of the league re-structure agreed at previous AGM's and a vote was not therefore required as the change would be automatically adopted.

At this point the Darlington RA representative correctly pointed out that the number 6 on line 2 of the rule would have to be altered to 7 in order to comply with the agreed changes.

Rule 13a (Match regulations for Batting Bonus Points)

The proposal was passed by majority. For 15 Against 13

Rule 13b

The proposed alteration was needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions which had been agreed by previous AGM's and was therefore adopted.

Rule 13c (Player Selection Regulations)

There were three proposed amendments to this rule and accordingly the president proposed a structure to navigate through the maze.

Firstly, the proposal by the LMC was set against the proposal by Whitby to determine which one should be considered against the proposal from Darlington RA.

The LMC proposal was passed by majority. For 28 Against 4.

The LMC proposal was therefore then set against the Darlington RA proposal.

The LMC proposal was passed by majority. For 28. As there was a significant number in favour the number voting against was not taken.

The meeting did agree that the rider, added by Darlington RA to their proposal should it be defeated, would be adopted.

Rule 13c (Player Selection Regulations Saturday Divisions)

The proposed alteration was needed to comply with the previous proposal and was agreed without a vote.

Rule 13c (Player Selection Regulations Sunday Divisions)

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 26.

Rule 13f (New Rule)

The proposal was passed by majority. As this only affected Premier clubs the voting rights were restricted to those clubs. For 7 Against 4

Rule15 (Promotion and Relegation)

The proposed alteration to wording was needed following the restructure of the divisions and was therefore adopted without a vote.

Rule 24 (Umpires)

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 33.

GENERAL CUP REGULATIONS

Rule 4

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 29.

Rule 5

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 26.

At this point the Darlington RA representative correctly pointed out that the NYSD 15's Rule 9f would have to be altered in order to comply with the agreed change.

CUP REGULATIONS

Kerridge Cup

Rule 4

Rule 6

Rule 7

The president suggested that the above 3 proposals were taken together as they were complimentary and this was agreed by the meeting.

The proposals were passed by significant majority. For 30.

Rule 8

The proposed alteration was only a clarification of the existing rule and was adopted without a vote.

NYSD 15's COMPETITION

Rule 2

The proposed alteration was a wording change needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions and was adopted without a vote.

Rule 3 (Player Qualification Division 1 Competition)

Rule 3 (Player Qualification Division 2/3 Competition)

Rule 7a (Heading)

Rule 7a (Delete Qualifying round)

Rule 7b (Heading)

Rule 7b (Group Positions)

The president suggested that the above 6 proposals were taken together as they were complimentary and this was agreed by the meeting.

The proposals were passed by significant majority. For 32.

BYE LAWS

Bye Law 10 (New)

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 30.

KEN WELSH CUP

Rule 2

Rule 3

The 2 proposed alteration were wording changes needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions and were adopted without a vote.

RAY BELL CUP

Rule 3

The proposed alteration was again needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions and was adopted without a vote.

ROBINSON CUP

Rule 2

The proposed alteration was again needed to comply with the expansion to 5 Saturday divisions and was adopted without a vote.

GENERAL - FIELDING RESTRICTIONS IN CUP COMPETITIONS

Rationalize rules Kerridge 7, Macmillan 7, Haith 8 and 15's 9.

The proposal was passed by significant majority. For 29.

LEAGUE RULES - PROPOSAL FROM CLUBS

Rule 25 (Registration of Players) Proposed by Whitby

The proposal was passed by majority. For 15 Against 14

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. The president reminded the meeting of the Introductory Umpires Course to be held at Darlington and urged clubs to try and send at least one member.
2. The president issued a request to all clubs to review and ensure all their safeguarding duties were up to standard and reminded them to ensure that all relevant people were DBS certified.

3. The president reminded the meeting of the advantages of having their club website up to date. Response to the data cleansing initiative had been poor and it was suggested from the floor that provision for including the players email address on all registration forms may help with the problem.

The president pointed out that the vast majority of players were already registered and therefore this would not help in data cleansing. Whilst data cleansing sounded complicated all it involved was for clubs to ensure that all players registered on play-cricket had up to date e mail details in their registration, and then had the tab accepting receipt of ECB player-communications switched on. This had proved to be effective in keeping players engaged and more likely to continue playing, so it was important.

4. The president warned clubs of the need to have everything in place when registering an overseas player, either professional or amateur. At a recent meeting at Lords, attended by a Home Office representative, it had been made clear that players in other leagues had entered the country last season on the wrong visa and any clubs transgressing were likely to be held to account by the HO in the future.

5. The president reported that Stephen Brenkley had agreed to attempt to fill in the gaps in the League's history between 1993 and 2008 where records were currently missing. All clubs were asked to cooperate with Mr. Brenkley in this venture which was most appropriate in the 125th anniversary year. Details would be forwarded before Christmas to give clubs an opportunity to work on this during the close-season.

6. The president thanked everyone for taking part in this year's GNAAS initiative.

There being no further business the president thanked all for attending and passed on his best wishes for the forthcoming festive season.