

# COTSWOLD HILLS LEAGUE

www.cotswold-hills-league.org

## **Chairman**

Ron Douglas  
The Laurels  
Pathlow  
Stratford-upon-Avon  
Warwickshire  
CV37 0ES

Tel : 01789 269233  
[chairman@cotswold-hills-league.org](mailto:chairman@cotswold-hills-league.org)

## **Secretary**

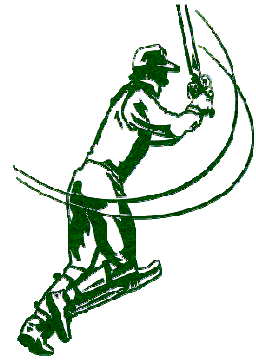
John Bradley  
Long Barn  
Burmington  
Shipston on Stour  
Warwickshire  
CV36 5AR

Tel : 01608 661635  
[secretary@cotswold-hills-league.org](mailto:secretary@cotswold-hills-league.org)

## **Treasurer**

John Mould  
3 Masters Close  
Evesham  
Worcestershire  
WR11 6EL

Tel : 01386 443352  
[treasurer@cotswold-hills-league.org](mailto:treasurer@cotswold-hills-league.org)



## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 25th February 2009 at Kineton Sports & Social Club commencing 8:00pm**

### **1. Roll Call**

All Clubs were represented with the exception of Alvechurch & Hopwood and Welford-on-Avon.

Rule 5 of the League Constitution applies; a fine of £50 is imposed on these clubs and cheques must be forwarded to the Treasurer.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Mike German.

### **3. Minutes of the previous AGM**

The minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting were agreed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

### **4. Chairman's Address**

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and thanked them for their presence.

Hopefully everyone had weathered the cold winter well, and is starting to look forward to the forthcoming season.

Last season, once again, will be remembered for the appalling summer weather we had to suffer. Just when we thought that the 2007 season was the wettest it could get, we found out that 2008 was even worse. Let's hope that perhaps we see some of the much vaunted climate warming this summer.

The results went very close for many of the divisions, going right up to the wire before the eventual winners and promotion spots were decided. It is pleasing to see that many of the new sides who have entered into the league over the past few seasons are finding their way, and moving steadily up the leagues. This can only help to strengthen the position of the Cotswold Hills League as a prominent cricket league.

One sad spot from last year was some disciplinary problems, and although it has now been resolved, it has resulted in us looking at bringing in a disciplinary procedure, more in line with many other cricket leagues. This was covered later in the meeting.

The Executive Committee had also listened to many clubs when they were telling us they were worried about the standard of some of the grounds they were playing on, and as a result, we have been assisted by some of the top groundsmen in our area, who have taken time out to inspect and report back on the standard of most of our grounds. Their report was considered by the Executive Committee, and as a result of this, an 'end of season tidy the wicket away' course for any interested parties was held, at the close of last season. Whilst this was very well received by all who attended, it is sad to report that nowhere near enough clubs took advantage of this opportunity. The team have put together another day, on April 5th at Wellesbourne CC. The course will run from 9 until 12, and will once again be heavily subsidised. The Chairman stated that he could not encourage enough clubs to make use of this offer, whether they think they need to or not. Clubs will receive first hand advice and demonstrations in how to prepare a pitch for the coming season, and many other details. John Turner was to brief the meeting on this initiative later in the meeting.

Finally, the Chairman wished to place on record his thanks for all the hard work put in by everyone on the Committee during the past year – it is not an insignificant amount of work to keep the league functioning the way it does.

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

John Mould distributed accounts for the year ended 31st January 2009 and gave a detailed explanation. Overall, the objective is to break even and have enough in reserve to cover the possibility of no sponsorship money. This objective had been achieved with an excess of income over expenditure of £29 during the financial year and a closing balance of £4296.

Unfortunately, things were not all goodness and light. In the current economic climate, John Shepherd, the main sponsor, had indicated that he would have reduce his sponsorship from £3000 per year to £2000, and in the last 48 hours, Cavalok Building Products had completely withdrawn their £650 sponsorship of the Junior section.

The Treasurer, on behalf of the Executive Committee, sought to gain a consensus of opinion from the floor on how this shortfall might be made up.

Suggestions included :

- reducing the subsidy on balls, effectively to increase the price by £1
- replace individual trophies by a team trophy, although this might lead to the Presentation Evening to be not well attended, in which case, maybe this could be abolished
- increases in the League subscriptions, including Juniors
- reduce the number of handbooks, but make more available at a cost
- consider John Shepherd to be the balls sponsor only and find new sponsors for the web site and the handbook
- the Executive to look at other ways of raising money rather than cutting costs; the web site [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk) was suggested

These suggestions would be considered at the forthcoming Executive Meeting.

It was proposed by R. Douglas (Chairman) and R. Wickson (Shipston) that the accounts be adopted. This was agreed unanimously by all present and thanks were expressed to the Treasurer.

## 6. Rules & Constitutional Changes

There were numerous changes and additions proposed to the League Constitution and the League Playing Regulations.

---

Given the proposals from Clubs to change Rule 1 dealing with the start time of matches, the Executive Committee had proposed changes to Rules 7 and 12 of the League Playing Regulations to cover any eventuality.

### *Proposed change to Rule 7*

If owing to bad weather or other circumstances the start is delayed, the captains have the option to agree on a match of a lesser number of overs with a minimum of 50 overs in total. Such a match will count under the point scoring system as if the full 90 overs had been played. Matches must start ~~by 4.20pm at the latest (3.50pm for 1.30pm start)~~ **within 2 hours 20 minutes of the scheduled start time**. Overs shall be taken equally from each team at a rate of one over from each side for every complete seven minutes of delay. Example, a match starting ~~at 2.40pm (and which should have had a 2.00pm start)~~ **40 minutes late** will be reduced by 5 overs per side, thus the game will become an 80 over one, with the team batting first having the opportunity to bat for a maximum of 40 overs.

### *Proposed change to Rule 12*

Matches ~~cannot~~ **can only** be cancelled ~~before 11.00am (10.30am for 1.30pm start)~~ due to inclement weather conditions **within 3 hours of the scheduled start time**. All teams shall attend at the appointed ground unless the two captains (or their authorised deputies) agree to cancel ~~by 12.00pm (11.30am for 1.30pm start)~~ **at least 2 hours before the scheduled start time**. Where agreement has been reached to cancel the match, the time of the decision must be noted and recorded on the match result form. The two captains can agree to wait until ~~4.00pm (3.30pm for 1.30pm start)~~ **2 hours after the scheduled start time** to abandon the match. There is to be no transference of match venues because of unfit grounds due to inclement weather.

**These proposals were adopted unanimously.**

---

There had been three separate and different proposals from Exhall & Wixford C.C., Stratford Bards C.C., and Temple Grafton C.C. for a change to Rule 1 of the League Playing Regulations. After some debate, it was decided to vote only on a fourth proposal from the Executive Committee.

### *New Rule 1*

All matches to start at 1.30pm promptly. The toss shall take place by 1.15pm with incomplete teams at that time forfeiting the right to toss and being reported to the Executive Committee.

**This proposal was adopted by a large majority.**

---

Alcester & Ragley C.C. proposed a change to Rule 5 of the League Playing Regulations with the addition of a new paragraph d. This rule covers the eligibility of club members to play in League matches.

### *Proposed change*

d. if he has played a minimum of 10 league games for the first team, he cannot play for another team at the same club in the final 3 league fixtures of the season.

**This proposal was rejected by a large majority.**

Leamington C.C. proposed a new rule to be added to the League Playing Regulations.

*Proposed new rule*

For each match there shall be a **Fielding Circle**. This is defined as an area bounded by two semi-circles centred on each middle stump, each with a radius of 30 yards and joined by a parallel line on each side of the pitch.

At the instant of delivery, a minimum of four fielders, plus the bowler and wicket-keeper, must be within the **Fielding Circle**. In the event of an infringement, the striker's end Umpire shall call and signal 'No Ball', and the score shall be adjusted in accordance with Law 24. An extra delivery in that over shall be allowed as a consequence.

**This proposal was rejected by a large majority.**

---

The Executive Committee proposed a change to Rule 5 of the League Constitution involving the addition of new clause e) and reworded final paragraph.

*Proposed change*

- e) The Executive Committee may request any club to attend a Ground Maintenance seminar which will be arranged and run by one of the ECB qualified Groundsmen. This will be designed to improve knowledge for the maintenance and production of pitches and the ground in general. The cost of these seminars will be £30 per club.

For non-attendance by a member club at the Annual General Meeting, any Special General Meeting, the pre-season Balls Distribution Meeting, or a Ground Maintenance seminar, a fine of £50 will be payable.

**This proposal was adopted unanimously.**

---

The Executive Committee proposed a change to Rule 8b of the League Constitution to bring the CHL in line with other leagues in the area.

*Proposed change*

- b. Resignations

Clubs intending to resign from the League must notify the League Secretary in writing prior to 31st ~~October~~ **August** for the following season to allow the fixture lists to be undertaken by the League without fear of late withdrawals. Failure to resign by that date will result in a fine of £100.

**This proposal was adopted by a large majority.**

---

The Executive Committee proposed a new Rule 10 to be added to the League Constitution.

*Proposed addition*

10. Affiliation

The League shall be affiliated to the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Individual clubs must be affiliated to the ECB via their respective County Cricket Boards.

**This proposal was adopted unanimously.**

## 7. Election of Officers

The Chairman stated that all of the current officers are willing to stand for re-election and that there were no other nominations.

It was proposed by R. Wickson (Shipston) and seconded by W. Duiguid (Stratford) that the Committee be elected *en bloc*.

The Committee :

Chairman	- Ron Douglas
Secretary	- John Bradley
Treasurer	- John Mould
Fixture Secretary	- Ron Challinor
Results Coordinator	- Ron Douglas
Committee Members	- David Haines, Dave Gardner, Mike German, Martyn Rawbone, John Turner

## 8. Dates for the Diary

The dates of the following events were noted :

The next Executive Committee Meeting will be Monday 9th March, Norton & Lindsey CC, 8pm

There is a Spring / Summer Maintenance Course for Groundsmen on Sunday 5th April, Wellesbourne C.C., 9am-1pm.

The Captains' Meeting at which handbooks and balls would be distributed will be Wednesday 22nd April, Badsey CC, 7.30pm.

The 2009 Presentation Evening will be Friday 2nd October, Townsend Hall, Shipston-on-Stour.

The 2010 Annual General Meeting will be Wednesday 24th February, at a venue to be decided, 8pm.

## 9. Any Other Business

There were no comments from the floor on the draft *CHL Disciplinary Regulations & Procedures* document. It is proposed that the code will be launched at the Captains' Meeting on 22nd April. **It is a requirement that a captain or deputy of each team attend this meeting.** Rule 5 of the League Constitution applies.

The Chairman announced that he had been in contact with Charlie French Sports who were prepared to build an online shop for each club attached to their web site to sell equipment and clothing. Both the club and the League would receive commission from any sales. Any club interested should contact the Chairman.

The Chairman announced that he had received a communication from The Accranut Company Ltd offering 'sponsorship' of CHL clubs through discounts offered for the purchase of covers, sightscreens and nets. The WebMaster stated that he had also received this communication and forwarded it to Clubs' League Delegates.

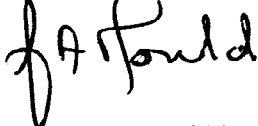
There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Cotswold Hills League Balance Sheet as at 31st January 2009

Opening Balance 31st January 2008	£4,267
Plus Receipts	£20,540
TOTAL	£24,807
Less Payments	£20,511
TOTAL	£4,296

Opening Balance 31st January 2008	£4,267
Plus Excess Income/Expenditure	£29
TOTAL	£4,296

J A Mould A C I B



31st January 2009

R E Bayliss F C I B



4th February 2009

I have retained both the original signed and audited copies



J A Mould A C I B 6th February 2009

**COTSWOLD HILLS LEAGUE ACCOUNTS AS AT 31ST JANUARY 2009**

RECEIPTS 2008(£)	2009(£)	PAYMENTS 2008(£)	2009(£)
13230 BALLS	12810	15923 BALLS	15399
3000 SPONSOR	3000	975 H'BOOKS	1075
2935 REGISTRATION	4450	1773 TROPHIES	2262
300 FINES	195	517 LEAGUE MATCH	450
DONATION	85	195 INSCE	195
19465 SUB TOTAL	20540	80 WEB SITE	185
873 LOSS FOR YEAR EXCESS PAYTS OVER RECEIPTS		50 ROOMHIRE	100
		650 PRESENT NIGHT	650
		175 EXPENSES	195
		PROFIT	29
		EXCESS/ RECEIPTS	
20338 TOTAL	20540	20338 TOTAL	20540

Accounts prepared by

*J A Mould*

J A Mould A.C.I.B  
31st JANUARY 2009

Accounts audited by

*R. E. Bayliss*

R E Bayliss F.C.I.B  
4th February 2009

I have retained both the original signed and audited copies

*J A Mould*

J A Mould A.C.I.B  
6th February 2009