

6th May 2025

Anthony Axford North West Cricket League

Minutes of the Full Meeting With Clubs

Held at Tonge C.C.

Apologies; Adele Williams (LCF), Mike Bridges, Tracey Brooks, Callum Clarke, Karen Knott, Bill Slinger, Chatburn, Kearsley, Padiham, Ribblesdale Wanderers.

Present; PA, SB, KH, AS, MS, RT, clubs with the exception of Atherton, Barrowford, Baxenden, Burnley Beldevere, Farnworth S.C. and Foulridge.

Mike Williams (LCF); Mike introduced himself and reported on EDI issues on behalf of Adele and himself stressing the importance of recording and reporting issues. Further information is attached to the email with these minutes.

Minutes of the Last Meeting; These were accepted as a correct record. There were no matters arising. PA read out a statement from BS (below).

Finance; The bank balance was reported. Clubs will be invoiced for balls in July or August, less the £400 deposit from when the NWCL was formed. There is a possibility we may have to look for an alternative venue for our presentation.

Registrations; Nothing to report.

Discipline; No reports to date.

Umpires; Captains reports should be submitted by Thursday morning at the latest. Eight reports have been received marking an umpire as 'poor'. All have been replied to. There will be a further umpires / captains meeting via Zoom in June.

Indoor KO 2026; Only Little Lever and Tonge have responded to date. The deadline for applications is Friday 16th May.

Grounds; The Ground Committee are reviewing captains and umpires reports and will be meeting next week.

Juniors; MS reported there has been a promising start to the season, and clubs should note the changes to the fast bowling directive, and equipment requirements for junior wicket keepers, including helmets and boxes.

EDI and Safeguarding; Clubs are advised to monitor the LCF website for updates.

NWCL Expansion; RT said there have been articles in the Lancashire Telegraph, Bolton News and Bury Times. It may be necessary to place an advert in the Lancashire Post to cover the Preston and Chorley Areas. SB has been interviewed on Radio Lancashire. Clubs, players and

club members are asked to promote the expansion via the articles on our social media. RT said there be a stumbling block in our recruitment policy, but that is a topic for another meeting. It was agreed the Executive should vet club applications, but recommendations have to be rubber stamped by the full committee. There may have to be changes to the published dates of Exec and full meetings.

Ramsbottom Cup Draw;

Barnoldswick v Chatburn 1st

Ribblesdale Wanderers v Read

Earby v Foulridge 2nd

Farnworth v Little Lever

Oswaldtwistle Immanuel v Cherry Tree

Astley Bridge v Earby

Whalley v Barrowford 1st

Feniscowles 1st v Farnworth S.C.

Feniscowles indicated they would like to take part in the Lawrenson Cup, the Secretary will contact Burnley Beldevere and Walkden as all their second teams forfeit the first round.

Date of Next Meetings; To be advised.

Chairman's Remarks

"We have had an excellent start to the season in relation to the weather and long may it continue. There has been a lot of good cricket played and due to the dry weather bowlers have not been having things all their own way.

The First Round of the Ramsbottom Cup was completed in dry but cool or COLD weather dependant on the location of the match on Sunday.

We therefore now have the teams for the Ramsbottom Cup Round Two and Lawrenson Cup Round One.

The Birtwistle Cup(Senior 20/20) starts on Friday 16th May, with the Lancashire County KO Cup and the Hamer Cup First round on Sunday 18th May. Just to repeat best wishes to our four representatives in the Lancashire KO.

Read have been selected as the focus Club by the Cricketer magazine in the Voneus Village Cup Competition, so they or the team that beats them will be followed all the way to the Final at Lords in September so best wishes to them in that competition."