

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

Minutes of Management Meeting held at the Springboard Centre, Stokesley
on Wednesday 23rd August 2017.

PRESENT

President C W West, S Brenkley, T Briddock, JJ Dykes, DS Oliver, G Smith, and D Stanwix. (7)

APOLOGIES for ABSENCE

Apologies were received from A B Bainbridge, N Hutchinson and S Donlan.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2017 were approved to be signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

Hall of Fame Inductions

The president reported on the successful induction ceremony held at the Kerridge Cup Final luncheon on the 6th August. The inductions had been extremely well received, with several messages, both written and verbal, of appreciation.

NatWest T20 Blast – U19 County Competition

It was reported that Saltburn, having won the NYSD U19 competition, had defeated Ryhope in the County (Northumberland, Durham and NE Yorkshire) semi-final and had then turned in an excellent performance to defeat Whickham in the final itself held under floodlights at the Emirates Riverside stadium on the 18th August.

The president stated that all concerned with this success should be congratulated as it was not only an outstanding achievement for the club, but it also reflected extremely well on the NYSD League. The meeting heartily endorsed the comments.

Resolved: That a special presentation be made to the club to commemorate the achievement at the presentation evening.

DRA v Stokesley

It was reported that the fine imposed on Stokesley CC in relation to the match at Darlington RA had been received, and the matter was now closed.

FIXTURES SECRETARY

In the absence of Mr Hutchinson, it was reported as follows:

NYSD Masters Final

A change of date of the final had been requested by the two clubs and it had now been agreed that the final would take place at Norton on Sunday 27th August with a 2pm start.

Fifteens Finals Day

The president reported that all arrangements appeared to be well in hand for the finals day. Teesside University would have 8 representatives present.

National Club T20

The northern area finals, at which Barnard Castle had represented the NYSD, were held at York on the 13th August with South Northumberland the eventual qualifier for the national quarter-finals.

CUP FINALS

It was reported that the cup final programme was now virtually complete, with only the Masters and the Fifteens Finals Day to come. The president thanked those who had assisted him in the numerous presentations throughout the season.

CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES

All clubs currently holding championship trophies are reminded that these must be returned to the League by the beginning of September in accordance with rule 37. They must be returned fully inscribed and in presentable condition – this is not always the case and occasionally involves much additional work for league officials in returning them to presentable order before presentation.

NB - The following clubs are in possession of 2016 championship trophies and should contact the president to make the return arrangements by the 1st September at the latest:

Premier – Barnard Castle, Division One – Marton, Division Two – DRA, Division Three – Bedale, SD1 – Stokesley, SD2 – Thornaby, JLS - Whitby

RESULTS SECRETARY

Mr Smith presented his report.

Summary Result not on website within 24 hrs (£10 each)

29/7	D2	Maltby
30/7	SD1	Stokesley
30/7	SD2	Saltburn
12/8	D3	Billingham

Full Card not on website within 3 working days (£10 each)

29/7	D2	Maltby
29/7	D4	Yarm
6/8	SD1	Blackhall
12/8	D2	Guisborough
12/8	D3	Bishop Auckland
12/8	D3	Billingham

Incorrect result entered on website (£10)

30/7	SD1	Middlesbrough
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Concessions

5/8	D3	Bishop Auckland	£50
6/8	SD2	Guisborough	£25
6/8	SD2	Whitby	£25
12/8	D3	Northallerton	£50
13/8	SD1	Blackhall	£25
19/8	D2	Stokesley	£50
19/8	D3	Northallerton	No fine

The final concession occurred when Northallerton conceded their D3 game, and later in the day Stokesley conceded the D2 game v Northallerton, meaning a side could have been raised for the D3 game. In view of these highly unusual circumstances, it was agreed no fine should be levied.

At this point the Umpires Co-ordinator expressed his concern that he was often the last to find out when a concession occurred, thus making his job of re-allocating umpires a very difficult one with other clubs subsequently disadvantaged.

ALL CLUBS REMINDED THAT WHEN CONCEDED A MATCH THEY MUST ADVISE THE UMPIRES CO-ORDINATOR IMMEDIATELY

Division 3 Northallerton v Bishop Auckland - Sunday 30th July

This was the rearranged game, following the abandonment of the original game after one of the Bishop Auckland players suffered health issues.

Contrary to rule 13c, Northallerton fielded four players who had played in their first team in Div 2 the day before, namely Dan Crosland, Rich Bartram, Kyle Atkinson, Harry Bartlett.

Northallerton were asked about the situation and provided a full response.

In light of this response, the committee felt it was appropriate not to impose fines for the ineligible players, but the rules on eligibility are clear, no dispensation was requested, and their opponents fielded a team that complied with the rules and were thus disadvantaged (handbook page 109).

Resolved – No fine to be levied. Bishop Auckland awarded a 25 point win in the game. Northallerton deducted the 14 points gained in the game.

Short – strength sides

On a procedural point a number of clubs have entered 'unsure' on the scorecard for missing players when they have played with less than 11 men. This is incorrect.

All clubs are requested to ensure that short players are not recorded as "unsures" on the website. Previous results should be checked and amended where necessary.

'Unsure' on electronic scorecards

This continues to be a problem. It is imperative that any 'unsures' showing on a Club's scorecards are updated with the name of the appropriate player as soon as possible, and certainly within the 5-day period for locking down the result. Failure to do so compromises the integrity of the competitions as it becomes impossible to police the eligibility of players.

Resolved: That all clubs prioritise the completion of names on all their results this season – this to be completed by no later than Sunday 10th September. A further consequence of none completion is the potential unreliability of end-of-season player averages - if any club fails to update all their 'unsures' then all of their player statistics for all of their teams may be excluded from the end-of-season averages

PROMOTIONAL GROUNDS GRADING ASSESSMENTS

A series of visits to undertake ground grading assessments for clubs in promotion contention (as required by rule 14) would be undertaken over the Bank Holiday weekend. The president would co-ordinate.

GENERAL SECRETARY

Mr Dykes reported as follows:

TRANSFERS AND REGISTRATIONS RECORDED

Amateur Transfers

Stephen McCoy

South Hetton CC

to Blackhall Colliery CC

Lewis Massey	South Hetton CC	to	Blackhall Colliery CC
Ben Smith	Northallerton CC	to	Hartlepool CC
Shaun Charlton	Guisborough CC	to	Richmondshire CC

Amateur player (EQ) registrations

Andy Townsend	Shildon R'way CC
Daniel Jeffrey	Shildon R'way CC
Luke James Hargreaves	Shildon R'way CC
Marlon Labron	Shildon R'way CC

Sub Pro Application

Following the recall to North Cape CC of their professional A R Swanepoel, Stokesley CC had submitted an application for permission to engage a substitute professional. This application was examined by three independent officers consisting of the Results Secretary, the Umpires Coordinator and the General Secretary. The officers concluded that the application met League requirements, and should be approved subject to the conditions laid out in League rule 27.

Resolved: Decision ratified.

TREASURERS REPORT

Mr Stanwix reported as follows:

Bank & cash balance of £43,248.02, including the Premier League accreditation payment of £7,000 from ECB.

Invoices received and paid included Finals Day expenses, catering costs, printing, photography, coaching and tea award plaques at a total cost of £1,573.50.

It was reported that three grant requests had been submitted to date, and would be held pending full consideration at the next meeting once the closing date for applications had been passed.

It was reported that one 2016 15s voucher remained unclaimed.

Resolved: As many reminders had been given, and the expiry date was long passed, the voucher value to be written off.

UMPIRE CO-ORDINATOR

Mr Oliver reported as follows.

Captains Reports

The reports to the end of July had been processed and showed:

Premier Division: 172 games – Average Umpire Score 7.54 - %age meeting or exceeding target 95.7%.

Division One: 166 games – Average Umpire Score 7.82 - %age meeting or exceeding target 97.7%.

Fines had been allocated against all those arriving late as follows:

Club (H/A)	Division	Match date	Received date
Richmondshire (A)	Premier	22.07	05.08
Whitby (A)	One	22.07	31.07
Barnard Castle (A)	Premier	29.07	11.08
Middlesbrough (H)	Premier	29.07	06.08

Guisborough (H)	Premier	29.07	09.08
Marske (H)	Premier	29.07	08.08
Great Ayton (A)	Premier	29.07	10.08
Darlington (H)	Premier	05.08	14.08
Norton (H)	Premier	05.08	18.08
Stokesley (H)	Premier	05.08	21.08
Darlington RA (A)	One	05.08	13.08
Middlesbrough (H)	Premier	05.08	13.08

Umpire Numbers

It was reported that the number of future single manned matches appointed were currently as follows:
Bank Holiday Saturday - **12**, Bank Holiday Monday – **10**, Sept 2nd – **7**, Sept 9th - **6**.

Resolved:- Clubs were again urged to make sure that suitable square-leg umpires were provided. Clubs were also reminded of the incentives for them to nominate candidates for the umpire training courses to be held over the winter, and urged to make serious efforts to provide candidates.

Spirit of Cricket

The Umpire Coordinator reported on a new booklet being issued to umpires by ECB ACO, and dealing with the promotion of positive player behaviour. It was felt that this booklet would make helpful reading for clubs, particularly captains.

Resolved:- that enquiries be made about the acquisition of a supply of these booklets with a view to their distribution to clubs.

League Umpire Appointment

The Umpires Coordinator was pleased to report the appointment of League Umpire Neil Pratt to stand at the Minor counties 4 day Final between Lincolnshire and Berkshire match at Banbury from August 26th.

Resolved: that the League's congratulations to Umpire Pratt be recorded.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

Blackhall CC

A misconduct report had been submitted by umpires M Eland and R Sharratt relating to the behaviour of J Ward during and after the Division One match away to Great Ayton II on the 29th July. The DRC determined that the alleged behaviour constituted a level 3 offence.

In accordance with procedures laid down in league rules, Blackhall had been asked to consider taking their own disciplinary action and had responded by confirming the player had been suspended for a period of 28 days from the 2nd to the 30th August inclusive.

The DRC confirmed acceptance of these actions.

Middlesbrough

A misconduct report had been submitted by umpires P Swallow and I Oliver relating to the behaviour of Aleem Ditta during the Division One match at home to Thornaby on the 5th August. The DRC determined that the alleged behaviour constituted a level 2 offence.

In accordance with procedures laid down in league rules, Middlesbrough had been asked to consider taking their own disciplinary action and had responded by confirming the player had been suspended for a period of 14 days from the 14th to the 27th August inclusive and had been fined £25.

The DRC confirmed acceptance of these actions.

Stokesley

Further to the actions recorded in the last minutes in respect of the SD1 game at Darlington RA Stokesley had advised that C Borwell (capt) and S Wilson had been suspended for a period of 7 days by the Club. As the penalty for the captain was not in accord with the recommended penalties applying to a level 2 offence the Club had been given the opportunity to revisit their actions.

The Club subsequently confirmed a suspension would be imposed on the captain for a period of 14 days from 11th August to 25th August inclusive, while S Wilson's suspension was from 11th August to 18th August inclusive.

The DRC confirmed acceptance of these actions.

Whitby

A misconduct report had been submitted by umpires I Oliver and S Brown relating to the behaviour of R Lyth during the Division One match away to Redcar on 19th August. The DRC determined that the alleged behaviour constituted a level 2 offence.

In accordance with procedures laid down in league rules, Whitby had been asked to consider taking their own disciplinary action and a response was awaited.

Umpires Match Report Cautions (Level 1)

Nasser Hussain	Great Ayton	
Ted Jemison	Maltby	
Tom Young	Sedgefield	
Andrew Shepherd	Sedgefield	Retrospective caution.

These had all been accepted and the fines paid.

Chris Hall	Maltby	Pending
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STRUCTURAL PROPOSALS FOR 2018 – CONSULTATION EXERCISE

Following the LMC special meeting to discuss concerns over the potential future structure of the league given the ongoing national and regional concerns over participation levels, concessions etc a consultation document had been drawn up by the president for issue to clubs.

The meeting examined the document and confirmed that this would form the basis of consultations between the League and its member clubs who would be given time to consider and consult with their own playing members before attending a General Meeting of Club Chairmen and Captains to be arranged in late September.

Depending on the outcome of that meeting formal proposals would then be put together to be voted upon at the November AGM.

Resolved: the GS to make arrangements for the General Meeting on Tuesday 26th September at 7.30pm.

ECB

Managed Migration

A recent update from the ECB had been received by the president and distributed to LMC members before the meeting. It covered the result of a recent court case and a reminder of the guidelines as to what constitutes a professional sportsperson.

DCB

Child Welfare Issues

The president had been asked to help the Durham CWO compile a document to be issued to leagues concerning the possibility of including specific rules within constitutions. It was also advised that the ECB is likely to issue national guidelines for leagues before the end of the current year.

YCB

It was noted that YCB are to issue a new set of model Disciplinary Regulations, and particularly that these are to be predominately based on the NYSD's own model.

YPLM Board

The President and the Umpires coordinator are to attend the board meeting on Thursday 24th August at Dinnington. Among the agenda items are arrangements for the 2017 play-offs, a review of the constitution, and consideration of the board holding an adjudication role in issues involving Memoranda of Understanding between constituent leagues.

REPRESENTATIVE CRICKET

The president provided an overview of the representative season which had recently ended.

Senior team

A generally satisfactory season with the highlight undoubtedly being the remarkable last ball victory over Yorkshire Vikings (they hadn't been the same since!!).

The team had also reached the Wilkinson final for the third year running, but lost to the NTSL at Tynedale. General disappointment was expressed that player eligibility regulations concerning professionals mitigated heavily against the NYSD where our selection is restricted, but others are not because they are 'open' leagues where players are paid but not considered professionals!!

Under 21s

The president reported that the team had eventually qualified for the final from the group stages and had hosted the final at Marton CC. The NYSD team defeated the NTSL by three wickets to win a fourth consecutive title at this age group level.

Under 17s

The team achieved promotion into the top 5-team division in Yorkshire for season 2018.

The president proposed a vote of thanks to Chris Nicholls, Andrew Weighell, Paul Leadbitter and Shani Dissanayake for all the work done with the league sides during 2017 which had been of considerable help to him.

Future Commitment

Considerable discussion then ensued as to the benefits of running representative sides at three different levels, bearing in mind an increasing number of concessions against us, the apparent reluctance of many of the League's best players to be involved, and the costs attached to each match.

In the last 2 seasons matches had been conceded against us by the NEPL, NTSL (twice, plus playing one match short-handed), Doncaster and Nidderdale – all causing significant additional work for those involved. In addition, restrictive eligibility rules relating to cross-border status and paid players affect the NYSD more than other competing leagues and this provided its own frustrations.

The North East championships have also been affected by the 2017 resignation of the NEPL, and the merger of two competing leagues that will occur in the close season, thereby reducing the number of competing leagues.

Resolved: that the annual Yorkshire and MCC matches be continued, but, with great regret given our unparalleled record in inter-league cricket, resignations be tendered to the Wilkinson Cup and U21 competitions. Further that the U17s fixtures continue, again with a review after a further 12 months.

PRESENTATION NIGHT AND 125th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

It was reported that the website advert was uploaded for Presentation Night, posters were going out to all Clubs and the main guest invitations had been agreed and issued. Mark Arthur, Yorkshire CCC Chief Executive, had confirmed that he and his wife would be attending.

It was agreed to ask Mark Christon to report to the September meeting on progress with the plans for the 125th anniversary celebrations.

LEAGUE WEBSITE

It was reported that improvements continued to be made to the website, and that the new website statistics section clearly demonstrated the success of the considerable efforts made.

It was pleasing to note that there had been over 159,000 web page views in July, and that popular areas included the news items, minutes, and Hall of Fame.

The Home Page was visited, on average, 1,500 times per day.

Resolved: Steve Charlton be thanked for his continued work in assisting the president in this undertaking.

HISTORIC DATA COLLECTION

Mr Brenkley reported that, with the considerable assistance of Steve Charlton, it was planned to put the data from the first 9 clubs onto the website during the close-season. The remaining clubs were being processed and would be added later.

CWO DATA COLLECTION

The president reported that he hoped to organise some safeguarding courses in the region in the close-season which would give all member clubs the opportunity to ensure their CWO was fully compliant.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

Nunthorpe

Nunthorpe had indicated that they would not be in a position to meet the conditions laid down by the LMC for entry into the League in the 2018 season, but that they hoped to be in a position to apply for the 2019 season. A meeting to ascertain the exact position would be arranged in September.

PERFORMANCE OF THE MONTH

The successful players for June were noted as:-

Senior – James Quinn, Barnard Castle CC

Junior – Jack Tobbell, Barnard Castle CC.

A discussion followed on how to ensure the best performances were considered each month.

Resolved: that in 2018 clubs be encouraged to submit their own nominations of worthy candidates which would be considered alongside the candidates identified by the scorecards.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next monthly LMC meeting will be held at 7p.m. on Wednesday 20th September.