



Western Australian Cricket Umpires' Association

**Minutes from the General Meeting on Tuesday November 16<sup>th</sup> 2021, Perth & Tatts Bowling Club, East Perth.**

**Meeting opened:** 6:45pm

**Attendance:** Shrikant Ramadurg, Shane Boyle, Andrew Micenko, Roy Boyd, Greg Sinclair, Ahmad Khan, Matthew Capone, Matthew Hall, Ernest Chua, Graham Zemunik, Gary Simm, Nathan Batskos, Tony Rutter, Steve Wenban, Bruce Banyard, Isabel Satti, Soham Kembhavi, Rex Evans, Wayne Barron, Todd Rann, Andrew Dix, Dennis Smallwood, Jarryd Buscall, Nick Middleton, Ranjit Ratnayake, John Sherry, Susan Bartlett, Ken Ashwin, Trent Steenholdt, Garth McCrorie, Justin Shakeshaft

**Apologies:** Ashlee Gibbons, Michael Kovalevs, Terry Cooper, Stephen Lamb, Fred Davis, Kate Holloman, Ray Schuller, Robert Belcher, Ian Lock.

**Business arising from minutes:**

- The minutes weren't circulated before the meeting due to exceptional circumstances with our secretary. Rex gave a verbal summary. No proposal or seconding. It will happen at the next meeting.

**President's report:**

1. Rex was contacted about the jackets for the life members. The invoice was paid in September last year. We will need to contact Bousfields to pick them up so that we can present them at the Christmas function on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December at Fletcher Park. All members are invited to attend after they finish umpiring for the day.
2. The raffle is available. We need the raffle to be supported. We're having issues with people who don't bring cash along with them. We're having higher expenses hiring Perth and Tatts. Matthew Hall: How does it compare to last season? Are there other places which we can meet? Susan Bartlett: Could we rotate between different clubs? Rex: We'll consider it. Perth and Tatts is our preferred location. Matthew Hall: It's the committee's responsibility to determine a new location. Wayne Barron: We need to negotiate a fixed price with Perth and Tatts. What did we pay before and what are we paying now? Nathan Batskos: What will the extra expenses be? What were our total expenses last season? Andrew Micenko: The meeting expenses will be approximately double which is an extra \$550. Our overall expenses for last season were \$11,723.77. Ranjit Ratnayake: The state government changed the rules which is why we're having this problem.
3. At the last committee meeting we agreed that the membership fee for next season will go up. The proposed increase is from \$55 to \$65. Steve Wenban: How many financial members do we have? 88 last count.
4. KC Sports are providing the merchandise online. The website is currently under construction. We're talking about including hat bands in the shop, and may be provided for free to umpires that haven't

received one. Pick up from Osborne Park or \$10 delivery. Graham Zemunik: Bruce Banyard brought in 2 shirts which were sitting at Scarborough and Subiaco-Floreat.

#### **Secretary report:**

- Ashlee is at home with baby Theo.

#### **Financial report:**

- It was a quiet month, with little payments going out and almost nothing coming in. The membership fees will be collected from WA Cricket next month.
- The payments going out were to reimburse Wayne Barron for BBQ expenses, Ashlee Gibbons for storage of old WACUA documents and Andrew Micenko for the October meeting's bar tab.
- Accounts = Cheque - \$1805.44. Savings - \$14469.25. Cash - \$177.00. Total - \$16451.69.
- Proposed by Andrew Micenko, seconded by Soham Kembhavi. Carried.

#### **WA Cricket report, registrar's report:**

- The performance department is reviewing officiating in general. Recruitment, resourcing, pay. The view is to come up with the right system to progress umpiring over the next 5-10 years. There's nobody on the national panel, or on the radar for test matches. What do we do to address that?
- Kade Harvey is leading the process. We could have a window of opportunity to get some of what we want. We'll need to make the case to WA Cricket and the WADCC to benefit all of us.
- WBBL just completed. All umpires involved enhanced the reputation of WA umpires. The feedback for Jarryd and Jamie was excellent. Nathan Johnstone will be umpiring in the Sheffield Shield in Hobart on the 21st November in the Tasmania vs Western Australia clash.
- Premier cricket's main issue is lack of umpires and availability. There are some new umpires who are looking promising. Special thanks to the umpires who are doing juniors and seniors. E.g. Anulipt Chandan, Tony Perkins, Steve Wenban.
- John appointed himself to go to Lark Hill for a 4th grade game on his birthday!
- John also umpired an under 13's game and didn't realise just how much was going on. It was a very tiring day!
- There was an email that went around to ask for volunteers to help the regular junior umpires.
- Please put your availability into MyCricket! Please don't leave it blank - put in "unavailable". If you have special requests, put "available" and add comments.
- Wayne Barron: Advertising for umpires. Could we incorporate advertising with the Scorchers games about to start?
- John has a few ideas around doing that. It's difficult at the moment with the uncertainty around the BBL. John would like to include players and umpires together in the advertising. Social media advertising can target certain target demographics.
- Graham Zemunik: A coach mentioned that clubs were told to supply one umpire each.
- John: Part of the club's grant is conditional on the club providing 2 umpires each. All the club umpires who are umpiring are doing a great job, and the reports are all very positive and there's no question of bias. We may start to see new umpires coming through the system based on this initiative.
- Steve Wenban: I've umpired 3 times with club umpires. The umpires I've stood with have been outstanding, and the experiences have been overwhelmingly positive. Congratulations to the umpires who are umpiring. I'll umpire with any of them!
- John: We should all be PR agents for umpires! When you're at clubs, plant the seed.
- Greg Sinclair: I've loved it! If it's in your blood, it's in your blood.
- Ranjit Ratnayake: Umpire fees - a few years ago we were able to make a request to WA Cricket for higher rates, but this season we haven't had that.

- John: Rates have been the same for 2 seasons but it's now under review again.

#### **UAC report:**

- The UAC met on Monday and did a review of rankings, and did appointments for the next 2 rounds and the T20 games coming up. Due to the WBBL there were lots of opportunities for umpires to move up to higher grades.
- The reports were good for the umpires that went up, which is a sign that the depth is good. For anyone who went up and then down again, it wasn't because of a poor performance. The UAC had a very good discussion yesterday about the rankings. All decisions are made on performance. There's a robust debate every time a decision needs to be made about who goes up and who goes down. The system's not perfect but it's working well at the moment. There will be another meeting in 2 weeks for the last round before Christmas.
- Nathan Batskos: In the past availability has been the key driver of success. Is availability still a factor?
- John: If you're not available, you are going to miss the opportunity to go to a higher level. The handbook says that if you've got a genuine reason for not being available, it's not going to count against you.
- Milestones: There have been two. Andrew's done 50 second grade matches. Shrikant has also done 50 second grade games.
- Dennis Smallwood made his debut in 1st grade. After 12 years or so Andrew Dix also umpired in 1st grade.

#### **Training:**

- Training was based around soft signalling. You should be talking with your hands all the time.

#### **Umpire Reports:**

- None

#### **Special Business:**

- Nil.

#### **General Business:**

- Nil.
- Raffle drawn.

**Meeting closed: 7:45pm**