

NORTH WEST CRICKET OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held at Read Constitutional Club

Tuesday 26th March

Present: Chairman K Holt and **21** other members

Apologies P Ashton, T Brooks, I Atcha, M Bridges, M Liddell, B Peake, J Pendlebury, B Slinger, N Stratton R Taylor, S Merry

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October had been distributed and were approved as a correct record

Matters arising. At the AGM Mr Venn was nominated as Vice Chairman. He said he would do it if there was no one else but suggested we ask a scorer. Maybe this might attract more scorers in seeing they are part of the organisation. This was approved by the committee and members present were asked to ratify this as Stephen Merry was prepared to take on the role and was duly elected as Vice Chairman

Several scorers' courses had been run and attended by several of our scorers and a couple of new ones attended the level 1 course. Along with the ECB LCF a total of 55 young officials had attended two young officials' courses but not many from the NWCL

The two nights arranged for club nominated umpires were poorly attended, one had 7 the other 2.

Correspondence: Minutes of the February and March executive meetings and minutes of the full league meeting on February 13th. Copies of these could be found on the league website. A letter of condolence had gone to the family of David Pilkington and letters had been sent out to the young scorers who were to receive an award for their scoring.

An email had been received from Bill Slinger which was read out to members

Treasurers report: Mr Boyle said he had received 22 subscriptions so far and was taking more tonight. Dead line was 1st April and it was possible to pay by bank transfer. Just ask the treasure for details A small payment had been made for travel expenses for the umpire training. Balance was £4030.46

Fixture allocation. In the absence of Mr Bridges the secretary asked that members constantly up their availability on WTU. He had appointed fixtures up to the end of May. The secretary said she had chased those who had not filled the dates in. We will have a couple of new umpires doing second team games so please make them welcome, they are just starting off their umpiring career and will have attended either training for CNU or the ECB full day course.

Rule Changes These were discussed e.g. the rule saying you can't start or restart in rain had gone. Use common sense and MCC law. The tea interval was 30 minutes therefore the finish countback time was 7.10pm and not 7.05 pm and latest start time was 4.30pm not 4.25pm. Umpires were allowed to attend 30 minutes before a game and not 45. 30 minutes was not long enough to get prepared for a match so that would be classed as the bare minimum. In the T20, batters had 90 seconds to be ready to play and on appeal could be given out. In cup matches up to the semi-final if scores are level and wickets lost are the same and the balls received to get the total are the same then a super over can be held. It will be a disciplinary offence for a club to concede a game during mid-week if their chances of winning are slim. They can concede on the day without any penalty. The penalty could be suspension from competition next season.

These will be discussed again more fully at the training day. Meanwhile they are all on the league website.

Payment of Umpires Expenses. Payment at the tea interval was still there in the rules. The question was what happens if they aren't paid at tea. It was proposed by J Sharples and seconded by C Shields that we don't go out for the second half until we are paid. This was carried by a majority vote 15 for, 3 against and would be mentioned at both league executive and full league meeting as well as the captains meeting. Barrowford were playing all their T20 away so why were the home team paying for both umpires as for the T20 each side pays an umpire. Expenses remained the same, league and cup £60, £90 if on own. T20 £30 or £45 if on own.

Scorers: No matters to mention

Coats: There was no sign yet of anything happening with this. K Boyle said he would contact Mark Graham to see if it was still happening as needed some sort of commitment by the end of May if not, we will go our own way which means individuals would have to contribute to the cost if they want one. The chairman said he had a contact that might be able to provide coats.

Training day This was to be held on Sunday May 14th. It clashed with National KO games but as they might not be played due to the state of grounds it was agreed to go ahead. This would be at Tonge CC starting at 10am and going to 3.30pm. Lunch will be provided. In order to cater for the day if you weren't at this meeting can you let me know if you will be attending by April 7th, please.

A.O.B 1The secretary had team cards, match cards and ECB directive cards for those who wanted them.

2Mr Venn asked about the way the league dealt with amendments to rule and that there should be a committee to sort things out. The secretary said there was a committee who vetted the rule changes and was meant to alter ones that affected more than one rule. Because some of the wording of some rules was misleading then clubs were asked to reword them and have a SGM to vote on them plus cup rule changes. Unfortunately, the SGM by zoom was not successful due to time constraints

3The ECB had implemented training for new umpires alongside the ACO and leagues would be asked to say what training they wanted. The secretary said the ACO had been informed as to our training day for all members and the two courses run for CNU. Members were asked what they wanted to see at our meetings. The general opinion was during the summer months there was always something to talk about but during the winter law discussion would be welcome.

4Barrowford was mentioned re changing facilities for umpires, no covers, cones instead of discs etc. and what had been done about it. The secretary said members of the executive had met with Barrowford to discuss matters and would bring it up at the executive meeting to find out the results of the meeting

5. There was concern over clubs playing ringers. One umpire quoted a team whom he had on Saturday and had the same team on the Sunday, same team card for both but different players. It needed to be reported.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.50pm, the next meeting was part of the training day

Chairman _____ Date _____