

THE "MP SPORTS" CHERWELL CRICKET LEAGUE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE HELD AT BICESTER & NORTH OXFORD
CRICKET CLUB
ON THURSDAY 3rd MARCH 2011 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT:

Clive Ricks - Chairman, Richard Giles - Acting Secretary, Len Payne - Acting Treasurer.
Steve Brain, David Pryor, David Ward, Stuart Misseldine, Lee Morgan, Gary Murton.
In Attendance - Simon Wilkinson (to advise on website etc.)

APOLOGIES:

Peter Tubb, Keith Arnold.

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Clive Ricks welcomed everyone to the meeting and emphasised that we were all there to run the league, on behalf of the clubs, with openness and integrity and everyone's efforts should go into meeting those aims.

He thanked the previous committee and officers for their past efforts and paid tribute to the way the latter had co-operated in the handover process. This was endorsed by Len Payne and Richard Giles who were grateful to Jim Lodge and Peter Tomlin for their assistance. David Ward also asked for thanks to be given to John Pearson for the excellent way he had compiled the fixtures for 2011.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the truncated January executive meeting were approved by those in attendance and duly signed as being an accurate record.

MATTERS ARISING

The Executive offered their and the MP Cherwell League clubs apologies to the Oxford Mail for reference, in previous minutes, of a conversation between an Oxford Mail employee and an ex-officer of the league. It was unanimously agreed that reference to the event in the January minutes was inappropriate.

There were no other matters arising not covered by the agenda.

CORRESPONDENCE

E mail received from Bledlow Village CC asking if it would be possible to change their 3rd X1 matches on 20th & 27th August 2011 from home to away matches. After discussion it was agreed that, unfortunately, it was too late to alter the fixture list at this late date.

The executive did however recognise that late August and early September is always a difficult time for ground availability and appealed to all clubs to let the secretary know of any free grounds during that period.

BVCC also raised a question of website access to amend and add details and information. Simon Wilkinson of Oxford CC has agreed to assist the MPSCCL with understanding and progressing all website and technical issues. Simon may be contacted via the secretary.

Correspondence received from Bledlow Ridge CC concerning the clubs 2nd X1 dropping to Division 6 to make way for Cublington CC who are joining the MPSCCL in 2011.

After a long discussion the executive's view was that the process had been mismanaged as no club should learn of league position via the press or when fixtures are published.

A suggestion that clubs should endorse the league positioning of new clubs at the AGM was supported and the suggestion will be discussed further.

It was agreed that the original decision should stand and the fixtures, as circulated, would not be amended. The Chairman will contact BRCC to explain and assure them that their point has been heard and taken on board.

E mail received from Cublington CC asking if their umpire accommodation, which has been upgraded following a visit by the Grounds & Facilities committee representatives, would meet league requirements for 2011 without the addition of a separate shower facility.

It was unanimously agreed that Cublington CC had made good progress and although separate umpires' showers would be preferred it will not affect the clubs standing in 2011. It was also agreed that Cublington CC and all future new clubs would be offered a mentor club to assist during the first season. Lee Morgan of Great Brickhill CC offered to assist Cublington in 2011.

Correspondence from several clubs requesting information regarding registration (all categories) for 2011. This will be discussed under a later agenda item and all clubs contacted with details asap.

Email from Oxford & Bletchington Nondescripts CC requesting a response to a request, to the previous Executive Committee, regarding reinstatement of one of their members. No correspondence has been handed down so the secretary will contact OBNCC and progress.

Email from Dinton CC requesting date of the upcoming EGM to endorse the 'new' Committee. This will be discussed under a later agenda item and all clubs informed.

FINANCE

Len Payne reported that he had received information and documentation from the previous treasurer and there are several matters which need discussion and possible action. He confirmed that the executive committee should approve all spending in advance.

Mandates need to be changed and it was agreed that the chairman, the secretary and the treasurer should be signatories with two of the three being a requirement. LP will organise with the other two officers.

Current bank balance stands at £5,782.00 with £3,500.00 of that being advance receipts for balls.

There are several matters to be clarified regarding the supply of balls and the treasurer will speak to MP Sports to discuss. A suggestion that in future clubs should be asked to pay for their balls prior to delivery will be discussed further.

Because of the changeover there have been delays in collecting registration fees. This is being expedited and club registration will begin asap.

All clubs have paid their affiliation fees for 2011 although four were late in paying. It was decided unanimously that because of the uncertainty surrounding the changes in the executive there will be no surcharge levied for this year only. This will be a one off goodwill gesture because of the reasons already stated.

LP stated that the presentation evening costs are rising year on year and recommended that the event should be self financing. This will be discussed further.

Also associated with the presentation evening are the league trophies which are not insured and are awarded without any accompanying agreement for the holders to insure and safeguard. This topic will also be discussed at future meetings.

The treasurer's final comment was that the league seems to have operated a fines culture and asked the executive to consider whether this needed to change.

HANDBOOK & WEBSITE

Simon Wilkinson informed the meeting that he has liaised with the webmaster and now has a certain amount of access to the website. He is happy to assist any club which is having problems and can be contacted via the secretary.

The previous member of the executive responsible for the compilation of the handbook has fed back via the previous secretary that on a scale of 1-10 handbook preparation was on 1. It was therefore decided that a cut down handbook would be printed this year if information can be obtained.

Tony Carter, who puts together the statistics for the handbook, informed the secretary that he had copies of the data which had already been sent to Graham Stearn and would email it directly to RG. It has since transpired that Tony Carter does not have an electronic copy but has posted photocopies to the secretary (RG). This has obviously caused another problem and hence delay but RG & SW will liaise to see what can be produced.

It is believed that MP Sports have new advertisements for the handbook and the treasurer will ask for them during upcoming discussions.

The secretary thanked Simon Wilkinson for all the help he has given since the EGM as it would have been impossible to unravel the website issues without him.

Registration & Rules

Graham Stearn had reported, via a third party, that all registration information had been deleted from his computer and was therefore not available. When it was pointed out to him that that information was the property of the MPSCL and under normal circumstances it would have been handed over to his successor, he stated that what had gone on 'was not normal circumstances'.

Gary Murton has agreed to compile a document that will be sent out to clubs as soon as possible.

Any number of players can be registered to play in divisions 1-6 at a cost of £4.00 prior to the commencement of the season. Thereafter any new registration will incur a charge of £10.00. All players playing in divisions 7-10 must agree to conform to the Rules & Code of Conduct of the MPSCL.

All clubs are requested to check that details on the league website are correct and accurate. If there are any anomalies or changes required then clubs are requested to change them personally or contact the Secretary with details.

The chairman thanked Gary Murton for accepting the role of Registration Secretary and this was unanimously endorsed by the rest of the executive.

RULES

Changes to playing rules for 2011 are as follows.

- Divisions 1-6 - Duration of the game will be 100 overs with the side batting first able to bat for a maximum of 53 overs. The side batting second will bat for the balance of the overs.
- Divisions 7-10 - duration of the game will; be 90 overs: maximum 45 overs per innings.
- For the avoidance of doubt the "7.30 finish" rule will no longer apply.
- Fielding circles will be reintroduced for all divisions.
- The points allocated for a draw will be as follows for all divisions.
 - If the team batting second gets within 10 or less runs of the first innings score it will receive 3 points and the bowling team 3 points.
 - If a team batting second gets between 11 and 20 runs of the first innings score it will receive 2 points and the bowling team 4 points.
 - If a team batting second gets between 21 and 30 runs of the first innings score it will receive 1 point and the bowling team 5 points.
 - If a team batting second is more than 30 behind the runs scored in the first innings it will receive 0 points and the bowling team 6 points.

- Divisions 7-10 - The minimum number of players in a club's lowest placed team will be nine; any team fielding less than 9 players will be deemed to have forfeited the match.
- All divisions except Division 1 - A minimum of 2 teams will be guaranteed promotion at the end of the season.

UMPIRES

Peter Tubb had sent in a report as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Good progress is being made and a number of umpires who had considered leaving the panel have expressed their support and a number of well known faces have returned to the fold.

One or two clubs have not yet sent in details but Peter is working with them to solve any problems. David Ward also offered his assistance to any club who is having difficulty in nominating an umpire. He can be contacted via the secretary.

Peter also raised the issue of umpires who are under 18 years of age umpiring in the MPCL. After discussion it was unanimously decided that any umpire over the age of 15 with an ECB qualification can and will be encouraged and supported to umpire in any division of the league. Every effort will be made to pair young umpires with experienced partners.

Peter Tubb was warmly thanked by all for the work he has put in so far and the Secretary congratulated him on the quality of his feedback.

EGM

The date of the EGM to endorse the nominations to the Executive Committee will be held on 14th April 2011 at Bicester & North Oxford Cricket Club, commencing at 7.30pm. This meeting will be followed by the captain's meeting at the same venue. Clubs may send whoever they wish to the meeting but are encouraged to mandate their captain to vote at the EGM.

SUB COMMITTEES

The Chairman will send out details of the make up of the sub committees as soon as possible after the EGM.

AOB

The Chairman suggested that the Disciplinary Committee should be made up of people independent of the Executive of the MPSCL. This will be discussed at the next Executive meeting.

Meeting closed at 11.12pm.

Date of the next Executive Committee meeting 31st March 2011 at BNOCC Bicester commencing at 7.30pm.

NB. It should be noted that all unanimous votes came from the members on the Executive allowed to vote by the terms of the constitution of the MPSCL. However the views of all prospective members of the Executive Committee were considered and all decisions reflected this.

Date

..... Chairman