

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 26th November 2018

PRESENT

President C W West, General Secretary S Storey, Treasurer D Stanwix, Fixtures Secretary N Hutchinson, Results Secretary G Smith, Umpire's Co-ordinator D S Oliver and Vice President A B Bainbridge.

Committee Members T Briddock, S Gill, J Crowther and M Jobling, and representatives of all clubs in the League.

APOLOGIES

M Christon, S Brenkley and S Donlan.

OPENING REMARKS

After his opening welcome to the meeting the President mentioned the sad loss of many NYSD linked individuals over the past 12 months, and in particular Dave Beach, who was the much valued scorer to League representative teams for many years, and Chris Allinson, an outstanding player who had committed himself whole-heartedly to representing League sides on so many occasions.

The meeting stood and observed a minute's silence in memory of all those who had passed away.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

The minutes of the AGM held on 27th November 2017, which had been previously circulated to all clubs, were signed as a true record.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2018

The report, which had been circulated with the AGM papers, was received and adopted. On behalf of the member clubs the president thanked the new general secretary for the work he had done for the League during his first year in office.

TREASURER'S REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Copies of the final audited accounts for the year to the 30th September 2018 were distributed to clubs before the start of the meeting. The president and treasurer gave an overview and explanation of the key items comprised in the accounts. Following remarks recorded in recent LMC minutes the president advised that membership fees had remained constant for more than 15 years and although they now fell significantly behind the fees paid by clubs in many other ECB Premier leagues there were no plans to increase these fees in the 2019 season.

Questions were invited from those present and, as there were no queries raised from the floor, the final accounts, as presented and certified by Anderson and Barrowcliff, were unanimously adopted. The accounts were signed off by the president who thanked the treasurer for the outstanding work he continued to do in looking after the League's finances.

HONORARIA

Honoraria for 2018 had been set by the LMC as follows:

General Secretary: £800

Treasurer: £500

Fixtures Secretary: £500

Results Secretary: £500

Umpires Co-ordinator: £750

In accordance with Rule 11, the honoraria were ratified by the meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

b) Chief Executive Officer – The president reminded the meeting that this position had been created and sanctioned at the 2017 AGM with the LMC empowered to make an appointment should a suitable individual be identified.

Following Mr G Cook's retirement from Durham CCC the LMC had unanimously agreed that an approach should be made to him about his availability to fulfil this role, and he had subsequently accepted.

He was welcomed to the meeting and had been formally nominated by the LMC. This was seconded and Mr Cook was duly elected.

c) General Secretary – The president reminded the meeting that this position had been vacant at the last AGM with the LMC empowered to make an appointment should a suitable individual be identified. Mr S Storey had subsequently been appointed by the LMC at the beginning of 2018.

Mr S Storey had been nominated by Richmondshire and was seconded and duly re-elected.

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

d) Treasurer – Mr. D Stanwix had been nominated by Richmondshire.

e) Fixtures Secretary – Mr. N Hutchinson had been nominated by Richmondshire.

f) Results Secretary – Mr. G Smith had been nominated by Richmondshire.

g) Umpires Coordinator – Mr. D Oliver had been nominated by Richmondshire.

The nominations were seconded with all being duly elected.

At this stage the president stated that the League was blessed with outstanding officials who continued to do an amazing job for member clubs and the game of cricket, and he duly thanked all the officers for their tremendous contribution.

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

i) Management Committee

The president announced that Vice President A B Bainbridge was retiring from the committee having been on the LMC since the 1970's and he was thanked for his outstanding service to the League.

A presentation was made to Brian by the president and newly appointed chief executive officer.

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

The nominations for re- election were:

Mr S Brenkley nominated by Richmondshire

Mr T Briddock nominated by Richmondshire

Mr M Christon nominated by Richmondshire

Mr S Donlan nominated by Richmondshire

Mr M Jobling nominated by Richmondshire:

Mr S Gill nominated by Richmondshire

Mr J Crowther nominated by Richmondshire

All the above were seconded and duly elected.

Following the retirement of Mr Bainbridge, the president confirmed that Mr P Leadbitter had been nominated by the LMC to fill the vacancy.

This proposal was seconded and Mr P Leadbitter was duly elected.

At this stage, on behalf of the member clubs, the president passed on his thanks to each of the LMC members who all worked hard to maintain the standards and reputation of the NYSD League.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:

The address began with a reference to his original appointment as president in 2003, and that it was hard to grasp that 15 years had passed and that the 2018 AGM marked the official end of the 125th season.

The 125th had been quite remarkable, outstanding in so many ways – the president even ventured that it had arguably been the most dramatic period in NYSD history. The cricket season itself didn't start that well with the first April weekend washed away completely and, uniquely, re-arranged to be played later in the campaign.

After the spring downpours the heatwave set in and it was sunlight nearly all the way. The League had been looking for the perfect way to celebrate the 125th anniversary, and struck gold with an amazing and unique occasion in late May at the Riverside where Durham were taking on Yorkshire in the Royal London One-Day Cup. The match was preceded by a celebratory lunch enjoyed by a capacity attendance, and a top table to exceed all top tables with Sir Ian Botham one of the guests, and Mike Gatting proposing the toast to the League.

The top executives from both Durham and Yorkshire, along with ECB representation, made it an occasion to remember, with two special hospitality lounges enabling everyone to enjoy the game in the most exalted company throughout the afternoon and evening. The NYSD were even afforded the honour of presenting the player of the match award on Sky TV, with the NYSD's name ringing out around the world.

Over the next two months the NYSD League representative side created another piece of history with a staggering hat-trick of successes – Durham Jets, Yorkshire Vikings and the MCC were all beaten. The night games at Park Drive and Acklam Park were memorable occasions – well hosted, perfect weather, tremendous atmospheres and top class results.

In between those two memorable victories over the Counties the League side had trounced an MCC team up at Richmond – in the middle of the heat wave. Chris Allinson captained that side, an occasion that was hugely enjoyed by all the players – sadly it was to prove a fitting epitaph to 'Allo' in what turned out to be his final game of many for the League team.

Into August and the NYSD were awarded the Yorkshire OSCA for being top dogs in the county, and that rolled on into October when they gained national recognition at the ECB OSCA's. For the first time there was an all NYSD Austin Trophy final. The final day of the season was dramatic with issues across all the divisions often going down to the very last ball – what an advert for the competitive nature of the NYSD pyramid at all levels.

But even the last day drama was outdone in 2018 as Richmondshire were crowned National Club Champions on a late September evening in Bristol. An adventure that began on a cold April afternoon in York, ended in the most glorious of fashions as the Dalesmen became the first team from our League to gain the nation's top club honour. There are almost 800 leagues in England, and approximately 8,000 clubs – not bad, then, to be number one!

Another hugely successful presentation evening saw Bill Athey inducted into the Hall of Fame and state it was one of the best cricket events he had ever attended *anywhere in the world!* The amazing year was then rounded off by the appointment of ex-England cricketer Geoff Cook as our new CEO, and Stockton returning to the fold after 18 years.

The NYSD have been held up as the very best of ECB Premier Leagues just six years into their accreditation, the standards set have been copied up and down the country and the president thanked all member clubs for their significant contribution to that success.

The president then considered the future. He remarked that there is no doubt that we are in the most testing of times for the game of cricket but there is an exciting period ahead. The World Cup and the Ashes are in England in 2019, and the ECB are providing opportunities for clubs up and down the country to get involved.

The landscape of ECB Premier League cricket has changed dramatically. We are going to be linked more closely to the countrywide strategy that goes by the name of Cricket Unleashed – we will be required to enter into a County Partnership Agreement (formerly MOU) that will take us through to 2024 – our priorities will have to mirror those of the game in general.

The president stated his conviction that there is a collective will from the very top of the game, through the counties and leagues to work together to re-energise the game we all love, and on the back of that we must all take responsibility for delivering the shared vision of cricket and that clubs are the most crucial part of the mix - their role is pivotal.

GREAT AYTON

At this point of the meeting the president introduced Mr N Thurlow who had requested the opportunity to make a statement to the member clubs. He addressed the meeting as follows:

“On behalf of Great Ayton Cricket Club officials, players, supporters and all members, I wish to make a full and unreserved apology to all clubs/league officials and sponsors and umpires of the NYSD for our players involvement in the Headingley affair. Something I would wish of no club but we are slowly getting the club together again so sorry, thank you”.

Mr Thurlow presented the AGM with a signed copy of his statement. The president remarked that he appreciated that it must have been a very difficult thing for him to do. In respect of the League's position it was standard practice on all disciplinary matters, which carry confidentiality requirements under the Code of Conduct, not to comment further until all due processes had been completed.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEAGUE 2019

a. Stockton C.C.

Stockton wished to join the League in 2019. The NEPL Management Committee confirmed their support.

A consultation process with clubs had been undertaken and the proposal was for Stockton's first team to play in Division 2, their second team to play in Division 4 and their third team to play in the appropriate Sunday Conference from season 2019.

The LMC proposed acceptance and this was seconded and carried unanimously.

Following acceptance of the application the AGM were then required to vote on the divisional structure to apply to ensure all divisions end with an even number of teams in 2020.

The options were:

1. Two up and three down in a 13-team division 2, two up and three down in division 3 with two up from division 4.
2. Two up and two down in division 2, one up and two down in division 3, with one up from division 4.

The voting was 11 in favour of option 1, and 23 in favour of option 2. Option 2 was duly carried.

b. Nunthorpe C.C.

Nunthorpe had been elected to join the League in 2019. They subsequently asked that their entry be delayed until 2020, but subsequent attempts to arrange a meeting with the club had met with no response.

The LMC therefore proposed that in view of the lack of response their application be lapsed. If they wish to proceed with a further application then the process must start again.

This proposal was passed unanimously.

c. Guisborough C.C.

Guisborough had submitted an application to reinstate their second team into Division 4. They had provided evidence and assurances that they would be able to fulfil their commitments.

Proposed by the LMC, seconded and carried unanimously.

d. Sedgefield C.C.

Sedgefield had submitted an application for a third team to enter one of the Sunday Conferences.

Proposed by the LMC, seconded and carried unanimously.

e. Durham Cricket Academy

Durham Cricket Academy had made an application to submit a team into the MacMillan Cup for 2019.

The application was recommended to the meeting subject to the Academy being classed as a Senior Affiliate member of the League, their inclusion to be subject to strict player qualification criteria to be determined by the LMC. If they are successful in the competition the runner-up would be the League's representative in the National T20.

Proposed by the LMC, duly seconded and carried by 17 votes to 2.

f. Division 4 Fixture Structure

With 10 sides now in Division 4 a format of 18 league games would apply.

g. Sunday Divisions Fixture Structure

With the introduction of Stockton and Sedgefield changes would need to be made to the structure of the conferences. The Fixtures Secretary had laid three options before clubs.

Option 3, being a Premier Division of 10 teams, and 8 teams in the regional Conferences, was **adopted by a majority vote**. Two clubs would be offered the opportunity to be promoted to the Premier Conference to adjust the current balance. This to include a new formula Ray Bell Cup which would now be a Fifteens format competition with Super Sunday Groups in round 1.

LEAGUE RULES – PROPOSED BY THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UNLESS NOTED

STRUCTURE

Rule 1 – add at the end of current para 2 – and those clubs just entering a team or teams in a cup competition will be known as a cup affiliate member club.

Carried unanimously.

VOTING PROCEDURE

Rule 7 – add new sentences at the end of the current rule – Only full member clubs may vote at the senior AGM. Affiliate member clubs may vote at the junior AGM providing they have a team competing in the junior competitions.

If there are division specific proposals before any meeting at which clubs are required to vote the chairman of the meeting at which such proposals are being considered may direct that only clubs with teams in those divisions may vote.

Carried unanimously.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Rule 12 – add at the end of para 1- Cup affiliate member clubs - £100.

Carried unanimously.

Add after para 2- If subscriptions are not paid on or before the due date then a fine, to be determined by the LMC, will be levied, and any such fine would be doubled for each additional month thereafter that the subscription remains unpaid.

Carried unanimously.

REPORTING OF RESULTS

Rule 18a – In paragraph 3, replace “played or abandoned” with “completed” Add new paragraph 4, Players need not be named where no play takes place.

Carried unanimously.

PROPOSED BY REDCAR:

Amend rule 30(b) paragraph 3

From - Clubs may register a maximum of one amateur player who does not meet the England qualification or special registration criteria laid out above. Such player may play in any division providing the League's player qualification regulations are met.

To - Clubs may register a maximum of TWO amateur players who does not meet the England qualification or special registration criteria laid out above. Such player may play in any division providing the League's player qualification regulations are met.

Not carried. For 5, Against 28

PLAYER SELECTION REGULATIONS

Rule 39(c) - Add at the end of the rule

The above rule does NOT apply to players who were under 15 at the 31st August the previous season, (i.e. players who still play in under-15 age group cricket) PROVIDED that the overall maximum limit of 5 players is not exceeded in the Sunday Divisions.

Carried - For 32, Against 1

Rule 40 –

Delete the word "DIVISIONS" in the rule heading.

Add at the end of the rule

"The above rule does NOT apply to players who were under 15 at the 31st August the previous season, (i.e. players who still play in under-15 age group cricket) PROVIDED that the overall maximum limit of 5 players is not exceeded in the Sunday Divisions.

Carried - For 32, Against 1

MATCH PLAYING REGULATIONS

Duckworth Lewis

To be adopted in the Premier Division only

Carried: For 9, Against 1

POINTS SYSTEM

Rule 52- In the 4th bullet-pointed paragraph, **remove** "3 additional tie" and **replace with** "7".

Carried unanimously.

CONCEDED MATCHES

Rule 53 – delete and replace with

In the event of a team being unable to fulfil a scheduled league fixture then they will be subject to the following scale of points deductions.

Concession of a Premier Division match – 100 points.

Concession of a Division 1 match – 50 points.

Concession of a Division 2 match – 25 points.

In all other divisions a 10-point deduction will apply.

Any team conceding a league game on the day of the match itself will have the fixed points penalty for that division doubled. In all cases the team will be fined in accordance with Rule 25c. Their opponents will be awarded 25 points.

A team in any division conceding 3 or more matches will be automatically relegated at the end of the season from that division.

Carried: For 25, Against 11

Amendment to the Management Committee proposal submitted by MARTON – this did not receive a seconder and was therefore not voted upon.

CONCEDED MATCHES

Rule 53 – delete and replace with

In the event of a team being unable to fulfil a scheduled league fixture then they will be subject to the following scale of points deductions.

Concession of a Premier Division match – 50 points.

Concession of a Division 1 match – 50 points.

Concession of a Division 2 match – 50 points.

In all other divisions a 50-point deduction will apply.

Any team conceding a league game on the day of the match itself will have the fixed points penalty for that division doubled. In all cases the team will be fined in accordance with Rule 25c. Their opponents will be awarded 25 points.

A team in any division conceding 3 or more matches will be automatically relegated at the end of the season from that division or in the case of the Division 4, Sunday Conference North and South leagues will have to reapply to the league for the following season.

GENERAL CUP REGULATIONS

Add new rule 6 and renumber all succeeding rules accordingly

Add new rule 6 – NO BALLS/FREE HITS

The following shall apply in all cup competitions:

- (a) The delivery following a no ball shall be a free hit for whichever batter is facing it. Note – this applies to all modes of No Ball.
- (b) If the delivery for the free hit is not a legitimate delivery (any kind of no ball or wide ball) then the next delivery shall become a free hit for whichever batter is facing it.
- (c) Field changes are not permitted for free hit deliveries unless there is a change of striker or the No Ball was the result of a fielding restriction breach in which case the field may be changed to the extent of correcting the breach. However, in all circumstances, any fielder within 15 yards of the striker may retreat to a position on the same line more than 15 yards from the striker.
- (d) The umpires shall signal a free hit by (after the normal no ball signal) extending one arm straight upwards and moving it in a circular motion.
- (e) **Delete all other references to no balls currently in the cup rules.**

Carried unanimously

BALLS

Rule 8 – Delete and replace with:

Balls used in all cup competitions must comply with League rule 44.

New pink balls (as supplied by the League) must be used in all senior cup competitions other than the NYSD Fifteens and save for the Kerridge cup ties where 2 new pink balls are required per innings.

Orange balls (as supplied by the League) must be used in NYSD 15s matches – the standard/quality of orange balls to be used is detailed in NYSD Fifteens rule 11d.

Carried: For 28, Against 5

KERRIDGE CUP

DURATION OF MATCHES

Rule 3 – Delete first two paras of 3a and replace with:

All afternoon matches will commence at 1.30pm and consist of one innings per side, and each innings will be limited to 40 six-ball overs.

Reductions in the number of overs to be played will be made if weather conditions delay the start of the game as follows:

No deduction of match overs to be played until one hours playing time has been lost in total. If the start is delayed beyond 1 hour then two-overs will be deducted for every seven minutes, or part thereof, lost, with the number of overs allocated to each team apportioned equally.

Should an interruption occur in the first innings then on restart the team batting first will complete the number of overs which were allotted at the start of the match and, once there has been a total of one hours playing time lost in total, overs will be deducted from the team batting second at the rate of 1 over for every complete 4 minutes lost (as per rule in league competitions).

Should an interruption occur in the second innings, then once 1 hour's playing time has been lost in total the second innings will be reduced at the rate of 1 over for every complete 4 minutes lost (as per rule in league competitions). The minimum number of overs to constitute a match in the second innings will be 10.

The target for the team batting second in each instance will be calculated using the Duckworth Lewis Stern method. (DLS).

If the match is abandoned before the close of play the result shall be decided on the DLS method providing a minimum of 10 overs have been completed in the second innings.

The version of DLS to be used should be the Play-Cricket Scorer/PCS pro. The umpires, along with the captains, will be responsible for agreeing the number of overs to be played and any revised target applicable before play resumes after an interruption.

Carried unanimously

BOWLING RESTRICTIONS

Rule 4 – Delete para 1 and replace with the following:

No bowler may bowl more than one fifth (rounded up) of the amount of overs scheduled for the innings.

Carried unanimously

FIELDING RESTRICTION – POWERPLAY

Rule 5 – new para 1

For the first 8 overs of an innings no more than two fielders shall be permitted outside a designated area (Powerplay 1)

Thereafter a maximum of five fielders are permitted outside the area. (Powerplay 2)

In the event that the number of overs in an innings are reduced as detailed in rule 3, then the number of overs in powerplay 1 shall be as follows:

Overs in Innings	Number of Overs in Powerplay 1
10	2
11 – 15	3
16 - 20	4
21 - 25	5
26 - 30	6
31 - 35	7
36 - 40	8

Carried: For 12, Against 2

BALLS

Rule 7 – Delete and replace with

Each competing club shall provide two new League issue pink balls in each 40 over game. The balls will be used on the basis of one at each end. At the end of each over the ball in use should be handed to the umpire standing at the end from which the over was bowled.

Carried: For 10, Against 4

MACMILLAN CUP

SEMI-FINALS AND FINAL

Rule 8 – Delete and replace with:

New heading – FINAL

The final shall be played on the ground of one of the finalists as drawn, the game being played on a Sunday to be decided by the League Committee who shall determine the start time.

Carried: For 11, Against 1

FINALS DAY FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Rule 9 –

Amend para 2, sentence 2 delete 15% each

And replace with 50% to the two finalists.

Carried unanimously

KEN WELSH CUP

Rule 2 = Player eligibility

Remove paragraph 2

Carried unanimously

RAY BELL CUP

The clubs eligible to play in the Ray Bell Cup voted with only 1 vote against to the proposed 15/15 competition with a Super Sunday day and a finals day.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

100 Ball Cricket

A paper had been circulated to clubs before the AGM covering the opportunity the League had to convert its Fifteens competitions to the new 'Hundred' format being introduced by the ECB in 2020

The LMC supported a change from the 15/15 competition to make it a 100-ball competition and a proposal was put to the member clubs to that effect.

Carried: For 31, Against 2

Umpires

Umpires Co-Ordinator Mr. D. Oliver highlighted the need to increase the number of umpires or it was likely to be the case that no umpires would be available in Division 4 moving forward. Clubs were asked to try and recruit club umpires, and to consider those who can only provide limited amount of availability rather than a full-time commitment.

Child Welfare Officers

The president highlighted that there is a difference between Safe Hands and Safeguarding courses and that Safe Hands courses could be made available locally for those clubs who need to renew their qualifications – but only if sufficient clubs came forward with their requirements. All were asked to revisit this topic with their own club and ensure they were fully compliant.

Cup Draws

Th cup draws would be made after the close of the meeting.

The president closed by thanking Billingham for their excellent hospitality, and the meeting was closed at 2105hrs.

