

**Darlington Building Society**  
**North Yorkshire & South Durham ECB Premier Cricket League**

**Minutes of Management Meeting held at the Springboard Centre, Stokesley**  
**on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2017.**

**PRESENT**

President C W West, A B Bainbridge, D Stanwix, N Hutchinson, G Smith, D S Oliver, S Brenkley, T Briddock, S Donlan, C Nicholls and General Secretary JJ Dykes. (11)

The president welcomed the newly co-opted S Brenkley to the committee.

**APOLOGIES for ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from D Austin, S Clarke, M Christon and K Forbes.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2016 were signed as a correct record.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**League Newsletter**

The first edition of the newsletter had been successfully issued, and was also available by menu link on the NYSD website. It was hoped to produce one on a monthly basis, so contributors were needed. The concept of linking it to Twitter was also raised.

**League Photographer**

Mark Fletcher had been advised of the confirmation of his appointment for the 2017 season.

**Stationery Order**

This had now been placed with DBS by the general secretary.

**FIXTURE SECRETARY**

Following the item in the last minutes the June 19<sup>th</sup> Junior League South fixture between Richmondshire and Stockton would now have a start time of 6.30pm to accommodate a potential clash of demands on the ground. This followed the League's standard procedure covered by precedent, in that the option of a later start time be utilised or the fixture reversed.

**UNDER 19 COMPETITION**

There would be 13 entrants in this year's competition with fixtures to be compiled shortly.

**Resolved: that the format be three groups (2x4, 1x5), with group winners being joined in the semi-finals by the runner-up with the best net run rate.**

## **NYSD MASTERS**

It was reported that 8 entries had initially been advised. 7 of those had confirmed their involvement, a response from the 8<sup>th</sup> was still awaited. Those eligible to play were registered club players 40 or over as at the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017. The format had been confirmed at the January meeting.

## **RESULTS SECRETARY**

GS was in the process of producing a list of all NYSD players currently registered as category 3E in order that the president could write to all clubs concerned to remind them of their obligations in respect of registration, in particular the new registration form that must be used.

## **GTGO**

The president, results secretary and TB had attended the Headingley presentation on the 8<sup>th</sup> February, which had proved reasonably useful. It concentrated on the benefits of the digital toolbox produced by the ECB as part of the campaign. Of particular interest were the various methods of reaching players digitally, although concerns were expressed about the potential difficulties of controlling open Facebook groups. The president commented that the potential BT secondee could be useful in assisting the league in this area.

## **DATA CLEANSE**

The ongoing issue of data cleanse by clubs was discussed, and the need for the league to re-inforce the message about the value. An updated data cleanse summary of all NYSD clubs would be produced by GS to assist with the monitoring of this primary club target.

## **PLAY-CRICKET / LIVE SCORING 2017**

The president reported on the failure of CricHQ (which incorporates TCS) to win the recently awarded ECB contract as the preferred scoring system for P-C, and commented particularly on the potential problems this may cause for clubs regarding transfer of match scores to Play-Cricket. It was further noted that scores recorded on TCS may not be up-loadable this season, leading to a need for manual loading of scores, manual input of players etc.

It is expected that something more will be known towards the end of March, but the NYSD had expressed their serious concern directly to the ECB at the timing and potential impact of this. The League have asked to be kept fully abreast of essential matters as they become known.

## **GENERAL SECRETARY**

### **Registrations**

It was reported that the following transfers and registrations had been recorded.

### **Amateur Transfers**

Joe Clarkson from Northallerton to Darlington  
Michael Croft from Marton to Great Ayton  
Andrew Walker from Bilton to Bishop Auckland  
Chris Veazey from Normanby Hall to Marske  
Chris Witherley from Normanby Hall to Marske  
Greg Upton from Shildon Railway to Barnard Castle

### **Amateur EQ Player Registration**

Aadil Baksh - Wolviston

### **Professional Registration**

Kashif Ali - Seaton Carew

Lee Hodgson - Marske

### **Overseas Amateur**

Matthew Perilli - Marton

Aamir Samaai - Normanby Hall

The application from Seaton Carew to register Thomas Ewing had been lapsed following appearances at State under 19 level in Australia which meant the newly introduced 'player pathway' managed migration regulations could not be met.

### **Application for Refund of Registration Fee**

Seaton Carew requested that LMC consider the refund of the fee for the application to register Thomas Ewing as an Overseas Amateur.

**Resolved: that given the amount of admin work already carried out, no refund would be awarded, but that the Club be advised that no fee would be required for their next similar application.**

### **Paid Employee Registration**

Matthew Perilli – Marton – P/t Groundsman (contract viewed).

### **General Secretary's Postal Arrangements**

It was reported that for a period in May and June, the postal arrangements of the General Secretary may be affected. Normal electronic (email etc.) arrangements would be unaffected.

**Resolved: that clubs be circulated with advice nearer the time regarding postal contact (transfer applications etc.) during that period, and club officials be asked to back up all postal applications with email notification.**

### **MANAGED MIGRATION**

There had been further developments since the last meeting, the critical ones being:

**Player pathway definition** - A player may be considered to be on a "Pathway" and therefore classified as a "Professional Sportsperson", if that person has played cricket **above** U17 at state/ province/ territory level (paid or unpaid) in any country.

Furthermore, this is not time limited. For instance, if a player played for Western Australia under 19s ten years ago, and only played club cricket since, he would still be defined as a 'professional sportsperson'. Representations are currently being made by the NYSD and numerous other leagues for the ECB/Home Office to revisit this approach which would appear profoundly unjust.

**Visa Matrix** – it is hoped this may be made available to clubs shortly.

**Category 3E players** – all must be registered annually. New forms have been issued to all clubs and are available on the website.

### **TREASURERS REPORT**

The Treasurer reported a bank & cash balance of £29,632.14. Contingent liabilities remained at £3,856.60. The insurance policy had been renewed, and the Joe Lumb entry fee and LCC subs for 2017 had been paid.

Receipts had been received for all tickets bar one for the presentation evening, which was showing a surplus in the region of £1,500 – less the £823 due to the GNAAS account.

The new bank account with Barclays was now open, and in use.

**Resolved: the Treasurer to contact clubs in respect of payment procedures to the new account.**

## **GNAAS**

The GNAAS Account held £6,028.89. A transfer of £823 needed to be made from the League account to the GNAAS account in respect of the funds raised for the charity at the presentation evening. Once complete a final reconciliation would be made.

## **UMPIRE CO-ORDINATOR**

### **Umpire Courses**

It was reported that the Level 1 course examinations were to take place on Monday 27<sup>th</sup>, with re-sits (if any) on March 13<sup>th</sup>. It was hoped to achieve around 12 active new umpires for the new season.

The League has 5 candidates going for the Level 2 course at the Riverside on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March. If all are successful, the League grant towards course fees etc. will total £375 (50% grant funded).

### **Coloured Clothing For Cup Cricket**

Discussions had been going on for the last month between TAG, the umpires coordinator and the president with a new design for light blue polo shirts and jacket tops agreed. To help umpires defray the cost of purchase the League would look to subsidise the 'package' of polo plus jacket by around £20 each. This would mean support of in excess of £1,000 in the coming season.

**Resolved: Purchase assistance by the League confirmed at the stated figure.**

### **Umpires' Winter Seminar**

The annual pre-season training meeting was confirmed as being held at Stokesley CC on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March. A buffet, paid for by the League, would be provided for attendees.

### **LUSC Membership**

It was reported that Graham Hobson has decided to retire from this sub-committee. Tribute was paid to his service there-on since its inception.

**Resolved: that the sub-Committee continue for the time being with three members, being M Kirkbright (Chair), D Oliver and E Woolnough.**

### **Umpires and Captains Reports**

It was reported that the WTU report layouts for 2017 remained largely unchanged. Given the advanced stage of development, it had been decided not to use Play Cricket reports this season, but to monitor what is a fast changing area.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Sponsors Advertising**

A letter was received from Thornaby CC requesting the League's views on having Brewery advertising on cricket whites.

**Resolved: The committee felt there was no problem in a club adopting this for their senior sides, however it was felt inappropriate to feature this on their junior team's wear.**

### **Applications for Grant Aid**

An application had been received from Darlington CC with regards to their groundsman undertaking an IOG level 3 technical diploma in Turf Management – an on-line study consisting of 10 modules and costing £738.

**Resolved: that a grant of £238 be offered from PQS funds, payable on application to the Treasurer with documentary evidence of the fee paid once the course has been successfully completed**

### **PQS grant requests**

The following clubs had submitted requests under the recently announced initiative:

Bishop Auckland – fertiliser spreader.

Hartlepool – ground sheets.

Preston – covers and wicket cutters.

Stokesley – waterhog.

Richmondshire – cover.

**All would qualify for a £50 grant. Clubs should submit copy paid invoices to finalise claim. The funds will be paid via credit to the annual invoices in April/May.**

An application under the PQS scheme had been received from Marske CC in respect of the purchase of sightscreens.

**Resolved: this was not covered under the terms of the PQS arrangements advised to clubs recently, but the club were encouraged to submit a formal request under the separate heading of sight screen grants which would then be considered separately.**

### **ECB and COUNTY BOARDS**

#### **ECB Premier Leagues**

A meeting of northern region ECB Premier Leagues had been held at Headingley on the 8<sup>th</sup> February which the president attended. The topics covered were discipline – on-field sanctions, Play-Cricket, Managed migration, Compliance, and PRPF. In respect of the latter there was still no indication of what the 2017 targets would be...the NYSD had made a strong recommendation that they should not include live scoring targets in view of the current Play-Cricket issues.

Another northern region meeting would be held at Headingley in late March.

#### **YCB**

The drop-in roadshow in Middlesbrough on 26<sup>th</sup> January was reported to have been worthwhile from the feedback received, and was reasonably well attended by NYSD Clubs.

**Resolved: that SD submit this feedback to the YCB, and the League's support for a repeat of the initiative next year.**

#### **DCB**

A meeting of league chairmen would be held at the Riverside on the 8<sup>th</sup> March. The president would attend. The agenda included DCBL association reports on umpires, groundsmen, and safeguarding, Austin Trophy 2017, U19 competition, DCBL AGM, and affiliation 2017.

The Durham Youth Trust's Dinner is to be held on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**Resolved: that as in previous seasons, the League purchase 4 tickets for the dinner in support of the Trust's aims. Any members wishing to avail themselves of a ticket should make contact with CWW.**

## LEAGUE CRICKET CONFERENCE

The Conference luncheon and AGM is scheduled for Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March at Nantwich. The day includes luncheon (£10 per head), presentation of the National Club Cricketer of the Year awards, a Q&A session with Geoff Cook, the AGM and a general meeting, including presentations by the ECB.

**Resolved: that volunteers to represent and support the League contact the president, the League to cover luncheon costs for its representatives.**

## YPL MANAGEMENT BOARD

### **YPL Championship Semi-finals**

The request for nominated venues for the YPL Championship semi-final was discussed. It was reported that Marske have confirmed, Marton had requested further information and Richmondshire had yet to respond.

### **Board Representation**

Given Steve Clarke's business commitments, and the difficulty this might present in him attending meetings, it was felt sensible to consider who the second League representative to the board should be alongside the president.

**Resolved: that David Oliver be nominated for this position.**

## REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

### **Under 17**

#### **Managers**

It was reported that Mark Davies and Shanuka Dissanayake had agreed to be match day Under 17s Managers this season.

#### **Fixtures**

The U17s NYSD v Durham Academy matches (2 x T20) would be held at Middlesbrough on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April. The U17s NYSD v Halifax match would be held at Normanby Hall on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May.

The U17s Championship Match NYSD v Doncaster would be held at Saltburn on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

**Resolved: The three clubs thanked for their agreement to host the games. David Oliver requested to supply 2 umpires for the Academy match, and one permanent umpire for the Joe Lumb games, home and away.**

### **Wilkinson Cup and U21 Cricket**

It was reported that the AGM of these competitions was being held on the same night as the LMC meeting. The future of the competitions may be in doubt.

### **MCC Fixture**

It was reported that a venue was required for this fixture which was scheduled Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July.

**Resolved: Those clubs interested in hosting this 100-over game to contact the president.**

## 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### **Logo**

Currently with DBS.

### **Newsletter**

The first issue of the electronic newsletter has been published, and is available on the website. It had been well received and it was now hoped to produce this on a monthly basis.

## **Dinner**

Currently awaiting feedback on the availability of a special speaker.

## **Merchandise**

Awaiting the logo to agree proofs.

## **Anniversary Brochure**

The 125 brochure was to be completed by November, the actual date of the anniversary.

## **PRESENTATION NIGHT 2017**

It was confirmed that the date of the presentation night would be Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November. No speaker bookings would be made until the outcome of the anniversary dinner negotiations were known.

## **PRE-SEASON MEETING OF CLUBS**

The date for this function has now been changed to Monday 10<sup>th</sup> April. It was noted that R Wilkinson (YCB) had asked to attend and this had been agreed.

## **CRICKET BALLS**

An email requesting the placement of orders had been issued and it was reported that 25 Clubs had responded to date, with 7 yet to complete. SD reported on the late price increase, which was to be imposed by Dukes with immediate effect. All clubs have been notified of this and also that the League will, exceptionally, provide financial support to offset 50% of the increase.

## **SPONSORS**

### **Darlington Building Society**

It was noted that DBS have requested a further meeting on the 7th March. They are interested in adding local involvement to the All Stars Cricket initiative, and as such the ECB's North of England Business Development Manager would attend the meeting with the president.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

It was reported that Nunthorpe's current host leagues had been advised of the latest position in writing, although nothing further had been heard from the applicant club.

## **LEAGUE WEBSITE**

### **Updates**

The Hall of Fame is being updated by the president and Steve Charlton in stages. The newsletter is now a feature and there are now links to YCB and DCB websites as well as the Club Support Scheme. David Oliver will update the Umpires' section in due course.

### **Pitchero**

An approach was reported by Pitchero offering to sponsor the NYSD subject to certain conditions. The better visual look of Pitchero sites was acknowledged however concerns were expressed at the concept of running two sites side-by-side.

**Resolved: that CWW & SB investigate the potential benefits and problems of this proposal in more detail.**

**HANDBOOK**

Club responses are now virtually complete. Work was well advanced in respect of the amendments. The Gazette advertisement had been renewed. TIM(E) and PCM responses were still awaited. The 10<sup>th</sup> March had been targeted as the last available date for any late amendments to be submitted.

**Resolved: contact to be pursued with the printers by MC.**

**HISTORIC DATA COLLECTION**

It was reported that SB had had responses from 12 Clubs to date, with data provided by 4 of them. The deadline for submission remains March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Multi-Match Days**

There was a discussion about the number of umpires to appoint to Super Sunday/Super Monday fixtures.

**Resolved: the League continue with the existing arrangements.**

**Insurance Cover**

In view of reported events in other leagues the question of the adequacy of the League’s insurance cover was raised.

**Resolved: the Treasurer to look into current cover and report back on any actions deemed appropriate.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next LMC meeting will be held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

**SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD:**

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**CW West, President. Date: ...../...../.....**