



County Seniors

Committee Meeting Tues 7 January 2025 7.00pm Minutes

Present: Bob Fleming, Nigel Harrington, Simon Dixon, Spencer Ham, Martin Orpe
Brian Martin, Paul Dawkins, Darren Williams, Chris Dennis, Paul Higgins,
Steve Bailey & Adam Widdison Action

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from: Sean Hooper, Martin Davies, David Lockett, Anton Luiten, Hugh Rogers & Jared Connop.

Minutes of the meeting of 8 October 2024. Anton Luiten had previously asked that the reference to the O60s 1st XI awards be amended to: 'Hugh & Anton were apparently planning to have 2 Captain's Choices', and deleting the rest of the sentence.

2. **Competition planning & fixtures 2025.**

The draft letter to the ECB about their withdrawal of management and financial support for the O50s 1st XI competition, written by Bob Baxter of Middlesex, was discussed at some length. It was agreed that we should support what Bob Baxter was doing & Spencer would write to convey this. Spencer

O50s 2nd XI. A second Yorkshire team and North Wales had joined the competition.

O50s 3rd XI. Only 4 home fixtures to find grounds for. After the group stages there would be both a cup and plate knock-out competition.

It seems likely the abandoned 3rd XI final from last year will be replayed in April with as close to the original teams as possible Simon

O60s 1st XI. As hoped, Dorset had joined the competition and the plan is to revert to a single group stage with Cup, Vase & Bowl knock-out competitions after that. No new 59 year olds would be eligible from now on. Fixtures should be available after the committee meeting on Wed 8th January, but the first fixture would be on 29 April.

O70s. The proposal to reduce from 45 overs to 40 was rejected at the AGM although Counties could play 40 overs if both sides agreed. First Championship game will be on 8th May.

Winter nets. Dates for the winter nets were confirmed as Feb 9, 23, Mar 9, 23 & April 6, all at the Ben Ainslie centre at Truro School from 11.00am to 1.00pm.

We agreed that one of the team captains should lead each session in turn to include a warm up time at the start, ensuring timely batting changeovers & collecting the money – £5 per person as before. Spencer to organise the O50s captains, & Bob the O60s Spencer
Bob

Trial/Practice games/Shirley Trophy. A provisional date of May 4th was set for the Shirley Trophy Match effectively an O50s E v W Trial game Spencer

An O60s trial game using players from both teams would need to be on Tues 22 April or possibly Sunday 27th. Martin Orpe offered to host at Grampound Rd using the 2nd pitch. Martin O

The O70s have an offer from Devon for a pre-season friendly, probably 1st May and may be possible to arrange a trial game before that.

Grounds for matches. We agreed initially to post on the Whatsapp group which grounds each team was hoping to use. We agreed that the 1st XIs in each age group should have priority for the best grounds as before and that there were considerable advantages in using home grounds of a team member .

All

3. Player Recruitment

Spencer agreed to set up a few more of the very successful pub events as last year. Need to make sure that we have full up to date info on the website

Spencer
Bob

15 Feb Rugby event at Redruth. 22 booked so far – via Johnny Smeadon

4. Umpires & Scorers

Nigel commented that it was getting harder for all counties to find enough umpires prepared to stand in the away games and that it may become more common for the home team to have to provide 2 umpires. This could cause some difficulties for us as we may struggle to find enough umpires.

All

Captains please inform Nigel asap if there are umpiring vacancies or cancellations.

Captain

5. Plans for Friendly teams, events & tour

Paul Higgins is planning a similar programme for the O50s Friendly side in 2025

Saf has a contact for a game against an overseas touring side at Bude on 7 July.

Paul H

Martin Orpe agreed he would organise a Hundred competition again in 2025 – date tbc but probably the first Sunday in September. The pink balls were considered a success in the September gloom.

Martin O

David Lockett had mentioned that the O50s fixture against Wellington NZ was confirmed for 22 August at Werrington.

David

Chris Dennis agreed to find out if there were any O60 overseas touring sides that we could host

Chris

Spencer had a potential short overseas tour to Italy for O50s, arrangements tbc.

Spencer

An informal O60s tour to Malta at the end of the season was still a possibility

Hugh

People expressed interest in reinstating the fixture at Broadhalfpenny Down

Bob

6. Finance & Sponsorship

Darren commented that if we had no financial support for the O50s competition from the ECB, we could probably cover the cost from last year's surplus. The estimated cost would be about £400 + the £1000 Channel Is. travel allowance.

Darren had also located a charity deal whereby we could lease 3 new defibrillators over 5 years with 5 annual payments totaling £700. These would be for the O50s 3rd XI, Friendly side and O70s. It was agreed this was an ideal arrangement and we should go ahead with this for the start of the season.

Darren

Simon asked if travel costs support would be available if the 2024 final is replayed, probably in Hampshire & it was agreed, yes it would.

We still needed to find a sponsor prepared to spend £5000+.

All

Bob reported that the Yearbook depended on finding enough paid advertising which we failed to do last year. No further progress for 2025 at the moment.

7. Compliance & Safeguarding

Adam advised that the issue of Low level Concerns was something we should take note

of, based on a document recently circulated by the CCB. This covers disciplinary issues level 1 & 2 such as bad language on the field, batsmen consistently running on the pitch or captains failing to comply with DBS requirements. These could go on a player's record permanently.

Nigel commented that persistent low level infringements could result in an official team warning meaning that the next incident would mean a 5 run penalty.

8. Club Membership List/database

Bob observed that the club database is now scattered over a number of different lists & systems giving rise to potential problems with GDPR data security and data accuracy. We agreed to create one single database which could be shared via Sharepoint. Brian agreed to see if the CCB could set this up for us.

Brian

The database needs to be set up so that it can handle different categories of membership, eg. Playing Members, Social members, VPs, Officials etc, and we would need control over who had access to this.

We agreed that having Social Members would be a positive step forward, but we would need to create some social events for them to come to.

5 people had paid subscriptions as Vice Presidents in 2024, but nothing had been arranged for them, so we would need to develop this concept in 2025.

We agreed that if we create a category of life membership any nominations would need to be agreed by a vote at an AGM.

One idea for a social event would be a lunch at Skinners Brewery after one of the indoor net sessions.

9. Club Uniform

We assumed that the idea of traditional knitted jumpers had not received enough interest.

Regarding Club Blazers, Johnny Smeadon has 4 confirmed orders but needs 4 more to make up a minimum order. Paul Dawkins was persuaded that having a blazer for tossing up in the 70s fixtures would strike fear into the opposing captain and that he should order one.

10. Any other business

We discussed briefly the system for collecting availability and it seems the O50s are happy to keep using Whatsapp & the O60s & 70s will stay with Spond.

It was assumed that the arrangements for designed team sheets would be available again this year and that the O60s 1st XI captains should be encouraged to make use of it!

The meeting closed at about 9.02pm.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday 8 April, 7.00pm at the Victoria Inn as usual.

Bob Fleming, 8 Jan 2025

Circulation: Sean Hooper, David Lockett, Jared Connop, Simon Dixon, Martin Davies, Anton Luiten, Hugh Rogers, Chris Dennis, Martin Orpe, Brian Martin, Paul Dawkins, Steve Bailey, Spencer Ham, Darren Williams, Paul Higgins, Nigel Harrington, Adam Widdison. Joe Skinner