

Minutes of YAG Meeting

6.00pm Monday 7 May 2012

Present: Mike Johnston, Matt Parr, Bruce Day, Dave Grocott, Richard Hayward (Canterbury Cricket-High Performance), Paul O'Brien (Canterbury Cricket-Development), Mike Fisher (Canterbury Cricket-Operations-Chair)

Apologies: Warren Lidstone

1. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Mike Johnston/Richard Hayward

2. **Matters Arising:**

- Playing Dates for Term 4 2012 (2nd half of the season)

1st XI, Reserve Grades - 13 October to 15 December

All other grades, competitions finish on 1 December but there will be a Twenty20 day on 8 December for these grades

For 2nd and Year 9A grades, their 2 Day competitions finish on 8 December.

- Friday T20 Competition

MJ reported that this had been a successful start to this competition.

Problems included recruitment and maintaining a pool of umpires, and the possible need of more adults in attendance. It should be held in a 5-week block in Term 4 and February.

- Canterbury Cricket T20 Tournament

This was a popular tournament and should continue as it served a need at the end of January.

3. **Coaches and Umpiring**

1st XI coaches had umpired sporadically over the last term and this was well-received by Canterbury Cricket and the players. Their presence took pressure off the player umpires, in particular the younger players; they monitored poor player behaviour, and it allowed coaches and those umpires from Canterbury Cricket to get a better perspective of players in action. After considerable discussion, it was decided that 1st XI coaches or designated team managers should umpire. Coaches should discuss this prior to the start of the match. No Year 10 player was to umpire.

In Gillette Cup, Canterbury Cricket will undertake to supply neutral umpires from the quarter finals onwards.

4. **Inter School Athletics Day**

There had been a convention that when the Canterbury Secondary Schools Athletic Sports were held, any named 1st XI cricketer who was participating in them had full playing rights immediately upon returning from his event(s). This now was a Playing Condition. This would also apply to any 1st XI player who was sitting an academic examination on the day of play.

The opposing captain, coach or officially-appointed umpire should be informed at least 30 minutes prior to the start of that day's play.

5. **CCUSA**

MF reported that at a recent Umpires' meeting, there had been discussion on the lack of knowledge of the players to current Law. While this may be so, it was felt that some of the umpires could work more with the coaches in this area rather

than taking a narrow and punitive approach to any issue that may arise on the field. **Action:** MF to discuss with umpires.

6. General

- BD raised the issue of sledging in the Year 9 and 10 grades. He had received several complaints from some of the parents in SWC. If unable to be resolved amicably by the team coaches, the procedure should be that it is dealt with by the Heads of Cricket at the respective schools or clubs. Failing that, the matter should be passed onto Canterbury Cricket.
- MJ was concerned about the lack of cricket in a day and that the first innings for both teams were taking too long to complete by encroaching well into Day 2. He proposed that there be a minimum of 110 overs in a day under the following Hours of Play:
10.30am - 1.00pm
1.30pm - 3.45pm
4.00pm - 6.00pm
Coaches and umpires were to be vigilant and drive the match to ensure a day's play finished at 6.00pm or 110 overs, whichever was later. Such areas to watch might include brief drinks breaks, teams being punctual at the start of sessions with lunch and tea breaks strictly adhered to, and player movement between overs to be kept moving. **MF to action**.
- POB thanked those schools who had responded to his request to form a folder for bowlers who might have suspect actions. Canterbury has, and will, assist such bowlers to correct their actions.
- MP recommended that:
 - Year 9T20 use the hard-soft orange ball (currently used on Fridays) to help school budgets. Well received. **MF to action**.
He suggested that Year 9B be moved to morning cricket to create the availability of pitches for afternoon cricket. No support.
 - MP presented a paper based on a 6-team competition for the 1st XI Grade, and underpinned by Pillar 2 and 3 of the new Strategic Objectives of Canterbury Cricket. He provided some compelling reasons for this including a wide discrepancy in team abilities, limited opportunities for middle order batsmen and some bowlers, few challenging matches for top teams, and a possible loss of interest of players. In broader terms this was impacting on Canterbury Under Age representative performances.
The recommendation would involve a ranking system based over two-three year's finishing positions. This would be transparent, provide a pathway and incentive for teams in Levels 2 and 3, and provide consistent competition for the top Level.
This paper was enthusiastically received.
Action: The group was asked to digest the document and provide any feedback to Matt in the near future. It would then be presented to the SLT and Metro after which schools and clubs would be informed well before the start of the second half of the season.
- MF, on behalf of WL, raised WCL's concern over the Year 9A grade mirroring the 1st XI grade with a wide range of abilities. This was leading to lower teams being outclassed and the top teams not being extended. There was varied opinion on this.

Meeting ended at 8.15pm