

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

Minutes of Management Meeting held at the Springboard Centre, Stokesley
on Wednesday 22nd March 2017.

PRESENT

President C W West, A B Bainbridge, N Hutchinson, G Smith, D S Oliver, S Brenkley, T Briddock, and General Secretary JJ Dykes. (8)

APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Apologies were received from M Christon, S Donlan, C Nicholls and D Stanwix.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2017 were signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

No matters were raised.

FIXTURES SECRETARY

NYS D Masters - it was reported that the final number of contestants was 7. NH reported a change of date in the Masters Competition. The match between Richmondshire and Norton would now take place one week earlier, on 7th July. It was noted that the new date would be included in the handbook.

Action: Clubs with teams in this competition are reminded that they should set up the teams and register the team names on Play Cricket.

UNDER 19 COMPETITION

The president confirmed there had been no fixture change requests in the under 19 competition and that list would now be included in the handbook. Details had been provided to Durham so they could establish the appropriate league tables on the ECB's U19 website.

RESULTS SECRETARY

Clubs are reminded of the pre-season tasks they need to complete to ensure they are ECBPL compliant.

The full details can be found in the Club Administration Guide which clubs already hold (if this can't be found contact GS for a copy), but as a reminder the key pre-season tasks are:

Club Websites – The ECB require that club play-cricket websites are up to date.

Most clubs will have some work to do in one or more of the three following areas -

- a) **Club Contact Details** – The “About Us” section of your play-cricket website should be fully up to date. The club address & telephone number should be present. If possible add in a map link and an e-mail address (should one exist). In addition the “Club Officials” section should be as complete as possible, giving details of committee members & appropriate contact details. If you check the main NYSD “About Us” page, you will see the ideal set-up.

Amendments can be made via the “About Us” tab on the Admin page of your play-cricket website, and then using the tabs for Club Details, Club Officials etc

- b) **Team Details** – Again the ECB are keen to see this section up to date as regards captains & squad members. Whilst it may be difficult to assign a player to a single squad within a club, if you could give it your best efforts it would be to the League’s benefit. Players can of course be assigned to more than 1 squad or you could even assign all players to all squads if you wish.

Amendments can be made via the “Teams” tab on the left hand side of your Admin page on play-cricket

- c) **Player details** – Some player lists are out of date and include players who in some instances have left a club some years ago.

DATA CLEANSE

GS had produced the updated data cleanse summary of all NYSD clubs and this was distributed by the president to all clubs after it had been noted that there had been little change in the figures over the past twelve months. Clubs are encouraged to improve these figures as it had been proven that they had a positive effect on player participation.

SB indicated that in a recent review at his club it was found younger players don’t now communicate by e mail (using facebook, twitter etc instead) and therefore don’t have e mail addresses. GS pointed out that an e mail address was required to open social media accounts and therefore the majority of youngsters would have this information.

Action: All clubs to refer to the recent data cleanse data and those with less than 50% penetration to seek to improve their ratio before the season starts.

PLAY-CRICKET / LIVE SCORING / TCS WITHDRAWAL

The president, who had been involved in numerous communications with the ECB concerning the badly timed developments in live scoring on play-cricket, gave an up to date review of the situation as it currently stands, but added a health warning in that things were changing on an almost daily basis.

The key points are:

TCS v8 may be useable this season, although it is unlikely, however there may be the opportunity to use an ‘emulator’ on TCS apps which could potentially provide a solution.

The new Play-Cricket Scorer app (PCS), which is free, was now live and available for download to mobile phones and tablets – fixtures can be downloaded, matches scored, and results uploaded with this fully Play-Cricket compatible app.

The chance that a laptop application of PCS would be developed in time for the 2018 season was now seeming more unlikely, the ECB citing the significant costs that would be involved in developing a laptop version of PCS.

GS had run a private test on the new PCS app with simulated matches, and found it generally fit for purpose, although it lacked a couple of features, and there was a problem retrieving it on the phone/tablet after upload to the Play Cricket site. These issues had been fed back to the ECB.

The League continues to make representation to ECB about the problems, and financial implications to clubs, but It appears that the die is cast. End of season PRPF payments will include a sum of £1500 for live scoring and therefore the League will be able to consider applications from clubs for financial assistance if any hardware costs are incurred following these changes.

Resolved: All clubs (scorers) are recommended to download PCS and ‘test drive’ it before the season starts. A brief summary and best advice guide will be issued with the minutes to try and assist clubs with their deliberations.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Registrations

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

Amateur Transfers

Connor Alexander Jones from Dumfries to Norton CC
Danny McGuire from Haughton to Bishop Auckland CC
Christian Kyle McDonald from Duffield to Maltby CC
Daniel Baldwin from Castle Eden to Darlington CC
Joe Clarkson from Darlington to Thornaby CC
Jason Thirsk from Maltby to Yarm CC
Jonathan Graham Carson from Hartlepool to Darlington RA CC
Leigh Beaumont from Normanby Hall to Middlesbrough CC
Adam Beaumont from Normanby Hall to Middlesbrough CC

Overseas Amateur Registration

Christian Kyle McDonald – Maltby CC
Troy Vincent Kenny – Bedale CC
Jonathan Graham Carson – Darlington RA CC

Professional Transfers

Aamer Sajjad from Normanby Hall to Marton CC

Amateur EQ Player Registration

Rohan Gill – Great Ayton CC
Stuart Southworth – Marton CC
Wajid Hussain – Preston CC
Kamran Khan – Preston CC

Amateur Player Special Registration

Jaedyn Samuel Bartosh-Short – Darlington RA CC

Professional Registration (EQ)

Christopher J Batchelor – Great Ayton CC
Muhammed Zahid – Marton CC
James Lowe – Middlesbrough

Professional Registration (Overseas)

Saeed Bin Nasir – Marske CC
Aamer Sajjad – Marton CC
Steven Reeves – Middlesbrough CC

Re-instatement as an Amateur Player

The application from Christopher Andrew Allinson supported by Great Ayton CC for his re-instatement to Amateur status was discussed.

Resolved: that the application be granted.

MANAGED MIGRATION

Following the production of the NYSD report on the number of currently registered category 3E players the president had written to the clubs concerned reminding them that annual registration was required and that the new style registration form should be used to satisfy ECB/Home Office requirements.

On the broader issue of the new and highly restrictive 'player pathway' regulations the NYSD, along with many other leagues and the League Cricket Conference, had made detailed representations to the ECB, and it was understood they are to be discussed with the Home Office on the 28th March.

TREASURERS REPORT

The treasurer reported a bank & cash balance of £29,792. Operational contingent liabilities are £3857. Included in contingent liabilities was a sum of £272 in respect of the women's and girls' sub-committee. This committee had not met for some time and it was agreed the balance of those monies should be taken back into normal reserves for the time being, although support would be available for this area should any specific project be proposed.

PQS contingency was £1910, with £488 currently committed to clubs for ground improvements.

The president advised that league representative cricket gear (shirts and caps) had been ordered for the 2017 season with an approximate cost of £1,000, and the umpires coloured clothing support package would cost around £1200.

Annual subscriptions for NYSD clubs would be invoiced in early May, and are payable by the 1st June.

UMPIRES CO-ORDINATOR

Umpire Courses

It was reported that the Level 1 examinations showed a success rate of 13 candidates from 14 sitting. The 2017 NYSD panel showed 13 new names and also included three listed last year but who had not stood during the season. Allowing for retirements and pending DBS applications, the indications were a nett increase of 9.

Resolved: that DSO and the Training Group be congratulated on that outcome which was substantially more than other panels in the north had achieved.

It was reported that 5 candidates from NYSD attended the Level 2 course in Durham. The process now moves to continual assessment through the coming season, at the successful conclusion of which the League has undertaken to reimburse half of their course fees, with a total potential liability of £375.

An Introduction to Umpiring Course has been arranged for April 24th. While done at the request of Darlington and District League, candidates from NYSD clubs will be welcome. There is no fee for this course.

Umpires' Winter Seminar

The Umpire Refresher Course had been attended by 42 umpires from the current list and had been well received.

Coloured Clothing for Umpires

The order for coloured clothing for cup matches had been placed; 54 sets were required. Umpires will pay a subsidised fee per set. The potential liability to the League for their financial support will be in the region of £1,200.

Umpire Appointments

It was reported that the Umpire Co-ordinator would initially make appointments in batches of one month. From current figures it is estimated that all Sunday matches will be covered. It is hard to be precise but it was expected that the number of Saturday single-manned matches would be kept down to single figures.

DBS Checks

It was reported that the processing of such applications was recently taking much longer than normal. A watching brief would be maintained.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received that had not been dealt with elsewhere on the agenda.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

PQS Grant Applications

Further applications for the £50 PQS grant had been received from the following clubs:-

Northallerton CC – fertilizer/seed spreader

Richmondshire CC – replacement cover

Whitby CC – ground protection sheeting

Maltby CC - cutter

Resolved: Grants of £50 per club confirmed. Clubs should submit copy paid invoices to finalise claim. The funds will be paid via credit to the annual invoices in May.

ECB and COUNTY BOARDS

ECB

It was noted with some regret that the League had still not been advised of the Performance Related Targets for the coming season.

All Stars Cricket

There is to be a big launch, this month, of the All Stars Cricket initiative, with substantial media coverage.

The president reported that 18 NYSD Clubs had registered, a 60% league penetration rate compared to the national average of 22%.

DCB

The recent meeting of league chairmen was attended by the president. The agenda included a presentation by Paul Jordison on Umpire Matters, one by the Groundsman's Association, and a Safeguarding presentation by John Crockatt.

The draw for the Austin Trophy was made, with the final to be held at the Riverside Stadium following the representations made by the NYSD in 2016. The two NYSD entrants had been drawn to play each other in the first round, with Bishop Auckland at home to Barnard Castle.

The U19 competition had been discussed with disappointment that leagues in Durham, except for the NYSD, showed modest commitment at this age group level. The NYSD were singled out for praise in the way they organised and ran their own U19 competition.

DCB will be holding their AGM in late April, and a volunteer(s) will be sought from the LMC to attend as NYSD representatives.

The president had attended the recent Durham Youth Trust Dinner with guests and all had enjoyed an excellent speaker and entertainer. Enquiries are to be made as to the potential availability of the latter for the League's presentation dinner in November.

LEAGUE CRICKET CONFERENCE

The Conference luncheon and AGM had been attended by CW, TB, and DSO. Also present, because of his success in being named as one of the 5 LCC Club Cricketers of the Year, was Lee Hodgson and supporting guests. Lee was then announced as having won the overall award to be named as National Cricketer of the Year. The awards were hosted by the president in his role as LCC chairman and presented by Geoff Cook in his role as LCC president.

The subsequent general meeting, attended by ECB and National Cricket Conference executives provided the chance for league delegates to make their views known on the current hot topics of play-cricket scoring and managed migration.

A presentation by Chris Higginbottom, representing Play-Cricket, advised that a release due in late May/early June would provide the opportunity for a much better user experience in producing high quality front pages on P-C websites.

YPL MANAGEMENT BOARD

The president and DSO are to attend the next scheduled meeting of the YPLMB at Darrington on the 23rd March. Paul Bedford would be attending on behalf of the ECB to address any ECBPL issues.

An annual subscription amount of £250 had been agreed for each of the four Premier Leagues, although payment details were still not known.

REPRESENTATIVE & INTER-LEAGUE CRICKET

MCC Fixture

It was reported that two Clubs had offered to host the fixture scheduled for Tuesday 25th July, although it was noted the date clashes with the Premier NYSD Fifteens quarter-finals.

Resolved: that the offer of Richmondshire to host the match be accepted, and that permission be granted to alter the date of their own Fifteens quarter-final should they qualify for that stage of the competition. Their opponents would be given the opportunity to provide two playing dates for consideration if such a scenario arises.

Wilkinson Cup and U21 NE Championship

Both competitions will be played in 2017, although it was noted that the NEPL had withdrawn both their teams as they couldn't find anyone to run them.

If successful in the Wilkinson the NYSD would be away in each round. The U21 section was to be played as a group competition, and the draw was again unkind to NYSD, with the majority of games away from home.

U17 Squad

A squad of 23 had been selected by the team managers and full details would be issued to all clubs and players shortly. The first fixture was scheduled for the 30th April against the Durham Academy at Acklam Park, when 2 T20 matches would be played.

125TH ANNIVERSARY

Logo

DBS have now produced a 125 logo which is to be used on all NYSD linked literature for the next 12 months. Copies will be provided to clubs with these minutes to utilise on their own websites and in club literature.

Dinner

It was hoped that a major international name would be available as speaker for this potential event, however he would not be available until 2018.

Resolved: That as the 125th anniversary effectively extends over both 2017 and 2018 a celebratory dinner would be best held in February/March 2018.

PRESENTATION NIGHT 2017

Resolved: That the speaker format preferred was that of a compere, with cricket speaker followed by an entertainer.

PRE-SEASON MEETING OF CLUBS

It was reported that arrangements for the meeting on 10th April at Teesside University were well in hand. Full details including car parking arrangements will be circulated to all clubs shortly. All management committee members were requested to attend from 5pm to help with the pre-event organisation.

Clubs are reminded that they should send a minimum of 4 representatives to this meeting – ideally those representatives should include chairman, secretaries and club captains. Attendance is not limited to 4.

CRICKET BALLS

The order had been submitted to Dukes by SD, and GS would liaise on the delivery to Teesside University and availability at the p-s meeting. TB had agreed to organise club allocations on the evening itself.

SPONSORS

Pitchero Sponsorship

Given the indicated improvements to Play-cricket functionality later this year, and the significant amount of work undertaken on the NYSD PC site, it was decided not to pursue the offer of sponsorship from Pitchero.

Darlington Building Society

A meeting was held on the 7th March at DBS request, the president and John Wright (ECB North of England BDM) attending.

There were positive outcomes with a new initiative to be announced at the pre-season meeting of clubs which would receive national publicity for the League and DBS.

In tying up other loose ends DBS confirmed they would continue their support for Performance of the Month awards.

Resolved: POMs to be given prominence and coverage on the League website, with weekly stats information, winner announcements etc. TB and SB offered their services to run the full POM function, including monthly determination of winners.

LEAGUE WEBSITE

There has been a substantial amount of work undertaken on the NYSD website in the last couple of months and it was hoped this would prove beneficial in creating additional interest and traffic through the site.

Resolved: that CWW and SC be congratulated on the progress made.

HANDBOOK

The book has been thoroughly proof-read, and it has now gone to press.

Resolved: all collators and proof-readers were to be commended on their input.

HISTORIC DATA COLLECTION

It was reported that 7 clubs had now provided data to SB, who proposed to drip feed the data onto the website over the next few months. The deadline for submission remains March 31st.

CWO REGISTER

The League has been tasked by the County Boards to collate data on all Club Child Welfare Officers, to include the dates of attendance at various courses and the expiry dates of DBS checks. This process is now well in hand.

NB – Durham have 3 SH courses planned for late April, early May. Yorkshire clubs would be allowed to attend. The NYSD has asked if one of those courses could be held in the Teesside region. All clubs who have Officers needing course updates should keep their eye on the DCB website to ensure they don't miss this opportunity.

LEE HODGSON ACHIEVEMENTS 2016

It was reported that Lee Hodgson had won the LCC National Cricketer of the Year Award presented at the annual conference. Lee had been on the final shortlist of 5.

Additionally it was reported that Lee had now been announced as the Sunday Sun North East Cricketer of the Year, which is sponsored by the Darlington Building Society.

Congratulations were expressed by the committee for these outstanding achievements.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next LMC meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th April 2017.

SIGNED AS A CORRECT RECORD:

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