

ABERDEENSHIRE CRICKET ASSOCIATION

MINUTE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT CURL ABERDEEN, ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 3rd, 2018

Chair: Dr Martin Auld (President)

The following clubs were present and represented: Aberdeen Superkings, Academy Kemnay Kintore, AGSFPs, Banchory, Bon Accord, Crathie, Crescent, Cults, Dunecht, Ellon Gordon, Fraserburgh, Gordonians, Inverurie, Knight Riders, Methlick, Portcullis, Stonehaven Thistle, Stoneywood-Dyce, and the Umpires and Scorers Association.

Apologies for absence were intimated from Mr R Falconer.

The total voting attendance was 22.

Welcome, Roll Call, Apologies and Obituary

Following a formal welcome to those present, the Meeting observed a minute's silence in memory of Hayden Barrett of Ellon Gordon, Brian Neilson of Ellon Gordon, Dennis Kidd of Anchorians, Donny Lamont of Anchorians, Dennis Pratt of Methlick and Norman Husband, a former player of Windsor, Bon Accord and Anchorians. who had died since the previous AGM and Spring Meeting.

Minutes of Spring Meeting and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the 2018 Spring Meeting, which had been circulated, were formally approved, with a correction to the club affiliation of Norman Husband. Adoption was proposed by Chris Watson, Inverurie and seconded by Ben Webb, Ellon Gordon. There were no matters arising not otherwise on the agenda.

Secretary's Report

David Jones, Honorary Secretary, spoke to his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions and the report was adopted on a motion proposed by Thomas Bashyam, Knightriders and seconded by Chris Bell, Crathie.

Financial Statement and Report on 2017/2018 Dinners

Ian Stephen, Honorary Treasurer, spoke to the Financial Statement which had been circulated prior to the meeting. He indicated that whilst there had been a deficit of over £2000 in the current financial year, the following expenditure had been incurred that would not recur in the next financial year, namely:

- a) Expenditure on the Aberdeenshire Cup
- b) Refunds to clubs of Cricket Scotland fees that should have been paid centrally
- c) £500 to replaced 5 cups that were either beyond economic repair or could not take any more engraving.

In addition, the costs of representative games had been considerably less this year.

In relation to the dinner, the financial viability with such high-profile speakers and reduced numbers was in doubt and, therefore, would need to be reviewed. It was also agreed to look at other possible venues in Aberdeen.

The financial statement was approved on a motion proposed by Chris Watson, Inverurie and seconded by Tauqeer Malik, Bon Accord.

Umpires' Association Report

Ian Sutherland made an oral presentation of this report. As in previous seasons, there is still a grave shortage of umpires in the ACA area that ESCOA can appoint to games. ESCOA have tried when appointing their limited resources to assess games and to cover the top of the table and relegation games. Umpires were appointed to all the cup finals and he was pleased to report that the games ran smoothly.

On the field, discipline is still an issue, but ACA is working closely with ESCOA to improve standards. Ian concluded by making special mention to ACA stalwarts Mike Philip, Dave McDonald and Tariq Butt.

There were no questions on the umpires' report.

New Website

Tariq Butt reported that work was well underway on a new website and details of the migration to the new site will be announced at the Spring Meeting. Clubs were invited to send any ideas for inclusion in the new website to the grades email address.

CricketStats

Paul Gray expressed thanks to Peter Kingsbury for allowing free use of CricketStats and his assistance in making improvements. Some improvements had been requested for the 2019 season, although it might not be possible to include all of these. The main issues noted over the past season were:

- Number of overs rounding up and down – more accuracy is needed
- Players with same surnames and initials
- Catchers not being named when scorecards being input – this has an impact on the Wicket Keeper awards
- Bowler numbers not being correctly input

Clubs are asked to check the preview screen before completing the posting to the system. Queries should be addressed to the Grades account, not to Peter Kingsbury,

The Captain's Reports had been very useful, particularly in providing valuable information on pitches to Sport Aberdeen who had promised improvements to the Links and Sheddocksley. Other issues raised included missing team sheets, fielding discs missing, slow play, disciplinary matters where there were no appointed umpires. Work is ongoing to improve these reports to provide more information.

It was noted that three clubs had not input any scores in the Fair Play section and that in some cases the comments raised did not tally with the Fair Play scores awarded,

In reference to the confusion with players having same names and initials, it is hoped that CricketStats will be able to produce team sheets with player numbers, based on the registered names at the start of the season, but this is still work in progress.

Ean Mackie asked whether the Captain's Reports formed the basis of referrals to the Disciplinary Panel. Paul Gray replied that this was the case, and it was up to the Disciplinary Panel to decide whether there were grounds for action. The Management Committee did not decide on this as they are the appellant body.

For clarification, it was confirmed that the people who reviewed the reports automatically referred any named individuals to the Disciplinary Panel. It was felt that perhaps Captains were unaware of this and it was agreed to make this clearer for 2019.

Honoraria for 2018 season

David Jones, Ian Stephen, Paul Gray, Tariq Butt and Isobel Reid left the meeting while honoraria were discussed and approved as follows:

David Jones, Ian Stephen, Isobel Reid - £500
Paul Gray, Tariq Butt - £400
Robin Taylor - £100

Appointment of Secretary and Treasurer for 2019

These appointments are only until the point of change to SCIO. David Jones and Ian Stephen had indicated they were willing to continue and accordingly they were unanimously appointed.

Applications for Re-Election

Gordonians applied for re-election for a second team, consisting mainly of juniors which they wished to bring through. They were still looking for someone to run this team and if it were not possible to have somebody in place, they would withdraw before the fixtures were arranged. It was noted the 2nd team would have access to the ground at Countesswells. This application was accepted on a proposal made by Thomas Bashyam, Knightriders, seconded by David Forbes, Portcullis.

Stonehaven Thistle applied for re-election of a second team as they have a new management committee in place which is looking to build a junior side working with local schools. There was general discussion and it was suggested that perhaps the Development League would be a more suitable option until the new team was established. In conclusion it was agreed that Stonehaven Thistle representatives would take this proposal back to their committee for further discussion. The application for re-election could be resubmitted to the AGM should the club committee decide against the Development League option. It was agreed that a decision either way would be notified by 15th January 2019.

Postponement of Aberdeenshire Cup Semi-Final – Complaint from Inverurie Cricket Club

Ean Mackie assumed the Chair for this item which concerned a complaint raised by Inverurie Cricket Club regarding the postponement of the Aberdeenshire Cup Semi Final. Papers from the Management Committee had been circulated prior to the meeting, papers from Inverurie were circulated at the meeting.

Ean Mackie advised the meeting was required to consider the following four elements in determining whether to uphold Inverurie's complaint against the Management Committee:

- Did the Committee have the power to make the decision to postpone/reschedule?
- Was the correct procedure followed?
- Was there any indication of bias?
- Was the Committee's decision unreasonable?

Graham Bloice of Inverurie spoke to their paper and stated that his club felt that the Management Committee had not followed due procedure.

There was general and prolonged discussion and it was noted that work was in progress with other cricketing bodies to avoid a recurrence of the situation.

In conclusion, the meeting agreed as follows:

- The Committee did have the power to make the decision
- Correct procedure had been followed
- There was no evidence of bias
- The decision was not unreasonable.

The discussion was concluded and Dr. Auld resumed the Chair.

Presentation from Cricket Scotland

This item was deferred to the Spring Meeting.

Migration to SCIO

5 slides were shown to the meeting showing the current status of the migration to SCIO. Dr. Auld talked to these slides and they will be made available to clubs and posted on the website. Draft rules and playing conditions have been circulated and clubs are requested to submit any amendments by 8th February 2019.

Applications for membership and associate membership, from which the trustees will be drawn, should also be submitted by 8th February 2019.

Structure of Grades 2 and 3 for 2019

It was agreed to remit this item to the Management Committee for consideration once confirmed applications for SCIO Ordinary Membership had been received.

Standard Ball 2019

After discussion, it was agreed that a proposal for balls to be used for the 2019 season will be submitted to the Spring Meeting.

Spring Meeting 2019

It was agreed that the Spring Meeting will be held on 24th February 2019 at Curl Aberdeen. Dr. Auld confirmed that the Management Committee were currently investigating the transfer of the ACA title to the SCIO and were awaiting a response from OSCR.

AOCB

In response to a question from the floor, it was confirmed that the spreadsheet showing proposed rule changes had been sent to club some 4 weeks prior to this meeting and was also available on the website.

Tariq Butt advised that some trophies were missing, and efforts were underway to locate the last recipients with a view to having all trophies collected into one place.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 4.55pm.

Following the meeting, the draw for the Aberdeenshire Cup was made as follows:

Preliminary Round:

- A Ellon Gordon vs Gordonians
- B Inverurie vs Knightriders

Quarter Final:

- C Cults vs AGSFP
- D Mannofield vs winner of A
- E Stonewood Dyce vs winner of B
- F Bon Accord vs Crescent

Semi-Final:

- C vs D
- E vs F