

North West Cricket Officials Association

Minutes of the meeting held at Tonge CC on June 18th 2024

Present Chairman K Holt and 21 other members

Apologies had been received from I Atcha, B Ahmed, G Wilkinson, B Slinger, J Sharples, M Venn, P Ashton, K Boyle, R ODonnell, A Dixon , A Ali

Minutes of the meeting held on March 26th were read and approved.

Matters arising. Handbooks were now available from the secretary or Mike Bridges .CNU were to be asked by the panel umpire if they wished to take a full part or just do square leg and not be told they were only doing square leg.

Match fee for T20 was £30 , not £35 Or £40 as some were asking for.

Umpires' coats. Our contact said he had the badge and was still awaiting a sponsor. It was felt we go our own way and look at some prices for reversible umpire jackets. T Brooks said she had contacts and J Pendlebury said Icon sports do reversible coats at a cost of £50. K Holt said he had a contact but could only do single jackets . The secretary was to look into prices and perhaps get a sample. It was suggested we get a badge with the NWCL logo which can be stuck over existing badges. P Andrews would get a quote. Suggestion was made that instead of coats the association purchase umpire packs for everyone but this didn't get very far.

Correspondence: ILague executive minutes of meetings in May and June plus full league meeting in June. E mails from K Boyle, S wiseman and M Venn regarding an incident at little lever which was a league matter.

Treasurers report: M Bridges gave the report on behalf of Kevin Boyle. He had received 7 further subscriptions of £10 and paid out £95 for the training day lunch plus £50 for hire of room. Balance was £3924.46

Disciplinary report. 8 players had been reported , L Hipgrave (earby) level 1 ban was 2 matches as was reported last year.

Abrar Hussain (feniscowles) Level 2 2 match ban plus 1 suspended for 12 months

Mathew Cavanagh, Barnoldswick level 2 2 match ban plus 1 suspended for 12 months.

Daniel Lord (Cherry Tree)Level 1 , 1 match ban

Callum Clarke (padiham)Level1 1 match ban

David Cryer (AB)level 2 2 match ban

Peter Richardson (Salesbury)1 match suspended ban for 12 months

Sam Hardman (Tonge) Level 3, 4 match ban and 3 suspended for 12 months.

It was important that all disciplinary matters are reported as the secretary was aware of some umpires not reporting incidents due to having received an apology from the player and captain. It was entirely up to the disciplinary committee to decide if any punishment was to be dished out. By not reporting incidents then makes it harder for your colleagues in the following weeks.

Reports. Colleagues were reminded they should be filling in reports after their match. e.g. ground and Fair play. It can be done as a joint effort and was done through play cricket. Mark Liddell and the secretary work their way through captains and umpires reports each week. Any comments regarding the ground are sent to Andy Scambler . a member of the grounds committee. So far it was minor offences e.g. umpires' room not clean and tidy and no key. Barrowford were still causing concerns and at the league executive meeting it was suggested that a couple of senior umpires go there to see what was going on.

32 poor umpire reports had been received so far from captains, the main cause for concern being LBW and wides closely followed by not coping with pressure. Some captains get the impression the louder a team appeals the more likelihood the umpire will give a decision in their favour. Please think about your decision, do not put your finger up before the appeal has finished., but do not take too long as this gives the impression you were not sure. Please do not change your mind due to pressure by the team.

Fixtures. M Bridges said he had done the fixtures up to 6th July and Phil Keating was helping with T20 fixtures and had managed to get help from the Lancashire league and palace shield. Please keep WTU up to date.

Scorers. Problems have arisen due to scorers sitting in the club's function room and not the scoreboard. Clubs should stop this as it was a hinderance to scorers who kept being mithered and people setting up room for a function. IT was mentioned that some teams didn't have scorers or no scorebook and umpires were asked to find out if clubs had a scorer or scorebook etc at the toss and if not, it must be mentioned on the umpires' report. The report says a competent scorer and it was all too easy to put a scorer in the box and copy off his colleague.

Progress of season to date. Live streaming This was causing a few problems as players were using it to criticise umpires and their decisions. The whole purpose of live streaming was to enable those who cannot get to the ground to be able to watch it elsewhere. A list of clubs live streaming games is on the website and players and umpires are meant to be informed this was taking place and had a right to object as did parents of youngsters playing.

Third team umpires. If anyone wanted to be added to a list of umpires willing to do any of these Sunday games then let the secretary know and it can be handed to Gerard Metcalf to let clubs know.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.58 pm the next meeting to be Tuesday 16th venue to be confirmed but could be Read CC and not Read constitutional club.

Chairman_____ Date _____