

Devon County Seniors Cricket Club

Minutes of Committee meeting held on the 4th December 2014

1. **Attendance:** D Gambie, C Theedom, S Munday, G Munday, P Bees, S Lott, P Shephard
2. **Apologies:** A Gibson, D Daniels.
3. The Chairman welcomed Graham Munday, Phil Bees and Peter Shephard to the meeting and congratulated them on their election to the various captaincys.
4. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th November 2014 were read and signed by the chairman.

5. **Matters Arising.**

The matters arising were adjourned until 22nd January 2015 at the next Committee meeting.

6. **Constitution Post AGM**

The Chairman, for the sake of the new members gave a lengthy background to the calling of the meeting. The meeting resulted as the consequence of a failed motion regarding age limitations to the selection of teams. Although it passed with a majority of 18 to 10 it failed to reach 75% of the votes cast as laid down in the Constitution. It therefore was agreed the motion was invalid.

The idea was that a vote at the AGM would settle the matter of age selection between the 50's and 60's. The opposite had happened and a lot of our members were upset. The chairman had stated that the last two years had been a battle with selection with the previous over 50's 1st XI captain and that he had a lot of calls and emails complaining about selection between the 50's 1st XI and the 50's 2nd XI. He was not going to go through another 12 months like the last. It was a faux pas on the committee's part that we had not recognised that we required 75% to succeed with the motion. He went onto update the new captains of the difficulties that arose with numerous previous captains and in particular the manager of the over 50's 2nd XI when Roger had not been liaising and subsequently a lot of good players were never given the chance to play in the 1st XI and some had decided not to play again. This culminated in the use of over 60's players when 5 over 60 players had gone to Jersey yet Chris had not been contacted. Chris was worried that injuries may occur and players would not be available to him for selection. Roger had stated that he had contacted 50's players and none were available. The Chairman had made several calls and found that several over 50 players had not been contacted at all. Phil Bees stated he had not been contacted. When Chris had contacted Roger telling him that he had made numerous calls Roger couldn't say anything.

At nearly every committee meeting we have tried to address the complaints problem. We had drawn up Roles and Responsibilities as a guidance for all captains. It was thought that this would be adhered to and all were in agreement. However Roger had done it his way. It was now felt enough was enough. This led to the proposal that was put before the Annual General Meeting.

Graham Munday informed the meeting that Roger had selected the team in his way and by chatting to people. Rogers ethos was that the 50's selection policy would be the best team available.

The Chairman stated that no one team would be treated differently each player hopefully playing in each team would look at their team as important. The committee had always tried to be fair and balanced especially financially and long may that last. It was also important that as many players of senior age are afforded the means to play cricket.

Graham Munday went through the possible players of over 60 age that may be considered. He reiterated that he would always pick his strongest team and if Nick Folland (over 60) joined he would pick him.

As a result of lengthy discussions the meeting agreed that it boiled down to four options.

- 1) Take to an EGM. A committee proposal put to an EGM. It was thought this would be a difficult proposal. How many would turn up etc. It would have to be held in the middle of winter. It would be difficult meeting and could take the club further apart.
- 2) Leave things as they are. This would be unfair to the 10 persons who voted against the AGM proposal.
- 3) Get actual agreement between the captains of the 50's 1st XI, 50's 2nd XI and the over 60's 1st XI.
- 4) Individuals on the committee resign and others sort it out.

A discussion took place on each point.

It was agreed to try and sort it out within the committee after further discussion it was agreed that the captains liaise properly and to a greater extent than before.

It was agreed that the Secretary draft a letter to be circulated to all members outlining the problem and stating that there would be greater liaison on selection between the captains involved. It was therefore agreed this may avert an Extraordinary General Meeting. However this was to be agreed by all the committee before publication.

It was also agreed that the chairman would not be the arbiter of any selection matter. This would pass to the President. This would remove any argument that there may be bias as Chris was the captain of the over 60's 1st XI.

Stuart Munday stated that this was still the best run county and he didn't want to see a wedge driven between the sides. He didn't think over 60's would get in the over 50's side. He didn't want an EGM.

The Secretary stated that he believed that more over 50 players should be on or co-opted onto the committee. It was hoped that this would give a more balanced view.

There was a short discussion on the annual availability sheets which did not seem to work.

7. Fixture Cards.

Phil Bees stated that he would get the cards printed and do the art work. Stuart Munday agreed to do the adverts and liaise with Phil.

8. Any other Business.

Stuart Munday asked if dinner was a success. All agreed it was. Stuart to book for 2015. He stated that he would book at a date namely 21st November 2015.

The secretary stated he would email Graham Peach re attending the next committee meeting regarding his paper. There was still unease about the website controlled by The Devon Cricket Board. There were still problems with getting a lot of information to our members. The Chairman stated that if items were passed to Matt Theedom they would go on the same day. The Secretary would liaise with Matt.

The Secretary stated that he had written to all clubs in Devon that we have played at in 2014 have been written and thanked.

14. Date of next meeting - 22nd January 2015

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.32hrs