

Old Doms Cricket Club

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday 19th October, 2007, at 7.30pm at Bromsgrove Cricket Club

Present: John Anstey (in the chair)

Alan Last
Tony Peck
Mark Hunt
Colin Hunt
Alan Rowan
Stuart Rich
Nick Rowan

Tom Perry
James Hickin
Jemma Greenway
Pradeep Peddu
Manoj Sukumaran
Karim Ladha
Steve Morris

1 Apologies for absence

Phil Walshe, Alan Blount, Justin Anstey, Tom Hickin, Lorraine Ladha and Ben Sadler.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting - 7th October, 2006

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7th October, 2006, were agreed as a correct record, subject to the correction in spelling of Mr Hickin.

3 Treasurer's Report

Stuart Rich and Mark Hunt tabled the financial report for 2007, and reported that the club currently had total assets of £1,000.88.

This was made up as follows:

General Funds	£731.40
SCC Donation	£250.00
Cash	£19.48

The financial summary for the season was:

Income

Subscriptions	£1,278.5
Teas	£ 400.00
Total Income	£ 1,678.50

Expenditure

Teas	£ 85.00
Pitch Fees	£767.50
Sundries	£183.95
Total expenditure	£1,036.45

Operating surplus for season £642.05

Mark Hunt explained that the SCC Donation was in respect of the website and that it had been proposed that each adult who went to Spain could claim £10 from this donation to offset the cost of the transport. It was pointed out that some members had opted to receive the £10 but others had decided that they preferred to leave the money in the club funds.

Mark Hunt reported that a second bank account would be opened to deal with the day to day operating transactions of the club. The existing account would be used for Tours and members could make regular payments into this account in order to save towards tour costs.

John Anstey thanked Mark and Stuart for their hard work in achieving a healthy financial position at the end of the season. Stuart pointed out that most of the credit must go to Mark who had done the majority of the work.

4 Chairman's Report

John Anstey reported that he was very pleased with the direction of the club, especially with the new members and renewed commitment from existing members.

John reflected on the excellent tour to Spain in which a diverse group of people had got on really well resulting in an enjoyable experience for all.

John stated that it had always been an Old Doms dream to have a ground and clubhouse and he felt that playing at BCC was the next best thing.

John thanked everyone who had played a part in making this happen, in particular Phil Walshe, Nick Rowan, Alan Rowan and Mark Hunt.

John concluded by asking the members to remember the ethics and philosophy of the Old Doms and not to get involved in disputes with other players and teams.

5 Captain's Report

Tony Peck formally welcomed the new members – Alan Blount and Tom Hickin.

Tony thanked the players for their enthusiasm throughout the season and he echoed John Anstey's sentiments in thanking Phil Walshe and Alan Rowan for making it possible for the club to play at BCC.

Tony expressed his appreciation of Mark Hunt's hard work in putting together the fixtures for the season.

Then Tony went on to pay tribute to Alan Last's work in creating a great cricket website which was better than the professional sites, and was improving all the time.

Tony thanked Colin Hunt for his enthusiasm and commitment in organising events and Steve (Stato) Morris for setting up and operating the Fantasy League which has added immensely to the enjoyment of the season.

The supporters were thanked by Tony for their vocal encouragement, with particular mention made of Jemma Greenway's work behind the scenes.

Tony thanks Karim Ladha for taking over as Captain when he and Phil Walshe were not available.

Tony stated that the time had come to change around by selecting a new vice captain and 3rd captain. Tony reported that Phil Walshe was standing down and Steve Morris had agreed to be vice captain next season. Also, Mark Hunt would be taking over as 3rd captain.

In conclusion Tony urged the members to maintain the Old Doms philosophy which had kept the club going for 20 years.

6 Election of Officers

After some discussion it was agreed that each post would be dealt with in turn.

Treasurer – Stuart Rich stated that he was standing down and nominated Mark Hunt (seconded by Colin Hunt). This was approved unanimously.

Fixture Secretary – Mark Hunt stated that he was prepared to continue in the role and was proposed by Tony Peck and seconded by Tom Perry and unanimously elected.

Captain – after indicating his willingness to continue Tony Peck was proposed by Colin Hunt and seconded by Alan Last and unanimously elected.

Vice Captain – Steve Morris

Fundraising Coordinator – it was agreed that this post would be left vacant.

Social Secretary – Colin Hunt was proposed by Alan Rowan and seconded by James Hickin and was elected unanimously.

Suggestions were made for additional posts – dietitian, physio and coach.

7 Fixtures

Mark Hunt reported that his aim for last season was to have a fixture every weekend but this had been badly affected by the weather and 14 matches had been called off.

Mark proposed that next season there would be 30 weekend and 18 midweek matches. This would necessitate an earlier start and a later finish to the season.

Mark reported that Coftonians wished to play both fixtures at BCC next season. Mark asked whether there were any changes which should be made to the fixtures. James Hickin felt that some teams did not play in the same spirit as the Old Doms – in particular some teams which were noticeably better.

There followed an in depth discussion with various opinions being aired:

Steve Morris – play them until we beat them

Alan Last – it is more interesting and challenging to beat the better players

Tom Perry – we should play competitive games and look to beat the better teams

James Hickin – we should play better teams – what about lower league sides?

Mark Hunt – we could only play league sides at the beginning and end of the season

Mark Hunt – should we play teams away twice in a season?

John Anstey – it is a dilemma, especially with longstanding fixtures

Nick Rowan – the 2 overs per player format gives other players a chance to bat/bowl and improve.

Alan Last – last season was excellent with a good variety of games. Suggest that we leave it to Mark's judgement and if he has concerns about any fixtures he can consult the senior players of the club.

The consensus of opinion at the end of the discussion was that in principle fixtures should be on a home and away basis but the members were happy to leave the decision to Mark's expertise and judgement.

8 Tours

The potential for the following tours was discussed:

Menorca

Tony Peck reported that fixtures were booked for 30th and 31st August 2008, and there was an opportunity to play a touring side in the weeks prior to and after these two fixtures.

However, Tony pointed out that this would encroach on the school term thus causing problems for some potential tourists. He stated that there would need to be commitment from members by the end of November so that the detailed planning could commence.

It was noted that 24th August was a potential travel date and that school terms commenced on 3rd September, therefore the match on 31st August was likely to be the final match of the tour.

Lincoln

Mark Hunt proposed a fixture at the beginning of the season – possibly in early April. This could be regarded as an away match rather than a tour, ie there and back in one day.

Hastings

Mark Hunt reported that Mountfield CC were keen to play the club again – possibly early in the season.

9 Shirts

Tony Peck reported that there appeared to be an option for an alternative supplier. Tom Perry reported that he knows the main seller for Samira, a company which has started to produce cricket clothing.

John Anstey stated that we would need to look at the products and Alan Last felt that we need to go to the supplier with the best quality and price.

It was agreed that Tom would investigate further.

10 Sponsorship

Karim Ladha reported that he had approached the Manager of the Royal Bank of Scotland who had indicated that it would not be a problem. However, he left shortly after and his successor said that it was not possible.

Karim reported that this year he would ask again as part of the social regeneration programme, but we would need to say what it would be used for. There were several suggestions:- health and safety equipment, playing and training equipment and coaching.

Alan Last suggested that we ask for sponsorship for the shirts - £500 would buy a shirt with logo for each player.

Mark Hunt reported that the box for club equipment was being made.

11 Nets

Steve Morris suggested that net sessions be held on Monday evenings. James Hickin suggested that in addition it would be possible to have training sessions on Sunday afternoons (1 to 3 pm).

The possibility of arranging coaching was discussed and it was noted that some club members would be prepared to help.

Alan Rowan suggested that the website be used to coordinate and communicate the training sessions.

It was agreed that net sessions would commence in February/March.

12 Social Activities

Colin Hunt reported that a Beer and Skittles evening had been arranged for the evening of 30th November 2007 at Bromsgrove Cricket Club commencing at 7.30pm – friends and families welcome. Tickets cost £6 for adults and £3 for children (this includes the buffet) and must be purchased in advance so that the numbers for catering could be confirmed.

Colin announced that there would be a raffle with excellent prizes – a shirt signed by Shane Warne, a Warwickshire signed bat and theatre tickets. Also, it was noted that prizes donated by members would be welcomed.

It was suggested by Tony Peck that tickets could be sold more widely and advertised on the website.

13 Match Fees

Mark Hunt reported that the fees currently stood at:

£6 home weekend match

£5 away weekend match

£4.50 mid week match

Alan Last stated that it was the tradition that he proposed an increase in fees at every AGM. However, in the light of the sound financial position of the club he proposed that the fees for next season remain unchanged.

Nick Rowan asked whether BCC would increase the charge for use of the pitch/facilities. Mark stated that there was no indication of an increase for next season.

Steve Morris asked if an increase in the fees resulted in a larger surplus, was there a plan/need for the extra money coming into the club funds.

Alan Last agreed and said that if the club continues to have an operating surplus should consideration be given to subsidising shirts, equipment, tour, coaching etc?

In the discussion that followed there was a consensus that whatever the level of the fees it was essential that income covered costs and maintained the current healthy financial position of the club.

Mark Hunt suggested that the midweek fee of £4.50 be increased to £5 for purely practical purposes, and the charge to the opposition for matches at BCC would be the same as that levied on the club for the away match.

This was proposed by Alan Last and seconded by Manoj Sukumaran and agreed unanimously.

14 Arrangements for the use of facilities at BCC

Steve Morris suggested that the agreement with BCC be reviewed and that the club requests a 2 year rolling contract with 1 year's notice..

This was agreed and it was noted that Mark Hunt would discuss the matter with Tracey.

15 Coaching

James Hickin asked whether it would be possible to arrange for external coaching or a structure within the club? Tom Perry agreed that a combination of guest coaches with an internal structure could be successful.

Alan Last reported that he planned to undertake a coaching course at Warwickshire and would be happy to pass on knowledge and skills.

It was agreed that a more structures approach would be taken to net/practice sessions with inputs from guest coaches and club members such as Alan Last.

16 Hope University, Liverpool

In answer to a question from John Anstey, Stuart Rich reported that the position was unchanged in that the Agency attempting to resolve the outstanding debt had approached the University for details of the charges and the names of the people who used the accommodation. This information is still outstanding.

17 Presentation Evening

Tony Peck reported that the trophies were ready. It was agreed that an event in January/ February would be preferred.

The possibility of a social event nearer Christmas was discussed and it was agreed that an informal night out would be arranged.

18 Fridge Magnets

Alan Last reported that Old Doms Fridge Magnets were available to purchase at the very reasonable price of £2.50. Alan pointed out that they make excellent presents for Wives, Girlfriends etc

19 Close of Meeting

John Anstey thanked everyone for attending and contributing to a highly successful meeting and declared the meeting closed.

Old Doms Website

www.olddoms.org.uk