



AGM Review



There was a good turnout at the League's Annual General Meeting at the Norfolk Dumpling on 22 November, and delegates heard and agreed details of a number of important issues, which are dealt with in separate articles in this fourth issue of the 'Cricket Bag':

- Executive Committee
- Rule Changes
- Any Other Business
- Structure for 2003 (page 2)
- Future Structure (page 2)

Committee Changes

Keir Hounsomes was elected unopposed for a third year as our Chairman, whilst all but one of the existing Executive Committee were re-elected en bloc.

The single change was the election of Dan Kelly of Costessey, who will act as Results Secretary

for Divisions 1-3. He replaces Simon Richardson who had to stand down because of work commitments. Simon remains on the EC as a Committee Member in place of Paul Clemence who resigned because of ill health.

Executive Committee

President: Tom Bartram
Vice President: Chris Free

Chairman:	Keir Hounsomes	01603 452550	
Secretary:	Alan Harris	01379 674427	alanjharris@aol.com
Treasurer:	Trevor Smith	01603 651359	trevor.d.smith@btinternet.com
KO Cup:	Andrew Marshall	01603 409034	andrew.marshall@thalesfieldforce.com
Awards:	David Amis	01760 721928	
Results (1-3):	Dan Kelly	01603 501892	dliam.kelly@virgin.net
Results (4-6):	Paul Combstock	01493 603501	paulandebbs@aol.com
Results (7-8):	Helen Hanley	01603 473832	helenhanley@cwctv.net
Complaints:	Roger Symonds	01603 810748	rogersymonds@appliedonline.co.uk
Committee:	Roger Horn, Simon Richardson		

NCL says "YES" to "Integration"
Full story overleaf

Rule Changes

The AGM agreed to adopt two changes to Match Rules.

Match Rule 2

('General' section, p 25)

All matches are to start no later than 2.00pm, except on the last two Saturdays of the season when play must start no later than 1.30pm. Tea must be not longer than ... (the remainder of the Rule is unchanged)

Match Rule 9

('Result' section, p26)

The result of the match must be agreed by the two captains. In the event of bad light, adverse weather conditions or the state of the pitch preventing the completion of the match, it will be recorded as 'No Result' and neither team will count the match as having been played.

Any Other Business

The meeting was asked their thoughts about starting matches earlier and foregoing the tea break. The muttering around the hall was deafening and the Chairman correctly assumed that such an idea did not have any support!

A letter from the NCA Secretary indicated that membership of the Alliance's Colts division would be open to all Norfolk Clubs.

Season Stats

Please forward statistics for Handbook/Website to Alan Harris by phone or e-mail or post (details above) or post (see current handbook).

Umpire Training Courses

We have mentioned umpire training in previous issues of 'Cricket Bag' and we are pleased to announce that NCUSA are starting another course in the new year.

The course will last for 12 weeks and will run in various venues (including Norwich & King's Lynn). Contact the Training Officer, Ted Childs for further details. Ted is also running a 2-night session for "The 20 Minute Umpire" at Horsford on 20 & 27 February. Attendance is free. Take advantage of this excellent opportunity.



2004 – and beyond

The AGM voted to support the proposed 2-feeder league scheme and in favour of integration: the incorporation of Conference sides from Division 1 to Division 10 of the expanded NCL.

Delegates were given a short presentation, which included a brief history of local league cricket over the last 30 years and a summary of the the current system and its drawbacks. The meeting also heard that the Norfolk Cricket Board (NCB) had asked the leagues to make proposals with the following objectives:

- provide a sound feeder scheme to allow any club to progress
- reduce the number of feeder leagues to ease the relegation issue
- help to raise standards throughout the County
- preserve the administration of NCL and WNCL
- minimise disruption to established teams
- minimise the amount of travelling

A working group - in which the Exec Committee had played a full part - had established basic principles and was working towards finding a solution. The aim was to provide a proposal that ALL leagues - and the NCB - would be able to agree before the 2003 season so that all teams would know what was at stake and what they were playing for. The new structure would be adopted from 2004.

2003 DATES

Special General Meeting
Friday 11 April 2003
7.30pm, Norfolk Dumpling
 to discuss
 final plans for integration

*Awards Evening
 & Dinner Dance*
 Jarvis Hotel
Friday, 10th October 2003

**Next Year's AGM -
 21 November 2003
 7.30pm**

Proposals

- 4-div Alliance at the top, with
- 2 feeder leagues, regional based
- West (WNCL) - 5 divs
- Central and East (NCL) -10 divs
- each feeder league champion promoted, replaced by
- bottom 2 teams in NCA Div 3
- If Champions are not willing or qualified to progress, promotion offered to second-placed team

Expansion of NCL

The AGM heard that incorporating up to 20 additional teams could be done in one of two ways: addition (where all 20 were added at the bottom to form new Divs 9 and 10) or integration (in which the teams would be inserted throughout the NCL: from Div 1 to Div 10.)

There was a lively debate after the AGM had heard the pros and cons of the two options. Whilst all agreed that integration would disrupt most NCL teams, they also understood that this would only occur during the first season of integration. A number of speakers emphasised the long-term advantages of this approach and in the subsequent vote there were no dissenters.

The meeting understood that this was a proposal of principle and gave authority to the EC in future working group discussions which would aim to finalise the detailed plans for integration of clubs into the NCL and WNCL.

CONTACT DETAILS

send updated contact details to
**NCL Secretary on
 01379 674427**

Structure in 2003

Norwich Union were congratulated on winning the Division 1 title and on their promotion to the Norfolk Cricket Alliance. It was confirmed that Thetford would be relegated in their place, and they were welcomed back into the NCL. Thetford were one of the founders of the NCL, winning the Div 1 title in consecutive seasons in 1975-76. They joined the Alliance in 1978.

With Ashmanhaugh A and Loddon A having withdrawn during the season, this left the NCL with three vacancies and the meeting heard brief details of three new applicants.

Bradfield B, Gt Melton B and Loddon A were all unanimously elected to fill the vacancies and would join Division 8.

The make-up of each of the 8 divisions is shown in the table. Providing that there are no changes before next May, this will be the first time since 1997 that the NCL will start with a full complement of teams.

Structure 2003

Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4
Aldborough	Ashmanhaugh	Ayl St Giles	Costessey
CEYMS/Gothic	Belton	Caister	East Harling A
Drayton	Bungay	Hardingham	Happisburgh
Gressenhall	Cr'ford Lodge	Loddon	Hempnall
Gt Melton	Hales	Nor Union A	Hethersett
Overstrand	Halvergate	North Elmham	Kirkley Sports
Saham Toney	Kett'ham Hall	Old Catton	New Buckenham
Swaffham	Lowestoft Rail	Rackheath	Rocklands
Thetford	Rollesby	Shipdham	Tacolneston
Winterton	St Andrews	Wortwell	Yarmouthians
Division 5	Division 6	Division 7	Division 8
Civil Service	Aldborough A	Brisley	Beccles B
Colney	Bungay A	Drayton A	Bradfield B
Coltishall A	Diss B	Frettenham	Gt Melton B
Cr'ford Lodge A	Gt Melton A	Gressenhall A	Happisburgh A
Eaton	Hales A	Halvergate A	Hethersett A
Elsing	Hemsby	Kett'ham Hall A	Loddon A
Felthorpe	Hingham	Rollesby A	Nor Union B
Overstrand A	Holt	Watton A	North Elmham A
Saham Toney A	Old Catton A	Winterton A	Old Catton B
Watton	Swaffham A	Yarmouthians A	Rocklands A