

Wanstead & Snaresbrook Cricket Club (incorporating Snaresbrook Football Club)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 29th February 2008 @ 8:00pm.

Apologies: John Pluck, Jean Rumsey, Pauline and Doug Brumwell, Keith Lloyd, Brian and Sheila Brumwell, Keith and Sheila Wilson, Terry O'Connor, Chris Murray, Matt Smith, Andrew Osborn, Viv Hebden, Graham Jelley, Paul Staniford, Mike Mead

1.0 Introduction

The President introduced the meeting, including reading the notice of the meeting.

2.0 Adoption of the Committee Report

Henry Chambers noted that, although the report stated that one of the reasons for the financial loss incurred last season was the lack of a good cup run, the 1st XI had in fact played in 13 cup games of which 8 took place at Overton Drive.

The Committee Report was approved – proposed by Ron Worf and seconded by Trevor Hebden.

2.0 Adoption of the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for the Year Ending 30th September 2007

The account showed a loss for the year. The primary reason for this was that the bar take was significantly reduced due to the bad weather experienced during the season. An exacerbating factor was the additional cost of running two bars – one at Overton Drive and one at Snaresbrook. It was noted that there was a compelling need during 2008 to maximise income whilst minimising expenditure where possible. A Finance Committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Treasurer has been formed to review finance and identify opportunities and initiatives to supplement the club's income. One key area here will be to take advantage of any grants that are available especially to offset costs of members attending ECB coaching courses. It was noted that a Level 1 course now costs £500.

The Treasurer's Statement of Accounts was approved – proposed by Martin Pluck and seconded by Sanjay Batra.

3.0 Election of Officers, Vice Presidents and Management Committee

The President, Vice Presidents and Management Committee were re-elected with the exception of Mark Webb who is to be replaced as Ground Chairman by Nigel Baldwin. Nigel Hutchings was thanked for providing help to Tony Pluck in his role as Club Secretary and would be co-opted onto the Management Committee to facilitate this work. The following Officers and management Committee members were elected:

Club Management Committee

President:	John Gray
Honorary Club Secretary:	Tony Pluck

Honorary Club Treasurer	Chris Hurd
Cricket Secretary:	Martin Pluck
Ground Chairman:	Nigel Baldwin
Bar Chairman:	Simon Andrews
Social Sub-Committee Chairman:	Joe Palmer Snr
Welfare Officer:	Helena Mills
First Team Captain (Saturday & Sunday):	Arfan Akram
Head of Junior Cricket:	Trevor Hebden
Football Section Manager:	Paul Staniford
Football Section Secretary:	Keith Lloyd
Other Members:	Len Enoch Sanjay Batra

Honorary Auditor: Alun Evans

The election of Officers, Vice Presidents and Management Committee was approved – proposed by Martin Pluck and seconded by Pauline Osborn.

4.0 Adoption of New Annual Subscription Rates

The proposal was to increase playing and family membership subscriptions of £120.00 or more by £10.00 and those less than £120.00 by £5.00. Honorary membership subscriptions were to be increased by £1.00. Alun Evans suggested that the Meeting consider increasing social membership costs by more the £1.00. The original proposal was retained but the suggestion would be looked at by the Management Committee for next year. It was noted that the family membership scheme had been very successful in increasing overall membership and revenue.

The new annual subscription rate recommendation were approved – proposed by Len Enoch and seconded by Arfan Akram.

5.0 Adoption of New Match Fee Rates

The recommendation was to increase match fees for both adult and junior games by £0.50. It was noted that match fees were becoming increasingly difficult to collect and that more effort was needed by the adult team captains and junior team managers to ensure all fees were collected. Martin Pluck suggested that, for adult team players, if no match fee was received the individual would not be able to play until the match fee had been paid. Trevor Hebden proposed that the recommendation should be that junior match fees be increased by a minimum of £0.50 to become £2.00 per match. Tony Burgess voiced concern that the differential between the fees paid by junior cricketers playing in adult games and the adults playing in these games (for the 2007 season this was £5.00 vs £7.00) did not, in general, reflect the difference in their respective financial circumstances. It was emphasised that £3.50 of this was to cover the cost of teas, which was the same for junior or adult players. Arfan Akram confirmed that Wanstead typically charge less for match fees than other Premier League clubs and that there was no match fee required for Sunday games when the only money collected was to pay for the teas. Pauline Osborn felt strongly that the

Ladies should not be treated any differently in this regard and should pay match fees in the same way as all men/junior players.

The modified recommendation was approved to increase match fees by a minimum of £0.50. The junior fees would now be £2.00 rather than £1.50 as originally proposed. It was also agreed that Ladies would pay match fees – recommendations proposed by Arfan Akram and seconded by Martin Pluck.

6.0 Adoption of proposal for Football Section record keeping and subscription rates.

It was proposed that the Football Section keeps its own records separately from the Cricket Section's and that it fixes the membership subscription rates, provided they cover the cost of running the section. It was noted during discussions that the Football Section was very pleased with the merger with Wanstead Cricket Club and had definitely benefited from this union. There had been significant improvement in the state of the ground itself, where the work done by the new groundsman had made a discernable impact. Attention was drawn to the fact that the Football Section was a potential source of additional income. It is progressing with the formation of a girls side and potential future expansion of its junior activities. It had also applied for FA Charter Status and this might give access to potential FA funds. If the ground can be enhanced further, through the adoption of grants to rectify drainage problems and improve the pitch quality, it would be possible to make increased use of the ground and bar during the winter.

The proposal for the Football Section to keep independent records and subscription rates was adopted – proposed by Ron Fitzgerald and seconded by Sanjay Batra

7.0 The meeting was closed by the President. Further discussions took place as follows:

Martin Pluck confirmed that the 2008 season starts towards the end of April, with the first league games taking place on Saturday 10th May. All league games now start at 1:00 pm throughout the season other than those for the 1st XI which start at 11:30 am until 23rd August when they commence at 11:00 am. It was also noted that this would be Saffron Walden's last season in the Shepherd Neame Premier League – from 2009 they will play in the East Anglian Premier League. One of the reasons for their decision to secede from the Essex League is that they were becoming increasingly disillusioned with the behaviour and discipline of other teams in the league. A lively discussion followed regarding the recurring problems faced with respect to behaviour on the field and the increased level and frequency of sledging by all teams across every division. This had spread to junior cricket where sledging was becoming an accepted part of the game. The Club President emphasised that Wanstead was responsible for its own teams' conduct and that the club must look to itself to set the acceptable standards of behaviour. For the coming season, it would be the responsibility of adult captains and junior team managers to set the example here and to ensure these standards were adhered to at all times. It was noted that Wanstead and Snaresbrook during the 2007 season was in the top 10 in the Shepherd Neame League with respect to sportsmanship and that the most sporting team in the league was the club's 5th XI. There was, however, no room for complacency in this area.