WILLOW LEAGUE – AGM 2019

12-02-2019 @ 6.30pm

Fairwater Conservative Club

61 Ely Road, CF5 2BY

Minutes

Present:

Austin Bellaris, Huw Charles (BOTS); Dan Lewis, Mark Stephens (Casuals); Glyn Poulon, Ally Pankhurst, Glenn Chapman (Cavaliers); Stephen Morris (Chair), Dale Owen, Phil Dooley (Chartered Trust); Chris Stork (Eclipse); Neil Shearer (Glamorgan Centurions); Matt Sutton (Glenwood Church); Chai Sanapala (Medics); Tim Older, Meilyr Hughes (National Orchestra); Ian Berry (Talygarn)

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Stephen Jones of Hawks

1. Minutes of last AGM/End of Season meeting

Minutes of last year’s meeting received and agreed

1. Applications to join Willow League & Welcome to New Members – Talygarn & National Orchestra of Wales

Chair welcomed Talygarn and National Orchestra of Wales to the Willow League. Chris Stork gave a brief run down of the WL, its history and its approach as a ‘friendly league’.

Tim of National Orchestra, and Ian Berry of Talygarn gave brief resumés of their respective clubs.

A copy of the Willow League Rules 2018 was given to both new teams.

1. Competition Format 2019 – Proposal from Fixture Sec (circulated separately)

Fixture Sec (Mark Stephens) presented his competition format proposal v 1.1. Version 1 had been circulated by email before the meeting.

Proposal is 11 week league with each team having 10 matches plus one bye week, so playing each team once.

Also a cup competition, with as preliminary round to be drawn tonight at AGM, leading to a Cup (for winners) and a Bowl (for losers). This will give each team a minimum of 3 cup matches.

The format was accepted and agreed by the meeting.

1. Draft Fixture Schedule

Fixture Sec presented the draft schedule 1.1, and a draw was made for the preliminary round. Teams were allocated numbers from 1-12, with teams 1-8 playing in the preliminary round.

Radyr Dads will also play in the cup (though not the League) in order to make up to 12 teams.

Fixture Sec said teams should contact him in the next few days if any issues or changes needed to the schedule

The chair and the meeting thanked the Fixture Sec for his work in putting together the schedule and format.

1. Willow League Rules
   1. Proposal for change in cup rules (GC)

Neil Shearer proposed a change in the Rules in respect of the Cup competition, to allow a higher maximum number of overs per bowler in each innings. The current rule states that over an innings of 18 overs, there is a maximum number of 2 overs per bowler, so 9 players must bowl.

Neil stated that whilst he understood the idea of the cup being inclusive allowing wider participation, the issue had been raised at their own club AGM and he had been asked to present an alternative proposal.

Neil said that the current rule was not popular with GC, as some batsmen did not like bowling, and that some bowlers felt that only having 2 overs limited their ability to participate in a match. Neil said as a result, it was sometimes difficult to raise a team for the cup matches.

Neil proposed that the bowling rule for the cup be changed to a maximum of 3 overs per bowler, thus allowing 6 bowlers, although if teams wanted to bowl more players, then this was up to them.

The Chair thanked Neil for his input and proposal, and asked for comments.

Chris Stork said that in his view the cup was a good example of the Willow friendly league in allowing more players to participate than in the League. He said there had been a change 3-4 years before in reducing the cup to 18 overs and the number of bowlers from 10 to 9, which could include the keeper if needed. He did not think there was a need for change.

Dale Owen said the different format differentiated the cup from the League which was max 4 overs per bowler.

Austin Bellaris said members of his team enjoyed the greater inclusivity of the cup.

Tim Orders said that the commitments of the Orchestra meant that raising consistent teams was sometimes a challenge and therefore having enough players who could bowl 2 overs might be difficult, but that he would not vote for in view of the league tradition at this stage.

Ian Berry said he would be abstaining.

The Chair put the matter to the vote. The proposal was not passed, so the Cup rule will remain at a maximum of 2 overs per bowler.

The Chair thanked all who had participated in the discussion. Given the increased number of teams, and the updated competition formats, it was possible that some aspects of the league and competition might need tweaking and that it was right that we should review this at the end of season meeting.

1. Officers for 2019

Matt Sutton, current Vice chair will be Chairman for 2019 season (already in place)

Chris Stork volunteered that Eclipse would accept the role of Vice Chair for 2019 (and Chair in 2020) as it had been many years since they had chaired. The VC will be…………….

Mark Stephens was reappointed as Fixture Secretary

Dan Lewis was reappointed Webmaster

Chris Stork was reappointed Treasurer

1. Pitches for 2019

Chris Stork confirmed he had spoken to St Fagans, who had agreed to hold fees at £70 per match, in view of additional matches to be played. CS said that Glenwood could now be accommodated at St Fagans in addition to Eclipse and Chartered Trust. Casuals would continue at Wenvoe and Cavaliers at Cathedral School.

AB said that BOTS would be playing at Llandaff Fields. Nat Ochestra would play at Blackweir.

It was agreed that teams who are on parks pitches could opt to play ‘away’ at opposition team grounds if they wanted to subject to availability.

Teams to contact Fixture Sec to confirm details.

1. Season events – Eclipse v Rest of League

Finals night

After success of last season’s Casuals Anniversary match, Eclipse had said they would play the Rest of League as it was (probably) their 50th anniversary.

This was agreed for (insert date). Neil agreed to captain the Rest of League side.

Also a Finals Night at St Fagans for the Cup and Bowl finals had been agreed with St Fagans. The venue will put on a BBQ and bar, with free food tokens for players, umpires etc, paid for out of league funds. This is set for (insert date)

1. Contact List for 2019

The current contacts list was circulated to be updated, and will be distributed.

1. Trophies
2. Treasurer’s report
3. A.O.B.