



# **Western Junior Cricket Union**

THE WESTERN DISTRICT JUNIOR CRICKET UNION ("WDJCU")

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ("AGM") OF THE WDJCU

held at

SHAWHOLM on 7 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.30PM

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**PRESENT:** Dougie Johnstone – Chairman  
Keith Young – Secretary  
Colin Dawson – Treasurer  
John Blair – Committee member  
Parvase Majeed – Committee member  
George Watson – Committee member  
Tim Hart – Committee member and Cricket Scotland West Regional Participation Manager

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Nicola Wilson, Cricket Scotland  
Rosy Ryan, Cricket Scotland

**CLUB REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:**

Dougie Johnstone (Ayr CC)  
David Hart (Clydesdale CC)  
Tim Hart (Clydesdale CC)  
Stuart Cameron (Ferguslie CC)  
Sam Scott (Ferguslie CC)  
Andrew Mackay (GHK CC)  
Colin Dawson (Glasgow Accies CC)  
Ian Holland (Hillhead CC)  
John Blair (Inverclyde CC)  
Jim Murphy (Inverclyde CC)  
Derek Neil (Irvine CC)  
Neil MacLean (Kelburne CC)  
Martin Pollock (Kelburne CC)  
Mark Colman (Kilmarnock CC)  
David James (Poloc CC)  
Keith Young (Poloc CC)  
Parvase Majeed (Renfrew CC)  
Alan Thayne (Prestwick CC)  
George Watson (Prestwick CC)  
Michael Bang (Stenhousemuir CC)  
Steve Ollier (Stenhousemuir CC)  
Ann Hargie (Uddingston CC)  
John Hargie (Uddingston CC)



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Jon Barnes (Victoria CC)  
Derek Wright (Weirs CC)  
Colin Mair (West of Scotland CC)

## CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED:

Drumpellier CC  
East Kilbride CC  
East Renfrewshire CC  
Greenock CC  
Helensburgh CC  
Stirling County CC

- CHAIR:** WDJCU Chairman, Dougie Johnstone ("DJ") chaired the meeting.
- 1. APOLOGIES:** Stuart Jefferson (Ayr CC), Ammar Ashraf (East Renfrewshire CC) and Ian Chambers (Helensburgh CC).
- 2. NOTICE OF MEETING:** Notice of the AGM was noted as having been correctly given.
- 3. MINUTES:** The Minutes of the AGM held on 23 November 2015, circulated to all members in advance of the AGM, were approved after being proposed by Prestwick CC and seconded by Kelburne CC.
- 4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** DJ welcomed attendees to the WDJCU AGM and noted that the various AGM reports had been circulated in advance as was standard procedure and would simply be tabled at the meeting rather than read out verbatim. There would, however, be an opportunity for questions, and discussion, on any matters arising from reports.
- DJ's report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.
- 5. TREASURER'S REPORT:** Colin Dawson's ("CD") report and the WDJCU accounts for the year ended 30 September 2016 were tabled. CD commented that the accounts again reflected the small number of financial transactions during the financial year, the Indoor Super 8s tournament being the main source of income and expenditure. Questions thereon, and discussion thereof, were invited. No questions were raised.
- DJ reminded clubs that Area Groups could apply for grant funding support from the Western District Cricket Union ("WDCU") that held restricted reserves for this purpose. Keith Young ("KY") noted that £250 was set aside each year by the WDCU, for each Area Group, to this end, adding that, to date, only two applications had ever been made for this funding support.



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## **6. LEAGUE SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

KY's report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

## **7. CRICKET SCOTLAND WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Tim Hart's ("TH") report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

TH took introduced Cricket Scotland's recently-appointed Women's and Girl's Participation Manager, Nicola Wilson ("NW"), to the meeting. NW, in turn, introduced her newly appointed west region colleague, Rosy Ryan ("RR"). NW noted that RR was based in Dumfries. NW explained that her, and RR's, roles included helping clubs create links with schools to assist introduce girls to the game. RR was available to deliver schools sessions, as well as assist with coach education. NW highlighted the differences between boys and girls, as regards how clubs could engage with each. NW referenced Cricket Scotland's Strategic Plan and the stated aim therein to increase participation in cricket by 20% in four years. Achieving this aim, NW said, would require the inclusion of, and equality of opportunity for, girls. NW invited attendees to exchange contact details with RR and her after the meeting, to make connections.

Kilmarnock CC asked what the plans were for the Under 12 Inter-Area tournament, expressing that it had felt frustration at the lack of matches actually played in the tournament in 2016. TH replied, noting that he shared the frustration. He continued that the WDCU would play a part in deciding the future of the tournament in terms of the availability of Sundays to play matches on, the WDCU currently reviewing the future of its Sunday League and Western Union 40 Cup. TH hoped that the tournament could be reinvigorated, noting that he had hoped that restructuring it as an eight-a-side tournament – and thereby requiring away teams to organise only two cars to transport players to and from matches – might have resulted in more matches being played, however this had not been the case. Agreeing dates, TH said, had also proved difficult, in the main because of the rescheduling of senior Sunday cup matches postponed because of the weather. TH said he believed the players enjoyed the tournament, it benefited them, and performances in the Under 14 Challenge Series by players who had previously played in longer matches in the Under 12 Inter-Area tournament were measurably better than those who had not had this previous experience. TH concluded, therefore, that the Under 12 Inter-Area tournament would continue in 2017. He also invited suggestions from clubs for changes to the tournament structure that could improve it.



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DJ asked TH what the experience in the east of the country was. TH said he believed similar difficulties existed there, adding that Cricket Scotland was very much of the view that each region should tailor its Area Group activities to suit itself; there was no one-size-fits-all.

Stenhousemuir CC added that its experience in Forth Valley was similar too, noting that arranging fixtures with Perthshire Area Groups had proved very hard. Renfrew CC noted that the weather was likely the single biggest factor in determining whether matches took place or not.

8. CHALLENGE SERIES REPORT: TH's report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

9. AREA TOURNAMENTS  
REPORT:

TH's report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

10. INDOOR SUPER 8s  
REPORT:

TH's report was tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

DJ asked whether arrangements for the 2016 tournament had been finalised. TH said they had; the tournament would take place between 27 and 30 December 2016, at Under 12, Under 15 and Under 19 age-groups again. DJ asked whether combined teams would be allowed to enter. Renfrew CC said it thought single-club entities only should be allowed to enter the Under 12 tournament, but combined teams at the two other age-groups. DJ asked the meeting whether it would allow the Committee to decide. This was agreed.

11. CRICKET SCOTLAND  
ACADEMY (WEST) |  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
CENTRE (WEST):

KY's and TH's reports were tabled, and questions thereon, and discussion thereof, invited. No questions were raised.

12. ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2017  
JUNIOR COMPETITIONS:

DJ noted that, with the exception of Under 10 "Kwik Cricket", the Committee was proposing no changes to league and/or cup competitions for 2017.

Victoria CC asked why the Under 18 League started so late in the season. DJ said it had traditionally started at the end of May, but, because of a change in school examination scheduling, its start had been put back to late June in 2016. Given the best weather in 2016 had been in May and June this had directly contributed to fewer Under 18 League matches being



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completed than would likely otherwise have been the case. DJ said the intention was to start the Under 18 League earlier again in 2017.

Uddingston CC asked how many matches had been completed in the Under 14 League in season. KY replied seventeen.

Uddingston CC asked whether over-age players were allowed in either the Under 14 or Under 16 Leagues. KY said they were not.

KY asked the meeting to agree that clubs confirm their entries to league and cup competitions by 31 December 2016. This was agreed.

TH noted that a minor amendment had been made to the stated time and date of the beginning and end of a cricket age-group year, bringing this into line with national age-group cup competition and ICC competition playing conditions.

Uddingston CC asked whether it would be allowed to enter two teams in the Under 11 League. KY said this would be allowed, noting that he presumed that one team would play in each of the two divisions.

DJ told the meeting that the Committee was proposing to change the structure of Under 10 "Kwik Cricket" festivals. In 2017 there would be monthly festivals, each organised by an Area Group and open to all clubs. Ferguslie CC noted that it thought the change made to having regional festivals in 2016 had been a bad idea.

## **13. ELECTION OF**

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

DJ noted that Bob Coats had resigned his position as Vice-Chairman, and thanked him for his service. The following, proposed by the Committee, were re-elected for a two-year term of office:

Dougie Johnstone – Chairman;  
Keith Young – Secretary;  
Colin Dawson – Treasurer; and  
Tim Hart – Committee member.

Committee member Parvase Majeed, proposed by the Committee, was elected as Vice-Chairman.

Michael Bang, proposed by the Committee, was elected to the Committee for a two-year term of office.

DJ asked if there were any other nominations for the remaining Committee position. Ann Hargie was proposed by the Renfrew CC and seconded by Ayr CC, and was elected to the Committee for a two-year term of office.



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DJ noted it was pleasing that all Committee positions had been filled.

## 14. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR:

It was agreed that T Ron Irvine be reappointed as independent reviewer of the accounts of the WDJCU.

## 15. AOCB:

### *League rules – combined teams*

Ferguslie CC proposed that the rule preventing clubs from entering combined teams with more than one other club in any season be changed. This was seconded by Kelburne CC. The meeting was asked to vote on changing the rule to allow clubs to continue to combine with only one other club at all age-groups, to enable them to combine with different clubs at different age-groups. This was agreed.

### *League rules – eight-a-side*

Kilmarnock CC asked whether there was any merit in making all leagues eight-a-side. After discussion this change did not progress to a proposal and/or vote.

### *League rules – changing wicket-keeper*

Uddingston CC asked whether the rule prohibiting changing wicket-keeper during a match could be changed. Specifically it noted that it believed this rule prevented players getting to try out different fielding positions. The reasons behind the rule were explained by KY, who noted that it helped speed up matches and prevented a club's best player dominating matches. KY also noted that a different player could, of course, keep wicket each week. Uddingston CC noted that it had a player with learning difficulties who it believed could not concentrate for a full twenty overs, keeping wicket, and it had been thinking about this player when raising the possible change for discussion. KY said that he believed such special cases could be better handled by agreement between team managers before matches rather than incorporated as rule changes. This change did not progress to a proposal and/or vote.

### *League rules – penalties*

West of Scotland CC noted that it believed the scope to extend penalty points accruing from a team's persistent concessions to all that club's or clubs' (in the case of combined teams) teams was too harsh and proposed these penalties be withdrawn from the rules. This was seconded by GHK CC. The meeting was asked to vote on amending the rules to this effect. This was agreed.

### *League rules – points*

Ferguslie CC proposed changing the league points system to 3 points for a win, 1 point for a loss in a match played, and -1 point for a concession. This was seconded by Kilmarnock CC. The meeting was asked to vote on amending the rules to this effect. This was agreed.



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## *Frank Smith Trophy*

DJ noted that only five Under 18 teams – being the five single-club entities that had entered the Under 18 League in 2016 – had been eligible to play in the Frank Smith Trophy ("FST"). DJ said that opening the competition up to combined teams or changing the age-group at which the competition was played, were possible options to increase entrant numbers. DJ reminded the meeting that the FST had been variously played at Under 16 and Under 17 age-groups in the past, before moving to the current Under 18 age-group. After discussion it was agreed the competition continue to be open only to single-club entities, but move to be played at Under 16 age-group, in 2017.

## *Pink balls*

DJ said the Committee had decided to allow the use of pink balls, as an option, in WDJCU competitions in 2017, noting that this could assist in getting longer matches played towards the end of the season, on darker evenings.

## *MB Stanger Trophy*

DJ reminded the meeting about the MB Stanger Trophy, and invited clubs to carefully consider nominations for this prestigious award. He said that nominations should be sent to KY by 30 November 2016.

## *Regional squad coaches*

Renfrew CC asked whether there would be additional opportunities available for club coaches to attend Under 15 Regional Development Centre coaching sessions. TH confirmed the intention was to offer additional opportunities in the New Year.

## *Challenge Series squad selections*

Renfrew CC asked whether Challenge Series squad coaches would be allowed greater input to squad selection. TH said this should be possible, adding that the most important first step was to ascertain from clubs and players, each player's commitment to the tournament.

There being no further business, the meeting closed.