

WDCU Club Forum - Sunday 6th October 2019 - Meikleriggs Paisley.

Meeting Notes:

In attendance:

Club or Organisation	Represented by (Print Name)	Represented by (Print Name)
Ayr	Andrew Baird	
Clydesdale	Paddy Barbour	Rohan Dhami
Drumpellier	Gordon Bryson	
Dumfries	Andrew Reed	Stuart Corbett-Byers
Ferguslie	Tim Preston Jones	Haroon Tahir
Greenock	Greg McDougall	
Poloc	Craig Young	
Prestwick	Tom Halpin	
Renfrew	Wajid Mohammed	
Stenhousemuir	Peter Moses	
Torrance	Herbert Hove	
Uddingston	Paul Hoffman	Bryan Clarke
Weirs	Craig Greenwood	John McCrossan
East Renfrewshire	Parvase Majeed	Moneeb Iqbal

Club or Organisation	Represented by (Print Name)	Represented by (Print Name)
Hillhead	John Ferguson	Bernie Mitchell
Victoria	Jon Barnes	
WoSACO	Jim McClymont	Allan Jack

WDCU EXECUTIVE	In Attendance		WDCU CMC	In Attendance
			Duncan Paterson	yes
			Iain Kennedy Administrator	yes

2. Introduction, welcome and opening remarks

Duncan Paterson (DP) the CMC Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting at outlined the purpose of the day. He remarked that the forum was to discuss items common to the whole of the WDCU and not individual club issues. DP went on to inform the forum that the Home Office had changed their regulations and a paid coach will now be able to play in Scottish club cricket

3. Outcomes from 2018 Forum – Report on outcomes form the 2018 forum.

DP reported on the outputs that followed the 2018 forum. He reported that significant actions had been carried out following the inputs made by clubs at the 2018 forum.

WDCU CMC- Outputs and changes made following the 2018 forum

Area	Action / Task	Output
Leadership	Define Vision Aims and Values for WDCU CMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VAV agreed, published on social media and poster form and shared with clubs • VAV applied by CMC in decision making for the year
Player Transfers and registration	Review Player transfer guidance note and player registration process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance notes updated • New in season transfer form (TR1) introduced and used for all transfers • Transfer requests dealt with quicker • New end date of 31/ 7 agreed and applied for last in season transfers • Administrator managed new player registration process
League Playing conditions	Assess competition playing conditions and align where possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with WoSACO to align playing conditions particularly in T20. • League Administration regulation document updated including amendment to regulation 6G.
Competition Structures	Review competition structures for 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration given to changing Premier Reserve League in season 2019 – not actioned in playing season 2019 but league structure and organisation under review in close season 2019. • Consideration given to using Sundays for T20 . Not actioned midweek format retained for 2019. • 3 midweek league competitions realigned. • Sunday development league introduced to which clubs could opt in– less successful than anticipated due to mismatches and cancellations – Discontinue in 2020.
Umpires and Umpiring	Increase the number and quality of Umpires in the west	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two Umpire education courses held in close season. One in Glasgow and the other in the South west. A small number of new umpires attained. • Meetings held with WoSACO to improve working relationship • Administrator collated captains report forms and send weekly update on umpires’ performance to WoSACO.
Umpires and	Appoint umpires to games appropriate to their level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Umpires appointed down to league division 3 at times

Umpiring	and lower down the leagues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More games allocated single umpires to achieve wider coverage.
Discipline and Player behaviour	Discipline and Player behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fair Play and playing within the Spirit of the game promoted widely in 2019. • New Club update emails and website posts introduced reinforcing fair play and spirit of the game messages • New fair play assessment system introduced in 2019. Tables published on the website. System and outputs to be promoted more widely in 2020 • New captains report system to assess opposition 'team' umpiring introduced. System and outputs to be promoted more widely in 2020 • New player discipline report form for umpires introduced in 2019

3. Discipline and Player behaviour – Player, Official and Supporter behaviour.

There was a short discussion around player discipline and Allan Jack from WoSACO informed the forum that the number of reports from umpires for dissent had gone down but that the number of instances where people have used bad language has gone up. John McCrossan Weirs felt that they may have been marked down as their players may have been speaking in Urdu and this could be misinterpreted.

DP informed forum that the new fair play league table had been successfully implemented after a slow start. CMC will use the information from the system during next season letting any club know where poor trends are becoming apparent.

Gordon Bryson Drumpellier asked about behaviour in Premier Reserve League given that there were generally no umpires. Iain Kennedy (IK) informed forum that the scores in PRL were the most consistent of all the leagues.

4. Umpires and umpiring – Issues to raise with WoSACO

Craig Young Poloc raised the issue of the number of Saturday games being called off by umpires late in the day. This was particularly an issue when it was clear from an early stage that no play would be possible. DP asked Craig Young if he felt there was a reason for this, and Craig replied no. Allan Jack WoSACO commented that umpires in general would like to see games played and that decisions and judgements made by umpires on playability of grounds may vary.

Allan Jack went on to inform forum that there will be training opportunities for player and new umpires in the Winter. IK will post information on the website and send to clubs.

IK further informed forum that as requested last year he provided Mike Nash WoSACO with a summary of all weekly reports submitted by captains. Where there were low scores and/or narrative this was sent to Mike Nash to help improve umpire performance. This will continue in 2020.

Allan Jack reminded forum that Mike Nash delivered a presentation on law 42 at the WDCU EGM and it was hoped to do something similar for captains prior to 2020 season.

IK reminded forum that Gordon Whitelaw the WoSACO appointments officer was still relatively new to the role and sometimes umpires were appointed to games not aligned to their skills and abilities. This improved as season went on and will continue to be a focus in 2020.

John McCrossan Weirs raised the issue of umpires' names not being on the Cricket Stats site on the drop-down list. IK informed forum that the process to be followed was to put the umpires name in the comments box in the captains' report and the site administrator should add it to the drop-down list. This was not done well this season and will be rectified for 2020.

5. Competition structures - Saturday League fixtures

DP informed forum that as clubs had already responded to the questionnaire regarding the Saturday League Structure and in particular the Premier Reserve League that no discussion would take place here. DP informed forum that a decision on that topic will be made within a month.

Andy Reed Dumfries raised the issue of the amount of administration clubs are required to complete for Saturday league games and the time it takes to complete. He also pointed out that there are different systems utilised in the process. He and Stuart Corbett Byers Dumfries were of the opinion that it puts captains off from taking up the role. DP asked Andy reed if he felt there was anything, we ask for that is not required, and he replied no. He identified a free system that Dumfries use as part of the Eden Valley League that may be quicker and easier for all.

Bryan Clarke Uddingston agreed and felt that the photographic team sheet from player Reg was not required. He felt that a written team sheet would be enough. Tom Halpin Prestwick stated that would be a perfect system in a league structure where there was no cheating.

Bernie Mitchell Hillhead stated that there would always be issues if there are not two scorers at a game. He intimated that had been the case at games he was at this season. Jim McClymont informed forum that the East had a good number of scorers and trainers. He suggested that some training could be set up for current and new scorers in the West.

Andy Reed asked that CMC look at ways of streamlining the entire process and DP agreed that CMC would.

6. Competition Structures - Sunday / Midweek fixtures

DP reminded forum that the new Sunday development league had not been a success and would not be delivered next season. The open Sunday League would continue.

There was a protracted discussion regarding the McCulloch Cup being held on a Wednesday night. Bryan Clarke Uddingston requested that CMC consider moving it to a Sunday if possible but accepted it may be in conflict with other Sunday competitions. It was suggested that perhaps innovative double headers could be arranged on some Sundays in the hope that those who can't play on a Wednesday because of work and travel difficulties might turn out on the Sunday. Bryan Clarke stated that he felt that there was currently lots of midweek cricket activity and moving the McCulloch cup may help that. Tim Preston Jones Ferguslie felt that there was common sense in the suggestion, and it should be explored further.

It was proposed that CMC give each of the historical groups the option of playing on a Sunday. This should be done preseason.

Parvase Majeed East Renfrewshire and WJDCU intimated that there could potentially be more youth cricket activities held on a Sunday and that could complement these games.

DP shared his own view that clubs generally want different outcomes from Sunday cricket and should be allowed to make their own choice.

Bernie Mitchell Hillhead agreed that this should be explored and that as a result other options for a Wednesday night may be considered.

DP raised the issue of Cricket Scotland potentially requesting a gap Saturday in the season. This may be done for international games or to try to boost attendances at Regional games. Craig Young Poloc intimated that it was unlikely to raise attendance at regional games. Forum was generally in agreement that it could be done. There were a number of factors to be considered should it become reality.

Jon Barnes Victoria reminded forum that the Greenwood Trophy for 2019 hadn't been completed. IK to arrange for early part of next season.

