



Cricket Wellington

Minutes of Meeting 26 April 2010 Wellington School of Cricket Westpac Stadium		Lower Grade Advisory Forum	
Meeting called by	C Butler	Meeting Start	6:00pm
Note Taker	I Smith	Meeting Finished	8:06pm
Attendees	P Chisholm (Eastbourne); W Andrews (Hutt District); R Crichton (Hutt District); E Chatfield (Naenae Old Boys); J Allen (Johnsonville); M Te Moananui (Taita); J Williams (Brooklyn); D Boldt (Collegians); S Maynard (Northern Park) C Butler (Cricket Wellington); I Smith (Cricket Wellington)		
Apologies	L Edwards (Karori); B Wood (Stokes Valley); M Matuszewski (Onslow); P Clinton (Cricket Wellington)		
AGENDA			
<p>C Butler welcomed everyone to the meeting saying that the feedback from this meeting will assist Cricket Wellington in planning for next season.</p>			
<p>2. GROUNDS.</p> <p>C Butler advised that there was a new database in operation this season that was available to all grades. There had been some feedback earlier in the season when the weather had been inclement no feedback had been received regarding lower grade grounds since Christmas. He asked the floor for feedback on grounds</p> <p>P Chisholm queried the renovations at Te Whiti park and HW Shortt saying there was gravel in the soil which impacted on some games. Despite requests to Downer/Excell there has been no change.</p> <p>J Williams said that when Brooklyn played in the Hutt Valley on grass wickets, they loved it. He feels that 2 day grades should be played on grass wherever possible even if Wellington sides have to travel to the Hutt. It was noted that boundary lines at Liardet and Ian Galloway 5 & 6 were non-existent at times throughout the season.</p> <p>W Andrews felt there was a difference in quality of wickets in the Hutt Valley. There were instances where games were scheduled on a Sunday, and sprinklers were set for the Saturday. He felt this was unacceptable given games had been scheduled.</p> <p>J Allen stated that Newlands Park was in a poor state. When cricket had use of the Park, the grass was hardly ever cut. He did state the he was pleased with the majority of wickets his team played on this season.</p> <p>S Maynard asked what options were available for artificial wickets to be used during wet weather days if grass wickets are unavailable. C Butler said that early season intercity grades took priority when grass</p>			

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wickets were unavailable hence why the season started late for the lower grades. He did point out that they tried to get grades underway if there was an excess of artificial wickets. He put to the group an idea of lower grades playing on Sundays for the first week or two of the season so they could get their season underway. This was received well by the group as long as plenty of notice is given.

D Boldt thought that the wickets at Macalister Park were the best they had been for some seasons.

3. PLAYER BEHAVIOUR/PLAYER UMPIRES.

C Butler advised that this season there had been 17 citings, which was far higher than in previous seasons. He said the majority of these citings took place in the intercity grades but would like a feel for what the behaviour is like in the lower grades.

D Boldt said that Collegians had been involved in 3 of these and all were due to player/umpires. Some team's attitudes were good but a lot were very poor where players tried to intimidate umpires. He suggested that Cricket Wellington look to what happens in England where teams have to bring along their own umpire who controls the whole game. Teams that don't supply an umpire lose the toss by default. He felt this would take away the direct contact that player/umpires have with their teams.

P Chisholm asked if there were player/umpires courses available that touched on the rules and the Spirit of Cricket. He felt for these to be successful and well attended they needed to be held at clubs. Cricket Wellington will discuss player/umpires courses with the Umpires Association.

W Andrews stated it is the responsibility of captains to control their players. He said there were some captains who didn't play under the Spirit of Cricket and this was causing issues. He pointed out a lot of the problems in lower grades are caused by teams comprising of a majority of young players.

J Williams requested that wide lines be on all wickets for one-day games suggesting inconsistency in rulings contributed to poor player behaviour.

J Allen said that there had been instances of players drinking while the game was taking place. Should this occur? C Butler said that this sort of behaviour needs to be reported to Cricket Wellington so action can be taken.

C Butler stated that instances of poor behaviour can be reported to Cricket Wellington via a formal citing process, as outlined in senior club handbook or through email if parties didn't want to go to a hearing. In this case reports of poor behaviour can be communicated to club Chairmen to take action.

4. FORMATS ETC.

C Butler stated the Twenty20 grade in Wellington was successful with 22 teams in 2009/10 compared with 10 a season earlier. However the format has struggled to take off in the Hutt Valley with 4 teams comprising the grade at the end of the season.

E Chatfield indicated that if there were not enough sides for a Hutt Valley 20/20 grade then Naenae would want to play in the Wellington competition. He also outlined that travel wasn't a factor in this day and age.

P Chisholm said that older players at Eastbourne still wanted to play one day cricket and that 20/20 could adversely affect the club.

W Andrews felt that older players would not come back for 20/20. J Williams said that at Brooklyn it was older players playing 20/20. He asked what the hierarchy was, did 20/20 come ahead of 1A or 1B. C Butler said the two day grades took preference but one day grades and 20/20 grades were seen as different formats. He couldn't comment on what limited over's format took preference.

M Te Maonanui thought there could be safety concerns if ex Senior players were playing against lower

graded players.

W Andrews asked whether we should look at playing both 50 overs and 20 overs games in 1A and 1B. Cricket Wellington will look into this.

D Boldt asked whether there could be a Lower Grade Knock-out tournament on Sundays. The group were apprehensive about this given the amount of Sunday play that would take place.

R Crichton asked if 2 day grades had to have 1 day games. C Butler said this was always the case pointing out that a full two day and one day round makes up 21 weeks of the season.

E Chatfield inquired whether all grades will eventually be "Inter-City". C Butler was unsure of this.

C Butler said the grade structures were good in Wellington where grades consisted of a maximum of 8 teams. He pointed to the reintroduction of 1B being a positive result. He said the issue in the Hutt Valley was the size of some grades, in particular 1A. He pointed out that it had been planned to split this grade at Christmas but due to limited games played through inclement weather this was not achieved. He asked Hutt clubs if they would like 1B reintroduced next season. The clubs agreed stating that 1A from this season should be split in half to form 1A and 1B.

5. HUTT VALLEY PRO 45/2A.

C Butler explained that Pro45 was introduced last season on the feedback received from clubs at the time that two day cricket was dying in the Valley and the 'better' cricketers wanted to play 1 day cricket as it didn't have the strain on time that 2 day cricket had. He stated that Pro45 served a purpose but failed to live up to expectation with only 5 clubs entering the grade. It was obvious that 2 day cricket was still alive in the Valley with 10 teams entering 2A. C Butler asked the Hutt Valley clubs where they felt promotion to intercity cricket should lie.

M Te Moananui informed that group that the thinking behind Pro45 was that a group of 2A players were not enjoying the grade and felt that two day cricket was like playing two one day games as teams had to declare at 55 overs. He felt if promotion returned to 2A then Pro45 would become just another one day grade.

The majority of Hutt delegates wanted promotion to return to 2A. C Butler said he would take feedback from this meeting and put some recommendations together for clubs to provide feedback on. He also stated that if promotion returned to 2A there was a good chance that the number of two day teams could increase meaning 2B may need to be reintroduced. The group felt if this was the case then the 2A table from this season should be split in half forming 2A and 2B. S Maynard floated the suggestion that the 2 day grade be played in two pools with the top teams playing off against each other to determine who gains the right to the promotion match.

An idea was floated that the winner of each lower grade from the Hutt Valley plays their counterpart in Wellington in a final.

6. SENIOR 2 & 3 POINTS STRUCTURE

C Butler said in 2009/10 intercity grades points structured changed to first innings points. He said feedback from the premier and senior grades had been positive but feedback from senior 2 and 3 was limited.

D Boldt asked if there could be say 3 points for first innings in lower grade games only if the game finished in a draw or the second day is abandoned. Cricket Wellington will look into this.

7. SEASON CALENDAR.

C Butler advised that he hoped to have a draft calendar for 2010/2011 out shortly. It was suggested that

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at the start of the season lower grades could start on Sundays if it meant starting on time.

The meeting decided that on Sevens weekend all lower grade games should be played on Sunday. For Wellington Cup weekend all games will take place on Saturday.

E Chatfield requested that lower grades should play on either Saturday or Sunday but no double headers. If there was a reserve day then this should be at least 2 weeks after Sevens.

P Chisholm stated that Eastbourne was against all Sunday play.

It was suggested that a reserve day should be slotted in after a 1 day game.

C Butler asked when clubs would like lower grades to recommence the season after Christmas. It was suggested that two day grades should start on the same day as intercity grades but 1 day and twenty 20 grades could start a week later.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

R Crichton asked if Hutt Rec 2 would be available after Rugby World Cup. C Butler was unsure but said he could find out.

This season there were 58 defaults. Clubs are asked to ensure that they inform Cricket Wellington and the other club in the case of defaults.

C Butler asked the floor to remind their clubs/team captains to enter results as there was one team who missed out on winning the grade due to results not being entered. E Chatfield felt that if clubs did not log in results on time they should not receive any points due.

S Maynard wanted clarification that 2A grade would use 4 piece balls. C Butler confirmed that 2A used 4 piece balls.

The meeting asked if the position of Northern Park should be looked at should they be eligible for promotion. They felt Northern Park should be promoted if they qualify. S Maynard said that indications were that Northern Park would have a Twenty 20 side next season.

J Williams asked if there was a chance that at the end of the season all lower grade teams go into a hat and the team that is pulled out plays their final game on the Basin Reserve.

The meeting closed at 8:06pm