

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

MINUTES for the SMCA Executive Meeting 17 March 2025



Venue: Thornlie Clubrooms, 6:02pm

PRESENT:

Peter Anderson, David King, Mario Baeli, Norm Harris, Mark Iannello, Joe Covic, Jacob Landsmeer, and Gary Hartman (minutes).

APOLOGIES: Steve Kemp, Shamez Rashid, Ian Del Rosso

ABSENT: Nil

MINUTES of PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE MEETING:

Moved by Mark Iannello and seconded Mario Baeli that the minutes of the previous meeting, 17th February 2025, be accepted as a true and correct record. **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING:

Nil

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Over the past month, I have been involved in attending the last CricketWest meeting, where I will be attending this coming Wednesday to formalise the transition of Ferndale / Lynwood returning to the SMCA.

I released a statement prior to the semi-finals reminding member clubs about their responsibilities pertaining to both player and spectator behaviour.

There has also been another matter that has arisen, that I know is an agenda item tonight relating to a decision handed down by the Review Committee. Having reviewed the details of the event, and knowing that this impacted my home club, I do not understand the ruling. If a by-law is breached, then the offending party is guilty. This has had an adverse impact of another club within the competition whereby a home final was not awarded to them. There have been members of the Executive who have been vocal about using common sense in this instance, which is a fair statement, and maybe we need to look at the by-law in some detail, however, we have what we have. As mentioned, more details will follow. However, what I will be asking is that we create a new tab on our web-site for each Review Committee decision, and who presided over the finding so that this process has a level of transparency.

Congratulations to all clubs that have won through to their respective Grade Grand Finals, and wish them all the best this weekend.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the Windup March 25.

Thanks.

Pete.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

4181 players registered on PlayHQ this season, average age 33.4 years.

Having spent quite a lot of time transferring P&D information from our existing web site to our new web site I really wonder if we need to include, for public viewing, information from many years ago. Cautions go back to 2009 P&D's and Prescribed Penalties to 2016-17. It was agreed that these items would only be public for the last three seasons.

Hard to pick 11A and 11B from PlayHQ making it a problem when trying to work out days played.

Some years ago, clubs were required to have three contact email addresses. It wasn't a By-Law but passed at a meeting. This is to be considered as a new By-Law.

The Executive authorised two fines from last weekend. Forrestdale for not submitting progress scores on day 1 and Kelmscott for inadequate pitch markings.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Cash Reserve: \$40,135.62

Community Reserve: \$86,389.59

Some clubs still behind on payments. Unfinancial clubs cannot play in Finals.

Still need to pay for trophies.

UMPIRE'S ADVISOR:

Weekend went well. Each two day grade had two umpires. Four juniors umpired. Got some good feedback from some captains.

Norm had rung some "oldies" to umpire.

CRICKETWEST:

Ferndale-Lynwood moving to SMCA likely to be confirmed at Wednesday's meeting.

Peter mentioned that Joe Covic brought up the possibility of getting the Umpire's Advisor from each association to sit on the P&D's for other associations.

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS:

David King brought up the following changes (changes in red)

46. Registration

- a. All clubs must ensure that their players are registered regardless of age, on PlayHQ prior to such players playing for that club in any match organised by the SMCA. No late registrations or Fill-In players will be accepted.
- b. The minimum age for a player to qualify for registration to the SMCA is 14 years old.
- c. When two (2) clubs within the Association merge to form one club the players registered with both those clubs will be bound to the new club formed by such a merger and will require a **transfer** to move from that new club.

- d. In the event of any club playing an unregistered player, the match where the offence is first reported shall count as a forfeit against the club playing the unregistered player. See By-Law 69 for penalties. The side not at fault is awarded forfeit points or points earned in the match, whichever is the greater. All match statistics for non-offending players will stand for Association trophies.
- e. In the event of a club playing a player under a false name, then all matches participated in by that club in that round shall be considered to be forfeited with the penalties as outlined in By-Law 46.d to apply. The captain of the offending team in which the player participated is to be suspended for six playing dates for filling in a false team sheet. The player who has offended may be dealt with by the Protests, Disputes and Appeals Board.

47. Transfers

Clarification: It is the joint responsibility of the player and his new Club to get the transfer issue correct. The player's details must be correct whether or not previous details were correct or not. Where possible player identification documents should be used. Players are required to inform the club they are requesting a transfer to, which club they last played for and when.

All due diligence must be adhered to, and any irregularities should be directed to the SMCA Administrator.

Players who last played for a club affiliated with Cricket West – other than the SMCA.

- a. Notwithstanding By-Law 47a, a player transferring from any Association affiliated with Cricket West must complete a transfer request from the club in which they last played (**Permits are not to be used for this purpose**). The transfer must be finalised, using PlayHQ, prior to the commencement of a match in which the player participates. Failure to do so will deem the player not ~~cleared~~ transferred and a forfeit will be the result and penalties applied.

Players who last played for a club not affiliated with Cricket West

- a. Notwithstanding By-Law 47a, A player joining a club affiliated with the SMCA directly from an Association not affiliated with Cricket West must complete a transfer request to their new club. **Where a player is going to be temporarily playing in the SMCA Competition a permit can be used for this purpose.**

Players who last played for a club affiliated with SMCA

- b. Notwithstanding By-Law 47a, a player transferring between clubs within the SMCA must complete a transfer request on PlayHQ prior to the commencement of a match in which the player participates (**Permits are not to be used for this purpose**). Failure to do so will deem the player not ~~cleared~~ transferred and a forfeit will be the result and penalties applied. No player transferred to an SMCA Club during the season can be ~~cleared-or~~ transferred to another SMCA Club for a period of 28 days.

Players who last played for a club affiliated with WA Premier Cricket

- c. Players playing with a WA Premier Cricket Club who do not get selected for a fixtured WA Premier Cricket match may be selected to play with their immediate former SMCA club. A transfer is not required when this selection criteria is applied. The Club and/or Player must complete a permit request in PlayHQ and the player permit approved by the SMCA. A player in this category may play in any grade for their former SMCA club subject to By Law 11 where that player has already played for the SMCA club during that same season.

The closing date for a transfer of a player shall be prior to the commencement of the last two-day qualifying fixture.

- d. In the event of any club playing a player that has not been transferred, the match where the offence is first reported shall be forfeited by the club playing an un-transferred player. See Bylaw 69 for penalties. The un-transferred player will be suspended for four (4) playing days.
- e. The only grounds on which a player can be refused a transfer by a club are as follows,
 - i. the financial (owes registration and ball fees), status of the player;
 - ii. has club property,
 - iii. has club intellectual property.

Any dispute over a player's financial status, has club property or intellectual property, should be forwarded by email to the Association Administrator for consideration by the Association P&D, who shall forward their decision back to the Association Administrator by email. The decision of the P&D shall be final.

- f. Any member of an un-financial club on the books of the Association requiring to register with any other Associated Club will be accepted together with a fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) except in the case where the club has been disbanded for more than three (3) years, such player will be permitted to play without the lodgement of any fee.

48. Permits - Players who are currently registered to a Junior Club, District Junior Club or WA Premier Cricket Club.

For the purpose of this By-Law PlayHQ only allows a player to be registered to one club. To be able to also play for other clubs an approved season permit must be obtained before the commencement of the match in which the player participates.

A player playing under a season permit for a SMCA club cannot obtain another permit to play for another SMCA club unless written approval is granted by the former SMCA club.

- a. In the event of any club playing a player that has not been granted approval by their former SMCA club, the match where the offence is first reported shall be forfeited by the club playing an unapproved player. See Bylaw 69 for penalties. The unapproved player will be suspended for four (4) playing days.

- b. The only grounds on which a player can be refused a transfer by a club are as follows,
- i. the financial (owes registration and ball fees), status of the player;
 - ii. has club property,
 - iii. has club intellectual property.

Any dispute over a player's financial status, has club property or intellectual property, should be forwarded by email to the Association Administrator for consideration by the Association P&D, who shall forward their decision back to the Association Administrator by email. The decision of the P&D shall be final.

62. Protests and disputes

- n. A suspended player or official is not permitted to enter the playing field, act or participate as an official in any match day duties during the scheduled hours of play of any SMCA fixtured match. Any breach of this By-Law may incur a further 6 playing day suspension and \$100 fine. In the event of a club playing a player whilst under suspension the player shall receive a further 12 playing day suspension and the club will incur a \$500 and all matches participated in by that club in that round will be forfeited.

79. Replacing A District Player

A District Player may be replaced according to the following:

- a) If a District Player is known to possibly become available after the match has commenced, they should be named on the team sheet along with the player that will be replaced. The SMCA Administrator should be notified of the replacement players and how it affects the other grades by 10.00am on the day before the start of the match and notification to the other team and umpires that the district / replacement and replaced players have been included on the team list prior to the start of the first day's play.
- b) If a District player becomes unavailable after the commencement of a match they may be replaced with a "like for like" player. The SMCA Administrator should be notified of the replacement players and how it affects the other grades by 10.00am on the day before the match restarts and notification to the other team and umpires that the district / replacement player has been added to the team list prior to the start of the relevant day's play.

- c) Any player that replaces another player under this Rule shall be deemed to continue in that match for that other player, with no more and no less rights than the other player. Once the District Player begins to participate in the match, they will play under their own name for statistical purposes.
- d) A player who, due to District match duties, arrives late on a day of a match in which he is nominated to play or is playing, shall not be limited as to when and how he may take part or resume in the match.
- e) A player who, due to District match duties, is a not out batter and is unable to resume his innings shall be treated as retired owing to unavoidable cause and recorded as “retired, not out.”
- f) A player who, due to District match duties, is a not out batter shall replace/be replaced by the district player or the nominated replacement player at the crease.
- g) A team shall be allowed a substitute fielder for any District Player taking part in a sanctioned District match.
- h) In all other respects the replacement or substitution of a player is to occur in accordance with the Laws of Cricket, except for Law 1.2.2, where the opposing Team Captain shall not have permission to give consent to change the nomination of the team after the beginning of play.

David also proposed a change to By-Law 63b

I propose to remove the requirement for a statutory declaration to be required if you are unable to attend a hearing.

With the amount of fly in/out players it is becoming a little unrealistic to expect a statutory declaration in the timeframe required.

A detailed written statement should be sufficient.

After discussion it was moved by Mark Iannello and seconded Mario Baeli that all changes to the By-Laws be approved.

CARRIED

David also brought up possible changes to the Brian Waterer Shield.

WADCC GENERAL RULES

11.4.1 Club Championship

11.4.2 Club championship points will be awarded to each Club during the non-finals rounds, based on the points earned in each of the four Senior Competition grades, multiplied by these weighting factors:

- (a) First grade: 6
- (b) Second grade: 4
- (c) Third Grade: 3
- (d) Fourth Grade: 2

11.4.3 Club Championship points will be calculated automatically using the PlayHQ system, based on the same match points used for the calculation of the Ladders.

11.4.4 The Club with the most points at the end of the qualifying rounds in a Season, calculated in accordance with this Rule, will be named the Champion Club. In the event of a tie, the Champion Club will be decided by the team with the most first grade winning matches in the Senior Grade Competition, and if necessary, reference will be made to the number of wins by the tied Clubs in successive lower grades in the Senior Grade Competition to determine the winner.

11.4.5 Only one team per club in each grade of the Senior Grade Competition may earn points for the Club Championship. Should there be more than one team, the club shall nominate its point-scoring team before the first round of the season.

Suggestion

If we wanted to radically revamp the Brian Waterer Shield we could look at what WA Premier Cricket to and have say the following

1. First and Second Grade: 6
2. Third and fourth Grade: 4
3. One Day A and One Day B: 3
4. Fifth Grade and Below: 2

The top three teams of each club within this category will only be considered for the award. Clubs must have three sides to participate of which two are two-day sides.

This to be discussed further with something to be in place for the 2025-26 season.

PROTESTS AND DISPUTES:

At least 4 P&D's this coming Thursday night.

GRADINGS AND FIXTURES:

There was general discussion regarding promotion/demotion with a decision to be made by the Fixtures and Gradings Committee.

AGENDA ITEMS

There was discussion on a recent decision of the Review Committee to uphold an appeal by Jandakot Park of a fine/penalty imposed against them in a match against Maddington. There was general feeling that the Review Committee may have go this one wrong but that their

decision is final and must be adhered to. It was agreed that the decision of the Review Committee must be transparent and therefore to be placed on the web site.

Correspondence to Champion Lakes from David King and their response was discussed. The response from Champion Lakes was discussed, it was agreed that Champion Lakes One-Day F Captain Sriramgopal Perialwar be referred to the P&D Tribunal this Thursday. Accusations made in Champion Lakes response to be discussed with Cricket West.

Ian Del Rosso advised by email that there is a Ladies Cricket Bag provided by Cricket West that needs to be awarded. It was agreed to make the award at an appropriate occasion next season.

From David King

Club Administration - Over the last couple of weeks we have had a lot of clubs asking for games to be reopened matches on PlayHQ because they hadn't put the catches in. One club asked for 17 games another 13 games. Clubs are given 72 hours to submit all details, and it was agreed that games should not be reopened

The By-Laws state that Clubs are encouraged to submit any players whose qualification may not be certain to the Association Administrator for a ruling as to eligibility. A ruling made by the Administrator under this rule shall be binding and final on all parties. We have clubs who rather than send in a list of borderline players for qualification send the whole squad for checking. Some have played all games all nearly all games and their qualification is beyond doubt. The Administrator is to reject all complete lists and only check lists of players whose qualification may not be certain

Scorebooks - too often the scorebook is not completed after the match. Meaning that the scorers are not doing their job as required. Unfortunately, the umpires are also signing off on this. The hard copy must be done and checked against the iPad.

From Steve Kemp

Steve was an apology for this meeting but brought up the following items for discussion.

1) **Suggestion: For 2025/26 onward, only 1 Umpire in 1st Grade.**

Thought Process: Umpires are a finite resource. We don't have enough of them. Reducing the Umpires in 1st Grade would give us a greater level of coverage within our association.

2) **Suggestion: Nomination fee reduction for Lower One Day Grades, without umpires.**

Thought Process: The lower One Day only grades rarely get umpires. To me, it's unfair that clubs must pay the same amount of money to nominate a 1st Grade side as they do an ODI side, when they (1st Grade) clearly get vastly different levels of service from the SMCA.

3) **Suggestion: All One Day Grades become first past the post. E.g. The game finishes once a result is achieved.**

Thought Process: Poor player behaviour (which leads to P&D's) often takes place during Junk time (E.g. when the game is over). No junk time hopefully means less bad behaviour (P&D's).

- 4) **Suggestion: 5th Grade to 7th Grade (or whichever is the lowest 2-day grade) become a 7-team competition. (1st Grade to 4th Grade remain 8 team grades).**

Thought Process:

- 6 x 1 day & 6 x 2 day = 18-week fixture.
- No Sunday cricket required, no need for end of season 1-day games under 2-day rules.
- Byes are built into the fixture. This allows for these grades to not play around busy times of the year (be that the start of the season, around test matches or holidays like Xmas & New Years).

Benefits:

- Teams with a Bye are required to provide two (2) umpires. These players will then umpire in a different grade to which they ordinarily play (no impact or favouritism within a grade) and be paid for their work (through the usual process of the SMCA invoicing clubs).
- This gives players a better appreciation for what umpires do. Gives the SMCA more umpires. Also allows for clubs with player shortages at various times to assist other grades within their club structure, provided current by-laws are adhered to.

- 5) **Suggestion: All One Day grades become a 9-team competition.**

Thought Process:

- This provides an even home and away fixture, whilst maintaining an 18-week fixture. Currently, some teams play three times, others play twice.
- Allows for these grades to not play around busy times of the year (be that the start of the season, around test matches or holidays like Xmas & New Years).
- Teams with a Bye are required to provide 2 umpires. These players will then umpire in a different grade to which they ordinarily play (no impact or potential favouritism within a grade) and be paid for their work (through the usual process of the SMCA invoicing clubs).
- This gives players a better appreciation for what umpires do. Gives the SMCA more umpires. Also allows for clubs with player shortages at various times to assist other grades within the club structure, provided current by-laws are adhered to.

- 6) **Suggestion: In all 2-day grades, the “bonus points” for runs and wickets in the 3rd and 4th innings are not awarded unless the Outright win is achieved.**

Thought Process:

- This would discourage clubs from playing Junk Time cricket where one side goes out to bat for 10 overs and slogs.
- Would make captains more proactive about progressing the game, should they wish to actually attempt for an outright win.

- 7) **Suggestion: 35 Over One Day Grades - Wides & No-Balls are not re-bowled unless it's the final over of the innings. Wides & No-Balls are worth 2 runs.**

Thought Process:

- This should reduce the time spent in the field for both sides and better assists sides to get through their overs within the time restrictions set in the by-laws.
- Flow on effect is that there will be less P&D's, as players aren't complaining about having to play cricket in the dark or for an hour after the scheduled close of play.

8) **Suggestion: The P&D process needs to be reviewed.**

Thought Process:

- Too few must spend far too long dealing with petty squabbles, often caused by poor player behaviour and/or an inability to follow the rules. More Club involvement is required.
- All Clubs are required to provide one (1) person to join the P&D Roster for the season.
- The SMCA Executive will provide two (2) members each week to facilitate the process.
- Each week of the season, the Clubs will be rostered on to help with sitting on a P&D.
- SMCA Executive members will join two (2) rostered Club members.
- If the Clubs are going to make these issues, they can also be a part of managing the problem.
- Suggest that any suspension results in a Club Penalty. Level 1 Offences incur \$100 minimum Club fine. Level 2 Offences incur a \$250.00 minimum Club fine.

There was discussion on these items and there was agreement on some and disagreement on others. It was agreed that these items should be brought forward to the General Meeting for consideration by the Clubs.

From Peter Anderson

Email auto-reply – it was agreed that an auto response to emails should be in place. Clubs should receive a response stating that their email had been received.

Peter advised he was unable to assist with presentations this weekend.

Peter discussed the end of season windup – life members to be invited.

The Ferndale-Lynwood issue should be resolved this week.

How player penalties are displayed on the web site was discussed. It had already been agreed that only the past 3 seasons will be displayed. It was further agreed that on the new web site only the players surname and initial will be displayed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Mario brought up the 12 player rule brought in for this season. It was apparent that this rule was being abused by some – players were being qualified for finals although they did not

attend the match. It was agreed that the Executive should bring a motion to the general meeting requesting this rule be removed.

Norm felt end of season finals should start at 12:30pm due to failing light. This to be considered for next season.

Jacob felt there should be scope to extend a finals match on the first day a half hour later if a result for the match was likely.

Jacob discussed the end of season one-day round. He felt this match should be under one-day rules with two-day points. Joe felt that first v second in the previous season should play the last round the following season.

A Club had requested doing the P&D on Thursday online (Teams) due to clash with training. It was agreed that this could be done.

CLOSURE: As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9:00pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

General Meeting 12 May, Thornlie – 7:00pm