

Junior League Committee meeting minutes

Tuesday February 28th 2017

18:00 Sea Terminal meeting room

Present: Greig Wright (GW), Andy Coulson (AC), Mark Williams (MW), Janelle Clarke (JC), Rob Webber (RW), Peter Crompton (PC), Gillian Craine (GC), Chris Eaton (CE).

Apologies: Sally Green

1. Junior Leagues

- Age groups

GW advised that the following age group fixtures are planned for the 2017 season:

Under 15 – Tues evenings

Under 13 – Weds evenings

Under 11/Kwik – Friday evenings

GW continued to say that he has some concern about access to pitches. RW advised that he may wish to move Junior cricket to Weds due to concerns about getting enough players. GW felt that it is good that we are now looking at pitch availability rather than availability of enough players.

NB – a review post this meeting highlighted the need to have Under 13s playing on Tuesdays due to the expected number of team entries and for Under 15 games to be organised on separate evenings by clubs themselves, with a default of Friday evenings. GW sent an email to this effect to the Junior League Committee members on 2/3/17.

Playing nights – see above. GW requested that committee members liaise with their colleagues at Senior level. Based upon entries received to date, there appears to be a reduction of the number of teams playing at Senior level. GW felt that Juniors need the challenge of playing at a higher level.

The question was posed whether players can still play up and down in Junior leagues in 2017. GW advised that it is preferable that playing up between teams takes place but common sense can be applied to situations.

- Pitch/team sizes

GW distributed an information sheet attached for discussion about Junior formats. He reported that Australia recently had done some work regarding pitch size and team size. An example is under 11s playing on a pitch size of 15 metres. The objective is to reduce the numbers of wides and stop bowlers 'floating' balls down and batsmen just planting a foot down and belting the ball. Results from Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire had been shown to be positive and work had been done with the development squads over the winter. PC felt that if it works then all the better. GW advised that the boundary would remain at 30 metres. RW asked if a modified ball was used. GW advised that Australia used the Incrediball but felt it was perhaps better to for Under 11s to get used to the hard ball but flexibility should be used for the Under 9s.

Committee members were broadly positive with the proposal.

KR requested that members discuss the proposals with their clubs and report back at the next scheduled meeting in April.

2. Coaching

- Workshops

GW reported the first workshop(batting) had taken place last weekend and the bowling and fielding workshops are this weekend and the following weekend. Times are 14:15- 17:00 Cost £7.50 per session per person. He requested members to encourage people to come along. GW felt that it is important that coaches teach the basics correctly. Too many young players, he felt are having to be re-coached when they arrive with the Development squads.

- Other needs

GW reported that the ECB courses and the ICC Introduction course are on hold as reviews are ongoing. He can do an on-Island course but there is no certification. JC asked if there are any special DBS requirements. GW advised that there is no requirement due to the IOMCA affiliation to the ICC.

3. Community

- Manx Youth Games

GW asked clubs should inform Sally Green asap on a weekly basis numbers of those children who wish to attend to.

- PSSP (Primary Schools Partnership Programme)

GW advised that the competitions will be the same as 2016. GW reported that he is in discussion with MSR about the venues. He would prefer the boys to play at Cronkbourne and the girls to play at KWC. The venue for the North will Rhumsaa school. GW also reported that he is hoping to get more girls playing the game. He is hoping that the 'Team Up' initiative which links cricket with hockey and netball will

introduce more girls to sport. The ECB are allowing use of their resources. GW also reported that he is working on a 150K GBP bid into the UK lottery and Comic Relief which would allow a 2 year initiative on Island to encourage more girls into the game. He hopes to start the programme this year.

GW reported that the IOMCA will fund 1 day of coaching in Primary Schools and possibly 2 days.

GW reported that the competitions in secondary schools will be the same as 2016 and he will discuss the pitch sizes with schools directly.

GW asked members what the relationships between clubs and local schools are ? KR advised that the local split around clubs will be the same as the split for the Manx Youth Games. GW will copy clubs in to emails to the schools so that members have a point of contact.

MW asked about access to Lord's Taverners funds for the supply of kit. GW advised that that is no longer possible but schools do already have good budgets for kit .

4. Awards

AC described the essence of the discussions which had taken place at the Senior League Committee meeting and requested views from members whether we should continue with awards or amend the awards' process. JC remarked that when she had attended an awards night with Finch Hill, the kids had enjoyed the night but that they were also happy with their club night. The consensus with the group was that League Winners trophies should be presented at each club's award evening.

5. Officials

GW advised everyone that Maurice Trace has announced his retirement from the game. He expressed his gratitude for Maurice's hard work over the years and he will be a big loss to Manx cricket.

- Intro umpire course

GW advised that an introductory umpiring course will take place on March 26th. The course is intended for parents and volunteers who wish to help with Junior games. If anybody wishes any subject to be added to the course, please contact GW.

GW also advised that an ECB/ACO Level 1 course will take place on April 2nd and April 23rd.

- iPads junior leagues/play cricket

GW distributed 5 iPads for use by Junior teams. GW expressed his thanks to everyone for their diligence updating the Play-Cricket site with the results. There just needs to be a final push to ensure that the last 5% of scores are updated quickly.

6. Child Welfare

- Club welfare officers

GW advised that it is important that coaches and clubs ensure that DBS checks are done. He continued to say that if there is sufficient interest from clubs then the IOMCA will pay for 1 course – Safeguarding children workshop.

The Time to Listen course is not available.

GW advised that he has been in discussions with Sue Coyle about trying to discover a Manx Procedure for coaches who have problematic situations highlighted to them. Cricket is not alone. For example, Table Tennis is another Manx Sport that is not affiliated to a UK based organisation. The situation has been highlighted to Manx Sport over a period of 2 years and we await a resolution.

- Individual DBS etc.

KR highlighted that regular volunteers should ensure that they are DBS checked. The DBS needs to be pertinent to the activity the person is engaged in. For example, a DBS check which covers teaching in schools does not cover coaching youngsters outside of school. KR reported that she had been asked at a community seminar by a parent how she would know if a coach etc. had the correct qualifications or checks in place. Parents may ask for proof of your check. GW continued that it is the responsibility of the person who has received the DBS to contact the national governing body. Clubs can display the DBS information (with signature) on their website if the person with the DBS check agrees. DBS checks are required for anybody aged over 16 years old.

7. AOB

MW said he had heard that there were problems with the scoring app TCS. GW advised that both TCS and CricHQ were working ok.

PC asked how the Island had fared in the scoring process for funds within the ICC. GW advised that we had increased our Senior scores but there had been a decrease in Junior scores during 2016. The IOMCA had received increased funding in 2016 due to the increase in Junior figures in 2015.

GW continued to say that there could be a reduction in senior teams playing during 2017, which is confusing. We need more senior teams to bring the junior players through. There are a good number of junior players around who will surprise senior players with their ability.

GW advised that there would be a Development XI playing in the Saturday league.

RW asked about age qualification of younger players to play in senior games.

GW responded that any player who is School year 8 or over 13 on September 1st can play. School Year 7 (Under 12s) involved in the IOMCA Performance squads can play with the written consent of a parent. Those in the Shadow squads would be looked at on an individual basis.

RW asked about membership of the ICC Coaches Association and insurance cover for coaches. GW advised that although the ECB ACO ICC for umpires is now linked to the ECB as the 8th Region – Europe, there is no coaching equivalent.

GW advised that the club insurance should cover coaches on their home grounds but checks should be made on an individual basis.

GW advised that coaches assisting in the Manx Youth Games should be covered by the MSR insurance.

Meeting ended 19:35