**Norfolk Seniors Cricket Club Annual General Meeting Agenda**

**Yaxham Village Hall, 12 Norwich Rd, Yaxham, Dereham NR19 1RJ**

**Tuesday 12 November 2019 commencing at 19:15**

The meeting started at 19:15.

*Item 1*: The Chairman welcomed the 23 members and one guest who were present.

Those members present were: Clive Adams, Ron Ashdown, Colin Atkinson, Chris Baines, Mike Banham, Phil Banham, Clive Bennett, Andy Broughton, Roger Carpenter, Dale Clark, Richard Day,

Adrian Gilbert, Andy Gregory, David LeMoir, Alan Lithins, Chris Palmer, Martin Pearse, Joe Perry, Geoff Saunders, Peter Thomas, Neil Wynn, Carl Yallop, Doug Young.

Observer from the Norfolk Cricket Board: Kevin Denmark.

*Item 2*: Apologies were received from: Mike Barnham, Brynley Clarke, Ben Collinson, Peter Coote, Derek Dewson, Maurice Dye, Kingsley Elliff, Colin Jackson, David James, Andy King, Robin Konieczny, Carl Nicholls, Richard Norman, Ian Parkin, David Powell, Geoff Roper, John Spaxman, David Steele, Harold van Zanten, Jonathon Wills, Robin Yates

*Item 3*: The Minutes of the 2018 AGM which were available for several months on <http://www.norfolk50ccc.co.uk/agms.html> were approved as a true record of the proceedings.

*Item 4*: The were no matters arising except those covered later in the agenda.

*Item 5*: There only item of correspondence discussed was a letter sent to the Club by the Norfolk Cricket Board outlining the current situation concerning the proposals for the Norfolk One League.

*Item 6*

6.1 Chairman’s report

The Chairman, Andy Gregory, gave his report and said that the club has had an excellent season all round. He wanted to get one thing out of the way first. The internal issues which have troubled the club over the last couple of seasons are now over and will not be allowed to become a problem again. It has been great to be able to concentrate on cricket this season and I am delighted to be able to concentrate on the club’s many successes in the rest of this Chairman’s report.

The year started with an O60s side travelling to Malta, where they beat Essex, Surrey/ Kent, and Sussex before losing to Yorkshire ridings in the final. That was a great performance and it is brilliant that the club undertook an overseas tour. Many thanks to Harald van Zanten for his organisation of this tour! The O50s side had their best season for several years, and the win against Lincs will last long in the memory of those who played in it. Pat Dewing’s remarkable 146 not out steered us home. The O60s first team had a great start to the year, winning all seven games and topping the east group, with great batting performances from Robin Yates and player of the season Peter Coote. They came unstuck against Lancashire and Yorkshire in the next stage, but they are the best two O60s sides in the country.

The O60s second team qualified for the plate competition and only narrowly missed out on getting to the final. Geoff Roper was the nationally leading run scorer in the competition. A combined Norfolk/ Suffolk O60s side took on Australia O60s at Old Buckenham. They were too strong for us but the National Management Committee know that Norfolk are keen to host touring sides, have a great ground and host such games very well. The O70s side also qualified for the championship competition, with Martin Pearse continuing to score lots of runs. The O70s also won a four-team T20 competition. The Norfolk Seniors side, a combination of our O50s, O60s and O70s sides, played some excellent friendly fixtures towards the end of the season. A simple mark of the success of these games is that all the opponents have asked for the same fixture to be played next season.

The club dinner was also a great success, now combined with giving out the new club awards. Thanks again to Chris and Sue Palmer for organising the dinner. In terms of where we go from here, I see the club as having three main goals, one being the excellence of its competitive championship sides, one being to offer cricket to as many people of 50+, 60+ and 70+ as possible and thirdly having a strong set of friendly fixtures and tours. We have already set up future friendlies; we have another side going to the Malta festival in 2020 and are looking the Bermuda festival 2021. If anyone is interested in setting up a Norfolk Seniors cricket week, or a Norfolk Seniors tour within the UK they will have the full support of Chairman and Committee. The recruitment of players remains a challenge. The Committee are working to raise the profile of Norfolk Seniors so every O50 cricketer knows about us. It will be important to get links from the Alliance, MNSL and NCL websites, and the One League site if that comes about in 2021. This is how many other Counties recruit. Recruitment is also a collective responsibility for all club members so please get the contact details of prospective players to the respective team captains. Finally, thank you to everyone who has played and done the support work this season. It has been a good season, we are a club on the up and we look forward to an even better season next year.

6.2 Treasurer’s report

The Treasurer, Mike Banham, gave his report and summarized 2019 as having been a neutral year. He

presented the following accounts with notes and recommendations, as reproduced below.

Norfolk Senior Accounts 2019 Season

2019 2018 Comments

Income Expenditure Income Expenditure

Start-up balance 2164.78 1410.99

Matches 5729.00 5455.63 8731.29 8187.70 see Notes 1,2

Match Balls 656.70 636.00

Competition Entry 320.00 320.00

Nets/Trials 239.00 220.00 55.00

Sponsorship 80.00

Subs @ £20 since 2017 1420.00 1420.00 see Note 3

Insurance 350.91 321.83

Secretarial expenses/Room hire 89.50 97.25

Norfolk Cricket Board sub 35.00 35.00

Donation 25.00

Caps 240.00 140.00 275.00 see Note 4

Golf Day

Sweaters

Polo Shirts 470.00 549.99

Cash in Bank 2160.05 2164.78

Note 1 – Superb accounts managed by Captains give a full reflection of team income & expenditure – All XI’s were in profit if we exclude Minibus from O70’s

Note 2 –The cost of minibus travel in the 2019 (bus/driver/fuel) is nearly £494 against £1200 last year.

Note 3 – Collection of Subs has been excellent & 37 are now paid by Bank Transfer. It is most important that more players use bank transfers, now that my local Barclays has closed, making cheques/cash more difficult to bank.

Note 4 – Already purchased a further batch of 100/50/County caps for 2020 season. This year we issued County caps to 4 new players

Stock held by the club – 5 sweaters worth £104, 10 caps worth £110, 5 balls worth £75

Recommendations for 2020

* Match fees will be set to cover each match individually with minimum match fee of £11 & maximum again no more than £15(especially where minibus utilised)
* Annual Sub to stay at £20 for 2020.
* We have sufficient funds around £2100 to cover Balls/Insurance/Competition entries/NCB sub (approx. £1330) before the start of the 2020 season. This is before any Subscriptions are paid.

6.3 Secretary’s report

The Secretary, Joe Perry, attended an Extraordinary General Meeting of the National Championship on 28 November 2018 at Banbury CC on behalf of the Norfolk Seniors Cricket Club. A vote of confidence in the National Management Committee was withdrawn and this meeting was followed immediately by the National AGM. Minutes of both meetings are available on the National website at <http://www.6070cc.co.uk/Documents&Spreadsheets/Minutes%20of%202018%20EGM.doc>

and at

<http://www.6070cc.co.uk/Documents&Spreadsheets/Minutes%20of%202018%20AGM.doc>

Since our last Norfolk AGM, five Committee meetings took place on 18 December, 21 February, 23 April, 3 June and 8 October. All minutes are or will soon be on our Club website. The Secretary attended a meeting of counties within the Eastern Region at Cambridge on 27 April, at which the views of the Committee were fed through for discussion and ultimately for consideration by the National Management Committee. Prior to the season a very successful tour to Malta took place, and thanks are due to Harold van Zanten for organising this. For the 2019 season, 69 members (66 playing + 3 social) were registered. This is a marked reduction from the 75 players registered in 2018. In 2020 we will need to coordinate closely with the squad information on PlayCricket. Once again, Carl Yallop organised several friendly matches which were much appreciated by those taking part. Several sessions of indoor and outdoor nets were well-attended; thanks are due to Geoff Saunders and Mike Banham for their efforts to arrange these. A joint Suffolk and Norfolk O75s friendly team has been organised and involves several current and ex Norfolk O70 players. This team is outside of any connection with Norfolk Seniors, but it remains the committee’s desire to bring it under the aegis of the Club at some point in the future.

Nominations were sought from the National Management Committee for suitable players for forthcoming internationals at O70s level. Martin Pearse was recommended and it was noted that Randolph Lofthouse would become eligible soon. Many thanks are due to Nobby Cobb for the extensive work he puts in, on a voluntary basis, to compile playing statistics and to collate members’ appearances. During season 2019, Ron Ashdown, Clive Bennett, Andy King, David LeMoir and Nobby Cobb were presented with caps to mark 100+ appearances. There was a good take up for Club polo shirts; thanks are due to Geoff Saunders and Chris Palmer for organising this. We continue to benefit from an excellent standard of umpires from the Norfolk ACO for our matches, and our thanks go to Nigel Crickmore for his work in allocating umpires to matches. Our website has been continually updated, and was changed to a lighter, more readable background from April 2019. Friendly matches will have their own page for next season. Our website is now linked to, from the front page of the NCB website. The Club dinner took place on 1 November at Wensum Valley Hotel and Golf Club; this was much enjoyed by those attending and thanks are due to Chris and Sue Palmer for their organisation of this event. In response to a question from Roger Carpenter concerning from which organisation kit should be ordered it was clarified that two firms are able to provide kit, Masuri and Romwear; that individuals buy their own kit with the exception of caps which are provided by the Club; and that links to online sales would be placed on the Club website.

6.4 Fixture Secretary’s report

The Fixture Secretary, Carl Yallop, reported that he was intending to continue to try to build up friendly fixtures. He emphasized the importance of recruiting players in their 40s and said that friendlies were a great way to introduce such players.

6.5 Media Secretary’s report

The Media Secretary, Andy Broughton, reported that a good relationship continues with the Archant Group, who continue to publish every report we send them.

*Item 7*

The Captains’ reports for the four teams were as follows:

Over 50s

Andy Gregory reported that as said in the Chairman’s report, the O50s had their best season for the past few years. Our win against Lincs was not only a thing of beauty, but even got reported on Anglia News courtesy of Jon Wills who was playing. So we did not finish bottom of our group. Team spirit remains excellent. Ultimately though, our competitive record was not great – played 7, won 1 lost 6. We were not outclassed and had several good games, but the sides at the top of the group had an edge over us. The key issue remains the same. We have a group of players who can all contribute at this level, but we need to recruit some of the ex-Norfolk minor counties side. The difference between us and, say, Cambridgeshire is quite simple. They have recruited two 50 year-olds this season, one who has played as professional at many clubs, and another has played 70 games for Cambs minor counties. We have to recruit and retain players of similar quality. Effectively, such players are the difference between us and the better sides in the group. We are at work on that, bringing in players in their late 40s to our O50s friendlies and the Norfolk Seniors friendlies. So, Pete Free, Marcus Bishop, Dave Yarham and Neil Irons have all played or expressed an interest, and we are working on getting Carl Rogers and Carl Amos if we can. I will be 60 next season so I am giving up the O50s captaincy and Alan Lithins will be captain next year. I wish Alan the best of luck and hope the new policy of giving friendly game time to prospective players in their late 40s soon pays dividends.

Over 60s 1st XI

Andy King reported that throughout his career, I was always told to finish on a positive so this report starts with the latter part of the season! Having qualified for the Northern Section of the main competition, we found ourselves in a group comprising of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Cambs and Hunts and ourselves. First up were Lancashire at North Runcton. I won the toss, (not for the first time) put them in on one of the hottest days of the year, they got 255 and we never got anywhere near despite Peter Coote’s 75 not out. Once again the first team we played outside the group went on to win the competition. After being rained off against Shropshire, we batted first against Warwickshire, Peter Coote edged a ball onto his eyebrow, retired hurt and we didn’t get three figures losing comfortably by 9 wickets. Next game against Cambs/Hunts, we restricted them to 140, lost early wickets, collapsed again, didn’t make 100. So, by the time we played Yorkshire, we were playing for pride. They got 250 although this time I did lose the toss and we did make 170 thanks to Peter’s 94. So, in the latter part of the season, basically, everything that could have gone wrong, did.

Yet the season had begun so promisingly. I won the toss every game we completed, we would put them in, restrict them to around the 175-200 mark and then sit back and watch Peter and Robin Yates knock them off. Of the 10 scheduled games in the group phase, we completed 7 and won every one. By 10 Wickets once, 9 wickets 3 times, 8, 7 and 6 wickets once. Peter Coote and Robin Yates had an excellent season opening the batting, particularly in the group phase. Peter’s 600 runs at 74.75 included 6 fifties and one century. Robin weighed in with 500 runs at 72.58, 4 fifties and one century. During group games, hardly anyone else batted for any length of time but important contributions were made by John Lund and Clive Bennett at Copdock and Clive Adams and Clive Bennett again at OB against Cambs/ Hunts. Andy Gregory was a welcome addition to the bowling, particularly given the fact that we lost Trevor Shales for the whole of the season to injury. He regularly took wickets in both competitions and his 13 wickets at 23 apiece were supported by Maurice Dye (15 wickets at 23) who bowled really well, week in week out, giving us control in the middle of an innings. Phil Banham, Clive Bennett, Colin Jackson and Jon Spaxman all played their parts and Lofty maintained a high standard of wicketkeeping.

Overall it has been a good season and as a side we should be proud of having won the Eastern Division so convincingly.

My thanks are extended to a number of clubs and individuals: Old Buckenham CC and North Runcton CC for allowing us to play on such lovely grounds; our scorers Ted Searle and more latterly David Apps; the majority of our umpires with whom we enjoyed an excellent rapport, save for one gentleman whose performance flabbergasted me. (However, since I have heard recently that he has subsequently indicated he no longer wishes to officiate in Seniors’ Cricket it is best that that is the end of the matter.); and last but not least, the wives who supported us on a regular basis and helped out with the teas.

May I end by thanking the team for their support and encouragement and hope that all associated with the club winter well and are up for the challenge again next season.

Over 60s 2nd XI

Chris Palmer reported that the team played 11, won 5, and lost 5 with one match abandoned. The biggest problem was injuries, notably to Mickey Tooke and Chris Palmer. Geoff Roper was again the leading batsman, scoring two centuries. However, this year the bowling was not as tight as it has been. Harold van Zanten got 13 wickets, and Carl Nicholls got 10. There was a good team spirit. Unfortunately, the game versus Middlesex had a problem due to an irresponsible umpire. Norfolk are recommending to the National AGM that captains should mark the opposition umpires. Chris thanked all who played and hoped himself to get fit for next season. In view of this, there was a need to nominate a vice-captain, which is to be Neil Wynn.

Over 70s

Geoff Saunders reported that the O70s had worked hard as a group of players. Martin Pearse had led the batsmen well. As a result, the O70s had got into the play offs. There were long trips to Hampshire and Sussex. Geoff thanked all his players, Chris for driving the minibus and Andy Broughton who supported as vice-captain really well. The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the superb winning of the four-way T20 tournament at Copdock.

*Item 8.* Election of Officers

The only nominations to be received were as follows:

*Post Nomination Proposer Seconder*

President Peter Thomas Joe Perry Andy Gregory

Chairman Andy Gregory Joe Perry Mike Banham

Vice-Chairman Geoff Saunders Andy Broughton Chris Palmer

Treasurer Mike Banham Andy Gregory Andy Broughton

Secretary Joe Perry Geoff Saunders Andy Gregory

Fixture Secretary Carl Yallop Chris Palmer Joe Perry

Media Secretary Andy Broughton Carl Yallop Geoff Saunders

The members present assented to those nominated being elected *en bloc*.

*Item 9.* Captains for 2020

The Executive Committee presented Members with their choice for Captains for 2020, three of whom continue unchanged from 2019: Over 50s, Alan Lithins; Over 60s 1st XI, Andy King; Over 60s 2nd XI (Norfolk Rebels), Chris Palmer; Over 70s, Geoff Saunders.

*Item 10*. Update on proposals to be put to the National 60+ County Cricket Championship Annual General Meeting, 27 November 2019

The following proposals were discussed:

*Constitution 3.1*; proposal to exclude Yorkshire Ridings from membership of the Championship.

The Executive Committee put forward four reasons to vote against this proposal: Ridings are nice group of people to play against; Yorkshire is a very large county geographically and therefore merits having two sides; it is unfair to have amended Constitution for 2017 season to include Ridings, allow them to do all the infrastructural work over three seasons to build up a team base and then arbitrarily exclude them after such a short time; the stated reason of achieving four groups of eight teams is unnecessary since three groups of eight and one group of nine is perfectly feasible. The Executive Committee agreed to restrict Yorkshire to only having one vote, but not to exclude the Ridings from playing. The proposition to vote against the proposal was passed unanimously, 23 to 0.

*Constitution 8.1*; proposal that only Counties with a 70+ Team in the National Championship be permitted to vote on 70+ matters. The Executive Committee declined to express a view, but after discussion from the floor the Secretary was mandated to vote against this proposal by unanimous vote.

*Competition rules 3 & 3.1*; proposal to have fewer but larger groups for 2020 for O60s and O70s. Executive Committee support this and AGM endorsed this unanimously

*Officers*; Clive Ricks the present Chairman is standing for re-election and Colin Samuels is standing against him. The AGM heard from Martin Pearse that there were many counties unhappy with Ricks, partly because he is out of the country too often to have much influence. Carl Yallop noted that the current National Management Committee had worked hard to exert some much-needed discipline amongst some northern counties and felt that the Secretary should be mandated to vote for Ricks. The members present voted 22 to 1 to mandate a vote for Samuels.

The view of the Executive Committee was upheld in discussions on several other proposals and the Secretary was mandated to emphasize especially the importance of the Norfolk proposal that Umpires be marked by the opposition captain following each game.

*Item 11*. *Other Business* (To deal with any special matter which the Executive Committee desire to bring before the members & to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Executive Committee, but shall not be the subject of discussion at the Annual General Meeting.)

11.1 Proposed 100 Club draw

The Vice-Chairman, Geoff Saunders, outlined plans for a 100 Club to start on 1 January 2020. Payments to be by direct debit either quarterly (£13), half-yearly (£26) or annually (£42). Winners in most months would receive either £100 or £50, although there would be a larger prize once per year. Carl Yallop supported this strongly, Alan Lithins received clarifications and the members approved the plans by acclamation.

11.2 Club Dinner 2020

Chris Palmer was thanked for his efforts in organizing the 2019 Dinner and it was agreed that next year’s dinner would be on Friday October 16, at the Wensum Valley Golf Club and Hotel

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:22.

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:

Andy Gregory, Chairman 2019 ……………………………………………………... Date: ………………………………