

Wanstead & Snaresbrook Cricket Club (incorporating Snaresbrook Football Club)



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 4th March 2016 @ 8:00pm.

Apologies: M. Mead, T. Hebden, H. Chambers, J. Chambers, J. Ellis-Grewal, R. Chesney, A. Osborn, S. Osborn and M.Pluck.

1.0 Introduction

Before reading the notice of the meeting, the President reminded the attendees that 2016 was a very significant milestone for Wanstead & Snaresbrook Cricket Club owing to the fact that the club was founded 150 years ago. A series of cricketing and social events had been organised later in the year to celebrate the 150th anniversary and all members of the club were encouraged to support these events wherever possible.

2.0 Adoption of the Committee Report for 2015

2015 had been a good year on the playing front and also financially. Whilst the 1st XI narrowly missed out on winning the Essex Premier League, the overall performance across all adult teams and the ladies/girls section had been particularly encouraging. From a financial perspective the club had managed to consolidate the gains achieved in the previous year by showing a further small profit in 2015, despite £30,000 being spent on maintenance and improvements. This was largely thanks to prudential financial management, increased income and the fact that we had a sponsor, Keaton's.

The Committee Report was approved – proposed by J. Pluck and seconded by S. Phillips.

3.0 Adoption of the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2014

The Treasurer, Chris Hurd, emphasised that, despite the profit shown in 2015, we still needed to focus on increasing income and effectively managing costs to ensure that we could maintain the solid financial foundation needed to run a large and successful recreational cricket club in increasingly challenging conditions. The key to growing club income was to encourage people to make greater use of club facilities both on a regular basis and for specially arranged social events. The major refurbishment of the Overton Drive clubhouse should help to increase attendance and expand use of the hall. Renovation of the roof had been completed on schedule in January and we were currently preparing for the refurbishment that was due to start in January 2017. Initial architect drawings had been completed to obtain planning permission but further detail was required to enable the 3 potential building contractors to provide accurate estimates for the refurbishment work. We are working closely with these builders on this and once the plans have been finalised they will be shared with all club members.

The auditor, Alun Evans, would supply the necessary certificate to reflect his successful audit of the club's accounts.

The Treasurer's Statement of Accounts was approved – proposed by L. Enoch and seconded by S. Phillips.

4.0 Election of Officers, Vice Presidents and Management Committee

John Gray was re-elected as President – proposed by C. Hurd and seconded by P. Bailey.

Vice-presidents were re-elected en bloc – proposed by P. Staniford and seconded by N. Baldwin

Before electing the remaining Officers and agreeing the Management Committee membership, the President confirmed Chris Hurd's intention to stand down as Treasurer after more than 35 years in this role. Chris had done an outstanding job throughout his tenure, in often difficult circumstances, and his contribution to the club had outweighed any on field successes. He left the club in a strong financial position and his final major contribution to the club, the successful application for the grant needed to enable us refurbish the Overton Drive clubhouse, would be long remembered. The club owed Chris a huge vote of thanks for his dedication and skill over many years.

The remaining Officers and Management Committee members were as follows:

Club Management Committee		Sponsor	Second
Honorary Club Secretary	Nigel Hutchings	<i>J. Gray</i>	<i>J. Pluck</i>
Honorary Club Treasurer	Nalliah Rathakrishnan	<i>L. Enoch</i>	<i>Arfan Akram</i>
Cricket Secretary/Hon.			
Match Secretary/Chairman	Martin Pluck	<i>P. Osborn</i>	<i>D. Ramdial</i>
Bar Chair:	Simon Andrews	<i>P. Staniford</i>	<i>Arfan Akram</i>
Social Sub-Committee Chairman	Joe Palmer Snr	<i>N. Baldwin</i>	<i>D. Ramdial</i>
Welfare Officer	Trevor Hebden (co-opted by Management Committee)		
First Team Captain:	Joe Ellis-Grewal (appointed by Players Meeting)		
Head of Junior Cricket	Stuart Phillips (co-opted by Management Committee)		
Football Section Manager	Paul Staniford	<i>P. Osborn</i>	<i>N. Baldwin</i>
Other Member	Matloob Piracha	<i>D. Ramdial</i>	<i>I. Aziz</i>

The following members would also be co-opted onto the committee as required:

- Len Enoch
- Arfan Akram
- Pauline Osborn

Honorary Auditor	Alun Evans	<i>S. Phillips</i>	<i>Arfan Akram</i>
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5.0 Subscriptions

A small increase was proposed to some subscriptions that was broadly in line with inflation. This equated to an overall, across-the-board increase of between 1% and 2%.

The question was asked as to why the subscription for Ladies Playing Members was less than that for other players. The rationale for this was that there were fewer games overall, which meant that there was less opportunity to play in matches. The ladies' rates had increased faster than other subscriptions over the past few years.

The recommendation for the 2016 annual subscription rates was approved – proposed by S. Osborn and seconded by P. Osborn.

6.0 Match Fees

It was recommended that the 2016 season match fees for adult members should remain the same and that junior match fees would be increased to £5.00. As in previous years, rates applied to both home and away fixtures. It was noted that match fees continued to be amongst the lowest across the 40 clubs in Essex.

The recommendation for 2016 match fee rates was approved – proposed by N. Rathakrishnan and seconded by P. Staniford.

The meeting was formally closed by the President

7.0 Any Other Business

The following topics were discussed under AOB:

Jamaica Trip

Arfan Akram provided an update on the upcoming trip to Jamaica. 34 players and supporters would be going on the trip, whose primary objective was to support the Courtney Walsh Foundation. Two of the games would be played in a prison and a remand centre. 10 large bags of cricket equipment would be presented to Courtney Walsh and £4,500 in donations had been raised for the Foundation. Pauline Osborn thanked Arfan, on behalf of the club, for his outstanding efforts in organising the tour and coordinating the events.

Practise Nets

Paul Bailey was refurbishing the backboards in the nets but concerns were raised about the overall safety of the nets, both in terms of the playing surface and the netting, which had large holes in several places. Capital investment may be needed to address these issues, which would be escalated to the Management Committee.

150th Anniversary Celebrations

This year's celebrations were an excellent opportunity to showcase the club and its facilities, whilst also raising revenue. Many events and functions had been arranged to take place throughout the year. The anniversary cricket week would be central to these celebrations. As noted earlier in the President's opening remarks, it was important that as many members as possible supported these events to help ensure their success.