



# The Bassetlaw & District Cricket League

*founded 1904*

LMC Meeting 17 March 2020

Venue: Edwinstowe CC

Meeting Start: 7.00 pm      Close: 8.05 pm

## **1. Apologies**

J Leaning, D Flowers, S Roberts, M Hall, T Haywood

## **2. Acceptance of the minutes of the February 2020 Meeting**

The minutes of the February 2020 meeting were approved as a true and accurate record.

## **3. Matters Arising**

Nothing further to report. All meetings and training course affecting several outstanding issues have been cancelled due to the current situation and further updates will be given when appropriate.

## **4. Finance and Sponsorship**

- i) League Sponsorship. It has been suggested that the league should be renamed the 'Readers Bassetlaw & District Cricket League' as they are now the leagues' main sponsors; this would then allow space for other companies to sponsor individual divisions.

It was agreed that this matter should remain on the agenda and be discussed again before the start of the 2021 season.

- ii) TM reported that approximately half of our clubs have paid their annual league subscriptions.
- iii) Compilation of the 2020 league handbook has been completed and has been sent to the publishers. It is anticipated that the printed version should be available from the printers by 31 March, in time for distribution to clubs and umpires at the beginning of April.

TM added that he had negotiated a discount of £200 with Ratcliffe & Roper, which will be recorded as league sponsorship.

An electronic version of the 2020 handbook has been uploaded to the league web site.

## **5. Child Welfare and DBS Matters**

AW reiterated that all club welfare officers must be appropriately qualified.

The club welfare officer training courses scheduled in February have all been completed; however, those scheduled to be run in March have all been cancelled.

Due to closure of all the relevant facilities, all coach training courses have also been cancelled.

## **6. Correspondence**

- i) AW reported that no formal guidance has yet been received from the ECB regarding the forthcoming season. However, the ECB will be meeting throughout this week, and any further information and advice will be channeled to league clubs via the Nottinghamshire CCC officers.

## **7. Club Consultation Plans 2020**

Nothing to discuss at this meeting.

## **8. Any Other Business**

In view of the current situation, it was agreed that it would be prudent to suspend meetings of the full LMC until further notice; and that the league will be run via the referrals committee for the foreseeable future.

GV added that the referrals committee must provide prompt responses to any matters arising during this period.

- a) Annual league subscriptions and NCC (NCB) affiliation fees. A decision on dealing with these matters will be taken once advice has been received from the ECB and NCCC officers. Actions taken may take the form of reimbursements to clubs or any payments received may be taken as subscriptions for 2021 should there be no competitive league cricket. The administration of refunds will be carried out by TM. Emphasis will be given to supporting our smaller clubs where required.
- b) GJ added that the league will do everything we can as a league to support our clubs
- c) TM undertook to speak to Neil Pullen of Kookaburra Readers to discuss the implications to the league should our clubs not take up the required number of balls to trigger the agreed level of sponsorship. AR suggested that in the event of a severely disrupted season we agree with Kookaburra Readers to extend the current arrangement by a further year.
- d) The umpires training courses, captains meeting and handbook distribution meetings due prior to the start of the season will all be cancelled.

## Notes and agreements since this meeting

1. All cricket activity suspended until 28<sup>th</sup> May.
2. NCB Competitions office and Notts Cricket Board office (with exception of Mandy Wright) closed until 28<sup>th</sup> May.
3. Last NPL meeting agreed to a 2-week notice period prior to the commencement of league fixtures – this to be a consistent throughout Nottinghamshire recreational cricket leagues.
4. It was agreed at the NPL meeting and subsequently confirmed at an inter-league discussion that all correspondence to league clubs will be channeled via Nottinghamshire CCC to avoid duplication and conflict of information/incorrect or out of step details being sent to clubs.
5. TM has the BDCL handbooks – arrangements for distribution to be made should we be able to hold any competitive fixtures; **if not it is possible that these could be used for 2021 if the 2020 fixtures can be carried forward without change (except for date).**
6. Nottinghamshire CCC have waived the annual affiliation fee to league clubs; TM has repaid this to clubs who have already paid this to the league. Further discussion to take place regarding payment of league fees once the format for the forthcoming season (if any) has been finalised.
7. TM has contacted Neil Pullen at Kookaburra Readers – all cricket ball orders have been placed on hold and the ‘North’ collection point day at Anston CC has been postponed.
8. The umpires’ (assessment forms) presentation (Ian Rich) and the Disciplinary Rules presentation (Graham) prepared for the captains meeting will be circulated by e-mail and uploaded to the BDCL web site at the appropriate time before any matches are re-scheduled.
9. One option considered is for a half season of fixtures where every team plays each other once. Timing: either last Saturday in June (or first Saturday in July)
  - Promotion and relegation to be in place – but only 1 promotion and one relegation per division.?
  - Extend season if required....to last Saturday in September?
  - Use August bank holiday Monday.
  - Promotion/Formation of NPL delayed till 2022 – SNCL broadly in agreement with this but awaiting ratification.
  - Fixtures. SNCL and Premier League are preparing a ‘second half of the season’ fixture list. We have asked for a copy of this prior to review, this may result in alterations to our published fixtures.
10. Other matters
  - Possibilities for offering competitive cricket should we be unable to complete half season fixtures – ‘One off’ cup competition (20-20, 20-20 and ‘Hundred’ combined, 40 over) – for higher divisions and allow teams in lower divisions to organize friendlies? Reformat Mallen trophy competition for 2020?

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- How and when we may consult our clubs and what options we offer (we have the means to do this now without involving other parties).
- Possible limitations / restrictions on matches that are played if necessary (no teas, no handshakes, no showers, change at home wherever possible, use of paper cups/bottled and canned drinks).
- Ensure that there will be sufficient umpire coverage as required.
- Consider how long we run as at present to minimize the need for 'physical' management committee meetings (original plan was up to June).
- Decide at the appropriate time whether to run the league dinner and AGM in their usual formats.
- How and when we may consult our clubs and what options we offer (we have the means to facilitate this now without involving other parties).

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- In agreement with the statement issued by Nottinghamshire CCC, there will be no promotion or relegation from any division should any form of competitive league cricket take place.
  - The proposed second division of the Nottinghamshire Premier League will not be created until the 2022 season; promotion to that division will be based on the criteria agreed for this season.
  - It has been agreed (by all local leagues) that a minimum of two weeks' notice will be given to league clubs prior to any matches being played.
  - The annual league dinner has been cancelled-there will be no awards / prizes to present and it is unlikely that the venue will be able to accommodate such an event in the current circumstances.
  - There will be no physical Annual General Meeting. Constituted matters which need to be dealt with such as LMC Structure, Presentation of accounts etc will be circulated by e mail and social media where necessary; if any voting is deemed necessary this will be done electronically via facilities made available to us by Nottinghamshire CCC.
  - Due to the current situation, the LMC agreed that Alan Vollans should be offered the opportunity to extend his tenure of League Presidency over the 2021 season, and I am pleased to report that Alan has accepted this offer.
  - We unfortunately must report that Mick Bonsall is unwell and is not undertaking any league management committee or BDUA duties for the foreseeable future. It is highly likely that we will have to select a new vice president for 2021.
  - Since our last meeting and despite the best efforts of the Chairman, Bev Norris has unfortunately resigned his position as a member of the LMC and as fixture secretary. Michael Carlisle will now be responsible for the administration of league fixtures.
  - There will be no sanctions against clubs who indicate that they do not wish to participate in any fixtures (league, cup or friendly) that the league is able to offer in whatever window we are given to play in. This will also apply to clubs who may wish to play but find they cannot due to ground issues (required for football, insufficient time for ground preparation) etc. However, the league will do its utmost to assist clubs in this regard and seek possible alternative venues or arrangements (e.g. fixtures on Sundays) to facilitate cricket being played.

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- Several contingencies are in place to facilitate both league and friendly cricket. However, it should be noted that the extent of competitive cricket may be restricted by the number of umpires available to the league. The current guidance in place is that no one over the age of 70 should officiate in cricket matches (and they are not covered by ECB-ACO insurance).
  - Where friendly matches are played, clubs may play unregistered players or players from other clubs who are not able to participate in fixtures organised by their parent club, without penalty or a registered temporary transfer. Clubs playing league fixtures must play their currently registered players in accordance with current league rules.
  - Any suspension carried over from the 2019 season will now deemed to have been served.
  - It has been agreed that several honoraria will not be paid this year, further details will be given in due course and clarified in the annual accounts.
  - Annual subscriptions received from league clubs for the 2020 season will now be carried forward to the 2021 season. The current bank balance is £7750, of which £1390 is attributable to club 2020 membership fees.
  - The league has now subscribed to a 'Zoom' account, to facilitate virtual meetings that have no time limit.
  - At this time we have not received any guidance on how recreational cricket matches will be managed; therefore along with our colleagues in the other local recreational leagues, we will continue to act on the regularly updated advice and direction provided by HM Government, the ECB and Nottinghamshire CCC.
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- 12 June 2020
  - ECB Roadmap Received. Adaptive play at Stage 4, Normal cricket at Stage 5
  - At this point, umpires aged over 70 were still being advised not to stand and clubs will be requested not to approach umpires aged over 70 to stand in friendly matches. (If not appointed by the league/BDUA there would be no liability).
  - Concern at this stage re potential number of umpires that may be available to stand should cricket commence. Possibly only 1 per match.
  - Finances. End of year projection £6000 - £6200 balance. £2k less than 2019 and lowest for several years.
  - Development of new league web site on going. B4-6 will be notified in due course once the new site can be made live.
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### Stage 4 League Cricket.

- Following discussions with NCB and NPL, agreed to play matches of 40 over duration.
- No timed games. 4 points for a win, 2 points for tie/rained off fixtures, 0 points for defeat.
- NPL will use DLS, BDCL to adopt Average Run Rate 'ARR'.
- League will be 'opt in', no sanctions for teams/clubs that do not wish to compete.
- Each division will be split into two sections, on a geographical basis.
- All play-off matches shall be played on Saturday 26 September.

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- For the play off finals, the home team shall be determined by the following criteria, taken in order:
  - The total number of points.
  - The higher average net run rate from their respective sub-division
- For equivalent positions in the league, teams finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> (and so on) in their respective sub-division MAY play each other if they so wish to arrange a fixture between themselves on 26<sup>th</sup> September.
- There will be no requirement this season to submit umpire assessment forms.
- Clubs will be invited to compete in the Mallen Trophy. This will be run on a regional basis, with group fixtures being played on Sundays. Pink balls can be used in these fixtures, subject to availability.
- All clubs will be requested to complete a 'Covid 19' facilities questionnaire to enable teams to be aware in advance of their requirements for compliance with ECB recommendations prior to visiting each ground. The information provided will be collated and made available via the league web site.
- An update league handbook will be produced and made available via the league web site.
- Arrangements will be made to ensure that stocks of league balls are made available at Owzat sports. Clubs will be encouraged to use up existing stocks of appropriate cricket balls to minimize expenditure. However, clubs must make their own arrangements to order and collect balls, no 'North Point Collection' evening will be arranged.
- A survey will be arranged at the end of the season to evaluate opinions on the format of cricket played in 2020 and whether any of the temporary changes should be carried forward to next season (e.g. No Teas, Win/Lose Cricket, Starting Times, Allocation of Match Points, Use of ARR etc.). The survey will be extended to include BDUA umpires.
- Except for disciplinary matters, there will be no fines or points deductions levied on clubs this season. Should a team be unable to fulfill a scheduled fixture, the opposition will be awarded full match points as per usual.
- Player registrations. Players should be registered in the normal way on Play Cricket. Transfers or Loans should also be conducted in the usual way, as should the registration of junior players complete with a signed parental permission form. Tom Munro thanked all clubs for their co-operation with this matter and their speedy responses to any queries raised.
- Clubs who have registered with Nat West Cricket Force will receive a free sanitization kit.
- The new league web site is now live. Links to league fixtures and results have been made to our ECB Play Cricket site. The League Facebook page has been re-established and an Instagram account set up. All posts to the web site are automatically sent to our social media accounts. Most of the historical data taken out of the league handbook has now been added to the web site. We have now terminated our agreement with B4-6 IT and no further payments will be made after August 2020.