

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION OF CRICKET OFFICIALS

In the last few months a number of events have taken place on which you as members of the Sussex Association of Cricket Officials (SACO) need to be made aware.

Constitution

The Constitution was approved, subjected to the Committee reviewing the need for a Scorers Officer.

Members unanimously approved the nomination of Martin Bodenham to be the President of the organisation a position he was delighted to accept. The officers elected were

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| Chairman | Bill Booker |
| Secretary | Derek Knight |
| Treasurer | John King |
| Appointments Officer | Mervyn Goode |
| Education Officer | Paul Fuller |

The other members of the Committee will be one representative elected by each of the Local Associations.

Meetings

In response to last year's survey many of you said you would support county meetings at a central location. It is hoped you will support following meetings arranged at the County Ground, Hove.

Thursday 14th January commencing at 7.30pm the Sussex Cricket Chief Executive Dave Brooks will be speaking on the relationship, based on Building Partnerships, between the Professional and the Recreational games in the county and on the Sussex experience in India.

Saturday 20th March between 10.00am and 1.00pm Martin Ford, the ECB Fine Turf Manager will be talking on points to consider when marking pitches.

Training

Clear objectives of each training level has been defined, basically they are

| Level | Scorers | Umpires |
|-------|--|--|
| 1 | A comprehensive understanding of the Laws of Cricket and how these laws affect the score sheet entries | Understanding of the rudiments of the Laws of Cricket to enable people to stand a club match |
| 1a | Not applicable | Compliments Level 1 with an understanding of the remaining Laws of Cricket relevant to a one innings match to enable members to stand in league matches. |
| 2 | Builds on the knowledge gained at Level 1 and match analysis for members wishing to progress Premier League matches. | Development of the experienced umpire wishing to progress Premier League matches |
| 3 | Scoring multi day cricket matches with a knowledge of special regulations and Duckworth and Lewis | For members at the top level of Premier League cricket who wish to progress to multi day matches |

Local Associations will provide the courses for Levels 1 and 1a. The courses at the other Levels will either be provided Regionally or nationally. Members wishing to go on these courses will need to be recommended to the County Education Officer by their Local Association Training Officer or the League Panel Appointments Officer.

For all new members attending Level 1 courses ACO would like to assign a mentor. The role of the mentor, in brief, would be to draw on their experiences to provide assurance and guidance to the official on their performances during matches. Many of you who indicated a willingness to take on this role should make contact with your Local Association Training Officer to enable matching with candidates attending the next round of Level 1 courses.

If members wish to refresh their knowledge of the Laws of Cricket they are encouraged to attend a Level 1 umpires course planned for the new year where their experience and input would be very welcomed. Details of the dates can be ascertained from your Local Association Training Officer.

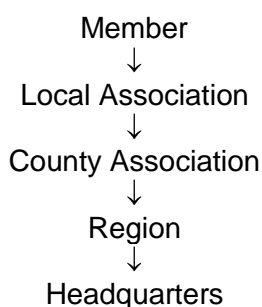
SACO has to arrange boundary Assessments for umpires accepted on to a Level 2 course. We are looking for experienced umpires to be trained to fulfil this role. Please contact the Secretary if you are able to help

South Sub region meeting

At beginning of December an open meeting was held for the South Sub region. In order to make the London and East Region, comprising 11 Counties from Norfolk to Sussex, more manageable and more accessible to members three Sub-regions have been formed. The South Sub-region comprises the counties of Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

The meeting facilitated discussions on issues concerning members of which the major ones were kit and communications. Members who have experienced unsatisfactory quality of any items of kit, for example seams that have parted due to poor stitching, broken zips, should return the item to Duncan Fearnley seeking a replacement. The design faults, for example the pocket on shirts being too small, are due to the wrong specification being given to Duncan Fearnley. These are being rectified in the next production run.

Nick Cousins has accepted that improvements need to be made to communications to members they need to be written better, more timely and inquiries responded to. To assist with improvements members are asked to route communications through this structure



Information in the ACO database has recently been matched with that held in the CRB database. Unfortunately a mis-matching of data between the two systems has highlighted a false position relating to some members' CRB clearance. A badly worded communiqué was sent directly to these members rather than via the agreed communication route. If members had received such a communiqué please respond giving the data requested.

The Committee would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Derek Knight
Secretary

December 2009