**Minutes of the Norfolk Seniors Committee Meeting**

**held 19:30, Wednesday 15 September 2021**

**at the Last Pub Standing, King Street, Norwich NR1 1PD**

The Chairman welcomed those attending. Apologies were received from AK and MB.

The Minutes of meeting held 28 June were approved; there were no matters arising.

The Treasurer, MB, had submitted a short, written report on Club finances. There was a balance of approximately £4230, minus a further debit for caps of about £200 once the invoice is received. Overall the Club has a healthy balance, with an excess of Income over expenditure of around £1400. Currently MB intends to recommend the 2022 match fee should remain the same, at £15, even if some components increase, but this may need revision if teas are reintroduced. It was agreed that the provision of teas should be at the captains’ discretion, and that the National Management Committee (NMC) may in any case tailor its policy to the Covid-19 situation this Autumn. The was discussion of trophies to be awarded at the Club dinner on 22 October. AG agreed to take this forward in collaboration with MB

**Action: AG, MB**

The Secretary, JP, gave an update on membership. He welcomed the fact that the Club now had over one hundred members and congratulated AL on his efforts to boost the number of members. JP introduced the likely progression of players from 50s to 60s and from 60s to 70s. The effects on numbers in each age group and likely effects on team structure was discussed.

The O50s 2nd XI was discussed. Norfolk had recently been invited to enter a side into the Southern Counties Seniors Championship (four groups of five teams regionalised – giving at least 8 games per season). Because in this season there have been about 16 players for each of the O50s 1st and 2nd XIs, some players were not getting a regular game. It was therefore agreed that we would join. This league does not come under the auspices of the ECB. AG agreed to respond to Southern Counties.

**Action: AG**

The need for an O50s 3rd XI to play friendly matches was discussed and remains an option depending on membership take up in 2022.

The existing combined Norfolk/Suffolk O75s team was discussed. AG reported that despite efforts to bring the Norfolk players back under the aegis of our Norfolk Seniors Club the organiser, Mike Smith, was unwilling to make any decisions at this stage. It was not thought necessary to raise the issue at the AGM.

The need for either an O60s 3rd XI or an O70s 2nd XI was discussed. Because we have not got enough for an O70s 2nd XI, it was decided to support the formation of a Norfolk Seniors O60s friendly side, focussing on both O60s and O70s, and aiming to play friendlies against other O60s third teams. A possible skipper for this side was identified.

There was discussion of a possible motion to put to the AGM concerning Appendix B of the Constitution (Selection Policy). Section (e) requires changing in any event to align with National rules and a draft proposal was discussed to change (e) to:

“e) that only players born or living in Norfolk or registered and playing regularly for a Norfolk Club side would be eligible for selection.”

Regarding section (d), there was no consensus regarding the playing for more than one age group at the 28 June Committee meeting, so it was agreed to put this issue to the AGM. A draft

proposal was discussed with proposed insertions in red and proposed deletions struck through:

d) that no ~~age-eligible~~ member should ~~play~~ be selected in championship matches in any one week for more than ~~two~~ one age group~~s~~. (Common-sense would prevail in an emergency, e.g. a team being a player short because of a late call-off and the Captain having to get another player with minimum notice.)

It was noted that most counties do not have such a rule and actively encourage the selection of players in more than one age group.

At the 28 June committee meeting everyone agreed that there needed to be greater liaison between Captains of the O60s and O70s at the stage after their initial draft selection of teams, but before those teams had been notified to players. It was therefore agreed that the *three Captains should speak with each other weekly by telephone/zoom/email in enough time to liaise on selection before broadcasting to the Club members*. There was discussion of whether this motion had been adhered to and was effective. The consensus was that there had been some limited improvement, but that considerable improvement in communication needed to be made next season before the situation was acceptable. The Committee resolved to impress upon the Captains selected for 2022 the need to address this issue as part of their responsibilities.

Officer posts for next season were discussed. Several candidates for the office of President were discussed. AG stated that he believed the Club needed someone on the Committee to act as a Protection Officer, ensuring that we fulfil the duty of care to members outlined in the objectives of the Club as written in section 2 of the Constitution, including maintenance and use of our defibrilators. It was agreed that this might be something that the Vice-Chair could take on. CY said that he did not intend to continue as Fixture Secretary. The Committee gave CY a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club for the excellent work done by Carl over the years in arranging friendly fixtures. AB said that he did not intend to .stand again as Media Officer. The Committee gave AB a vote of thanks on behalf of the Club for the excellent work done by Andy over the years in reporting our results and liaising with the local media. GS said he did not believe it was appropriate for Captains of the Club to hold Officer roles in addition to the captaincy and that, as a result he would not be standing next year for the post of Vice-Chairman. JP agreed to prepare motions to change the wording of Appendix C of the Constitution listing the terms of reference for Officers of the Club to reflect the discussion.

There was initial discussion of suitable candidates for Captains in 2022. Individuals would be approached soon to aid the process of decisions to be made at the next Committee meeting.

The date and location of the AGM was discussed. Mid-late November in a location close to Norwich that allowed members to attend in person was preferred. JP agreed to progress plans.

Action: JP

Under any other business:

AL stated that he had initiated a Twitter account for Norfolk Seniors. The title is NorfolkSeniorsCricket and the username/handle is @CricketNorfolk. Until the new Media Secretary is appointed AL is happy to manage the site.

On Friday 19 November the O50s players will have an informal social get together.

AG informed those present of National issues, including recent meetings of the Northern group.

AG informed those present of a complaint concerning the Casual O75s which was not the business of our Club

The meeting closed at 21:58