

2013 AGM Minutes of Meeting held on 5 December 2013.

Sellers International Huddersfield Junior Cricket League

At Kirkheaton Cricket Club

1. Attendance and apologies

A roll call of clubs was taken. Clubs not represented were: Birkby Rose Hill; Crigglestone; Hoylandswaine; Scholes and Thurstonland.

2. Minutes of the 2012 AGM

The minutes of the 2012 AGM were agreed as a correct record.

3. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report.

Mr Senior welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thanked all sponsors, executive committee members, representative team managers and the Huddersfield Examiner for their efforts on behalf of the League. He asked all clubs to support our sponsors who provide vital financial assistance to the League. Mr Senior congratulated David Armitage of our main sponsors, Sellers International, who had recently received the OBE.

Mr Senior expressed his appreciation to all clubs who had offered their facilities for meetings and had hosted representative fixtures to a high standard. The number of players (both male and female) who had represented their district and county, and the success of our representative teams was a tribute to the hard work and support shown by coaches and managers at both club and league level.

151 teams had finished the season, 7 withdrawing after the fixtures had been set. Clubs were urged to ensure that they had sufficient numbers of players when entering teams as withdrawals after the fixtures had been arranged caused frustration for the remaining teams in a section who lost fixtures. The number of forfeited games was 50 (80 in 2012) out of a total of approximately 1,300 scheduled matches.

Mr Senior reported that the League had no disciplinary meetings during the 2013 and 2012. He hoped that this excellent record would continue and asked all clubs to ensure the highest standard of behaviour amongst players and spectators.

A new, improved website is in the process of being set up. Lee Booth was thanked for his work on this. Any suggestions, comments or articles for inclusion on the website should be sent to Lee Booth.

5. Secretary's report.

Mr Thorpe stated that the HJCL had 163 entries from 40 clubs for the 2014 season (151 teams finished the 2013 season). In 2013 11 clubs (12 in 2012) won at least one league or cup trophy. Approximately 10% of games were abandoned due to the weather in 2013 (25% in 2012).

Bradley and Colnebridge, Denby, Barkisland and Hoylandswaine joined the League in 2013. All these new clubs had a good 2013 and are continuing in 2014, some with an increased number of teams. There is a possibility of a new club, Moorend Phoenix, competing in 2014.

The League under 17 team lost in the Joe Lumb final and there were individual awards for Timmy Taylor (Player of the Season) and Alex Clegg (Bowling). The under 11 team lost in their semi-final off the last ball of the game, the under 13 and under 15 teams were knocked out at the group stage. Mr Thorpe thanked the managers and coaches of the representative teams for their time and commitment. Lee Booth and Paul Wharton (Under 13) and Neil Daniel (Under 15) took on these roles for the first time and have agreed to continue in 2014.

16 clubs have nominated 130 players for the 2014 representative teams. Any clubs that haven't nominated players on their entry forms and still wish to do so should provide nominations direct to the team manager with contact details for the player.

Mr Thorpe reported that the League had received excellent support from umpires of both the Drakes and Central Leagues who had supported junior cricket by officiating at representative games and cup semi-finals and finals.

The League has an increasing number of girls playing cricket. There are lots of opportunities to play at West Yorkshire and County level. Mr Thorpe informed the meeting that Wendy Brown, Head Coach of the Yorkshire Women Cricket Association, had said that any girls who want to get involved at District level can have their name put forward by clubs or parents. There would be trials for the County squads during March.

There would be no fixtures on the Sunday of the Tour De France, it was likely that these will be played on the Friday before. Clubs wanting an away fixture on this date were asked to contact the Chairman.

A large organisation of over 150 teams with approximately 1,500 players does lead to problems of administration and Mr Thorpe appealed to all clubs to meet deadlines in order to ensure the HJCL is run efficiently. The HJCL receives good publicity from the Huddersfield Examiner and results need to be submitted on time to ensure the newspaper and the website have current, up to date information.

Mr Thorpe concluded by thanking, on behalf of the League, all our clubs for supporting and promoting Junior Cricket. He also thanked the Chairman and Executive Committee who do a vast amount of work 'behind the scenes' to ensure the smooth running of the League.

6. Treasurer's report.

Mr Rothery presented the accounts for the period from 1 November 2012 to 31 October 2013. These included a summary of income and expenditure and further analysis for each age group. He thanked Sellers International, Drakes Huddersfield League and the Huddersfield Umpires Association for their generous sponsorship.

The balance in hand of £8,659 compared with £7,276 at the start of the year. The surplus of £1,283 compared with a deficit of £1,347 in the previous year. The main changes were increased subscriptions (£880) and fines (£920). The balance of £8,659 represented approximately 12.5 months of expenditure that was considered a good ratio.

Mr Rothery proposed that the subscriptions for 2014 remain unchanged and recommended that the accounts be adopted. The meeting unanimously agreed and thanked the Treasurer for his work during 2013.

7. Child Welfare Report.

The meeting was reminded that all coaches, managers and volunteers involved with children had to be CRB checked and it was each club's responsibility to ensure this happened. Clubs must have a Child Welfare Officer registered with their senior league.

It was hoped that courses for new Child Welfare Officers or those requiring an update (after 3 years) would soon be available.

8. Proposed rule change.

The proposed rule change to wicketkeeping at under 11, section rules 4g and 4h, to bring this age group in line with under 13, 15 and 17, was passed by 23 votes for to 5 against.

9. Entries for 2014 season.

Completed entry forms were still required from a few clubs and these should be sent to the Secretary as soon as possible. There would be no penalty if teams withdrew before the 1st January, which is the date when fixture planning will commence. All changes to manager details must be received by 1st February to meet the deadline for the 2014 handbook.

10. Election of officers.

All officers were willing to stand again. The meeting unanimously re-elected the executive committee on that basis.

11. Development League.

Upperthong Cricket Club presented a discussion document about the possibility of a 'Development League'. The aim was to encourage more clubs to put out 'B' teams that would play limited fixtures (10 or 8), avoiding Bank and school holidays, under the auspices of the HJCL. It was thought that some clubs were unable to commit

teams in January because of uncertainty of numbers but could be able to commit to a more flexible structure in April. It was agreed that it was too late to adopt such a League in 2014 but clubs were asked to consider if there was merit in such a proposal for the 2015 season.

12. Huddersfield Cricket Coaches Association.

Dave Weston gave an update. In line with directions from the Yorkshire Cricket Board it had been decided that while the association would continue as a separate body, it would have close links with the HJCL to improve communication and hopefully support and develop junior cricket in Huddersfield. Details of future coaching events were given and clubs/individuals asked to register interest with Dave Robinson at daverobinson@blueyonder.co.uk

13. Yorkshire County Cricket Club.

Mark Arthur, Chief Executive of Yorkshire County Cricket Club, provided an interesting and informative account of current developments in cricket in Yorkshire. A discussion and question and answer session followed. Mr Arthur was thanked for attending the AGM and members wished him and the county success in 2014.

14. Date of the 2014 AGM.

This will take place at Kirkheaton Cricket Club on Thursday 4 December 2014 with a 7.30pm start.

David Thorpe.