

17th October 2024

Anthony Axford North West Cricket League

Abridged Minutes of the General Committee Meeting
Held at Brinscall C.C.

Apologies; Barrowford, Baxenden, Farnworth SC, Foulridge, Walkden (Frank Hinks), Whalley, Simon Booth, Mike Bridges, Andy Scambler. Other clubs plus PA, TB, JH, KK, MS, BS (Chair), RS, and RT attended with the exception of Chatburn. Earby had been added to the attendees at the last meeting.

Chair; BS congratulated all trophy winners, senior and junior, and all clubs who had gained promotion.

Minutes of the Last Meeting; These had been circulated and were agreed to be a correct record. Any matters arising were contained in the agenda.

Finance; There are no outstanding debts.

League Presentation; This will be at Accrington Stanley F.C. on 15th November. Details will follow.

Umpires; Clubs were thanked for submitting ground reports which were forwarded to Andy Scambler. The draw for the Indoor KO will be made soon. The benefits of a pre season umpires /captains meeting were discussed. Stuart Wiseman is congratulated on his appointment as third umpire at the Lancs KO final.

Discipline; There had been 34 cases, more than the previous season. Two bans carry over to next season. The Chair had added his thanks to Kevin Boyle who will be standing down as Discipline Officer.

LCF Report; Reporting, the Secretary stressed the importance of girls / ladies cricket, especially in terms of funding. Adele Williams is the new Safeguarding lead awilliams@lancashirecricket.co.uk, Mike Haydock is the new Cricket Discrimination Investigator mhaydock@lancashirecricket.co.uk, equality@lancashirecricket.co.uk. A list of Clubmark accredited clubs has recently been forwarded to clubs. The revised allocation of clubs for the Lancs KO is GMCL 5 (including 2024 finalist), LL, NWCL, LC, NL 4 each, S&D, PS, WL 3 each, GMACL 2. Following challenging situations in another league regarding players playing in more than one league, eventually affecting promotion and relegation places, it was agreed this would be discussed further by leagues.

Registrations; The Chair explained why Walkden firsts and seconds had received points deductions following breaches of our rules. Neither penalty affected promotion as their first team finished third and the second team moved up a division despite the penalty. The club were also fined. Our Registration members will be assisting

Walkden with their registration process before next season. The Chair thanked Callum Clarke for his work over several weeks.

The NWCL have been asked by LCF to trial 'Smartsheets' which is an electronic means of getting information about clubs to the County. TB explained there would be quite a lot of work for clubs initially, but moving forward only updates would be required.

EDI and Safeguarding; There are no items outstanding.

Juniors; MS thanked all clubs participating in our junior section and our junior representative teams, saying that it been a successful season. The recent junior presentation had also been a success.

During the winter there will under 11 and under 13 indoor competitions and indoor coaching for girls age 9 to 15.

Looking forward to the 2025 season, we are looking at more flexibility with girls fixtures, and clubs were reminded that where clubs have combined to form a girls team, both should record the match on Play-Cricket. We are expecting to run softball and hardball leagues for girls.

Grounds; AS and the Ground Committee are working on the captains' reports, encouraging clubs to improve grounds and facilities where required. Where necessary clubs will be contacted over the winter.

The ECB were unable to inspect three grounds, Astley Bridge, Barnoldswick and Oswaldtwistle Immanuel, as part of the PowerPitch exercise. These will be carried out early 2025. Other clubs who haven't received a report should contact the League Secretary.

Proposed Rule Amendments; These will be sent to clubs following the meeting, along with observations from the Rules Committee. Clubs have until 14th November to put forward amendments to the proposals. Again these need to be proposed and seconded by separate clubs.

Dates of Next Meetings; 5th November Exec at Tonge C.C. AGM 25th November.