

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

Agenda of the Executive Meeting 9 December 2019

Venue: Barrel House – South Street – 6 pm



PRESENT: Paul Speering (Chair, Clifford Joseph, Gary Hartman, Ian Hale, Mario Baeli, Norm Harris, Mark Iannello, John Griffin (minutes)

APOLOGIES: Ian Del Rosso

GUESTS: Graham Santich, Graeme Ashley

Paul Speering opened the Meeting at 6.28 pm. Paul welcomed Graham Santich and Graeme Ashley to the meeting and thanked them for their significant contributions to the Association over many years.

MINUTES of PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE MEETING: 28 October 2019

Moved by Ian Hale and Seconded by Mark Iannello that the Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 28 October 2019 be accepted.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Roleystone- Karragullen CC submitted a Grievance Letter on 10 October 2019 in regard to team grading. The matter was discussed and it was agreed that a mediation meeting with RKCC would be held.

Action: Paul Speering, Ian Hale, Clifford Joseph and John Griffin to consider further to provide a resolution.

This matter is still work in progress and it is intended to meet with RKCC in early 2020.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Paul discussed the ball trial that was occurring in 5th and 6th grade. Mixed results had been received with the trial-balls after the first match, with some of the trial with balls splitting prior to the 40 overs being bowled. Negative reports have also been received from some of the teams involved.

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Gary mentioned that recent player behaviour and intimidation of umpires is unacceptable and needs to be addressed immediately. Unfortunately reports were received outside the required timeframes or not submitted at all. The bylaws need to be amended and strengthened. Clubs are responsible for player behaviour and need to address it.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mario presented the SMCA Financial report. Bank balance in the operating account is \$35,876.84 and the balance of the Cash Reserve account is \$48,802.77

Account signatories have been successfully changed.

A number of clubs have purchased Ipads and will be refunded.

UMPIRES ADVISOR

Norm advised the meeting that the umpire-mentoring program was going well. Unfortunately player behaviour towards two umpires is unacceptable and further action is required.

CRICKETWEST

1. Cricket West Forum - Forum was held on Monday 2 Dec 2019 – 4 people attended from the SMCA - unfortunately the invite from Cricket West for Club Presidents was not sent to the SMCA until the Wednesday before. Cricket West now has a website which can be accessed through the SMCA website.

2. Clifford Joseph has represented that SMCA at the past two Cricket West Meetings.

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS:

Discussion on the Bylaws in regard to 63- Disciplinary hearings and procedure for reporting occurred. It was agreed that bylaw 63 needs to be strengthened by adding in another subclause to Clause 63 a. In order to address the recent incidents that occurred.

Action: The Administrator and Secretary to draft up suitable wording for subclause 63 a v.

PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

1. Player Jordan Petrone from Bicton Attadale CC did not attend a P&D hearing on 21 March 2019 and the re-scheduled hearing on 26 March 2019. He was suspended from playing in the SMCA competition and other Associations until he appears before P&D hearing. Bicton-Attadale CC advised on 18 Sep 2019 that Mr Petrone is now able to appear before a P&D hearing.

The P&D is to be held on Tuesday 10 December at Leeming commencing at 7pm.

2. Player Behaviour and Reporting Procedure - Recently there has been communication to the SMCA advising of player misbehaviour. In all instances the information has been received by the SMCA well beyond the deadline imposed by the By-Laws. As much as we would prefer that these people be referred to the P&D this cannot be done if we are not advised in time. See attachment 1 for the notice placed on the SMCA website and emailed to clubs.

FIXTURES AND GRADINGS

1. 1st Grade Mid-season one-day final – a request to change date to 2 Feb 2020 has been received. Of the eight 8 1st grade clubs two supported the change while two did not. Four clubs did not respond.

Discussion on the change of dates for the 1st grade mid-season final occurred. There were arguments for and against the change.

Gary Hartman motioned that there be no change to the 1st grade mid-season final date. This motion was not supported by a majority of the committee present.

Paul Speering proposed that the 1st grade mid-season final be changed to 2 Feb 2020. This motion was supported by a majority of the committee present.

Decision: The 1st grade mid-season final be changed to 2 Feb 2020.

2. Grounds – the umpires have reported a number of ground issues ranging from poor crease markings to unsatisfactory ground conditions. Some have been remedied while others need further remedial work.

Preston Point Reserve is the latest ground to fall into the unsatisfactory category due to divots in the playing area. EFCC undertook remedial work to ensure that matches can be played. It is hoped that the East Fremantle Council will undertake works to improve the playing surface.

Correspondence from the SMCA to the local councils does not have much impact as the grounds are booked and paid for the clubs. The local councils mainly deal with the local clubs within the jurisdiction.

3. Teams – Kelmscott after three forfeits was replaced by Kardinya in ODE, while Kwinana in ODH has replaced Phoenix.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. My Cricket

My Cricket seems to have settled – though a few error messages still appear.

2. Good Sports – Alcohol and Drug Foundation

The Executive is to meet with Good Sports in 2020 on a date TBA.

3. SMCA Awards Presentation function

CBC have submitted some comments/suggestions regarding ‘improving’ the event. Refer to attachment 2.

Discussion. Improving the format of the annual awards function is always a consideration especially to attract maximum attendance at the event. The suggestions by CBC and other clubs will be considered when planning for event commences in the New Year. The presentation of the Ian Hale medal for the best player in 2nd grade hopefully will attract more attendees from 2nd grade clubs.

Action: Secretary to write to Leeming Spartan CC asking them to facilitate the SMCA presentation night scheduled for Tuesday 17th of March 2020.

4. Ball Trial – the ball trial is to be conducted on 7 and 14 Dec 2019 in 5th and 6th grades. Refer to President’s report.

5. Playing Attire – a number of requests have been received from clubs to wear coloured trousers or coloured shirts in the one- day matches for the two- day competition. These have been rejected as our matches are played with a red ball during the daytime.

Discussion. As we use a red ball in all grades (two day and one day), predominantly white playing attire is recommended by the various ‘expert’ agencies. Smallish club logos and emblems are allowed on the front of the playing shirts. Player names, numbers, sponsors etc are generally allowed on the back of playing shirts.

For future seasons, requests for playing attire that is not white on the front must be received prior

to the season commencing. To be discussed at the general meeting in May 2020.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Player Behaviour – Three major incidents involving player behaviour towards umpires have occurred in recent weeks. These were:

- 1). 23 Nov 2019 – ODF – Kardinya V Champion Lakes – email received on 28 Nov 2019 alleging racial vilification.
- 2). 30 Nov 2019 – 7th grade – Cockburn v Thornlie. Verbal abuse was directed towards an umpire after giving the batsman out LBW. The umpire threatened to leave the game but after invention continued on.
- 3). 7 Dec 2019 – 7th grade – Cannington V Perth Tamils. The official umpire departed the match only after a few overs were bowled after turning down an LBW appeal and being confronted by players.

In all three matters, reports were not either received or submitted. In the instances when information was received, it was well outside the timeframes specified in the bylaws.

When information was received regarding the first two incidents, a notice regarding player behaviour and reporting procedure was placed on the SMCA website and also emailed to all clubs.

Discussion on these incidents occurred and it was agreed that the Bylaws need to be strengthened.

Actions:

The Administrator and Secretary to develop appropriate clause for by law 63 and distribute to Committee for consideration at the next Executive Meeting.

The Secretary to write to the two clubs involved in the recent incidents in matches where one umpire was abused and the other umpire was intimidated and left the match.

2. Women's Cricket

Graham Santich informed the meeting on the progress of women's cricket and the emphasis from Cricket Australia to increase the number of women's teams and competitions. It was noted that a number of SMCA clubs have female players in their teams. In a recent match Roleystone had five female players in one of their teams.

Graham offered to take on the responsibility for women's cricket within the SMCA for next season.

This was Agreed to.

CLOSURE: Paul thanked all for attending and in particular Graham Santich and Graeme Ashley. The meeting closed at 8.18 pm

NEXT MEETING:

Executive Meeting – Monday 6 January 2020 – 6pm at Atwell

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Player Behaviour and Reporting Procedure

Recently there has been communication to the SMCA advising of player misbehaviour. In all instances the information has been received by the SMCA well beyond the deadline imposed by the By-Laws. As much as we would prefer that these people be referred to the P&D this cannot be done if we are not advised in time.

In one case an official umpire was so upset by the treatment he received he refused to continue and only proceeded after some discussion. Unfortunately the umpire was relatively new, was likely flustered and upset and didn't make a report in the timeline. There is a chance he won't umpire again. The alleged treatment he received is not good enough.

Umpires, official and non official, are important parts of the game and always deserve respect. It doesn't matter if a decision made is deemed correct or incorrect. It is all players' responsibility to respect the umpire and the game.

In another report received racism has been alleged. The By-Laws state that vilification including but not limited to, racial, religious, colour, ethnic origin, cultural or severe personal nature is a serious offence. No matter what the By-Laws state respect of all people is just common courtesy and is demanded from all players and officials not only in our Association but also in life.

The SMCA has the ability to deal with these matters but we must have the details by the deadline of 10pm on the day of the match. Clubs should have a structure where they discuss matters of concern after the match and if deemed necessary advise the Association Secretary before the deadline.

The Info for Committees advises...

The umpire, member of the opposing team, club official, Association Official or scorer shall make every effort to notify the captain and/or the alleged offending person verbally as to the nature of the report. Should the person making the report not be an appointed official umpire the details of the report must be submitted by a member of the club executive and be conveyed by phone to the Association Secretary by 10pm on the day of the match. A SMCA appointed official umpire shall advise the Umpires Advisor immediately after the match.

In the case of an official appointed umpire offer of a Prescribed Penalty
Any player offered a Prescribed Penalty by an official umpire may elect to accept the penalty for the offence, which that player is reported. Should a player wish the matter to be heard by the P&D, notification should be made to the Association by contacting the Association Secretary (0419 948 762 or secretary@smcacricket.com) prior to 9.00pm on the day of play in which the player was offered the penalty. A lack of notification to the Association by the deadline will invoke the penalty for the offence, which that player was reported for.

Official Umpires should advise the Umpires Advisor of the Prescribed Penalty before 9pm on the day of play. He will submit the report to both the Secretary and Association Administrator.

Attachment Two - From CBC

The CBC Cricket Club would like the SMCA Executive to strongly reconsider the celebration that is the Jim McKenna Medal evening. In our opinion, the event, in its current format, is not as attractive as it could be and it is no surprise that numbers continue to diminish in recent seasons.

The content and the presentations by Jacob Landsmeer are outstanding and deserve to be supported by an appropriate event, format and food and drinks package. There are a number of examples of fantastic events out there and one such example is the Amateur Football Association awards. This Awards Night is a highly prestigious evening, is well attended and well respected amongst its member clubs. It is an event that people look forward to going to, to celebrate the season that was, as well as recognising the talented and dedicated people who are honoured on the night.

Our Awards evening should be a chance for all players, partners, supporters and the SMCA membership to come together and celebrate.

We are not a Club that looks to merely criticise or be negative, and so we are happy to chat about possible improvements that could be made to make the event as popular as it should be. Perhaps, to kick it off with a bang, a team of the decade could be named at the initial event. This would create some buzz, anticipation and excitement and could be the start of a new look Awards evening that players and their supporters want to attend. Also, there is the inaugural Ian Hale Medal, which deserves a large audience. We would also hope that the SMCA, with its reserve of funds, would be in a position to subsidise tickets as much as possible for persons attending the event, hence creating more reason for people to attend. We need to create an event that people find an excuse to come to, not an excuse to miss it.

We have a fantastic association and we have some hugely talented players and administrators who deserve to be recognised in the right way. Let's be proud of our association and our people's efforts and achievements and celebrate them in a revamped, high class event. It will increase the professionalism of the SMCA and assist in attracting players, sponsors and further encourage people to invite their partners, family members and friends to attend a fantastic evening.