

NORTH WEST CRICKET OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held at Tonge CC on 20th August 2024

Present: Chairman K Holt and 21 other members.

Apologies: T Brooks, P Ashton, M Cregan, D Gillett, D Caddick, B Lambert, R O'Donnell, A Patel, S Patel, J Pendlebury, S Savage, N Stratton, K Till, A Dixon, M Venn, G Wilkinson, S Merry.

Minutes of the meeting held at Read CC on July 16th had been circulated and approved as a true record.

Matters arising. Icon sports had been notified we would get back to them later as we were trying to find a sponsor. As for the badges the secretary had forgotten to organise that and it was agreed not to get them but wait for the coats. It would take 6 weeks for the coats once they received the order so numbers and sizes had to be sorted by the February AGM.

Correspondence: minutes of league executive meeting on 7th August and full league meeting on 13th August. These were available on the league website.

Treasurers report: Mr Boyle had received one more subscription of £10 and balance stood at £2934.46. which could support a payment towards the cost of the coats.

Fixture Appointments: M Bridges said he had a full complement for 31st August, 7th September but was struggling for 21st September which was the extra add on fixture so if anyone was now available then to let him know. He asked that colleagues not change fixtures without letting him know.

Discipline. Kevin Boyle said over the weekend he had received 4 more reports, all not accepting umpires' decisions, bringing the total to 26. He had issued 13 level 1, 11 level 2, 1 level 3 and 1 social media violation. All players names concerned were published on the website along with offence and ban.

. Captains, Umpires, Ground reports, the secretary said she had received 58 poor reports from captains, all of which had been answered. Only one umpire had received poor reports from both sides and the matter had been resolved. The main criticism was LBW, with 26 comments made. However there had been some very positive praiseworthy comments as well which was good to see. Not all umpires were sending in their reports on fair play or ground. In order to fill them in you need to register with play cricket. The secretary would send out some instructions how to do this. All comments re grounds were passed onto the grounds committee. Barrowford, facilities, Astley bridge no key, and Blackrod's poor pitch as far as uneven bounce goes, were the main complaints.

Progress of season to date

1 David Heap gave a power point presentation re law 42 and the reporting procedure and things to look for regarding the levels of poor behaviour. So many players were getting away with misbehaviour if umpires do not report the offence that causes them to give a final warning before issuing 5 penalty runs. By all means give a friendly warning but as soon as you issue a warning that offence should be reported or else the player could be doing it every week and not being punished. It was apparent from comments on the captains reports that they were not aware of the procedure so it is something that should be shown at the next captains meeting. It was suggested as the attendance was so poor at this year's meeting a proposal for amendment to rule be put in saying non attendance would be £25 per senior team.

The league had a new disciplinary adjudicator, Tony Tipping who was invited to attend tonight's meeting but was on holiday but will try to come to the next one. He will deal with levels 1 and 2 whereas Kevin would deal with 3 and 4 as a panel has to be set up for these latter levels.

2 Concussion protocol. Over the weekend there had been two incidents where players had been hurt. One was very serious when two players collided and left one unconscious on the ground. Please do not attempt to move the player other than in the recovery position unless you are medically trained. Wait for the ambulance. We were pleased to hear the player was now recovering at home.

From an umpiring point of view, stoppages for injury are treated like weather and DL comes into play

The other incident was a wicket keeper standing up without a helmet, being hit above the eye. He was taken off and patched up but the umpires quite rightly were concerned and asked the captain if he had followed the protocol e.g. ask the player does he know where his is etc. It is then the captain's responsibility not the umpires. The umpires were still concerned and insisted the wicketkeeper stand back. If both umpires are still unhappy with the player, then he should be encouraged to leave the field and get checked out.

Scorers: As a few teams are turning up without a scorer or no scorebook this needs reporting on your fair play report. Please check at the toss and if one team has no scorer inform them, they are to pay the other scorer. The league wanted the scorebook to be completed rather than the I-pad etc. Some away scorers had no book but were scoring electronically which is against the league rules. There must be a hard copy for umpires to sign.

In order to try and overcome this problem it was suggested we put forward an amendment to rule saying they pay the opposition scorer and were deducted one point for not having a competent scorer in the first place

A.O.B

1 Two clubs had refused players entry into their members bar as said it was for members only. This would be brought to the attention of the league executive,

2. On September 10th we would be holding a bowling night at Read CC starting at 6.pm followed by refreshments and our meeting about 8pm. The secretary would need to know numbers who wanted to play bowls by September 3rd,

3 This was not mentioned until after the meeting but four of our scorers from the NWCL scored in the T20 Mersey cup early in July and photos and write up are to be put on our website.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.07pm the next one to be on September 10th, hopefully at Read Constitutional Club or Read CC. Venue will be confirmed at a later date.

Chairman _____ Date _____ -

