

South Metropolitan Cricket Association



Minutes of the SMCA General Meeting held at Leeming on Tuesday 25 September 2018

Meeting commenced at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

Executive - Paul Speering (Chair), Graeme Ashley, Ray Howe, Mario Baeli, Scott Knight, Ian Hale, John Griffin (Minutes)

Clubs – as per attendance list.

APOLOGIES: Graham Santich, Gary Hartman

Paul Speering opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees. Paul explained the reason why the meeting had been called.

The meeting has been called in accordance with Clause 21.3. of the Constitution, in that the Executive must, within 30 days of receiving a request in writing to do so from not less than four (4) member clubs, convene a special general meeting to reverse the SMCA Executive's decision to exempt Phoenix from relegation from First Grade should they finish last in the First Grade 2018-19 season. The Clubs requesting a meeting are Bicton-Attadale, CBC, East Fremantle, Hilton Palmyra, Leeming Spartan and SJ Blues.

The background relating to the Executive's decision is described as follows:

1. On 31/8/18 Armadale Cricket Club advised they had suffered a mass exodus of 1st grade players and requested a withdrawal from 1st grade for 2018/19.
2. Based on the precedent of the previous two years (Kardinya in 16/17 and Thornlie in 17/18) where we received requests from Clubs to similarly withdraw from 1st grade, the Executive asked Phoenix, which was the team relegated from 1st grade after season 17/18, to see if they would be willing to remain in 1st grade for season 18/19 to avoid a 7-team competition
3. In similar circumstances just 12 months ago, where Phoenix agreed to be reinstated despite not having the opportunity to plan/recruit during the off season, the Club has again come to our rescue in agreeing to remain in 1st grade for season 18/19 subject to meeting the Executive on 3rd September 2018.
4. At that meeting, Phoenix expressed that this was the second consecutive year where they had been denied the opportunity during the off season to plan for their participation in the premier grade which had contributed to their ladder position in season 17/18. As they were

at a distinct disadvantage compared to the 7 other clubs, Phoenix asked if they if they could be granted some compensation by being exempted from relegation for 18/19 so they do not find themselves in the same position next year. Phoenix also asked that the relegation exemption apply to all 1st grade clubs for the 2018/19 season.

5. The Executive considered Phoenix's request and recognised the Club's hardship that has been forced upon them through no fault of their own. Given their disadvantages caused by these unusual circumstances and Phoenix's willingness to assist the Association to maintain the competitiveness of the competition, the Executive agreed to grant the club an exemption from relegation for season 18/19 only.

Paul then explained that the purpose of the meeting was to:

1. Agree to grant relegation exemption to all 1st grade clubs in the 2018/19 season

Input from the clubs was then asked. Club representatives then offered various comments for and against the relegation exemption.

Following vigorous and energetic discussion the following motion was put forward:

Paul Speering moved that:

"Should the exemption offered to Phoenix be offered to the other seven 1st grade clubs"-

For 1 club, Against 21 clubs

MOTION NOT SUPPORTED

After more discussion the following motion was put forward by EFCC

"The relegation exemption given to Phoenix by the SMCA Executive for the 2018/19 season be removed".

For 21 Clubs - Against 1 Club

MOTION CARRIED

HPCC then suggested that given the disruption that has occurred to the 1st grade competition over the past three seasons following a team withdrawal, all clubs need to confirm their intent to remain in 1st grade by the Association AGM which is usually held in the first week of August each year.

Paul then advised the attendees that the Fixtures still required some fine-tuning before they are published.

CLOSURE: Paul then closed the meeting at 7.40 pm.