



Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

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Premier Section Cricket Committee

7th meeting – Wednesday 20 April 2022 – 7.30pm by Zoom

Note of Meeting

Present: Mark Beardshall (chair), Jason Booth, Alex Fletcher, Chris Froggett, Andy Harrison, Bryan Lowe, Steve Ward, Andrew Tipple (observer), Roger Pugh (note-taker)

Apologies: Chris Cobb, Mick Forrester

- 1 **Welcome.** MB welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for missing the previous meeting. SW was travelling down to Oxfordshire and would join the meeting as soon as possible.
- 2 **Facilities criteria for distribution of ECB monies.** After explanation and discussion of the paper approved by LEB, the committee agreed that they were happy for the sub-group to agree the criteria. CF to take forward.
- 3 **Equity & Diversity update.** JB provided a short update from the Group:
 - the player survey has now closed again after being reopened and has had 250 responses compared to 170 when it was originally opened last year; JB said that the responses will now be analysed
 - JB commended the work done by RP on behalf of the Equity & Diversity Group (EDG) since he appeared at the group six months ago, and said that the EDG had no issues with him being utilised by the League in any way it sees fit; the EDG are in favour of redemption, rehabilitation and re-education – not cancellation
 - the advert for new members of the EDG, aimed at making it representative of the whole of the League, is currently with YCB for advice on correct terminology – the aim of the group is to represent everyone and to ensure everyone in the league is respected
 - JB raised the issue of the contravening of rule 43 *Players Clothing* and it was confirmed that the rule, the reminder in the bulletin, and instructions to umpires, refer to no slogans being allowed on clothing, irrespective of subject matter; umpires will be asked that if they believe that any article of clothing infringes the rule, they should speak to the relevant captain and advise that they are required to report the matter if it is worn during the game
- 4 **Social media feedback.** RP had compiled a list of key points that were made in response to AT's questions for Facebook. These included; bowlers' restrictions, pink balls and coloured clothing, monitoring T20 Blast sides given increased number of matchdays, player-of-the-month awards, and communication with clubs before decisions are made. RP had recommended arranging a Premier Section captains' meeting later in the season, and had offered to organise this. There was a discussion about some of the issues raised, and it was agreed that a simple player survey should be organised, followed up by a captains' meeting to discuss the feedback obtained, and inform any proposals. MB thanked AT for his work on Facebook.

5 **Overseas players.** A query has been received as to whether the registered overseas player for the club's second team could play for the first team at the start of the season, as the first team overseas player had not yet arrived. The existing rule does not specifically address the issue, or the question of replacement overseas being allowed up to a given point in the season. In discussion, the following points were agreed:

- clubs can register a maximum of two overseas players – can be professional or amateur
- a replacement overseas player can be registered for any overseas up to 30 June (as in YL/YSPL)
- a lower team overseas player should be allowed to deputise for a higher team overseas in the case of late arrival by the latter at the start of the season only
- the second team overseas may be returned to the second team when the need arises without infringing rule 39 (players being dropped into a lower team to strengthen it)

A draft amended rule 38 is attached for ratification by LEB.

6 **Umpire recruitment.** BL reported that ECB ACO had left it too late to do anything to support recruitment. He also said that the SYCUA had managed to reduce the cost of kitting out a new umpire from £170 to £50. There followed a general discussion about recruitment, in which the following points were made:

- the PS should nominate a representative to work with the umpires' associations on umpire recruitment
- MB said that we want to recruit the right people, not just those who have been persuaded to do it to avoid a club being 'sanctioned', in order to ensure quality – in particular those that had played at a good standard
- the League and/or PS clubs could help with sponsorship or subsidy for umpires to be trained and kitted out
- JB said that the *Young Leaders Project* for 14 to 24-year olds is helping to involve young people interested in the game, but not good enough to play at a decent level, in groundsmanship, umpiring and scoring instead, and that we might be able to get involved in that – SW to meet Jonathan Crabtree, will discuss and feed back
- JB suggested that we need a strategy to cover all avenues covering the basic principles of 'recruit, retain, and reward'
- It was also suggested that we reach out to seek recruits via Facebook and Play-Cricket

To be followed up at the next meeting.

7 **Other business.** The following items of other business were raised:

- *Scoring.* SW reported that
 - Premier Section scorers training had been completed pre-season, and he had followed up with a session the previous day
 - several keen young scorers are now in place
 - there is an issue with online scoring at Shiregreen, so he had arranged a meeting at the club at the weekend

MB thanked SW for all his hard work on scorer education.

- *Social media.* AT said that if any club would like us to help promote club activities on our Facebook page, for example, All Stars, Dynamos, Womens' & Girls' cricket, charity and club fund-raising activities, they should email him with details – RP to include in Bulletin.
- *Roger Pugh.* Following the comments made by JB earlier in the meeting, MB asked whether members would be content if RP was co-opted as a full member of this committee. This was agreed, subject to approval of the LEB.

8 **Close.** The meeting closed at 9.35. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 20 June.

Draft revised admin rule 38

- i. *Clubs will be allowed to register up to two overseas players on the basis of one per team for teams in the Premier Section and Senior Section Division 2 upwards. The team for whom the player is registered must be specified. Overseas players may be either a professional or an amateur. No overseas player may be registered after 30 June.*
- ii. *An overseas player in any one team may be replaced once during the season prior to the 30 June. This would include replacing a first team overseas with a second team overseas player at the start of the season only, who if the need arises may be returned to the second team without infringing rule 39.*
- iii. Below Division 2, overseas players may only be engaged with the permission of the Senior Section Cricket Committee.
- iv. For all registered overseas players, Home Office and ECB rules and guidelines must be followed, the correct visa obtained, and the approval of the Compliance Manager obtained before the player is registered. The Compliance Manager will make such checks as he deems necessary before giving approval to player registrar.
- v. In addition to the above, clubs may register up to two players who are deemed to be category 3 exempt, or habitually resident in the UK, under current Home Office/ECB guidelines. In the case of any doubt, advice should be sought from the Compliance Manager.
- vi. At the end of the season, all overseas players will be removed from YCSPL Play-Cricket registration.

New paras in italic