**Final Draft.**

**Minutes of the Zoom Management Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 16th June 2021**

Present: C Ricks, A Clarke, L Attard, C Swadkin, G Beale, D Sheldon, B Briscoe.

J Sharples (North), H Smith (South), C Croucher (East), P Haywood (Midlands).

The Chairman welcomed Paul Haywood to his first meeting as Chairman of the Midlands Region.

**1.Minutes of MC meeting held on 15th April 2021.**

a) Matters arising;

CR proposed that an amendment be made to the 3rd paragraph of Item 3 to more accurately reflect the recommendation of the DC. This was agreed.

“The Disciplinary Committee had, on the information made available to them, made a recommendation that AG should apologise to three persons for his actions.  The MC decided that once he had sent his apologies and signed the MC Code of Conduct, his suspension from the MC should be lifted. As at the time of the meeting he had not done this”.

JS queried an email sent to A Steers by DS after midnight on the date of the last meeting which he claimed related to AG and the DC. It subsequently transpired that this was in fact related to the 2021 Structure and was not relevant to the agenda item for the meeting of 15th April 2021.

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

PH queried an email referred to in the minutes of the MC meeting on 4th February 2021. These minutes had already been agreed at the MC meeting on 15th April 2021.

**2. International Tours**

If International fixtures are permitted in 2022 we will be ready to go ahead. CR is in contact with Australia, who are keen to tour the UK with their 70s team.

A series of 3 trial games is being arranged for potential 70+ players. These will be at Wellington CC on 11th August for the North and Midlands, Swindon CC on 23rd August for the South and South West and a further game in early September, the venue to be decided..

J Punchard was co-ordinating the 60+ matters, with a team of appointed scouts assessing players in the scheduled championship fixtures and individual

stats were being monitored.

**3.Treasurers Report**.

The current bank balance is £25,112 but we still have to pay for the Championship Cricket balls. Payments for Championship cricket balls are still outstanding from Derbyshire and Suffolk, and subscriptions are still outstanding from Suffolk. We owe £9250 for the Championship balls which have not yet been invoiced.

Leicestershire has overpaid £70.

**4.Report from Competition Organisers**.

60+ 1st XI: although the intention was to use the seeding process for the top 16 teams in the knock out stages this may have to be reviewed and be regionalised if Covid regulations so dictate

The Vase competition would involve teams placed 17 to 33.

Some Counties, particularly in the East, have expressed concern at the points system for abandoned games when cancelled games do not count. DS reminded the meeting that the MC proposal at the AGM, which would have resolved this matter, had been overwhelmingly rejected by the Counties who wanted to retain this regulation.

2nd XI: there were a few queries about player selection under rule 5. The committee confirmed that this mainly applied to the knock out stage but could be applied in the latter stages of the Regional Group games.

3rd XI: there were some fixture problems arising because of the number of cancelled games, which in this Championship could be rearranged, because of very inclement weather. BB confirmed that 5 Counties in the South West region had arranged a series of 3rd XI friendlies .

4th XI: the arranged joint county partnership of Bucks/Beds had been changed to Bucks/Middlesex because of player availability issues.

70’s 1st XI: there had been two games where the Counties were unable to reach agreement about playing a game where bad weather was forecast. A third dispute had apparently arisen today, the 16th June, in the game between Norfolk and Lincs/Ridings. The Lincs Captain S Reaney had sent a rather unilateral email to Norfolk at 11.53 that morning. Norfolk had claimed the points.

Hello Geoff

Further to our discussion today I confirm that I am unable to justify sending our players on the long trip to Fakenham tomorrow based on the poor weather forecast, together with wasted travel & accommodation costs.

 Steve

This would be dealt with after the MC meeting had finished.

Note: At this stage JS left the meeting his computer having developed a fault.

**5.Constitution Review**

We discussed the membership of the working party to review the Constitution and CR agreed to speak to JS about joining it. This group would work together over a 6/8 week period concentrating on anomalies rather than a complete rewrite which was considered unnecessary. There was a log of issues arising from the Working Party review which were ambiguous and required clarity. CS had drafted Terms of Reference which were considered to be necessary.

**6.Any Other Business.**

The MC were surprised that Barry O’Brien of the ECB had offered his advice on a disciplinary matter as there had been no approach to him by the Management Committee to do so. The Management Committee representatives have had three meetings with Paul Bedford at the ECB who have made it quite clear that they do not want the 60/70 Counties in their organisation.

During a programme on Talk Sport Barry Hearne who is playing 70+ Cricket with Essex 70+2nd XI praised the Competition very profusely and gave us some excellent publicity.

There were some issues about Player registrations around the “Playing Member” aspect which have caused concern and also a formal complaint had been received from Staffordshire about a player with Derbyshire who they were adamant was ineligible.

It was agreed to set up a sub committee comprising DS, LA and GB to look into these issues and resolve them.

JS had returned to the meeting and again raised the issue of some Counties being unhappy at playing two teams three times. As the extra games had all been agreed with venues published it was assumed that they would be played. JS agreed that this was correct. Most Counties outside the Northern region were happy to have the opportunity to play two extra games.

The meeting ended at 9.03 pm.

Barry Briscoe

Secretary.

.