

Drakes Huddersfield Cricket League

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 3rd April 2013

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson.

Other Officers Present: The President; Executive Secretary; Match & Registration Secretary; Administration Secretary; Finance Secretary; Disciplinary Secretary; Child Welfare & Facilities Secretary.

Life Vice President: Roger France.

Clubs: All member clubs were represented.

Introduction

The Chairman thanked Broad Oak CC for offering the use of their facilities at such short notice, due to the inaccessibility at Head Quarters Almondbury CC.

He also introduced Nick Oddy, the new Disciplinary Secretary, and explained that the Executive Secretary would revert to his former role, rather than combine both Executive and Disciplinary Secretary positions.

The Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting of the 5th December 2012 were taken as read, approved as a true record, and signed.

Matters arising

See below - outstanding fines.

Statement on the weather situation

The Chairman shared his anxiety about the ground preparation issues in view of the recent severe weather. A variety of clubs reported on their own individual situations. - many expressing concerns. The Chairman said that these views would be considered in the Executive Committee meeting to follow, and a decision as to the way forward would be made.

Outstanding Fines

The Finance Secretary reported that the outstanding monies owed for fines and in-season player registrations by Lepton Highlanders £149; Slaithwaite £50 and Kirkheaton £8.50 had been paid.

He also stated that the League Dinner had now made an approximate loss of £600. This was down from the original £1600 due to the recent payments (50% of the ticket cost) made by clubs who could not attend because of the snow on that evening. The Finance Secretary thanked those clubs for their understanding and prompt payment.

League Dinner - November 2013

The Executive Secretary stated that the Executive Committee had decided to move this season's League Dinner to the third Friday in November - 15th November. Benefits of this date are that the Dinner would now be scheduled to take place in the current year of the season; whilst all appointed officers were still in position ie before the AGM, and also with the expectation of better weather. Graham Thorpe would be the main speaker, and he would be supported by a comedian. The Executive Secretary also said that if possible he would endeavour to price the tickets at a slightly lower level than this year's £32.50.

Public Liability

The Administration Secretary reported that he had not as yet received Public Liability Insurance information from six clubs who's policies had already expired. These clubs were: Holmfirth; Kirkburton; Kirkheaton; Lepton Highlanders; Linthwaite and Rastrick. According to L4(b) such information should be in the possession of the Administration Secretary by 13th April 2013.

Expansion of the League

The Executive Secretary welcomed to the meeting the four new clubs for season 2013. He stated that after the result of the SGM in March to admit a further four new clubs for season 2104, the expansion of the League was now complete with 38 clubs in total making up the League. In 2014 the scheduled numbers per division would be: 14 clubs in the Premiership, 12 clubs in the Championship and 12 clubs in the Conference. The Executive Secretary said that with this expansion there would be an obvious umpiring issue, and due to the current shortage there would be a need for club umpires to officiate at more away games.

Ground Inspections

The Child Welfare & Facilities Secretary stated that once the season had started all grounds would be visited by members of the Executive Committee in order to assess their current facilities. This would be done on an appointment basis. He informed the four new League clubs that he had some information to pass onto them outlining the areas which would be inspected.

Disciplinary Issues

The Disciplinary Secretary had nothing to report at this stage except to confirm that the League would continue to adopt the YCB Disciplinary guidelines in all disciplinary situations.

Umpires' Representative Report

The Representative from the UA reported that members were unhappy with the 2013 rule change, stating that Umpires will receive the same fee for an abandoned match as they do for a match which starts and lasts less than 10 overs. He said that the feeling of the UA was that this sort of rule change would not encourage people to join or even remain in the UA. The Representative from the UA said that there now 40 umpires on the list and there was an obvious shortage. The UA were proposing to contact other Leagues where there may be an excess of umpires, in order to help with these staffing issues. The Chairman shared the concern of the representative from the UA and stated that the League would also do all it could to assist where possible. In response to an email sent out to all clubs offering an introductory umpiring course, the representative from the UA said that there had been interest shown from 21 individuals. However, these individuals were submitted from only six clubs and even though he had asked for a reply from all clubs there had only been two further nil responses.

League Handbook 2013

The Executive Secretary reported that the 2013 League Handbooks were not available for distribution at the meeting, but should be ready to give out at the Junior League meeting on Thursday 11th April at Meltham CC- 7.30pm. The Match & Registration Secretary added that only Cawthorne; Linthwaite and Moorlands were not scheduled to be represented at the Junior meeting, and special arrangements would need to be made for these three clubs. If this deadline is not met by the printers, then the Handbooks would be available for collection at the UA meeting on Thursday 18th April at Broad Oak CC.

Registration Issues

The Match & Registration Secretary stated that, with the exception of Emley Clarence and Kirkburton, he had received a retained list of registered players from all clubs by the 31st March deadline.

The Match & Registration Secretary also reported that he had adapted the current EU registration form, and had sent a copy of the new document to all clubs. Along with streamlining the form there was now a space on the front for the signature of the opposition captain to confirm 2nd X1 "on day registrations", plus a section for parental consent for Under 13 cricketers who are in school year 8 or Under 12 cricketers who are in school year 7, but are at county/district standard. There is also mention of the inclusion of a photograph with the registration, but at the moment this would not be necessary.

Any other business

- 1) The Finance Secretary reminded clubs to collect balls and scorebooks at the end of the meeting, and also stated that he had as yet not received payment from seven clubs.
- 2) The Chairman reported that despite the recent fire at Linthwaite they would be able to start the season on time, weather permitting, although teams may need to change in the bowling club nearby.
- 3) The Chairman complimented Paddock on the completion of their new changing facilities, and said that the President would be in attendance this coming Saturday for the official opening.

The next meeting of the Council is Wednesday 1st May 2013 – 7.30pm at Almondbury CC.