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*7.04 pm*

Tuesday 16th November 2021 at 7.00pmvia ZOOM held in accordance with the L&DCC Constitution Page 48 Section 8.

<https://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/management_bulletins.php?id=3814>

***Agenda:***

1. *Welcome*
2. *Apologies*
3. *Roll call.*
4. *Chairman's opening remarks*
5. *Liverpool Competition Player Survey 2021: outcomes.*
6. *Discussion of matters relating to 3rd XIs Leagues, season 2021 and plans for 2022*
7. *Start Times*
8. *Eligibility*
9. *Spirit of Cricket*
10. *Umpiring*
11. *Make up of Saturday 1st Division*
12. *Sunday Cricket*
13. *Discussion of matters relating to 3rd XI Cups, season 2021 and plans for 2022*
14. *New teams in the structure*
15. *Club and Ground 2021/2022*
16. *Notices*
17. *Any Other Business*
18. *Close of meeting.*

*Chris Weston*

*L&DCC Secretary*

1. **Welcome**

John Williams (JW) Liverpool & District Cricket Competition (L&DCC) Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. It was an opportunity for feedback from the 3rd XI season just finished and to have discussions based on it. It therefore had identical purpose to the End of Season meeting for 1st and 2nd XIs held on October 26th 2021. Constitutionally this meeting also had the status of being able to make recommendations to M/C for possible proposals to AGM 2022 but was not itself able to host votes to make changes to our regulations.

JW would Chair the meeting, but Eddie Shiff (ES) the 3rd XI sub-Committee Chair would lead the meeting.

JW handed over to Chris Weston (CW) the L&DCC Secretary for Agenda items 2 and 3.

1. **Apologies**

CW made clear that it was not possible to accept apologies from member clubs that had 3rd XI(s) in our structures but were not represented at this meeting because attendance at such meetings was mandated under the terms of our Constitution. It was however possible to accept personal apologies and an apology had been received from Rob Morris from Maghull CC.

1. Roll call.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **CRICKET CLUB** | Present  / Absent |
| **1** | **AINSDALE** |  |
| **2** | **ALDER** |  |
| **3** | ***BIRCHFIELD PARK*** |  |
| **4** | **BIRKENHEAD PARK** |  |
| **5** | **BOOTLE** |  |
| **6** | **BURSCOUGH JL** | N/A |
| **7** | **CALDY** |  |
| **8** | **COLWYN BAY** | N/A |
| **9** | **FLEETWOOD HESKETH** |  |
| **10** | **FORMBY** |  |
| **11** | ***GOODLASS*** |  |
| **12** | **HIGHFIELD** | N/A |
| **13** | **HIGHTOWN ST MARYS** |  |
| **14** | **LEIGH** |  |
| **15** | **LIVERPOOL** |  |
| **16** | **LYTHAM** |  |
| **17** | **MAGHULL** |  |
| **18** | **MAWDESLEY JL** | N/A |
| **19** | ***MERSEYSIDE COMMONWEALTH*** |  |
| **20** | ***MERSEYSIDE CULTURAL AND CRICKET*** |  |
| **21** | **NEW BRIGHTON** |  |
| **22** | **NEWTON le WILLOWS** |  |
| **23** | **NORLEY HALL** | N/A |
| **24** | **NORTHERN** |  |
| **25** | **NORTHOP HALL** |  |
| **26** | **OLD XAVERIANS** | N/A |
| **27** | **ORMSKIRK** |  |
| **28** | **ORRELL RED TRIANGLE** |  |
| **29** | ***OXTON*** |  |
| **30** | **PARKFIELD LISCARD** | N/A |
| **31** | **PRESTATYN** | N/A |
| **32** | **RAINFORD** |  |
| **33** | **RAINHILL** |  |
| **34** | **SEFTON PARK** |  |
| **35** | **SKELMERSDALE JL** | N/A |
| **36** | ***SOUTH LIVERPOOL*** |  |
| **37** | **SOUTHPORT AND BIRKDALE** |  |
| **38** | **SOUTHPORT TRINITY** |  |
| **39** | **SPRING VIEW** |  |
| **40** | **ST. HELENS TOWN** | N/A |
| **41** | **SUTTON** | N/A |
| **42** | **WALLASEY** |  |
| **43** | **WAVERTREE** |  |
| **44** | ***WHITEFIELD*** |  |
| **45** | **WIGAN** |  |
| **46** | **WIDNES JL** | N/A |
|  |  | 29/33 clubs  were present |

CW screen-shared the agenda for the meeting.

1. **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

We had had two seasons of COVID-19. Cricket had fared relatively well, some other sports seemed to have been less fortunate. We had had some problems but had dealt with them. There had been very good spirit in the L&DCC.

At times there had been difficulties for us over eligibility. ECB COVID-19 rules had kept changing and sometimes it had been hard; there had been some inconsistencies over eligibilities but there had also been a lot of goodwill. We had played most of our games and we had had a pretty good season overall.

The main purpose here was to look forward to season 2022 but we did run all five of our divisions in the 3rd XI structure in 2021 and had made the best of what we had at all levels.

JW asked representatives to put their specific questions to the meeting on the ZOOM Chat Room line. If we were not able to deal with them in this meeting we would try to get back to the individuals involved and reply to them by email. There was also a ZOOM facility to “put a hand up” electronically which might also be useful.

1. **L&DCC Player Survey 2021: outcomes.**

JW handed over to ES and CW screen shared a PowerPoint slide set taken from the results of the Player Survey 2021. These slides had been redacted to show only the results that were relevant to the 3rd XIs. CW apologised to this meeting for the slight loss of fidelity in the slides caused by putting them through the Photoshop processes used in the redaction

The full unredacted slide set would be shown at the L&DCC Information Evening on Monday November 22nd at 7:30 pm at Love Lane Brewery <https://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/news.php?id=3821> . The full set would then be circulated to all clubs following that presentation.

*Slide 1 3rd XI Sat Responses*

There had been a greater than 30% overall response from players to this survey. We had over 1,100 players playing every weekend in the L&DCC. JW outlined the basic arithmetic, we had 6 divisions in the 1s and 2s and another 5 in the 3s etc., there had been 350 responses to the survey. We believed that to be a pretty good response, it was our biggest ever.

There had been 164 responses to this particular slide with 92 of them coming from the (two) Sunday Division 1s

*Slide 2 3rd XI Sun Responses*

There had been 183 responses to this slide with 75 of them coming from the Sunday Division 1s.

*Slide 3 What league game start times should apply in the divisions?*

There had been 347 responses from all divisions.

The figures shown here were close between 12 noon and 1:00 pm with an increased preference for 1:00 pm on Sunday. The default position was that we would go back to 2019 start times if there was no proposal to AGM 2022. In reply to a Q on the Chat line we could not just “go with the survey” any change required a formal proposal to AGM 2022 and a 2/3 majority of those clubs voting would need to vote for the proposal for it to change the playing regulations. The survey did show here that there was a will for change particularly on Saturday. The 3rd XI sub Committee would look at this and report to M/C - who expected proposals for new 3rd XI start times in 2022. Sunday start times needed to be at least at 1:00 pm because of the need for junior fixtures on a Sunday morning. Most clubs now have them and 12:00 noon starts were not possible.

*Slide 4 What format of league cricket should be played in the divisions: time cricket or limited overs cricket?*

There had also been 347 responses from all divisions to this slide.

There was a majority for playing time cricket here, in 3rd XIs the margin in favour was very small in Sunday Division 1 cricket, it was at its largest in Saturday 3rd XI Premier. It was expected that there would be proposals for change in respect of Sunday 3rd XI cricket but it was then for the clubs to decide at the AGM.

*Slide 5 If a limited overs format for league cricket was adopted, how many overs should be used?*

There had been 317 responses from all divisions to this slide.

This would only become relevant if limited overs had already been voted through.

There was a majority for 45 overs in all divisions here, the margin was higher in Saturday cricket.

*Slide 6 If a limited-overs format for league cricket was adopted, what type of limited-over game would you prefer?*

There had been 315 responses from all divisions to this slide.

Again this would only become relevant if limited overs had already been voted through.

In 3rd XIs there was a majority for a simple win/lose format in all divisions, the margins were similar but were slightly higher in Sunday Division 1.

*Slide 7 Should bowlers have the number of overs they can bowl restricted in league matches?*

There had been 342 responses from all divisions to this slide.

There was a clear majority here for this to happen. The majority was largest in Sunday Division 1.

*Slide 8 How many cup competitions do you want?*

Again there had been 342 responses from all divisions to this slide.

There was a clear majority for both T20 and T45 here, the majorities were very similar in all divisions. T20 was more popular than T45.

CW explained that there would be a proposal from M/C to AGM 2022 to make entry into both cup competitions optional for all divisions except T20 for 1st XI Premier.

In 2021, because of COVID-19, all cup competitions had been T20. The format of a “finals day” in all T20s would be retained in 2022. They had been very successful, very well organised by clubs and very popular. The only difference would be that the finals would be played in August when the light was better rather than in September - which had been forced on us by COVID-19 in 2021.

It was repeated that these survey questions had all been asked across all divisions and that the full results of the survey would be shared at the Information Evening at LLB as referred to earlier in this meeting. Ultimately the clubs would decide how, if at all, regulations should change in 2022.

1. **Discussion of matters relating to 3rd XIs Leagues, season 2021 and plans for 2022**
2. **Start Times**

This had been considered under Survey 2021

1. **Eligibility**

The rules on this now went back to those as set out in Handbook 2019 - as did all the other regulations unless varied by AGM. 2022. Eligibility was also referred to under 5.1.3.

1. **Spirit of Cricket**

ES gave a brief introduction, it was important how we played our games and that we played them all in the same way, if we did not then we would be likely to lose juniors from teams that were basically junior development teams getting beaten heavily every week.

JW noted that in 2020 and 2021 and because of COVID-19, a number of eligibility regulations had been relaxed in order to allow clubs to get teams out and to get the game on e.g. locking had been removed. 27 games had had to be replayed for COVID-19 reasons. There had been two examples of poor selections being made and clubs playing players inappropriately after a game had been rearranged owing to COVID-19. These two clubs had been written to by M/C and put on final warnings as to SoC. These final warnings were still in place for 2022. Should there be a repetition then M/C would either fine the club or deduct points. The two clubs were not named but the use of multiple 1st XI players in a 2nd XI fixture was referred to. No 2021 or 2022 rules had actually been broken but SoC had most definitely being breached. Both clubs now knew that M/C knew exactly what had been going on in those games and that their explanations had been unacceptable.

1. **Umpiring**

There was a new and different programme of Recruiting and Retaining L&DCC umpires for season 2022. This was being carried out in conjunction with MCUA. Details of this would follow soon.

CW noted that this agenda item had been placed here because of the need during season 2021 to write to all 3rd XI clubs about the use of club umpires in 3rd XI fixtures to remind all clubs that, if a club brought an umpire with them, then that umpire was empowered under existing L&DCC playing regulations to stand in both innings and not simply when his or her team was batting.

ES noted that a player umpire needed to be an adult not a 13 or 14 year old. CW noted that this was covered in full in the Playing Regulations 8.2.2., it was specified there that player umpires needed to be at least 18 years old. A discussion followed. What was an adult? This was part of Safeguarding. JW and others in the Chat Room felt that in practice, in some games, juniors had to be used when there were a lot of them in both teams.

1. **Make up of Saturday 1st Division**

This was to be covered in 5.3.

1. **Sunday Cricket**

This had already been covered under Survey Results.

1. **Discussion of matters relating to 3rd XI Cups, season 2021 and plans for 2022**

This had also been covered already under Survey Results.

1. **New teams in the structure**

ES was pleased to see Birchfield Park CC represented at this meeting.   
They had lost their ground in 2021 and their membership was in temporary -we hoped - suspension. ES asked Tony Gavin from the club to say a few words. TG explained that, sadly, there was nothing different for 2022, they had still lost their ground and were still looking for a new one. They had played away-only friendlies in 2021 taking advantage of the fact that there was an odd number of clubs in the Premier Division in 2021. He thanked clubs for their patience in 2021 and hoped that it would be possible to do something similar in 2022. They were desperate to try and keep their club alive. They had enjoyed some cracking games in 2021. The meeting wished them well.

ES ran through the changes in respect of new teams for 2022.

*Saturday*

In 2021 we had had 11 in the Saturday Prem and in 12 Division 1.

There were 2 new Saturday teams in 2022: Wallasey 4s - who were still looking for a ground plus Liverpool SuperKings (An entirely new team and subject to an L&DCC club vote at AGM 2022) - who would be playing we hoped at Leverhulme Playing Fields Bromborough. This meant that:

In 2022 we had Saturday Prem:12 and Division 1:12

*Sunday*

There were two new teams on Sunday as well, Rainhill were putting in a 4th XI and South Liverpool were putting in a 2nd XI. This gave in 2022 Sunday Premier, 10 with Div 1 North, 10 and also Div 1 South, 10.

What was the last possible date for declaring a new team in 2022? RD Replied that 3rd XI fixtures were written early in January therefore a realistic date was the middle of December 2021. ES noted that it might be necessary to move some Sunday Division 1 teams within their two divisions to minimise club travelling. If this was necessary it would be done following consultation with the clubs.

1. **Club and Ground 2021/2022**

Club and Ground inspections would continue as normal in 2022, it was hoped that there would be inspections of 3rd XI grounds as well, this had already happened in 2021.

1. **Notices**
2. The **Information Evening** at Love Lane Brewery on November 22nd at 7:30 pm had already been referred to.
3. **AGM 2022** was on Tuesday January 11th 2022 at 7:30 pm. It was very much hoped that this would be a face to face meeting at a central area Liverpool club venue yet to be notified.
4. **Dates for 2022**. RD noted that he had already notified these dates to clubs via <https://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/management_bulletins.php?id=3772> and repeated that the season started on April 23rd 2022 running through to the 17th / 18th September 2022. Effectively the dates were the same as those in 2021 “back by one”.

RD continued that there was one major date difference in 2022, the **Bank Holidays** in June were on Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd of June and not on the following Monday. This gave clubs the option to play on these days. If they intended to do this they needed to tell RD in writing by email.

RD had already asked clubs for notification of **special consideration for fixture requests** for 2022 in writing by email via <https://www.lpoolcomp.co.uk/management_bulletins.php?id=3819> . The closing date for special consideration was this coming Friday November 19th.

1. Clubs that **shared their grounds** with other clubs *outside the L&DCC* for their 3rd XI fixtures needed to notify RD of this again by email not verbally or by social media. There were changes in availability of such grounds since 2021. They needed to be checked by the clubs.
2. **Start Times**. Clubs were able to vary start times under our regulations but if they did they must give several days’ notice in advance and in writing and must also be notified to RD/ES -all as set out in our regulations.
3. **Any Other Business**
4. **Mark Baille:** what was the view on Teas in 2022?

JW replied that this was deliberately not in the survey as L&DCC had already promised that there would be a proposal to AGM 2022 on this, that commitment still stood. It would be a very simple question e.g. Do you wish to have Teas provided in 2022? - or something similar. We would need to pass a special motion before this proposal was put at AGM 2022 so that a simple majority vote on this would be in operation and not that of a 2/3 majority. As things stood if we did nothing we would revert to 2019 regulations and Teas would be reinstated.

1. **Glen Latimer:** if COVID-19 reappeared as a variant etc what would happen then?

JW noted that we would again follow ECB/LCF advice as we had in 2020 and 2021.

1. **Adam Lloyd:** would there be two different sets of regulations for 1st and 2nd XI Teas? JW replied that there would not. There would be a single proposal to AGM 2022 to cover all provision for teas in L&DCC.
2. **JW: Junior Leagues** cricket would be writing out to all clubs via the JL secretary Neil Crew next week with the date for everyone's diaries of Monday December 13th for a meeting of all Junior League clubs at Southport & Birkdale CC .

JW would be contacting Gary Hayes about incorporating PDP boys into the interleague coaching programme. 11 Saturdays had now been booked at Saint Bedes in 2022.

1. The number of **PCLs in Lancashire** was likely to be increasing, the Greater Manchester CL and the Lancashire League CLs were said to be close to full ECB accreditation in 2023. At the moment there were 29 PCLs.
2. **ECB initiatives:** there were likely to be several of these in 2022**. Inclusivity and Diversity** was one of them. ECB required leagues to have a plan, the first step was increasing awareness. We would need help from volunteers, one had already come forward, we would welcome others and intended to set up a working group.
3. **Safeguarding:** this applied in all teams including 3rd XIs. Clubs had to have a Safeguarding Officer. There were a lot of responsibilities on captains and it was not simply a matter of having a DBS. The profile of this was rising all the time. Our League Safeguarding Officer was Phil Green - who was present at this meeting.
4. **ECB General Conduct Regulations**: CW noted that these were that which had in the past been referred to as “Disciplinary Regulations”. A new set of these would be in operation in 2022. These would apply equally in the 3rd XIs it was likely that the tariff of responses would be stiffened.
5. JW recognised that **Eric Hadfield** had joined the meeting and strongly welcomed him to it. JW introduced EH to those that did not know him and listed some of the many things that he had done for L&DCC in the past such as having been a very long serving Past President. He was still very active and was the co-ordinator of the Assistant Results Secretaries who checked results on play cricket for us all. There was an electronic round of applause.

EH thanked the meeting and added that he needed more volunteers to help him do the ARSs job in 2022.

1. ES asked if there were any more volunteers to come and **join the 3rd XI sub Committee**? They would be very welcome!
2. **Close of meeting.**

CW called the roll again. There were no changes, 29 out of 33 clubs had been represented

JW thanked representatives for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8:25 pm

Chris Weston

L&DCC Secretary