

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

Secretary

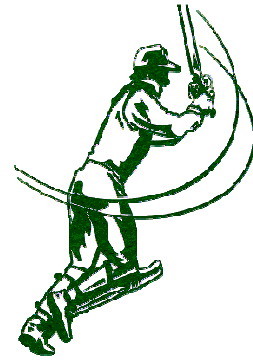
Steve Hartley
16 Wyken Close
Dorridge
West Midlands
B93 8RP

Tel : 01564 730224
secretary@cotswold-hills-league.org

Treasurer

John Mould
3 Masters Close
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 6EL

Tel : 01386 443352
treasurer@cotswold-hills-league.org



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 23rd February 2010 at Kineton Sports & Social Club commencing 8:00pm

1. Roll Call

All Clubs were represented with the exception (after two roll calls) of Alvechurch & Hopwood, Catherine-de-Barnes, Mickleton, Leek Wootton and Winchcombe. 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 Ron Challinor (ill) and John Bradley. It was announced during the Chairman's address that John would be standing down as League Secretary and that anyone wishing to fulfil that role in the future should speak to the Chairman.

3. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting were agreed by all present and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

4. Chairman's Address

The Chairman gave a short address beginning by welcoming everyone present and thanked them for their presence.

It had been a good season with no major problems occurring. No teams had left the league, there were plenty of clubs wanting to join and by implication it made us a strong league throughout all divisions.

The weather had again however made a significant impact on games played with all the relevant figures posted on the website. Several representative games had been affected and those that could be had been re-arranged for 2010.

A former Cotswold League player – Alistair Gray (ex Kineton) had appeared as a substitute fielder for South Africa in the pre Christmas series against England. The commentator pronounced Kineton "Kinnyton".

The ground seminars had again proved successful and educational with the next being on 28 March at the cost of £30 per club (not per attendee). All clubs were urged to attend if they wanted to improve their square.

Ron concluded by wishing all clubs a successful 2010.

5. Treasurer's Report

This began by trophies being presented to Fladbury and Welford in respect of the improvements that they had made to their playing areas since 2008. It was also pointed out that Welford had improved the most in the area controlled by the Warwickshire CB.

John Mould then distributed accounts for the year ended 31st January 2010 and gave a detailed explanation of the same. With regards to receipts sponsorship was down by £1,000 as stated at last years AGM (no contact as yet with John Shepherd re forthcoming season). Registration income was slightly down due to less junior teams but the groundsman's courses had brought in a welcome £790. On the payments side ball expenditure was down due to less being ordered and the reduction in VAT. The figure spent on handbooks and trophies was also down due to less handbooks being given out to clubs and no keepsake trophies being awarded to the runners up in each division. The overall result was an excess of receipts over expenditure of £1,426 compared to £29 in the previous year, leaving us with £5,722 as per the balance sheet.

It was announced the League representative team would be playing matches against the Worcestershire League, Dumbleton (as part of their cricket week), Henley in Arden (carried forward from 2009), and Warwickshire Imps and there would be a match on the last Sunday of April between the league winners (Bretforton) and the Rest of the League.

The Treasurer said the Executive Committee would look at the format and structure of the Presentation Night and there had been temporary junior sponsorship for 2009 but not sure that will be available in 2010. It had been a good year but the League could not guarantee income from current sponsors.

It was proposed by Stratford and seconded by Kineton that the accounts be adopted. This was agreed unanimously by all present.

6. Rules & Constitutional Changes

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

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Changes to Rule 1

Existing rule

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.

Three different clubs have proposed changes to this rule. In order to make it possible to consider each of these three proposals in an appropriate manner, the Executive Committee propose a simple change to the structure and wording of the existing rule (Proposal 1).

If Proposal 1 is adopted, Proposals 2, 3 & 4 will be ignored.

If Proposal 1 is not adopted, Proposals 2a, 3a & 4a will be ignored.

1. Change proposed by the Executive Committee.

- a. All matches to start at 1.30pm promptly unless a delayed start is agreed in accordance with Rule 7.
- b. The toss shall take place no later than 15 minutes before the start, with incomplete teams forfeiting the right to toss and being reported to the Executive Committee.

2. Change proposed by Leamington C.C.

All matches to start at 1.30pm promptly. The toss shall take place by 1.15pm with incomplete teams at that time being notified to the opposition captain. The offending team shall not forfeit the toss.

3. Change proposed by Stratford Bards C.C.

All matches to start at 1.00pm promptly. The toss shall take place by 12.45pm with incomplete teams at that time forfeiting the right to toss and being reported to the Executive Committee.

4. Change proposed by The Lenches C.C.

All matches to start at 2.00pm promptly. The toss shall take place by 1.45pm with incomplete teams at that time forfeiting the right to toss and being reported to the Executive Committee.

2a. Change to Rule 1b proposed by Leamington C.C.

- b. The toss shall take place no later than 15 minutes before the start, with incomplete teams at that time being notified to the opposition captain. The offending team shall not forfeit the toss.

3a. Change to Rule 1a proposed by Stratford Bards C.C.

- a. All matches to start at 1.00pm promptly unless a delayed start is agreed in accordance with Rule 7.

4a. Change to Rule 1a proposed by The Lenches C.C.

- a. All matches to start at 2.00pm promptly unless a delayed start is agreed in accordance with Rule 7.

Proposal 1 was adopted by 50 votes to 9 therefore the other proposals were ignored.

IMPORTANT: It was also clarified by the Chairman that if a team arrives at a ground with less than 11 players and they do not expect any more players to arrive then their team is deemed complete and the team would **NOT** forfeit the toss. If however a team turn up short expecting additional players they have the choice of declaring their team complete and not forfeiting the toss, but then any further players arriving would not be allowed to take the field, or declaring their team incomplete, forfeiting the toss, but with players then being allowed to join the match upon their arrival.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Change to Rule 5 proposed by the Executive Committee

Existing rule

Any bona-fide member of his club can play in matches provided that :-

- a. he has not played for any other club in the League that season
- b. he has not played League cricket at all on a Saturday for a club outside of the League that season. A person moving into the district is eligible to play after the Secretary of the League is notified of the name and circumstances.
- c. students who were previously bona-fide members of a Cotswold Hills League club will be eligible to play upon return from their further education provided that the League Secretary is notified of the circumstances.
- 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.

Add new paragraph

In each and every match where a team breaches this rule, the team will forfeit all points earned and incur a 20 point penalty. Points earned by the opposing team will stand, subject to a minimum of 20 points being awarded.

This proposal was unanimously adopted.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Change to Rule 12 proposed by the Executive Committee

Existing rule

Matches can only be cancelled 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 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 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.

Add new paragraph

Transference of match venues, for reasons other than a ground being unfit due to inclement weather, may only be made with the agreement of the Executive Committee. Any request for transfer must be made to the Executive Committee at least seven days prior to the match taking place. Without this agreement, any result may be treated as a 'cancelled match

This proposal was rejected. 12 voted for and 50 against.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Change to Rule 14 proposed by the Executive Committee

Existing rule

The fitness of grounds, weather and light and guidelines to umpires appear in *The Laws of Cricket* under Law 3 and are to be adhered to except where an umpire (or umpires) is (are) not present then the captain(s) of the team(s) shall deputise.

Add new paragraph

Matches that are cancelled or abandoned because the pitch is deemed to be dangerous, under prepared, or not marked out correctly, will be treated as a 'cancelled match for a reason other than the weather' and points awarded as per Rule 10.

This proposal was rejected. 17 voted for and 29 against.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Change to Rule 8a proposed by Shipston-on-Stour C.C.

Second sentence only (changed highlighted in bold)

Existing rule

If owing to bad weather or other circumstances play is suspended after the match has started, the following guidelines will apply to each suspension of play :-

- a. If a suspension in play occurs during the innings of the team batting first, the team batting first must complete its innings. The team batting second will have their innings reduced by one over for every three and a half minutes of suspension, with a minimum innings of 25 overs. The revised target score for the team batting second shall be calculated by multiplying the reduced number of overs, without taking in to account any additional overs gained by the side batting first not using their full quota for any reason, by the average number of runs per over scored by the team batting first. In the event of the team batting first being all out or declaring in less than their full quota of overs, the calculation of the run rate shall be based on the full quota to which they were entitled.

Proposed new rule

The team batting second will have their innings reduced by one over for every **seven** minutes of suspension, with a minimum innings of 25 overs.

This proposal was rejected by a large majority.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

Two proposed changes to Rule 10

Existing rule

Points Scoring System :-

For the team scoring most runs - **10 points**.

For a match with runs total equal - **5 points**.

For each 25 runs above 75 runs - **1 point (maximum 5 points)**.

For every two wickets taken - **1 point**.

For bowling out the opposition for 120 runs or less - **2 points**.

One bonus point may be added to a team batting second and winning a match for every 2 wickets remaining intact

In an abandoned match any bonus points gained by either team prior to abandonment stand plus **5 points each team**.

All matches cancelled due to inclement weather - **5 points each team**.

Where matches are cancelled for any reason other than the weather, **20 points** will be awarded to the opposing team. The side cancelling the match will be **deducted 20 points**.

Change proposed by Exhall & Wixford C.C.

Proposed change to line 4 only

For each 25 runs above **100** runs - **1 point (maximum 5 points)**.

This proposal was rejected. 16 voted for and 50 against.

Change proposed by Elmley Castle C.C.

Proposed new rule

Points Scoring System :-

For the team scoring most runs - **4 points**.

For a match with runs total equal - **2 points**.

Matches abandoned after starting - **2 points each team**.

Matches cancelled due to inclement weather - **2 points each team**.

Where matches are cancelled for any reason other than the weather, **4 points** will be awarded to the opposing team. The side cancelling the match will be **deducted 10 points**.

This proposal was unanimously rejected.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

A new rule proposed by Norton Lindsey C.C.

If adopted, it is suggested that this will become Rule 10, and that existing rules 10-20 be renumbered appropriately.

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. The **Fielding Circle** shall be marked with a continuous line or plastic discs/white circles (minimum 3" diameter), no more than 5 metres apart.

At the instant of delivery, a minimum of 4 fielders plus the bowler and wicket- keeper must be within the **Fielding Circle**. In the event of an infringement, the umpire at the striker's end shall call and signal a 'No Ball', and the score shall be adjusted in accordance with Law 24 of the Code of the Laws of Cricket. An extra delivery in that over will be made.

This proposal was rejected. 10 voted for and 40+ against.

LEAGUE PLAYING REGULATIONS

A new rule proposed by Elmley Castle C.C.

This proposal will be withdrawn if the preceding proposal is adopted.

If adopted, it is suggested that this will become Rule 10, and that existing rules 10-20 be renumbered appropriately.

Proposed new rule

In Premier Division matches, 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 marked with a continuous line or plastic discs/white circles (minimum 3" diameter), no more than 5 metres apart.

No more than 5 fielders may be outside the **Fielding Circle** at the moment of delivery. In the event of an infringement, the umpire at the striker's end 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 adopted. 40+ voted for, 12 against with 1 abstention.

7. Election of Officers

The Chairman stated that all of the current officers (apart from John Bradley as referred to above) are willing to stand for re-election and that there were no other nominations.

It was proposed by Shipston and seconded by Broadway that the Committee be elected *en bloc*.

The Committee:

Chairman	-	Ron Douglas
Secretary	-	Vacant
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 on Tuesday 16th March, Norton & Lindsey CC, 8pm

The Spring / Summer Maintenance Course for Groundsmen on Sunday 28th March, Wellesbourne C.C., 9am-1pm.

The handbooks and balls would be distributed will be Wednesday 21st April, Badsey CC, 7.30pm (Martyn Rawbone to possibly offer an alternative to those clubs in and around the Leamington area but only by specific arrangement with clubs interested).

The 2010 Presentation Evening will be Friday 1st October, at Norgren Sports & Social Club, Shipston-on-Stour).

9. Any Other Business

With the Football World Cup occurring this summer it was decided that clubs could come to a mutually start time other than 1.30pm on Saturdays when England were playing. Both clubs had to agree on any time and if no agreement was reached games would have to start at 1.30pm. The league does NOT need to be informed of any early starts but the umpires (in Premier division games) **DO**.

The Chairman raised the issue via ECB guidelines of playing under age players (those under 18 as of 31 August 2009). Clubs/captains had a duty of care to younger players. For instance they should not be purely used as 'fielding fodder'. In addition those under 12 **CANNOT** play in open age (i.e. CHL Saturday cricket). Those under 13 can play if a qualified coach says they are capable of playing and the appropriate parental consent form has been signed.

Clubs were informed there had been some changes to the match result sheets and these should now be forwarded to John Turner (details will be on the new sheets). Captains were urged to use the correct sheet, complete them properly and pay the postage if using Royal Mail!

Paul Jones of Bretforton had been named as one of MCCC Cricketers of the Year. An honour for him and the League.

Presentation night was discussed. Various views came from the floor such as a dinner with guest speaker (could double up as a fund raiser) but nobody offered to follow it up or organise such as event. Another view was scrap it altogether because it occurred in October. It was pointed out that this was only some four weeks after the season and time was needed to collate information on trophy winners, collect in cups, arrange for new trophies etc. A suggestion was made that various options could be put forward on the website and clubs could offer their views according. The committee would discuss further at their next meeting.

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

