

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

MINUTES of the General Meeting 29 April 2024

Venue: Thornlie Clubrooms, 7:00pm



PRESENT: As per attached attendance sheet

APOLOGIES: Steve Kemp, Shamez Rashid, Perth Tamil

ABSENT: Kelmscott, Perth Tamil, Roleystone Karragullen

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Peter congratulated East Fremantle on their First Grade premiership.

Peter advised his intent to form a subcommittee, including members from 4 clubs to review the penalties in the By-Laws for both player and non-player behaviour. Members from Phoenix, Hilton Bicton, Canning Vale and North Baldivis agreed to participate.

AGENDA ITEMS

From Cockburn

We request a total regrade of third and fourth grades, with mirroring of 1st and 3rd grade to be abolished. Promotion/relegation to take place from 3rd grade rather than 4th grade

Whilst we understand the fixturing benefits of mirroring, there are enormous issues with third grade and multiple clubs have told us they don't want to be there. It is no longer treated as everyone's second sides with introduction of one day A/B and the competition is failing

Ultimately the request is for the best eight two day sides outside of 1s and 2s to be in 3s, then the next eight in 4s etc

We understand the competitions position that 16 different clubs should be in first and second grade. Any by laws to prevent a club already in first grade from being in second grade (if they were to win third grade) would be warranted in our view

Cockburn spoke for the matter. There was a query why Cockburn could not play in Second Grade, the President advised that the clubs had decided some years ago that sixteen different clubs should make up First and Second Grade.

It was agreed that mirroring for First and Third Grade be abolished, and Third Grade be made up of the best available clubs.

From SMCA Executive

Item 1. The SMCA recommends that all one day matches in both the Two-Day and One-Day Grades should start at 12:30pm.

Motion: By-Law 25a and 25b be amended from start time of 1:00pm to a start time of 12:30pm.

The President spoke for the motion, Riverton Rostrata spoke against.

After discussion, the motion was voted on and **LOST**.

Item 2. The SMCA Executive proposes that all one day matches in Fifth to Seventh Grade should be 40 overs per innings and completed once a result has been achieved as per First to Fourth Grade and ODA and ODB for this past season.

Motion: The SMCA Executive proposes that By-Law 26a be amended to reflect that all one-day matches First Grade to Seventh Grade and ODA and ODB be 40 overs per innings with the match finishing once a result has been achieved.

This motion was seconded by Canning Vale and after discussion the motion was voted on and **CARRIED**.

Item 3. Removal of the Mirroring of 1st and 3rd Grade.

It had previously been strongly supported by the clubs that the top two grades should comprise of the top 16 clubs within the SMCA. However, due to the mirroring of First and Third Grade it shows a big divide between the top four teams and bottom four teams in that competition. This was also seen in Fourth Grade, albeit to a lesser extent.

If we were to take the better teams from Fourth Grade (priority to a club's top grade) and put them into Third grade and vice versa this, in theory, should make both grades more even.

In the One Day competitions we should also try and put the top team of a First Grade club into One Day A's and a Second Grade Club into One Day B's.

In conclusion the Executive recommends that First and Third Grade no longer be mirrored and created as evenly as possible by the Fixtures and Gradings Committee with promotion/demotion between First and Second Grade to remain as is

This item had been covered earlier. There was no further discussion.

Item 4. Removal of the Complexities of the Grading Structure.

Current By-Law 11a
The order of grading's

First Grade Two-Day Grade
Second Grade Two-Day Grade
Third Grade Two-Day Grade
Fourth Grade
One Day Grade A
One Day Grade B
Remaining Two Day Grades
Remaining One Day Grades.

The initial intent of the above was one to prioritize umpire appointments and to look at the passage to one day cricket from a two-day side if the player is only available for one day of the fixture. The idea was to only allow players from Grades 1 to 4 to go to Grades A & B and grades 5th and below to any one-day side.

However, the finals produce more complications than it solved especially with any club with multiple teams qualifying in two day and one day finals.

Motion: Amend By-Law 11a and return the grading order to First to Seventh Grade followed by the One Day Grades.

Further to this consideration be given to allow players from a clubs First to Fourth Grade be allowed to drop to a clubs top one day grade and players in Fifth to Seventh Grade be allowed to drop to any one day grade. Clubs with a 1st or 2nd Day side that has One Day team their top team should be either One Day A or B.

This motion was seconded by Canning Vale. Cockburn spoke against the motion.

After discussion the motion was voted on and **LOST**.

Item 5. Clubs consider playing dates for the coming season as per attachments. The proposal is, to avoid Sunday fixtures, that two one-day matches be played on one day as two T20 matches. The matches to be played at venues with adjoining grounds.

The President spoke for this matter and confirmed there should be no Sunday fixtures for qualifying games in the future.

East Fremantle brought up the idea of two pools in the one day matches First to Seventh Grade, 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th, with 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th in separate pools. The two pools would then play a semi final of the two top teams in each pool and the two top teams playing off in the one-day grand final. This matter had previously been brought to the Executives attention by a member of the Piara Waters Club.

Cockburn brought up the idea of playing the final two-day match (Round 14) on one day. This would not only save a day but also alleviate any change of a contrived result in the last round. This had been considered in previous years.

There was discussion regarding the Cricket West fixtures and the cost to the Association if we did not participate. The President advised he was attending the Cricket West Forum in June and would advise of our concerns on some matters, including this one.

After discussion and a show of hands it was agreed that clubs were not in favour of the two T20's on one day and were overwhelmingly in favour of the two separate pools. This would allow consideration to no play on the Saturday of the Perth Test Match and the Australia Day weekend.

Item 6. P&D Forum

Based on a recent decision handed down at the P&D, plus the fact, as an Association, we conducted 14 P&D sessions, We are asking for four member clubs to participate in a P&D Forum where we review our existing P&D penalties. The purpose of the forum will be to discuss these penalties and review/develop a list of penalties relating to both playing and non-playing members of our Association.

This item had been covered earlier. There was no further discussion.

Item 7. The SMCA Executive proposes that By-Law 67 be replaced with the following.

67a Any person or club affected by a decision of the **Protests & Disputes Tribunal** shall have the right of appeal to the **Review Committee** provided one of the following applies:

- i. That new evidence can be provided; this specifically precludes evidence that was given at a previous sitting and upon which a club believes not enough weight was placed.
- ii. It is the responsibility of the defendants to present a full case when given the opportunity to do so. If new witnesses are to be presented, they must show reason why they were not available to present that evidence at the initial hearing.
- iii. There has been an incorrect interpretation of the Constitution and its Bylaws.

67b

An appeal against a decision of the **Protests & Disputes Tribunal** shall be lodged in writing with the Association Administrator who shall place the appeal **by email, before the Review Committee**. In every case of appeal to the **Review Committee** under these rules, the club or person making such appeal shall deposit with the Association when lodging such appeal, the sum of \$300.00, which shall be forfeited to the Association if it be decided by the **Review Committee that such appeal is lost. Any match penalty shall be doubled if the appeal is lost. and any further penalty shall be doubled.**

67c

Any appeal against a decision of the **Protests & Disputes Tribunal** must be lodged within 24 hours of the hearing and the appeal, where necessary, be heard before the next playing date.

67d

The executive's representative, may make a submission, **by email** to an appeal before the **Review Committee**.

67e

The Review Committee shall be provided all necessary information by email. This information should include the original report, decision of the Protests & Disputes Tribunal and written information involved in the appeal as well as other information deemed necessary. Legal representation is not allowed – only club officials and players are allowed to submit information to

the Review Committee. The result of any appeal to the Review Committee shall be final.

This matter was seconded by Piara Waters.

After discussion, the matter was voted on and **CARRIED**

From Steve Kemp - Kenwick Cricket Club

Point 1)

This proposal is to amend By-law #55 to allow the optional usage of Kookaburra "Crown" cricket balls in 35 over grades or in the 3rd or 4th Innings of a 2 Day game.

Note: By-law 55 currently states that a Kookaburra "Practice" Ball may be used in the 3rd or 4th Innings of a 2 Day game.

I believe that the Kookaburra Crown would hold up well over 35 Overs and could be a cost saving opportunity for all clubs.

As an example, Kookaburra Tuf Pitch balls currently cost anywhere from \$49 each (at the Cricket & Football Shop) to \$58 each (at Slater Gartells).

Kookaburra Crown balls currently cost anywhere from \$27 each (at Revo Sports) to \$36.50 each (at Rebel Sports).

Based off the above information (as at 10/04/24), there is a potential \$22 per ball saving. This represents a potential saving of \$396 per one day side (35 over grade), per season.

Motion: Member clubs approve the change in By-law 55 to allow optional usage of Kookaburra Crown Cricket balls in 35 Over One Day Grades or in the 3rd or 4th Innings of a 2 Day game.

This motion was seconded by Forrestdale.

Matt Arrowsmith spoke for the motion after which the motion was voted on and **CARRIED**.

Point 2)

Should the above motion not pass - As an alternative, I'd like to seek a vote of member clubs on performing a Trial of the Kookaburra "Crown" cricket balls.

I propose the SMCA, for Round 1 of the 2024/25 season, pay for 16 Kookaburra Crown cricket balls. These would be given to the sides playing in One Day C's and One Day H's. These being the highest and lowest 35 over grades. Upon completion of the game, the balls are to be returned to the SMCA for inspection to determine if they're of a good enough quality to consider a by-law change.

As point 1 was carried, this matter was not discussed.

From Peter Anderson

Item 1: P&D Forum

Based on a recent decision handed down at the P&D, plus the fact, as an Association, we conducted 14 P&D sessions, I am asking for four member clubs to participate in a P&D Forum where we review our existing P&D penalties. The purpose of the forum will be to discuss these penalties and review/develop a list of penalties relating to both playing and non-playing members of our Association.

This forum will consist of the Senior Executive, members of the P&D, and four member clubs, and the result will be presented at the AGM for ratification.

This item had been covered earlier. There was no further discussion.

Item 2: Extend 'First past the post'

With the success of 'first past the post' through grades 1 to 4 and ODA and ODBs, I would like to put forward two motions to the members of the General Meeting.

Motion 1 - I would like to propose extending this concept through the remaining two day grades.

Motion 2 - If motion 1 is successful, I would also like to extend the concept to ODCs and ODDs. By leaving the remaining OD grades, this will aid youth development through the clubs.

Motion 1 had already been agreed to.

Motion 2 was seconded by Canning Vale.

North Baldivis and Riverton Rostrata spoke against the motion.

After discussion, the motion was voted on and **CARRIED**.

Item 3: Amending Heat Policy

With the introduction of our Heat Policy mid-way through the the past season, it was apparent that we need to make a few subtle changes:

1. As with wet weather, sides will be required to attend the ground, rather than arrange pre-fixture to play a one day game, with two day rules.

2. In the event that the second day of a two day game is affected by the heat policy, I would like to canvass the General Meeting as whether there is an appetite to complete the following:

Option A - Use the run rate of Day One and if the day is reduced to 65 overs, the score required would be run rate X overs rounding up to the nearest run.

Option B - Use the principle of Option A, however, if the the side batting first were not dismissed, then with the bonus points scenario scoring wickets at 0.20, the side batting second would require (run rate X overs) + (wickets x 20 runs) rounding up to the nearest run.

Option C - Whatever runs have been made on week one, the team batting second would need to make he runs in 65 overs.

Option D - Determine the score made at 65 overs and that is the score + 1 run that needs to be made Day Two.

Option E - Use the principle of Option D, and much like Option B determine the score at 65 overs, and add 20 runs per wicket in hand to the score, plus 1.

There was discussion on this matter including the option of the Duckworth Lewis system. There was also discussion on if there should be a temperature cut off – a temperature which, if reached, would mean there was no play. Discussion continued with no real resolution and the matter to return to the Executive for further consideration and discussion at the AGM.

Item 4: No Sunday Cricket

With the message heard loud and clear that Sunday cricket, outside of finals, is to remain off the table, I would like to propose, with the season condensing each year, if the CricketWest carnivals continue, we need to work out a way of playing 14 rounds of cricket as fairly as possible. Therefore, I am suggesting playing a back to back T20 game at a facility where two grounds are available. This way 1 v 2 and 3 v 4 can play each other, have a tea break, then play 1 v 3 and 2 v 4. Yes, this would mean that some clubs would play at neutral grounds, however, these clubs would then benefit in latter years when this occurs.

I understand that clubs are not in favour of T20 games, however, if we revert to 'first past the post' for two day grades, then this will be more than palatable. If however, we continue with the structure of 2023/24, then scores achieved in one day cricket compared to T20 cricket are somewhat comparable.

This item had been covered earlier. There was no further discussion.

Riverton Rostrata Cricket Club

SMCA General Meeting Agenda Items, for discussion

Item 1

Re: Extreme Weather Policy, which was endorsed at the SMCA Executive Meeting 5th Feb 2024

The following policy is in place for temperatures 40 or more at noon on the Friday before the days play. The forecast reading to be obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology web site: www.bom.gov.au.

Two day Grades 75 overs – reduced to 60 overs

Two day Grades 65 overs - reduced to 50 overs

One Day Grades 40 overs - reduced to 30 overs

One Day Grades 35 overs - reduced to 30 overs

Extra drinks breaks – every 40 minutes.

Extended tea break.

All one-day matches will end once a result has been achieved.

Maximum of 7 overs to all bowlers in all one-day matches.

Two Day games, day two will be treated the same as a rain affected match. ie half the total available overs

to each side.

No penalties for slow over rates.

Riverton Rostrata Cricket Club acknowledges the efforts of the SMCA to address this would like to submit a motion for a variation to the above policy, prior to its inclusion in the SMCA By-laws in time for season 2024/25.

For Two-day matches, it is proposed that both days be shortened to 60/50 overs (according to the grade as specified in the policy). The justifications for this proposal are as follows:

- i. On Day 1, if the day is shortened, it disadvantages the batting team not knowing if Day 2 will be shortened also (for extreme weather). Because if you bat conservatively knowing you have 7 overs to bat on Day 2, then you lose out if Day 2 is also shortened.
- ii. In the case of extreme weather, the team winning the toss is more likely to choose to bat, given that fielding on a hot day is undesirable. However choosing to bat is a disadvantage as indicated by point i above.

Knowing that both days are shortened prior to the toss is a fair outcome to both teams. This is different than rain affected matches, where there is no set number of overs that the game is reduced by, and so you remain at the mercy of the weather. But when there is a set number of overs being removed from the game due to extreme heat, it should be equal on both days.

Riverton Rostrata spoke for the matter and after discussion it was agreed that should the first day of a two-day match be shortened under the heat policy the same number of overs would only be allowed on the second day as had been allocated to the first day.

Item 2

Re: Extreme Weather Policy, By-law 2b(ii)

(ii) On days where the temperature is extremely hot or forecast to be extremely hot at midday the SMCA will consider abandoning play and will notify Clubs through the SMCA Secretary.

This by-law is in-line with the WA Premier Cricket Extreme Weather Policy.

For discussion at the SMCA AGM: should the by-laws state a temperature at which play will be abandoned (to be checked at noon on the Friday before play)?

This temperature could be agreed in consultation with Cricket West, to ensure consistency amongst associations.

As an example, in CJCC Junior Cricket, one SEMJCC round of matches was abandoned this season (Feb 10), as the forecast at 11am was higher than 40deg.

When this happens, parents of junior players are reluctant to allow their kids to play senior cricket in the afternoon. The result being less people available for selection and higher likelihood of forfeits.

It is acknowledged that children are more susceptible ailments associated with extreme heat, and we are not suggesting that 40deg be set as the benchmark for abandonment. But a temperature should be stated in order to adhere with Bylaw 2c (i) and (ii) regarding welfare and safety of participants.

Riverton Rostrata spoke on the matter. There was discussion on a cut off temperature. Mark Iannello advised that CricketWest were looking into this matter, and it would be discussed at the June forum. The matter to be discussed again after the forum.

Item 3

Re: Playing start times for One Day Matches, By-law 25.

It was minuted in the SMCA Executive Meeting from 8th April 2024 that it was agreed that all One Day matches in all grades shall commence at 12:30pm.

RRCC contests this decision citing the following:

- i. There are already a number of measures in place to aid in matches finishing earlier, including the 'first past the post' initiative and reducing matches to 35-over innings in the lower grades.
- ii. Commencing matches at 12:30pm all season introduces issues with ground availability. Most teams are encouraged to arrive at grounds 1-hr prior to play to setup facilities, setup Frogbox, complete the coin toss as early as possible, complete warmup etc. Often grounds and facilities are not available until 12pm due to junior cricket or other community groups booking grounds and facilities, therefore having everything setup in just 30mins would be very difficult.
- iii. Commencing matches at 12:30pm limits the availability of junior players and coaches who play. As junior matches are scheduled to conclude by 12pm, this leaves insufficient time for junior players and senior players who coach juniors to travel and arrive at the senior match on time. This inconvenience will have a negative effect on junior participation in senior cricket, which is critical for senior clubs to thrive.
- iv. Commencing matches at 12:30pm makes it hard for players to get to the ground on time if they have their own kids' activities or sports on Saturday mornings (e.g. swimming lessons and the like). Cricket is already a big commitment for people with families and this is asking for more time away. If players are going to go back to their club on Saturday evening anyway (regardless of start time), then this takes more time away from their family in the morning.

We propose potential alternative solutions to enable matches still start at 1pm, but progress faster. For discussion at General Meeting:

- i. In certain lower grades, modify By-law 23.c "Any delivery that passes outside the leg stump and behind the striker shall be called a "wide"" to allow for more lenience to reduce the number of legside wides, which has a big impact on innings taking longer than planned. Include a requirement to mark the pitches accounting for this leg-side wide allowance.
- ii. Place more onus on captains and players to adhere to over rates to complete the bowling inning within the prescribed times. Include penalties for finishing innings outside of prescribed times (including a certain number of minutes leeway), such as:
 - For the team bowling first, if they do not complete the required number of overs in the prescribed time, they will be penalised 5 runs per over from their batting total and also only be eligible to face the same number of overs they bowled when they bat.e.g. if the Team bowling first only completes 38 overs (out of 40) in the prescribed time, they commence batting with -10 score and may only face 38 overs when they bat.
 - Amend By-law 15d to include details specific to One-Day matches and completing your bowling innings within the prescribed time. It currently only reads for completing the number of overs in a day of a Two-day match. Bowling team to incur penalty of 0.1 points for every over not completed at the scheduled close.
 - The penalty of 0.1 points could be increased to help enforce this.
 - Amendment of By-law 15d would also need to include provision for how this rule would be adjudicated when no official umpire is present (i.e.

captain's agreement, Match Referee involvement, recording of times in scorebook etc).

This matter had been discussed earlier and the 12:30pm start time had been rejected by the clubs. There was no further discussion on this item.

From North Baldivis

2. Adoption of a playing 12th man in all one day grades. There is no requirement to specify any player as the actual 12th man. Only 11 players are allowed on the field at any one time. Only 11 players are allowed to bat. All of the 12 nominated players may bowl.

This matter was seconded by Armadale. SJ spoke against the matter.

After discussion the matter was voted on and **CARRIED**.

1. For all one day games played under the extreme heat policy, the team batting second to receive bonus points for overs remaining once the target has been reached.

North Baldivis spoke on the matter but as there was no seconder the matter was **LOST**.

CLOSURE: The meeting closed at 8:17pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Meeting 8 July at Thornlie – 6:00pm

Annual General Meeting 29 July at Thornlie – 7:00pm

SOUTH METROPOLITAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING – 29 April 2024 – THORNIE
ATTENDANCE

President [Signature]
Senior Vice President [Signature] Junior Vice President Apology
Administrator GARY HARTMAN Treasurer [Signature]
Umpire's Advisor NORM HARRIS
Executive IAN DONALDSON, STANISHCOE
Armada [Signature]
Canning Vale [Signature]
Cannington Tigers [Signature] Michael
CBC N. R. [Signature]
Champion Lakes [Signature] Tharigaachalan Narsing [Signature] Sathyan Arasalan
Cockburn [Signature] [Signature]
East Fremantle [Signature] Michael Connolly
Forrestdale [Signature]
Hilton Bicton [Signature] Simon Bierwink
Jandakot Park [Signature] [Signature]
Kardinya Lakes [Signature]
Kelmscott _____
Kenwick Matt Arrowsmith
Kwinana [Signature]
Leeming Spartan [Signature]
Maddington [Signature] Alec Lacey
North Baldivis [Signature]
Perth Tamil _____
Phoenix [Signature] [Signature] [Signature]
Piara Waters [Signature] Stuart Mills [Signature]
Riverton Rostrata Daniel Fielder
Roleystone-Karragullen _____
SJ Blues GRAEME KNAPP
Thornlie DAVID KING
Willetton Crows Michael Gotti
Umpires Assoc. _____