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|  | **MI Dental**  **Liverpool & District**  **Cricket Competition** |  |
|  | **The ECB Premier League in Lancashire** |  |
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**CAPTAIN’S EVENING**

Thursday 31st March 2016 at Bootle CC

7.00-8.30 pm

Hon Sec’s notes therefrom

*7.02pm*

1. **Welcome** JW

*1.1* JW introduced himself as the Chair of the MIDental L&DCC; Chris Weston Hon Sec, Eric Hadfield President and John Rotheram Cricket Chair were present from the M/C. Both Kevin Wilson and Ray Rigby were representing the MCUA.

JW welcomed everyone to the meeting; it was good to see a turnout like this. M/C hoped that it would be useful and looked forward to proper feedback.

JW also particularly welcomed Bobby Denning the Managing Director of LCB and Paul Edwards Cricket Correspondent of the Liverpool Echo to the meeting.

JW asked if we could now “go round the room” and for everyone to introduce themselves and say which club they were from.

A piece of paper from the Hon Sec was circulating, CW hoped we would all “sign in” with name club and email, he would circulate all the papers in use at this meeting to all present, electronically, for everyone’s convenience

*1.2* It was vital for captains to delegate a lot of the tasks they were to hear about rather than get overwhelmed and then quit!

Asking questions was encouraged

*1.3* 31 club representatives were present as signed in.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Alder | Andrew Aitchison | Old Xaverians | Sean Stamper |
| Alder | Ian Ford | Ormskirk | Matt Glayzer |
| Burscough | Brendan Domigan | Ormskirk | Jonny Glayzer |
| Caldy | Chris Edwards | Orrell Red Triangle | David Naylor |
| Colwyn Bay | Sion Morris | Parkfield Liscard | Steve Lewis |
| Formby | Kim Miles | Rainhill | J Rotheram |
| Hightown | Jon Wyke | Rainhill | Chris Partington |
| Hightown | Paul McKeon | Rainhill | Paul Ford |
| Hightown | Jason Salleh | Sefton Park | Dave Smith |
| Hightown | Shaun Vosloo | Southport Trinity | Michael Sears |
| Hightown | Jim Kelly | Southport Trinity | Phil Buck |
| Lytham | Dominic O'Brien | Spring View | Chris Barnes |
| Lytham | Danny Yates | St Helens Town | Jimmy Davies |
| Northern | James Cole | Wigan | Shaz Khan |
| Northern | Jack Woosey | Wigan | Mark Rowe |
| Northop Hall | Luke Davies |  |  |

1. Rule changes from AGM 2016  - Playing Regulations and Cup Regulations EH

2016 Captains’ Meeting – Summaries

*2.1* AGM changes to rules and regulations

* Bank Holiday matches between New Brighton and Wallasey
* The ‘locked match’ principle only applies when 1st and 2nd XI league fixtures are rearranged
* 1st and 2nd XI league matches may start up to two hours earlier given 14 days notification
* The start of the ‘last hour’ delayed 30 minutes for bad weather or light
* 1st XI players allowed to play on Sunday if they haven’t played on Saturday with restrictions
* Clubs whose 1st XI captain fails to return 3 timely umpire reports will meet Management C’tee
* 3rd XI MRF and Team Sheet combined document provided
* If a scheduled cup match is abandoned the venue for the replay will be reversed
* Failure to provide Live Update for 1st XI matches will result in a fine for the home team
* Re-registration for ‘professional’ players playing for another club is simplified

*2.2* Adoption of LCB KO Rules

* An additional hour is allowed for delay or suspension for bad weather
* In both innings the bowling team must be in position to bowl its 45th over within 2hr 50min or it will be subject to a 6 run penalty for each over not bowled
* Lost playing time will reduce the number of overs to be bowled by one per 31/2 minutes
* A minimum of 10 overs per innings will constitute a match
* The number of ‘power play’ overs is reduced to a maximum of 10 in a 45 over innings
* During ‘power play’ overs only 2 players are allowed outside the playing circle
* When the second innings is reduced compared with the first, Duckworth/Lewis method will be used in the semi-finals and final
* No field change permitted for a free hit

The above are the changes. Some LCB rules have not been adopted, e.g. the bowl-out and the D/L method in the quarter-finals. Up to and including the quarter-finals we will continue to use the table of wickets lost which has been extended to include innings less than 20 overs.

*2.3* Disciplinary Regulations

We have adopted the 2015 ECB Disciplinary Regulations with the following important additions which captains need to note.

* Level 3 and 4 offences will automatically result in a Disciplinary Hearing
* Level 1 and 2 breaches should in the first instance be dealt with by clubs
* The guidelines for penalties show a significant increase in the length of bans (up to half of these bans may be suspended for a minimum of 12 months – L&DCC addition)
* The full list of breaches under ECB Regulations are included as Appendix 1
* This list now includes two new offences – inappropriate/deliberate physical contact (3 to 8 weeks) and deliberate bowling of any high full-pitched ball (5 to 10 weeks)

ECB have omitted some of what we considered L1DOs in 2015 and these have been retained in Appendix 2 as ABBs (Accumulated Bad Behaviour offences) – 2 in one season will mean a one week’s ban.

1. **A Refresher on Captain’s Match Day responsibilities** CW

CW had no wish to bore people more than usual and he knew there were a lot of very competent people in the room. This was an outline in a slightly different form, it was very deliberately a single A4 page summary, he hoped everyone would get something useful from it.

CW strongly supported JW’s call for captains to delegate tasks wherever they could.

Captains were mentioned 23 (!) separate times in our playing regulations – many more times than for any other category of official. These remarks by CW were firmly aimed at *league games*. KO Cups and their regs were based on the playing regs and were very similar but obviously needed a check before each type of KO was played

The outline table was the heart of it; the detailed links were set out in full for the pedants below

***Summary***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Before the game outline*** | ***During the game outline*** | ***After the game outline*** |
| 1. *Travelling if opposition say the ground is unfit to play before the game starts* 2. *Toss* 3. *Toss and umpire present* 4. *Balls* 5. *Team sheets* 6. *Payment of umpire* 7. *Drinks intervals* | 1. *Management of players* 2. *1s - over rates* 3. *Ground Weather Light with one MCUA only present* 4. *Fast Bowling Directive and Fielding Directives with Age Group players* | 1. *MRFs* 2. *Team sheets* 3. *1s: Umpires marks* 4. *Prems: - rank away pitches* |

CW ran through each in turn. There were no questions.

***Laws of Cricket, the preamble***

*1. There are two Laws which place the responsibility for the team's conduct firmly on the captain.*

*Responsibility of captains:****The captains are responsible at all times for ensuring that play is conducted within the Spirit of the Game as well as within the Laws.***

*Player’s conduct:   
In the event of a player failing to comply with instructions by an umpire, or criticising by word or action the decisions of an umpire, or showing dissent, or generally behaving in a manner which might bring the game into disrepute, the umpire concerned shall in the first place* ***report the matter to the other umpire and to the player's captain****, and instruct the latter to take action.*

*2. Fair and unfair play  
According to the Laws the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play.  
The umpires may intervene at any time and* ***it is the responsibility of the captain to take action where required***

***Specific Links to Playing Regulations 2016***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 4.1.5.1 | 1s Drinks |
| 2 | 4.2.6.1 | 2s and 3s Drinks |
| 3 | 4.2.9 | Minimum number of players |
| 4 | 7.2.1 | Team sheets |
| 5 | 8.1.6 | Toss |
| 6 | 8.1.6 | Toss: Must have at least 1 umpire present |
| 7 | 8.1.8 | One MCUA umpire only and GWL |
| 8 | 8.1.10 | 1s Team sheet |
| 9 | 8.1.12 | 1s Prem Rank away team pitch for ECB |
| 10 | 8.1.13 | 1s Umpires marks |
| 11 | 8.1.14 | Discuss game with umpires |
| 12 | 8.2.2 | 2s/3s Team sheets |
| 13 | 8.2.4 | 2s/3s One or no MCUA umpire and GWL |
| 14 | 8.2.5 | 2s/3s Toss |
| 15 | 8.2.5 | 2s/3s Toss: Must have umpire present if there is one |
| 16 | 8.2.6 | 2s/3s Check and sign MRF |
| 17 | 9.3 | All matches captains always sign MRFs |
| 18 | Appendix 1 number 2 | Sign MRFs |
| 19 | Appendix 1 number 2 | Sign MRFs |
| 20 | Appendix 1 number 10.1 | Play cricket data |
| 21 | Appendix 1 number 11 | MRF and play-cricket via TCS/computer |
| 22 | Appendix 2 | Team Sheets |
| 23 | App 2 number 3 | Fast Bowling directives if no umpires present |
| 24 | Separate section | England and Wales Cricket Board: Junior cricketers playing in adult matches |

1. **Pitch and Umpires Marking** EH/CW

Pitch:

Premier 1st XI captains needed to mark the pitch in their away games. The criteria were the same as those used by the umpires who marked every pitch in every game.

<http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/LDCC_pitch_&_outfield_card_3.doc>

Captains then used these marks to rank all 11 pitches 1-11 at the end of the season. These went off to ECB along with the umpires marks. It was vital to do them on the day perhaps jotting the mark in the score book and not trying to do them from memory at the end of the season. ECB required the pitch marks, they were sent in at the end of the season.

It was vital that these tasks were carried out and that the criteria were used, they had not changed for some years.

Umpires:

<http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/uploaded_files/documents/Captains_Report_Card_on_Umpires_2014.doc>

MCUA/LCB ACO /ECB ACO required the umpire’s marks again using the criteria, again they were sent in. The allocation of umpires to games was based on these marks, they really mattered

1. **Disciplinary Procedure 2016** EH

See *2.3* above

1. **Run through of 2016 revisions to the Laws of Cricket and any Umpiring Issues** KW and RR

*6.1* *Completing Cards* Kevin Wilson

KW asked the captains to ensure that, when completing the Umpires card, they used the criteria as given and to please to mark the umpire not the person. He went on to explain that the cards should be with  him via email no later than the 7pm on the following Wednesday to ensure the would be no fines but, if they had a problem using email, then different contact methods could be used.

Nobody wanted to fine clubs £15, KW wanted to work with captains not against them

*6.2* *Laws* Ray Rigby

RR made clear that the changes for season 2016 were small but there was a full rewrite due in 2017.

He said that three existing Laws about the movement of fielders and wicket keepers had been re drafted into two to bring them up to date. The intention of the redrafted Laws was to retain all of the thrust of the existing Laws, but to allow a fielder to move significantly, before the ball has reached the striker, if it was in response to the stroke the striker is playing or that his actions suggest he was intending to play.

Examples were given.

It was felt that separating the wicket-keeper from the other fielders in the Laws would allow for a distinction to be made between the two when legislating for allowed and disallowed movement; it would clarify and simplify the Laws.  
  
*6.3“Get The Game On” (GTGO)*

GTGO was referred to in the context of Ground Weather and Light (GWL) in 2016.

The extra 30 minutes now permitted in the MIDentalL&DCC if time was lost *before the last hour* for GWL reasons in 1st XI games as well as in 2nd and 3rd XI ones, would probably lead to games being stopped more often for light.

RR reminded that the umpires were the sole arbiters of GWL.

*6.4* *Miscellaneous*

RR was now umpire-assessing, his knees had given up.

He repeated the request for clubs to provide white coats for player umpires; it gave status and looked better.

Contact Chris Dunn for KO Cup umpires

Contact John Farrell over league umpires

*6.5* *ECB T20*

ECB ACO registered umpires should be used in all rounds. It was an ECB competition.

*6.6* *Age Group Cat 3 i.e. Overseas Players and ECB Age group regulations*

These regulations applied equally to these players

1. **Lancashire County Board (LCB)**

JW again introduced Bobby Denning (BD), the Managing Director of the Lancashire County Board and thanked him for coming.

*7.1* BD thanked JW and said how pleased he was to be at this L&DCC captain’s meeting again.

He would try to do two things here. Firstly to explain a little about what LCB did and secondly to move on to some of the changes in league structures that were taking place in Lancashire at the moment.

*7.2* **LCB**

He ran through his own role in the county briefly and outlined the four main departments and their functions within the LCB and the way they helped “deliver to the County Network”.

1. *The Performance Dept*

The LCB was responsible for all junior county squads for both boys (Under 10s to Under 19s) and girls (Under 11s to Under 17s) and the Emerging Players Programme which fed into the Lancashire County Cricket Club Academy.

1. *The Business and Communications Dept*

The Business and Communications Department’s role was to provide “operational effectiveness” for the LCB and carry out all communication for the organisation including the LCB website - which was first class - and also to provide press coverage.

1. *The Education Dept*

Twelve full time staff covered twenty seven boroughs. They went into a lot of schools and LCB was committed to delivering activities to get more people playing more frequently. LCB was trying to recruit and retain young people within the game. ECB’s “Chance to Shine” funding helped her. There were also two Coach Education Officers – Shaun Anders (for male coaching) and Jennie Laycock (for female coaching)

1. *The Clubs and Leagues Dept*

This dept probably had most impact on the L&DCC; many here knew and had worked with Paul Bryson and James Cutt. Two things that fell to this department were (i) to sustain vibrant and successful clubs and leagues and (ii) to provide opportunities for clubs and leagues to be successful in recruiting and retaining players. LCB would like to invest more in clubs but had only the £70k from ECB to disburse. There were 330 clubs in Lancashire and that money did not go far.

The L&DCC was also able to engage with other leagues via the LCB Recreational Cricket Committee.

As an ECB premier league it also had “Memorandum of Understanding” meetings with the LCB and the L&DCC was mindful of the challenges existing in today’s cricket. BD had no wish to embarrass the L&DCC executive but there was an effective and strong working relationship between L&DCC and LCB.

* 1. **Developments in league structures in Lancashire 2015/16**

There were three basic areas in Lancashire cricket; two of them had been subject to change

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| The west and south-west of the county and the Liverpool area | The south and south-east of the county and the Manchester area | The north of the county and the Lancaster Area |
| The L&DCC and S&D ACL were said to have this area “boxed off”, the structure was stable and well organised, | There were now 3 new and big leagues not 8  “*The* *Pennine Cricket League*” – from the Central Lancashire League plus the Saddleworth League  “*The Greater Manchester Cricket League” –* from the Lancashire County League plus many clubs from other league  *“The Bolton Cricket League”* which had amalgamated with the Bolton Association Cricket League  These had all reorganised themselves with mutually agreed processes that were supported by LCB and ECB. | The Lancashire League, the Ribblesdale League, the Northern League and the Palace Shield Cricket League.  There had been various plans to merge these leagues. The Lancashire League had looked to expand in a way that had not been mutually agreed. The LL plan did not have LCB or ECB support. It seemed that the LL was trying to expand in a way that could damage other leagues and it did not have an agreed process.  The LL had recently voted against the LL’s own proposals for expansion.  There were ongoing discussions. |

In BD’s view league cricket in Lancashire now needed to settle and to play some cricket; the Northern League looked to be trying to stay together.

*7.3* BD invited questions.

Wigan CC asked about rumours and reports on “A Lancashire Super League”. Taking 3 or 4 clubs from the L&DCC would significantly damage it. BD and JW both replied in slightly different ways but agreed that there were no plans for this to happen and if that situation changed there would be extensive consultation first.

1. **Press and Website Coverage** Paul Edwards

JW again introduced Paul Edwards (PE) and thanked him for coming; PE now covered cricket for the Liverpool Echo.

*8.1* PE made clear that the commitment of the Echo to local cricket was real; PE had strong support from Dave Prentice the deputy Sports Editor at the Echo. The commitment was to a preview and three reports per week. PE particularly thanked the Bootle 1st XI captain for arriving at this time to hear this.

*8.2* CW would make certain to circulate PE’s contact details in his notes from this meeting.

They were noted as being [**paul.edwards44@btopenworld.com**](mailto:paul.edwards44@btopenworld.com) **07962 115 171** Photographs went to [**sport@liverpoolcomp.com**](mailto:sport@liverpoolcomp.com) with captions if at all humanly possible as they made the phots much more usable

It would be very helpful if all results, *including the score cards,* were on play-cricket by 10.00pm on the Saturday or equivalent day after the game

*8.3* The Echo would cover clubs outside its circulation area too as best possible. Colwyn Bay and Leigh CCs were mentioned as previous examples of clubs that had benefitted in this way. Juniors, functions - anything was of potential interest.

PE would try to help clubs with all forms of publicity and all were encouraged to visit the Echo website when thinking of sports or any other kind of coverage. The site – like all others - lived or died on the number of clicks it generated for advertising.

*8.4* PE would still be writing on the lpoolcomp website and the coverage would be different there. Clubs were strongly encouraged to ring PE if they wanted something printed.

*8.5* The Echo Cup was not an L&DCC creature but this historic T20 competition was supported by all as it crossed both league and geographic boundaries. There had been a recent consultation on the format for 2016 and the draw for the 2016 competition had taken place live on air this morning:

<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/sport/cricket/watch-liverpool-echo-cricket-knockout-11120522> - much to the embarrassment of PE!

Clubs could also now use pink balls if they wished but both teams had to agree and to use them.

1. **Registration** JW

There was to be a website posting on registration later this evening or tomorrow morning, clubs needed to look at it.

<http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/management_bulletins.php?id=2516>

JW reminded that registration had to be done in time for a “first game”; last year had been a mad rush.

Players had to be put on play-cricket by club registration officials by 1.00pm on the Wednesday before a Saturday game. *There would be no exceptions to this.* Nothing had changed.

The rest of the paperwork had to be sent electronically to Neil Girvin ([ng-ldccregsec@sky.com](mailto:ng-ldccregsec@sky.com)) at the same time.

For the first week *only* and when overseas players were still arriving etc. and paperwork was out of the country Neil Girvin would accept paperwork as late as 5.00pm on the Friday.

If clubs had a problem with a registration they should contact Neil Girvin as soon as they possibly could – *not “do nothing”* - or if NG was not available, contact Chris Weston if there were problems with flights etc. If a player was not accepted for registration he was ineligible to play with all that that meant if he did.

JW was concerned that many players had been “announced” as to be joining a club but nothing had happened behind the scenes over the registration. Specific examples were given.

1. **Representative Games** JW

There was a detailed posting on the website <http://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/news.php?id=2505> setting out the details. This was our biggest programme ever with lots of opportunities for many to play representative cricket for the MIDentalL&DCC.

AG was an excellent Chief Coach for the MIDentalL&DCC. We did need however more helpers with some of the Age Group games; if anyone was interested in doing this they would be very welcome and needed to contact Andy Grice as soon as possible.

Representative teams would not be picked using trial games, it was impractical. We needed nominations from clubs as set out in the postings and then relied on the p-c etc. records to guide us.

The 16/17 year olds used would probably be mostly the players from the PDP

1. **Open Forum**

JW led:

*11.1* The MIDentalL&DCC preseason meeting was on Tuesday 5th April here at Bootle CC at 7.30pm

*11.2* This was the best attendance yet at the Captains Evening, we were pleased and hoped it had been useful!

There were no other questions and JW closed the meeting.

*8.50pm*