

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

Minutes of the Special General Meeting 19 September 2022



PRESENT:

CLUBS: as per attendance list

Executive Present: Paul Speering (President), Mark Rice (SVP), Peter Anderson (JVP), Mario Baeli, Ian Del Rosso (Acting Secretary), David King, Norm Harris, Shamez Salim, Jacob Landsmeer, Mark Iannello,

APOLOGIES: John Griffin, Gary Hartman; Graham Santich, Jace Williams, Stephen Kemp, Glen Hickinbotham.

Absent: Riverton-Rostrata

The meeting was opened at 7:30pm

Paul Speering (PS) opened the meeting and discussed the personal situation that arose almost immediately after the AGM, and how it resulted in some quick decision making at the time. He felt it was appropriate to ask Peter Anderson (PA), although he is the current Junior Vice President (JVP), to act as President until the situation was resolved. PS believed that it wasn't in the best interests of the Association, or fair on the newly elected Senior Vice President (SVP), to act in this position due to the limited experience he had been able to get on the Executive Committee (EC). This arrangement had been accepted by the EC.

Subsequently the decision making of the EC under this structure was challenged by some member clubs, given it did not strictly follow the Constitution clause 27.6.

PA advised that he had verbal discussions with the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) and they advised this would not have been an issue if challenged as the EC has the right (under section 26 of the SMCA Constitution) to make decisions in the best interests of the EC and manage the affairs of the Association.

Given a motion was initially made to challenge decisions made under this structure, PA decided to vacate the role and allow current SVP Mark Rice (MR) to Act as President as per the Constitution. This alleviated the concerns of the member clubs and any motion around this was withdrawn.

It was reiterated to all present, that the DLGSC had no issues with the functioning and decision making capability of the EC, with the JVP in the Acting President role given time served as an executive member and it was done in the best interests and with full oversight/transparency of the SVP and the remainder of the EC.

Being no further discussion, this matter is now considered closed.

AGENDA ITEMS

From Phoenix, Maddington, East Fremantle and Leeming Spartans Cricket Clubs

- 1. Ratify decision made at last year's presidents and captains meeting with regards to**

one day A,B,C to be placed in the gradings after 4th grade so the gradings would go as follows 1,2,3,4 grade two day grades A,B,C one day grades 5,6,7 two day grades D,E,F,G one day grades

Discussion: Disappointment and Concerns were raised as to why this initiative which was agreed at the AGM 2nd August 2021 was not trialled as per the minutes recorded.

This was discussed at some length and a slightly alternate proposal was raised to the attendees which ratified the above agenda items but would follow the following grading hierarchy: 1,2,3,4, A, B 5,6,7 C-G, the reasoning is that it is recognised the 1-day A and B competition is stronger than 1DC and the SMCA must continue to support 2 day cricket as a preference for umpire allocations.

Again, more general discussion followed, but the proposed alternative was voted upon, and it was unanimously agreed and thus carried by all clubs present.

Decision: Structure of grades approved with amendment to exclude 1DC in preference to 5-6-7th grades.

2. Challenge the decision made by the executive to make all one day grades 10 teams and revert to 8 teams

Discussion: Robust discussion occurred on the fairest way to structure the one-day competition, with Phoenix and East Fremantle vigorously supporting 8 team grades across the board. It was discussed that we did not want a repeat of last year, where the bottom two grades were compromised due to teams withdrawing and the Executive/Grading Committee wanted to ensure that any expected withdrawals from the lowest grades would not adversely affect the grade. Grading also took into consideration the motion raised by Willetton which was passed at the previous AGM 2th June 2022, where it was Agreed by all that all grades be fair and equitable as possible. This motion was carried 13-3 in favour.

The motion above was raised due to the interpretation of the SMCA minutes dated 25th July 2022 and subsequent note on the SMCA website suggesting 10 team one day grades to alleviate this inequity and a top 6 playoff, which would impinge on the final 2-day game of the regular season. Also, to create 10 team grades it would mean significant movement around the grades possibly creating more inequity due to playing strength.

The Gradings committee then presented a slide showing that this concern was taken into consideration, and due to the number of teams nominated, created 1 Day A-D as 8 team grades, with 1 day grades E-F-G as 10 teams, mainly to avoid the situation of an H grade with 6 teams, creating the issues in the lowest grade last year.

Decision: The Grading committee proposal for this season was carried, as was the intent to keep as many grades as possible to 8 teams and to avoid any 6 teams one day grades.

The motion (#2) as it reads above was defeated: 5 for and 15 against

President's Note: Unfortunately, tabling the proposed Draft Grading before the vote on this motion may have inadvertently confused the issue. In the Executive Committee meeting held immediately before the SGM (see those minutes for details), the Committee determined that 8 team grades are preferable, and would be implemented where possible, taking into consideration the nominations received by the Member Clubs, and in the best

interests of the Association. This decision by the EC in effect supported this motion. However, In my opinion, the Member Clubs in attendance may have actually voted for the proposed Draft Grading structure, rather than purely on the motion presented. Seeing as the majority of One-Day Only Grades in the proposed Draft Grading were made up of 8 teams it may be a moot point. The Member Clubs generally agreed that having finals start in the One-Day Only Grades whilst regular season matches were still ongoing in the Two-Day Grades should be avoided.

3. Debate the best and fairest way to implement the 8 team competition If passed by the members.

Discussion: Given the acceptance of the grading committee proposed grades structure this motion was not required to be heard/voted on.

President's Note: Again, unfortunately, as the vote for the above motion had been confused, it meant that debate on the third motion wasn't held. Member Clubs are rightly unsure about how the One-Day Only Grades will be structured this season. The two main options are to default back to an uneven fixture where some teams will play each other three times, or use those four weeks to run a separate T20 competition like we did last year. This motion was intended to resolve that question, but, the best course of action for the Association now is to take the first option above and revisit the T20 competition for season 23/24 and beyond.

Decision: N/A

CLOSURE: The meeting was closed at 830 pm.

NEXT MEETINGS

1. Committee Meeting - 17 October 2022