

THE SHEPHERD NEAME ESSEX LEAGUE 2016 AGM
DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL AT THE 2017 AGM

Meeting held at the County Ground Chelmsford on Sunday 27th November 2016
The meeting started at 10.00am and ended at 11.10

1 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

In Attendance: A. Kennedy (Chairman)
C.Greenhill (Secretary)
A Akram
P Frame
A Jenner
T Kilby
P Middlemiss
A Pearson
M Vandome

Representatives of 37 member clubs

Apologies D Evans, T Clarke, A Sanderson, G Jelley

Absent Buckhurst Hill, Fives & Heronians, Horndon on the Hill.

2 MINUTES OF 2015 AGM AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes were approved.

Proposed – A Mayes (Colchester & East Essex)

Seconded – A Page (Stanford Le Hope)

There were no matters arising.

3 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - Andrew Kennedy (Colchester & East Essex)

The Chairman thanked the committee for all their efforts during 2016 and thanked George Salmon and Mike Vandome for their years of commitment.

2016 was a year of experimental change and generally most changes were well received. The committee has listened to clubs views and will be proposing a number of new experimental changes for 2017 as detailed in AOB.

The date of the Spring Meeting will not follow the typical date of the 3rd Sunday in April as this is Easter Sunday – it will be held on Sun 9th April at Gidea Park and Romford.

**4 REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2016
- Michael Vandome (Chelmsford) and Andrew Jenner (Gidea Park & Romford)**

Andrew Jenner thanked Michael Vandome for over 40 years of service.

Draft Accounts were presented to the meeting. It was noted that the annual Presentation Dinner deficit related to 2015 as the Dinner is always shown in arrears in the financial year it is held.

Approximately 160 people are needed to break even.

There is a big reduction by not having a printed Handbook but this is compensated by an increase in Umpires Panel expenses and the ball price is likely to increase for 2017.

Geoff May (Westcliff on Sea) queried the lack of any match expenses in the expenditure account. This was because due to a mix up as we did not enter the CCC Competition in 2016.

The accounts were presented for adoption by the meeting subject to audit.

Proposed – G May (Westcliff)

Seconded – R Mason (Loughton)

Agreed unanimously

5 REPORTS

a) SECRETARY - Cliff Greenhill (Loughton)

I have continued to send information by email where possible to save on postage. Can all clubs please ensure I am advised by email of the current club contacts and any changes of email address. Please also advise Paul Frame. I can now send messages to all 40 delegates with just one email. Also please check regularly on the website as all important messages are posted on there. Details of meeting dates are also published in the online Handbook.

I would like to thank Dan Feist and all his staff at the County for their assistance. In particular, I would like to mention Graham Jelley Essex Cricket Development Manager for his hard work and making the County Ground available. Graham works hard to support recreational cricket in Essex and is on our committee and umpiring panel. We are grateful to the Development Department for the help they give clubs in many ways including improving facilities and pitches, training coaches, obtaining grant aid and supporting youth cricket.

There have been 8 Executive Committee Meetings this year. In addition two Management Meetings were held. Clubs were also invited to a series of mid-season meetings to air their views.

After many years service both Michael Vandome and George Salmon are standing down. We thank them for all their efforts over the years.

Our thanks are due to the County Club, Chelmsford and Harold Wood for allowing us to use their premises to hold our meetings. Plus Brentwood, Hadleigh & Thundersley and Loughton for review meetings.

Thanks also to our umpires who provide excellent coverage

The umpires reports on clubs facilities, discipline and hospitality have been distributed. They are most useful and clubs should take note of these marks.

We had hardly any exception club reports for lower XIs.

Deryck Povey was thanked for producing summaries of the reports submitted by umpires and captains.

In the umpires marks the highest marks were obtained by Ardleigh Green (Discipline), Old Southendians (Pitch), Shenfield and South Woodford (Hospitality), Brentwood (Ground), Billericay (Outfield). In the markings from opposing captains Chelmsford (Discipline), Woodford Wells (Pitch), Orsett & Thurrock (Catering)

Clubs were asked to use lower XI reporting forms to report any concerns.

Thanks to Tom Clarke who co-ordinated the production of an on line handbook for 2016.

There will be two on-line books next year. A 2016 season review and a stand alone rules book. The rules book will be a standard document that everyone can look at online, download and print.

Thanks also to Adrian Page for organising this years dinner.

The draw for cup competitions will be made at the end of the meeting and displayed on the website.

The Play-Cricket site is again being revamped to make it more user friendly please take advantage of the winter months to update your player details. Please encourage all your players to sign up themselves on Play-Cricket. We get additional funding if enough players sign up.

It was disappointing that approximately 300 points were lost by clubs due to admin errors. There are a number of major improvements planned by Play-Cricket for the 2017 season.

We are still lucky to have our own magnificent site. This is being taken over by Paul Frame

Clubs are reminded that they must have a nominated fully trained Child Welfare Officer. Please make sure that all your documentation and DBS information is up to date.

Clubs are also reminded that to take part in an ECB Premier Division and Division 1 they must be accredited with Clubmark.

All clubs completed their on line health check by the deadline of 20th September.

ECB will be simplifying the on-line process and re-accreditation has been deferred by a year. Clubs scheduled for re-accreditation in 2016 will need to re-accredit in 2017. Those scheduled for 2017 will now take place in 2018. Clubs will still need to complete an annual health check.

The ECB are again offering Premier Leagues cash incentives to have clubs use computer scoring systems and especially on line scoring. More clubs seem to have people capable of doing this sometimes in addition to the traditional scorer.

There is no longer a requirement for the 1st XI home team to phone in the result by 8.30 on Saturday evening. Press pick up the results from play cricket and the ECB no longer employ Kate Laven to analyse and distribute this information. There is a proposal later in the meeting to get the home club to enter the basic details online by 8.30 on Saturday evening.

Clubs are again reminded of the regulations involving players in the Under 13 age group and under and especially those who are Under 11 and under. The ECB handout was distributed to all clubs and is detailed in the Handbook. There could be major insurance issues if clubs ignore these regulations.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas and a successful new year.

b) FIXTURES SECRETARY - Andrew Kennedy on behalf of Tom Clarke (Harold Wood)

The bottom two divisions will have five extra teams. One division of 13 teams the other 12. In the bottom two divisions not all teams will play each other twice. If a club has two teams in the same division they will not play each other twice.

The required format will be sent to the company who produce the fixtures at the start of December.

We hope to have fixtures for all divisions by the start of the new year.

c) PLAY CRICKET

Covered in the Secretary's report. We will be advertising for help in checking that the results and points claimed are entered correctly on Play Cricket.

Player name and date of birth can only be amended by the League Administrator. However it was pointed out by Deryck Povey that the player can be re-entered as a new player with the correct information and then the details can be merged.

d) DISCIPLINARY REPORT - Andrew Kennedy on behalf of Tony Sanderson (Epping)

Disciplinary offences are down in number – 2016 numbers are below with 2015 in brackets:-

F&FW – 5 (12)

Level 1 – 12 (9)

Level 2 – 7 (11)

Level 3 - 1 (0)

Level 4 – 0 (3)

But general behaviour is still not good. It is felt that some bad behaviour goes unreported.

e) UMPIRES - Tom Kilby

Umpires generally felt that many club changing rooms were not homely. Often not clean and cluttered with furniture and equipment with limited access to showers. Umpires felt there has been an increase in dissent, banter and sledging. Umpires may not be so tolerant in the 2017 season.

f) CRICKET BALLS AND SPONSORS - Andrew Pearson (Woodford Wells)

There were very few complaints comments were generally very favourable. Clubs were reminded that any sub-standard balls that are returned to Dukes will be replaced free of charge. There is likely to be an increase in the cost of balls for 2017.

Andrew thanked Dilip for his sponsorship and also Shepherd Neame who are reducing the amount but continuing their sponsorship. Please invite them to quote if possible. Thanks also to our other sponsors.

6 RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSAL 1 – Adoption of 2016 Experimental Regulations En Bloc

The Executive Committee proposes that the experimental playing regulations introduced for the 2016 season are adopted en bloc as permanent playing regulations. The regulations in question are detailed below:-

- a. *95 over timed format for 1st/2nd/3rd XI divisions*
- b. *85 over timed format for 4th XI divisions*
- c. *45 over limited over format 3rd XI divisions*
- d. *Minor changes to 1st and 2nd XI limited over format to remove catching circles and to make all no balls a free hit.*

Reason: The experimental rules introduced in 2016 were successfully implemented and feedback from clubs has been positive.

If Proposal 1 is defeated the meeting will progress to Proposal 2. If Proposal 1 is passed the meeting will progress to Proposal 3.

In Favour: 37 Against: 0 Abstained: 0

PROPOSAL 2 – Adoption of 2016 Experimental Regulations

The Executive Committee proposes that the experimental playing regulations introduced for the 2016 season are adopted one by one as permanent playing regulations. The regulations in question are detailed below and will be voted on in turn:-

- a. *95 over timed format for 1st/2nd/3rd XI divisions*
- b. *85 over timed format for 4th XI divisions*
- c. *45 over limited over format 3rd XI divisions*
- d. *Minor changes to 1st and 2nd XI limited over format to remove catching circles and to make all no balls a free hit.*

Reason: The experimental rules introduced in 2016 were successfully implemented and feedback from clubs has been positive.

As Proposal 1 was carried Proposal 2 was not needed

PROPOSAL 3 – GENERIC REGULATION A14 – Week 5 deadline for registration of contracted and non-exempt overseas players.

The Executive Committee proposes that Generic Regulation A14 is amended as follows and is moved to be Generic Regulation A12.4:-

No non-exempt overseas player (as defined) shall play in any match after week 5 of the League programme if he has not been registered by his Member Club with the Executive Committee as a playing member of that club prior to week 5 of the League programme of that year. However clubs may apply for an exemption to this regulation to the Executive Committee in the case of non-exempt overseas players who are of 3rd XI standard or below and wish to register after week 5. The decision of the Executive Committee is final with regard to any applications for exemption.

Reason:

- a. Contracted players are already covered in Regulation 13c so there is no need to refer to them in this regulation as well so this text has been deleted.
- b. To re-order the regulations to ensure all regulations related to overseas players are in the same place.
- c. To allow for recreational non-exempt overseas players who are of a 3rd XI standard or below to be registered throughout the season where agreed by the Executive Committee.

In favour: 35 Against: 2 Abstained: 0

PROPOSAL 4 – GENERIC REGULATION A13 – Contracted players

The Executive Committee proposes that Generic Regulation A13a has a further clause added as below:-

In the event that the contracted player registered by a member club is also a non-exempt overseas player, as defined in Regulation 12.1, then that club cannot play any further non-exempt overseas players in their 1st XI.

However that club can register and play a further English qualified or overseas exempt contracted player in their 1st XI.

Reason: To ensure there is additional flexibility in this regulation to enable all county contracted players to play in the league. This effectively ensures there is no more than one non-exempt overseas player per side, and in the event that this overseas player is also contracted, an additional contracted player is allowed.

In favour: 37 Against: 0 Abstained: 0

PROPOSAL 5 – GENERIC REGULATION A21 – Notification of results

The Executive Committee proposes that Generic Regulation A21a is amended as below and Generic Regulation A21d is deleted :-

Each home team must enter an accurate summary result and scores on play-cricket (including details of all times and lengths of rain stoppages and, in limited overs games, changes to targets and any over reductions):-

1st XI matches – by 8.30pm on the day of the match.

All other matches – by 12.00pm on the Sunday following the match.

Failure to do so will result in a one point penalty.

Reason: The 1st XI press results phone call is no longer required as the press get their information from play-cricket.

In favour: 34 Against: 1 Abstained: 2

There could be a problem in using Android Phones to submit scores. We will check this out with Play-Cricket.

In answer to a question 12.00pm is midday not midnight.

7 TO ELECT THE OFFICERS OF THE LEAGUE

The Officers and other members of the Committee were listed on the AGM notice. Of whom Michael Vandome (Treasurer and Assistant Secretary) and George Salmon are standing down, and Paul Frame was co-opted during the year.

It was proposed that Andy Jenner (Gidea Park & Romford) be elected as Treasurer and Assistant Secretary, that Paul Middlemiss (Upminster) and Paul Frame (Hutton) be elected and that the remaining listed members of the Committee be elected en bloc.

Proposed – A Page (Stanford Le Hope)

Seconded – W Morrison (Wickford)

All clubs were in favour and the committee were elected en bloc.

Michael Vandome and George Salmon were proposed as Honorary Life Vice Presidents and were elected unanimously

8 ELECTION OF AUDITORS

Proposed - A Pearson (Woodford Wells)

Seconded – D Shewring (Hornchurch)

The auditors Edmund Carr Chartered Accountants were elected unanimously.

9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The draw for the League Cup was carried out and will appear on the League website. The draw for the T20 competition for Division Prem and Div 1 clubs was carried out and will appear on the League website. All other clubs can enter a county wide T20 There will be a T20 Under 19 competition supported by the ECB

Adrian Page advised that it was disappointing that some clubs winning trophies had not attended the dinner. This also gives a poor message to sponsors who attended in force. 125 people booked and 123 people attended. 13 award winners out of 28 in total did not attend. Trophies not collected at the dinner were distributed at the AGM. The 2017 dinner has been booked for 20th October 2017 A thank you was given to Adrian Page. Paul Middlemiss is taking on this task in 2017.

Andrew Kennedy gave a brief outline of the experimental rules for 2017.

Proposed Experimental Rule changes for the 2017 season

1. 1st /2nd/3rd XI - 95 over timed

To move the start of the last hour 10 minutes later to more accurately allow for an over rate of 17 per hour.

2. 4th XI – 40 over

To introduce a split format to the 4th XI divisions where the limited over matches will be of 40 overs per side and will use the same regulations as the 3rd XI

3. 3rd / 4th XI limited over bowling restrictions

No bowler may be allowed to bowl more than one fifth of the total overs.

4. Start times

- a. All matches in all divisions regardless of the format will start at 12.30pm.
- b. The exception to this is that all 1st XI Premier 120 over timed matches at both the start and end of the season will all start at 11am.
- c. This means that the scheduled finish times are now as follows:-

1st XI Prem - 120 over timed – 7.10pm

1st /2nd/3rd XI - 95 over timed – 6.40pm

4th XI – 85 over timed – 6.00pm

1st XI - 50 over – 7.40pm

2nd / 3rd XI - 45 over – 7.00pm

4th XI – 40 over – 6.20pm

5. Duckworth Lewis in 1st XI limited over matches

All 1st XI 50 over matches will use the current 1st XI Prem Limited Over Duckworth Lewis regulations.

The League Cup will also use these regulations amended for a 45 over match.

Dan Feist gave a presentation on the plan to develop cricket in Essex and East Anglia.

Thanks were given to the County Club for the use of the County Ground for the meeting.