



THAMES VALLEY CRICKET LEAGUE



Established in 1972, The Morrants Thames Valley Cricket League is an important component of the ECB Premier League structure

AGM Minutes 2023

Wednesday, 29th November, 2023

Venue: Wokingham C.C.

Management Committee:

Richard Thomas (Chairman) RT	Matthew Stevenson (Secretary) MS	Martin House (Treasurer) MH	Nick Piper (Fixture Secretary) NP
Rob Bartlett RB	Vic Devers VD	Tom Mellor TM	Chris Sims CS
Simon Webb SW	Martin Wilson MJW	Mike Woodward MW	

Full Member Clubs (57):

Amersham	Aldershot	Bagshot	Beaconsfield
Binfield	Boyne Hill	Bracknell	Bradfield
Burnham	Chalfont St. Peter	Chenies & Latimer	Chesham
Cookham Dean	Cove	Datchet	Eversley
Falkland	Farnham Common	Farnham Royal	Finchampstead
Fleet	Gerrards Cross	Harefield	Hayes
Henley	High Wycombe	Hillingdon Manor	Hounslow & Whitton
Hurst	Ickenham	Kew	Kidmore End
Maidenhead & Bray	Marlow	Newbury	NPL
Old Merchant Taylors'	Purley-on-Thames	Reading	Royal Ascot
Ruislip	Slough	Sonning	Stoke Green
Sulhamstead & Upton	Taplow	Thatcham Town	Theale & Tilehurst
Tring Park	Uxbridge	Wargrave	White Waltham
Windsor	Wokingham	Wooburn Narkovians	Wraysbury
Yateley			

Associate Member Clubs (7):

Barnes	Eastcote	Emmbrook & Bearwood	Harpsden
Holmer Green	Peppard Stoke Row	Princes Risborough	

The meeting opened at 8.05pm.

Present

- Neil Doody, President (ND).
- Philip Cambray, panel umpire (PC).
- All members of the management committee except SD & SW.
- All full member clubs except [Bracknell](#), [Bushy Park](#), [Kew](#) and [Slough](#).
- All associate member clubs except [Eastcote](#) and [Princes Risborough](#).

1. Apologies for absence:

- John Bushby, Alan English.
- SW.
- [Gerrards Cross](#). MS advised that they had been allowed a proxy vote on the rule change proposals on an exceptional basis (we do not normally allow this) because the date of this year's AGM was changed after they had already confirmed their own AGM for the same date.



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2. Minutes of the last AGM:

- RT advised that the minutes of the last AGM had been distributed with this year's notice. They were approved without amendment.

3. Matters Arising from last AGM:

- None.

4. Chairman's Report:

- RT gave a verbal report as follows:
- He congratulated Stoke Green on winning our 2023 competition and wished them every success in the HCPCL next season. He also welcomed Emmbrook & Bearwood who come into the competition for 2024 as an associate member following their promotion via the BCMBL feeder link; and he regretted that Chalfont St. Giles would be returning to the BCMBL via the same arrangement following their relegation from Division 4.
- He thanked everyone on the mancom and the sub-committees for their efforts over the last year, especially MS and VD who bear the brunt of the administrative workload.

5. Secretary's Report:

- RT advised that the secretary's report (see below) had been distributed with this year's AGM notice.

6. Treasurer's Report:

- MH noted that the accounts published in the AGM notice were unaudited and reported that, since the notice was sent out, the accounts had now been audited. This has resulted in a minor adjustment which has had the effect of slightly increasing the surplus for the year.
- RT gave an overview of the accounts for the 2022/23 financial year (see below). The new audited numbers show a surplus of £4301 and an overall balance of £45,118. RT noted that the Annual Dinner in 2022 had made a significant loss but that the new format event held recently for 2023 would show a profit. He also noted the sharp increase in fines revenue and hoped that the clubs would improve their admin next year and reduce this figure significantly. There were no questions from the floor and the accounts were duly approved.
- Auditor. MH advised that Ray Wood would be stepping down from his role of auditor of the league accounts. RT thanked him for his many years of outstanding service.

7. Rules and Match Conditions:

- MJW introduced this year's rule change proposals.
- VD confirmed that there were 53 full member clubs present and entitled to vote on the subsequent (not Match Rule) change proposals.

Mancom proposals for changes to Constitution

- **C1: Subscriptions – payment required (tidy up)**



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- {Passed unanimously}
- **C2: Update to latest ECB directives (tidy up)**
- {Passed unanimously}

Mancom proposals for changes to Discipline & Complaints

- **D1: Penalties (tidy up)**
- {Passed unanimously}
- **D2: Repeated Team Offences (points deductions after 2 rather than 3 matches)**
- {In favour 52, against 1, abstentions 0 – passed}
- **D3: Update to Clause 4.2 (tidy up)**
- {Passed unanimously}

Mancom proposals for changes to Player Eligibility

- **P1: Team Strengthening - simplification**
- {In favour 52, against 1, abstentions 0 – passed}

Mancom proposals for changes to Format of the League

- **F1: Creation of new dedicated Gradings & Standards rules section**
- {Passed unanimously}
- **F2: ECB Clubmark requirement for Divisions 1, 2 & 3**
- {In favour 52, against 1, abstentions 0 – passed}
- VD confirmed that there were 58 full and associate member clubs present and entitled to vote on the subsequent (Match Rule) change proposals.

Club proposal for changes to Match Rules

- **Proposal 1: Earlier start times – 12pm**
- Proposed by [High Wycombe](#) and seconded by [Marlow](#).
- [Eversley](#), [Aldershot](#) and [Reading](#) all against – wording not what agreed at rules meeting and away team has no say.
- [Fleet](#) against – clash with junior cricket.
- [Ickenham](#) in favour – clash with evening commitments a bigger problem re availability than morning ones.
- [Bagshot](#), [Chesham](#) & [Wokingham](#) all in favour – it is what young players want.
- [Chenies & Latimer](#) against – team strengthening conflicts re players only available to play at home.
- [Windsor](#) in favour – to avoid late finishes.
- [Theale](#) and [Purley-on-Thames](#) both against – more suited to higher divisions than lower ones because latter's games are shorter.
- {In favour 31, against 23, abstentions 4 – not passed}



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- **Proposal 2: Coloured kit in D1 & D2 win/lose matches**
 - Proposed by [High Wycombe](#) and seconded by [Marlow](#).
 - [Maidenhead & Bray](#) against – divides club.
 - [Reading](#) & PC against – too many different types of ball (re spares) already.
 - [Ickenham](#) in favour – better preparation for HCPCL.
 - {In favour 33, against 19, abstentions 6 – not passed}
- **Proposal 3: Over rate penalties in traditional format (align with HCPCL)**
 - Proposed by [High Wycombe](#) and seconded by [Marlow](#).
 - NP not keen – HCPCL system is complicated to apply for umpires.
 - [Ickenham](#) in favour – a team can be penalised unfairly if lots of wickets fall in last overs of an innings.
 - {In favour 34, against 13, abstentions 11 – passed}
- **Proposal 4: Amendments to over split in traditional format (54/46 to 39/31)**
 - Proposed by [High Wycombe](#) and seconded by [Harefield](#).
 - [Farnham Royal](#) against because they fear that together with Proposal 5 below teams might be more inclined to bat defensively for a draw.
 - [Bagshot](#) against – proposal well-intentioned but might have opposite effect to one intended, i.e. more teams batting defensively for a draw.
 - [Chesham](#) against – evidence from HCPCL is that it will lead to more defensive cricket.
 - {In favour 14, against 33, abstentions 11 – not passed}
- **Proposal 5: Amendments to points system in traditional format**
 - Proposed by [High Wycombe](#) and seconded by [Harefield](#).
 - [Farnham Common](#) against – will encourage teams to play for a draw.
 - {In favour 33, against 20, abstentions 5 – not passed}
- RT thanked Harry Lane from [High Wycombe](#) for his work on these proposals and said that the mancom would take a look at the ones which failed narrowly.

Mancom proposals for changes to Match Rules

- **R1: Division 6 to all win/lose**
 - {In favour 37, against 17, abstentions 4 – passed}
- **R2: DLS to replace ARR in Division 3 & below**
 - {In favour 34, against 18, abstentions 6 – not passed}
- **R3: Scorer point in Divisions 1 & 2 – invert to negative**
 - {In favour 40, against 5, abstentions 13 – passed}
- **R4: Over rate penalties – fielding restriction rather than penalty runs**
 - RB commented that this was now common practice in most Premier Leagues.
 - {Passed unanimously}
- **R5 – Bouncers – traditional matches**
 - {Passed unanimously}



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8. Election of Vice Presidents

- MS advised that there were no nominations this year.

9. Election of Officers

- The chairman, secretary and treasurer were all prepared to stand again. RT asked for any other nominations from the floor and there were none. Proposed by [Beaconsfield](#), seconded by [Bagshot](#) and re-elected unanimously.
- RT announced that NP was stepping down as fixture secretary as he will soon be moving out of the area. He thanked him for his outstanding contribution to the TVCL over many years. NP proposed Eddie Lunn as his successor and this was seconded by MS. RT asked for any other nominations from the floor and there were none. Eddie Lunn was then elected unanimously.

10. Election of Officials

- All the existing officials were prepared to stand again apart from CS who is standing down. MS pointed out that SD had been co-opted onto the mancom in January. RT asked for any other nominations from the floor and there were none. Proposed by [Beaconsfield](#), seconded by [Farnham Royal](#) and re-elected unanimously.

11. Election of Honorary Independent Examiner

- As per Treasurer's Report, Ray Wood is not standing again. RT asked for any other nominations from the floor and there were none. So the position was left vacant.

12. Any Other Business:

- Play Cricket: MS reported that we have decided to transfer from TVCL16 to Play Cricket for the 2024 season. There are two main reasons for this decision, namely compatibility with Play Cricket Scorer and disaster recovery. He said that there will be work for member clubs in the spring to update their player databases.
- League Amalgamation project: MS gave a brief update. All the feeder league grounds have been inspected and the results are currently being reviewed with the feeder leagues to see if a proposal to an EGM in the spring will be possible.
- Meeting venue: [Chesham](#) asked why all the meetings in recent times have been held at Wokingham. MS said that we only had two venues to hold general meetings, Wokingham and High Wycombe, neither of which are ideal geographically for half of the league. He said that he would try to arrange the next meeting at High Wycombe.
- Vote of thanks. [Wooburn Narkovians](#) offered a vote of thanks to the management committee for all their hard work on the clubs' behalf.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____



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Hon. Secretary's Report

Stoke Green were our champions for 2023 and the winners of the *John Goodman Trophy*. It was nip and tuck with Eversley for most of the season but Stoke Green were comfortable winners in the end and we wish them well in the Home Counties Premier League next season. The other divisional winners were Marlow (2a), Reading (2b), Kidmore End (3a), Hayes (3b), Thatcham Town (4a), Farnham Royal (4b), Kew 2 (5a), Eversley 2 (5b), Hillingdon Manor 2 (6a), Kidmore End 2 (6b), Binfield 3 (7a), Uxbridge 3 (7b), Reading 3 (8a), Hounslow & Whitton 3 (8b), Sulhamstead & Upton 3 (9a), Wraysbury 3 (9b), Purley-on-Thames 3 (10a), Gerrards Cross 3 (10b) and Datchet 4 (10c).

Kidmore End had a good season and won two divisional titles. Congratulations to them and to all our divisional champions, and to the other teams who also gained promotion, and bad luck to those who just missed out or got relegated – there is always next season!

Next season we welcome Emmbrook and Bearwood into Division 4 after they won the Mid-Bucks, Chilterns and Berkshire League Championship. Sadly, via the same BCMBL team-based promotion & relegation agreement, Chalfont St. Giles drop back into the BCMBL competition after finishing in a relegation position in TVCL Division 4b. Member clubs will be aware that the TVCL is currently considering a request from the three feeder leagues for them to be amalgamated into the TVCL competition. As part of this process, we have recently inspected all the grounds of feeder league clubs and are currently discussing the results with the feeder leagues. We will report back to TVCL member clubs in due course.

The new wet weather rules that were approved at the 2021 AGM finally came into play during the 2023 season after the very dry 2022 season when hardly any games were rained off. They seemed to work well – there is now an understanding that the away team always has the right to travel if it so wishes, which in turn seems to have eliminated the lazy or cynical cancellation of a match by the home ground authority.

The new better quality cricket balls introduced for Divisions 1 and 2 were well received.

We have two important positions to fill on the management committee. Nick Piper is moving out of the area so we will need a new Fixture Secretary to do the 2025 fixtures. Nick has made an outstanding contribution to the TVCL over many years, in various different roles including development, gradings & standards and umpire administration as well as fixtures – he will be a hard act to follow! We would also like to recruit an IT manager/administrator. We have decided to move across to Play Cricket at the earliest opportunity so this will be the first task for this role. If anyone is interested in these positions and would like to discuss before the AGM then please do not hesitate to contact me. Chris Sims is also stepping down from his position on the management committee and I would like to thank him as well for his contribution.

Matthew Stevenson



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Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2023

	2023		2022
	£	£	£
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Sundry debtors	435		770
Bank current account	221		2244
Bank deposit accounts	<u>50219</u>		<u>42517</u>
	<u>50875</u>		<u>45531</u>
<u>Current Liabilities</u>			
Sundry creditors	<u>5757</u>		<u>4714</u>
		45118	40817
		<u>45118</u>	<u>40817</u>
<u>Represented by:-</u>			
<u>General Fund</u>			
Balance at 1 October 2022	40817		
<u>Add: Surplus for the year</u>	<u>4301</u>	<u>45118</u>	<u>40817</u>



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Income and Expenditure account for the Year ended 30 September 2023

	2023	2022
<u>Income</u>	£	£
Cricket balls	543	483
Subscriptions	4925	5325
Sponsorship and awards	4250	4250
Fines and penalties	7265	3790
Car park charges	400	
Interest received	<u>525</u>	<u>23</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>17868</u>	<u>13871</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Cricket balls	988	1188
Trophies and engraving	2496	2282
Results & league tables service	171	179
Fair Play Award scheme	3100	3100
Secretarial and administration	1633	1075
IT costs and upgrades	-	500
Insurance	746	720
Match Officials costs	37	906
Representative matches costs	1362	100
Function costs	2564	1090
Miscellaneous expenses	470	319
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>13567</u>	<u>11459</u>
Surplus for the year	<u>4301</u>	<u>2412</u>