

## **Minutes of YAG Meeting**

2.00pm Thursday 8 December 2011

**Present:** Mike Johnston, Warren Lidstone, Matt Parr, Richard McCracken, Richard Hayward (Canterbury Cricket-High Performance), Paul O'Brien (Canterbury Cricket Youth Manager), Mike Fisher (Christchurch Adult and Youth Operations Manager)

**Apologies:** Dave Grocott

1. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** Lidstone/Johnston

2. **Matters Arising:**

POB spoke on Year 9 nominations being solid with 90 approximately, and about 100 Under 16 nominations.

3. **Playing Dates for 2012**

1<sup>st</sup> XI Grade - 14 January to 15 December 2012

Reserve and 2<sup>ND</sup> Grade - 28 January to 8 December

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade and below - 4 February to 8 December

4. **Friday T20 competition**

MJ/POB spoke to this. It is to be held at CBHS over a 6-week period from 17 February-23 March. Matches are to be umpired by 1<sup>st</sup> XI boys. Nominations will be asked for in early February. It is aimed at Year 10-11, and Year 12-13. No Saturday morning players to be involved.

5. **Lincoln T20**

While Lincoln University was no longer involved, it was felt that Canterbury Cricket would continue to run this on 25-26 January 2012 on Polo and Hospital Corner grounds. **Action:** MF to contact schools for show of interest.

6. **Prize Giving for 2011 season**

**Action:** MF was to book for 7.00pm Friday 10 February 2012 at St Bede's College.

7. **Pitch Renovations**

CBHS, Papanui HS, Burnside HS, St Bede's had received Spring renovations to date. POB asked if Cashmere HS could be considered at next budget round.

8. **1<sup>st</sup> XI Grade 2012**

MF provided an overview of the cricket at TBHS as provided by Jeremy Hogan, Chairman of their club; a submission from Dave Grocott; full team statistics on CBHS 2<sup>nd</sup> XI, TBHS, Ashburton College, and NWYC; and the criteria for application to this grade.

There was considerable discussion on this issue which ranged from having 6 teams to 10-12 teams.

**WL:** this season had probably been the weakest grade for a long time. By having 6 teams, there was a likelihood of having strong and even contests. There was also a need to have an element of development for players to progress.

**MP:** Agreed with WL in the nature of many lop-sided matches and that by having 6 teams in the top grade would provide a strong Reserve grade as well. If we didn't have a strong grade more school players would opt to play for senior clubs. This trend was already impacting on CBHS.

**MJ:** Ideally he would opt for a 6-team grade with teams proving themselves good enough to be there. His preference was for 8 teams.

**RMcC:** Agreed with the discussion but emphasized that there should be no bye.

**POB:** Spoke about “a changed landscape and some schools in decline”. He favoured 8-10 teams.

**RH:** Speaking from a HP point of view, the top players must have opportunity in the strongest grade which would be 6 teams.

**DG:** His main principle was in development. He favoured an 8-team competition.

**MF:** Favoured a lean competition that promoted excellence over development. A healthy and strong Reserve grade would evolve. It was important to keep this grade strong; this strength continued to be reflected by Gillette Cup results and National Under Age tournament results.

**Summary:**

TBHS 's stats were poor with no wins in a 9-round 1 Day format and mediocre performances in the Reserve Grade. While TBHS had contributed strongly to this grade, their performances had been in decline over a recent period of time. In providing for the strongest 8-team competition, TBHS should be placed in the Reserve Grade for the 2012 season; when successful, they should reapply for promotion to the top grade. This is the recommendation to CAYC.

**9. General**

- Congratulations to Christ’s College on finishing runner-up in the Gillette Cup, and to CBHS Year 9 on their NZCT performance.
- POB: He spoke of establishing the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Grade as Under 19 which would cater for school leavers remaining with the Youth clubs. This didn’t get great support but he would circulate a support document on this. Further, he suggested that 1<sup>st</sup> XI should consider I-Pad scoring as it was proving successful at age-group tournaments.
- RH: He spoke strongly in favour of adults and, in particular, coaches umpiring 1<sup>st</sup> XI matches to eliminate the dishonesty and pressure that currently existed. There was some division in this suggestion with some feeling that coaches wanted to be available to watch lower grade teams during the day. The coach of the fielding team could umpire, or each team could be required to provide an umpire.
- MJ: Could the competitions be concurrent? **Action:** MF would provide a mock season draw.

**Next Meeting: April 2012**

Meeting finished at 4.20pm