



**WACUA**

Western Australian Cricket Umpires Association

**Minutes from the General Meeting on Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2014 at Perth and Tatts Bowling Club,  
East Perth.**

**Meeting opened at 6:45pm.**

**In attendance:** Daniel Gibbons, Andrew Micenko, Nathan Batskos, Mathew Cheeseman, Lorenzo Fogliani, Nick Walters, Rex Evans, John Sherry, Ian Lock, John Gartner, Andrew Mollatt, Mick Martell, Aron Downing, Dean Trigg, Jeff Brookes, Wayne Barron, Jamal Principe, Hennie Botes, Colin Ogilvie, David Krieg, Alan Wilson, Clem Gannon, Ranjit Ratnayake, Neil Holland, Trent Steenholdt, John Taylor, Daryl Power, Nathan Johnstone, Matthew Hall, Ashlee Kovalevs

**Apologies:** Mark Hooper, Bill Reynolds, Martin Brennan, Michael Kovalevs, Alan Wright, James Hewitt, Barry Rennie, Graham Capper, Terry Prue, Stephen O'Dea, Todd Rann

Meeting was opened at 6:45pm by President. The minutes of previous meeting were circulated. Nathan Johnstone proposed they be accepted, seconded by Trent Steenholdt. Motion carried.

**President's report:**

Olly Cooley is on the 10th of April, \$25 a ticket. Please give indication tonight if you would like to attend, would like to have two tables.

Sunday April 13th will be the family BBQ at Kings Park, will be a free event. There was a good turn out last year, all had an enjoyable day.

Have been invited to the WADCCI meeting. It will be the first time in a while that the President has been invited to attend. It's a good sign for future relationship, particularly if looking at WADCCI affiliation. Received a questionnaire regarding playing conditions/start time for next year. It's good that we are being asked for input. Hopefully will get to see a draft copy of the playing conditions so they can be fine-tuned, less anomalies next season. Positive things are happening with the WADCCI.

Committee have been discussing a membership package that will be talked about in more detail under special business.

Received an email from the UAC regarding conflict of interest with setting appointments and giving awards. Had a discussion with Brendan Reed and WADCCI; feeling that as it was a WADCCI competition it should be the competition that decides. The Peter McConnell medal is still under us. Umpire who

shows best progress/development/potential; can only win one. Committee to look at criteria, amend and then present.

**Secretary's report:**

Email from Terry Prue with report, to be read out later.

**Treasurer's report:**

Account balances are good. We are looking at closing the Commonwealth Bank account for next season. There will still be costs from the WACA BBQ, for the family day and some other expenses. Money to come in from Olly Cooley tickets.

**General Business:**

UAC Report – Terry Prue (from email):

Apologies for not attending tonight.

The UAC is pleased to acknowledge the contribution of all to the various competitions conducted within the WACA. The time commitment given to preparation and performance is a very large one and one which must be balanced with family and work. This of course is not easy.

At this time the finals are under way and the UAC congratulates those who have been selected and wishes those people all the best for these fixtures. For those not selected this gives you an opportunity to take a couple of hours on either the Saturday or Sunday to both support and learn from your colleagues in a real practical sense.

Recent appointment -

One day Final WI v SF Ian Lock and Nathan Johnstone

**Umpire reports:**

Colin – MGvRM; four injuries in one day. RM - dislocated finger. MG – hamstring, hit by the ball, snapped achilles.

Jeff – want to add to the UAC report. The final rankings were outstanding, efforts of all have been fantastic this season. Bodes well for the future.

John – Player almost knocked over George.

Ranjit – At Lilac Hill, MGvRM, was hit on head by the ball.

Ian – Regarding player behaviour. Should reflect on how they deal with situations on and off field. Captains appreciate umpires taking notes on field of poor behaviour and being included. It is noticed when nothing is done regarding poor behaviour. If recording make sure it is accurate; exactly what was said, the time, over, distance away etc make it part of the routine.

David – put in a report, process is a bit daunting as a new umpire. General thank you to those who have supported throughout the season.

Matthew – go over the reporting procedures before next season, maybe at camp.

Ian – good that there was support available. Player behaviour is noticed by all; players, supporters, officials etc.

Matthew – managing the behaviour/situation/conflict can be difficult. Maybe need to look at future program of techniques/methods for conflict resolution.

Dean – perceptions when dealing with situations around state players and non-state players. No difference in approach/response. Loose respect if it is different.

Mick – timing is key, knowing when to step in and when to leave it. Picking up on it from the beginning is important. Don't comment about it on facebook, it's a very public forum. Don't engage.

Jeff – ability to read situations is very important. It might only take one comment or body language to stop. Don't let situations fester, particularly during finals when things are a little more tense. Always need to be switched on. Look players in the eye when talking to them, be firm and fair.

Matthew – it's good to have this discussion, the issue of player behaviour isn't going away.

Andrew – importance of concentration. Bowler was bowling consistently then one ball off and didn't know where it had gone.

Ball's hit, knocks bails off at other end and keeps going. Batsmen run, ball is thrown back and the bowler pulls the stump out of the ground and uses it to hit the ball whilst it is still in the air and appeals.

### **Special business:**

#### Membership fees/package

Matthew – fees haven't been increased since the mid 90s. The committee discussed fees and what we can offer members. Proposal of the membership fee increasing to between \$65-\$80 which includes the fee and a shirt with the season on it. Perth Metro Property Group donate the merchandise and we sell it to raise money. No guarantee that the sponsorship will continue. Looking to have a discussion about the issue.

John – also discussed the possibility of a pack for new umpires, include notebook, counter etc, to welcome them.

Ranjit – Why do we need a package when we already get the shirts?

Matthew – Not talking about the on-field shirt, talking about the off-field WACUA shirt.

Ranjit – Not everyone has one of those shirts.

Matthew – We want people to have a shirt and be proud to wear it to show they are a part of the association.

Trent – Potential for more sponsorship opportunities. Logo on shirt, by wearing the shirts to the games it provides advertising for sponsors.

Matthew – It doesn't have to be called a 'package'.

Dean – It's about professionalism and identity as an umpire. Makes you stand out when you get to the ground so that people know that you are the official.

Nathan – Promotes solidarity. If the prices are going to go up it can't go up by too much, need to look after new/young umpires.

Matthew – Before, the membership fee used to be one day match fee. The WACUA over the last few seasons have negotiated higher pay. Looking at having a sense of belonging, shows that we are a member of the association.

Dean – Happy to pay slightly higher if the new umpires got a pack to encourage them. Think it's a good thing for new umpires to receive.

John – If we raise the membership then we need to show increased value. For example, the BBQ at the WACA, sausage sizzles here, the family day at Kings Park etc. Not just doing this to get more money but to be able to provide more value to our members. It's not about making money.

Matthew – It wasn't too long ago that the WACUA didn't have enough money to pay the Olly Cooley bill. It's about finding a balance.

Ian – Everyone should be wearing the shirts to the game and want to support the major sponsor. Shows identity, team work and solidarity. See if Barry can help through his funding eg counters, game passes etc. What is the actual cost of the shirt?

Mick – Just under \$30 a shirt.

Matthew – things get reviewed every year including the membership fee.

Ranjit - \$80 is too much.

Matthew – talking about a range, \$65-\$80.

Jeff – There used to be a 'uniform levy' that was charged to members at the end of each season.

Mick – Should be careful about branding the year on the shirt. The year locks you into getting a new shirt the following year. Without the year you can look at getting other merchandise, shirt on year, shorts the next, hat after that etc.

Dean – Possibility of other merchandise is a good idea, flexibility.

Matthew – In principle, do people agree with the membership fee including merchandise?

*Room in favour*

Matthew – It's obvious that the committee need to go back and put together new proposal.

Mick – Need to be careful not to go over \$1500. Would lose a fair chunk of money in one year if it did.

Matthew – No firm decision is being made yet. Might end up that nothing changes. Just having the discussion.

**Other business:**

Alan – A lot of work goes into the 'Over' magazine. Would like to commend Trent for his efforts in putting it together. Encourage people to show it to friends/family/colleagues etc. All part of promoting the WACUA and creating exposure.

Matthew – The 'Over' is sent to Christine Matthews, Cricket Australia etc so people in the cricket community do see it. Well done Trent.

There being no further business, meeting closed at 7:52pm.