

## **Minutes of ManCom meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February (6.00pm) at North Duffield**

1. **Apologies for absence** – had been received from PR, AJ & LH.
2. **Minutes of last meeting 21/1/14** - read and signed as a correct record and cleared for posting on website.
3. **Matters arising** - no matters arising.
4. **Chairman's report (PJ)**
  - The 'A' team were congratulated on their recent win over London SMBA.
  - The 'C' had had a good win against Humberside and would be playing our 'B' team soon. The outcome of this match would probably determine the top 2 places in Division 2 and would be closely contested. She considered the first season's results to be most acceptable in the first season for three County teams and she also looked forward to the upcoming match against the England Under 21 team.
5. **Vice chairman's report (JN)**
  - Nothing to report
6. **Treasurer's report (BS)**
  - Current balance = £6450.
  - It was agreed that the extra premium should be paid to cover equipment in transit (£14.95 to cover up to £1,000 worth of equipment such as mats and trophies). However transport of ESMBA'S mats on their trailer (for BC) would be covered under their own insurance
7. **Membership Secretary's report (LH)**
  - BS reported on behalf of Lesley that we had a few more members (no figures).
8. **'A' team captain (RH)**
  - Following on from events at the recent County Championships, one team member had withdrawn from the team selected to play in the prelim "consolation" KO match against London SMBA. The reasons given were deemed unacceptable and although this player had since made it known that he was available for subsequent matches the committee agreed with the Captain/Vice Captain that he should not be selected for the remainder of the season. A letter would be drafted to be sent to this player after wording had been agreed (via email) by all present.
  - The match in question had resulted in a convincing win (34-6) and had actually been upgraded to a Quarter-Final match due to Devon withdrawing from the competition. The next round will now be a Semi-Final (on March 1st against Northants or West Sussex) and if successful and the team would play the Final on March 9th. If not, RH and RG had been asked to umpire at the Final.
9. **'B' team captain (AJ)**
  - Arthur had provided notes in which he reported that the team had done well and were hoping for promotion to Division 1.

#### 10. **'C' team captain (PR)**

- In Pete's absence, PJ (vice-captain) reported that all known interested players had now played for the 'C' team.
- It had been an exciting season with some excellent bowling and a wonderful team spirit and the team hoped to finish 2nd after their final game against our own 'B' team (February 16<sup>th</sup>).
- She thanked PR who had done an absolutely marvellous job as captain in this inaugural year and all the players for their commitment, friendship and good bowling.

#### 11. **PWA Secretary's report (RG)**

- An email had been received from the Scarborough league compiler pointing out that their Chairman had approached the ESMBA Chairman asking for advice regarding a dispute over league rules. RG had replied that it would be rare for the ESMBA to get involved in local matters but JN had been copied into ESMBA responses and it looked like they had supported the compiler's decision. It was agreed that no local club should approach the ESMBA with such matters without referring them in the first instance to the NYSMBA. This would be included as an item on the agenda for the AGM.
- The 'In Memorium' page would be set up but would take time as clubs needed to be consulted first.

12. **Competitions Secretary's report (LH)** – nothing to report. Little Cup details had been sent out to clubs and posted on the website.

#### 13. **Junior Co-ordinator's Report (JN)**

- **England U21 match on March 8<sup>th</sup>**. Umpires had already been appointed (by G. Foote). The team would consist of any available young players and their supporters and be supplemented by other players from our 3 County teams as required. Lesley had agreed to organise and run the matches on the day once the team had been finalised. AJ had arranged 2 rooms for changing (male/female). Mats may be able to be put out on the Friday evening (since confirmed) and AJ, RH, RG to set up. Hall hire had been confirmed at £184 and BS to invoice the ESMBA. All ManCom members offered help in whatever capacity they were needed on the day.
- England U21 trials are planned for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May, JN would forward the details to all clubs and RG would post on website.

#### 14. **ESMBA - Proposed Constitution changes**

- The ESMBA had presented a revised Constitution with 20 changes highlighted including the introduction of "Administration Officers". Some of these were difficult to understand as they had not been presented in the format defined in their Constitution's Appendix showing a rationale for each change. A letter to the ESMBA outlining our concerns was agreed.

#### 15. **NESMBA Matters**

- The Competition Secretary (Barry Purcell) had asked for help with the transporting of the mats to Barnard Castle. RG's original suggestion that he try Derbyshire (who are nearest to the mat storage) for help had proved unfruitful. RH was willing to transport them (with a borrowed 4x4) as she would be at the ICC Finals (either playing or umpiring) the weekend before BC. Arrangements to pick up the trailer at the location will need to be made with CH. It was felt that this annual problem needs to be brought up at NESMBA AGM in order to

have a contingency plan for the eventuality that the mats, or someone to transport them, might not be available.

- BS had (via LH) now paid our entry fees (£180). LH had finalised the list of qualifiers (now on website).
- There was still a vacancy for a Secretary and Pat will be Chairman for 2014/15.

## **16. Safeguarding**

- Forms for DBS checks were still to be provided by Keith Hawkins.
- Once a DBS certificate had been issued it was possible to register for the “update service” (free to volunteers) but this has to be done within 14 days. This facility allows people to transfer between roles within the same organisation.
- It remains unclear as to who should have certificates and who should have First Aid training and needs to be re-visited at the earliest convenience so clubs can be advised. This would be an agenda item for the AGM.

## **17. Diary for 2014/2015**

- Next season needs to be the year for all competitions to jump forward a week in harmony to prevent dates falling back any further. RG has already reminded AJ of this.

## **18. Items for NYSMBA AGM Agenda**

- Financial support for England players/younger players representing the County.
- Option to increase County match fees in lieu of holding raffles at county games.
- Nominations for all Officers (with proposer/seconded) would be needed by early April. These have to be sent to clubs with AGM agenda.

## **19. Other Business**

- **Policy Register**

- a) **Change to substitution policy:** ManCom members had agreed in principle (via email exchanges) that a change to the current substitution policy regarding work commitments was required. This was so that players should not be excluded from BC just because a team member had to drop out due to work commitments. LH had emailed her thoughts that a comprehensive review was required as we needed to confirm what our team requirements actually were for the NESMBA Championships. C/F to next meeting.
- b) **Change to team selection policy:** Deferred to next meeting as it would need lots of discussion. All team captains were asked to look at the current selection policy before then with a view to making suggestions as to how it should be changed. For example, should we hold trials? How are people chosen to move between teams? Should we formalise the way late substitutions are made when players drop out? Etc etc.

- **Complaint re: County Championships players behaviour**

A written document had been received from a player in the County Championships regarding several complaints. The document covered 6 pages and the possibility of referring the whole matter to a separate sub-committee for action had been considered. This was rejected in the interests of speed of resolution and the fact that this would be passing responsibility away from the elected committee. The crux of the matter was then discussed under the 4 main complaint areas.

- 1) Unsportsmanlike behaviour, dangerous play and unwarranted interference in proceedings by a named player (Singles and Triples)
- 2) Disrespectful behaviour by a named team (Triples)
- 3) Gamesmanship by a named team (Fours)
- 4) Unauthorised coaching of a junior member by two named helpers (Junior championships)

Evidence was considered from

- all committee members who had been present at the various Championships
- a letter received from the player named in (1) above
- the Competition Secretary's reports that had been received at the last meeting
- an umpire and another player who had been named.

After prolonged and comprehensive discussion it was eventually concluded that

- the first complaint was justifiable and action was required.
- the second and third complaints contained some elements of truth but these required no action.
- the fourth complaint was unjustified and was rejected.

With regards to the first complaint, it was felt that the initial disagreement that had triggered matters could easily have been avoided and that both those involved were somewhat culpable. However one of the players involved had carried the disagreement beyond reasonable and acceptable boundaries and would have to accept the consequences of his actions.

Various sanctions were discussed but it was finally agreed unanimously that the player in question should be suspended from NYSMBA membership for a 3 week period during which he could not take part in any competitive play. Letters to both complainant and offender would immediately be drafted, the wording of which was to be agreed (by email) by all present at this meeting before being sent out and copied to absent ManCom members.

The meeting concluded with a collective expression of great regret that these matters had arisen to tarnish our annual flagship competitions and a hope that those involved would realise that in future such behaviour would not be condoned.

The meeting finally closed at 00.05hrs on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

JN/RG 17.2.14