

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HUNTINGDONSHIRE ACO

WINTER NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Corner

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year.

I always find it somewhat amusing when, usually in October or November, people say it must be quiet now that the cricket season has finished. Most people don't realise how much goes on between October and April, arranging and attending meetings, discussing and planning for next season, helping to deliver training courses and so on.

This autumn has been no different. I've attended committee meetings, for CHACO, for the Herts ACO and the national committee, which involved a rare trip down to Lords. There has also been a meeting organised by the clubs that made up the EAPL Women's League, held recently in Mildenhall. They have decided to pull away from the EAPL and set up their own league, with a new committee and the same clubs. The new league will be called the Icen Women's Premier League. As women's cricket continues to strengthen the aim is eventually to have promotion and relegation. They will continue to want us, together with Norfolk and Suffolk ACOs, to provide umpires. If anyone is interested in umpiring a few of their Sunday games let me know. The ultimate goal is to encourage and inspire women and girls to umpire their matches, at some point in the future.

The new ECB umpire course was launched recently. We have two tutors qualified to deliver the course and hopefully three. Unfortunately, the first course had to be cancelled as there were too few participants but hopefully the planned courses in the new year will be successful. In addition to this Ben and I will be delivering more 'introductory' courses for the CCA in March and April, building on the successful programme earlier this year.

I attended a meeting last week with Pete Laughlin and Alan Dale, our full-time regional development officer in which we reviewed candidates for promotion on the Pathway. It was good to see a more structured and transparent process in place and working well. We managed, mostly through Pete, to carry out a lot of observations last season, in support of the new processes.

We have held our first two members' evenings at Over. We took the decision to move from the Ex-Servicemen's club for a number of reasons: Over is a better location with good access, it's as cheap to hire, it has adequate parking, and.... It's warm! I hope you agree that it's a good move, but happy to hear your views.

The new website is working well and we're moving to the stage where we are able to update it ourselves, which should allow us to put more information and stories there.

On the appointments side, as Keith has noted in his report, we continue to be short of numbers but he managed to fulfil virtually every match. As you will know, we introduced Whostheumpire for all fixtures and appointments last season, except for the CCA games, and I supported Keith in ensuring the fixtures were loaded and appointments and changes were all made.

The AGM will take place next month and I am very pleased to have several new committee members who have agreed to stand for election. Andy Hayward will be our new secretary, David Ash and Duncan Morgan are also joining, as is Lizzie Conder. David has agreed to be responsible for initiatives aimed at recruiting new umpires, supported by David and others. Lizzie will help us with women and girls umpires.

Finally, a big thank you to all of our committee members for their efforts this year, and to all of you for your support. Season's greetings and a happy 2024.

Peter Hinstridge, Chairman

Scoring Review

During 2023 the ECB commissioned a review of scoring in the professional and recreational game. The “Scoring Working Group” then drew up a list of six recommendations. Each recommendation now has a small working party assigned to it and further work/discussion is ongoing.

- 1) To establish a competency based pathway that allows for scorers to progress to the highest levels of the game and within which, appointments policies are fair and easily understood.
- 2) To review and where necessary make changes to the current training offer for scorers at every level.
- 3) To put in place a registration system for scorers.
- 4) To introduce a reward and recognition strategy for scorers.
- 5) To introduce standard fees and expenses matrix for scorers.
- 6) ECB to lead on the design, administration and communication of pertinent Rules and Regulations.

I am a member of the working group looking at the first recommendation. For scorers to progress it is vital that competency is clearly demonstrated. There is clear agreement that there is a difference between being deemed simply a competent scorer and being a competent scorer who demonstrates competency.

I will be attending a meeting in January at Edgbaston to discuss the ongoing work.

Courses

Several courses will be available within the Eastern Region during the winter. Details will be available on the ACO website and publicised by Cambridgeshire Cricket Board. Anyone interested in courses and/or having difficulty finding them should contact me. There is a free Online Basics of Scoring Course available on the ACO website.

DBS update

DBS update The ECB have been reviewing the role of Scorer against the requirements of DBS, taking into consideration the role definition and the legal definition of Regulated Activity.

Following this recent review, it has been concluded that the role of Scorer does not meet the legal requirements for an Enhanced DBS as they do not have direct, unsupervised contact with children as per the legal definition of Regulated Activity.

If an individual carries out an additional role to scoring that is a regulated role, (for example chaperoning on overnight stays at festivals, Junior Supervisor, Volunteer Coordinator) then they will still require an ECB DBS specific for that role rather than as a Scorer.

Please check out other regulated roles in Cricket by clicking on this link.

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/policies/safeguarding/safer-recruitment>

All ACO members who are listed as a scorer will receive a questionnaire within 2 months prior to their current DBS expiring, asking them to highlight all their roles within the game. If their other roles to scoring meet the criteria for a DBS, then the ECB ACO will continue to process this on their behalf and at no cost to the member.

For those who change their activities within cricket or are new to scoring and think they require a DBS, then they are advised to contact their local CCB County Safeguarding Officer and the Safeguarding Officer will support and advise them of the process. There will continue to be **no charge** to the member for this Enhanced DBS check if required.

At present, there is no change in the role of Umpire and anyone looking to umpire in cricket will need to have an Enhanced DBS that will continue to be provided through the ECB ACO membership. Scorers will now be able to be deployed to score in all competitions without an Enhanced DBS UNLESS the scorer is also undertaking an additional role to the scorer role, as explained above.

Anyone interested in scoring and/or wanting help with any aspect of scoring should contact me by email or phone – helen.hyde@ntlworld.com 07970 943713

Helen Hyde

County Scoring Officer CHACO

Regional Scoring Officer Eastern Region (Job share with Allison Bradnock).

SAFEGUARDING

Usual rules apply: all umpires must have a DBS in place as they are responsible for activity where under 18s may be involved. Scorers are now exempt. (as detailed above).

Rob Benson

DEVELOPMENT

With the implementation of a Revamped National Pathway Promotion for ACO Officials we managed 21 Local Observations for those who had identified or been identified for promotion.

A National Pathway Applicant

We had 2 Advancements from M4 to M3

We had 3 Promotions from M6 to M5

All of that needed Observations to be Completed.

We had Observations at M4 with a view to be promoted to M3 this programme will continue this forthcoming year and 2 of those applicants will be identified to Regional Appointments Officer for National Cup Fixture next season. We will also continue that process for another local Umpire.

We had one Umpire that completed the successful transition to regularly standing in the East Anglian Premier League.

The plan is post Xmas to set up a team of observation personnel to allow this process to run more fluently next year as most of the Observations were completed by myself.

Mark Webster and Simon Seabrook assisted this year.

I hope to reinclude Alun Bedding and hopefully Andy Donald.

Additional umpires that are looking for promotion need to apply again in 2024. those previously involved will automatically be reconsidered next year unless officially told that they are not being considered again.

The marking System I hope can be formalised for this forthcoming season so that we can feedback to all parties.

Any ideas of mentoring requirements please make Contact to allow the Education and Development teams to plan for out of season meetings and perhaps publish feedback in future Newsletters.

TREASURER

Total Income for the year ending 30th September 2023 was £5,789.62 (an increase of £ 4,687.62 compared to the previous year). I am pleased to report that this resulted in a surplus for the year of £962.86 compared to a 2021/22 deficit of £803.48.

The main reasons for this increased in income were;

- £1,500 from Cambs Cricket Board and £500 from Cricket East. Thanks to the Chairman for his effort to achieve this extra funding;
- In addition, the rebate received from ECB was £1,210;
- Also, Membership Subscriptions increased from £156 last year to £293. We now have a total of 54 paid up members.

Total Expenditure for the year was £4,826.76 (an increase of £2,921.28 compared to the previous year). This is due to;

- some late claims of £700.38 from the previous years
- £1,220 cost of umpires to Kimbolton School which was fully refunded
- £450.00 for Umpire observations
- £338.45 Purchase of law books (Introductory courses for CCA for new umpires)
- £259.20 for a Scorer Level 2 Course
- £687.30 travel expenses
- £318 for room hire
- £86.63 for admin cost
- £466.80 for website and domain name

Cash at the bank at 30th September 2023 was £6,137.69 including the transfer of funds from HACO. We have since received £1,500 from Cambs Cricket Board.

Cindy Tai Lim

Treasurer to CHACO

APPOINTMENTS

Once again thanks to those who stood in games last season. As usual I tried to give a fair split of appointments to you all, despite the ever-increasing matches to cover with the diminishing pool of active officials to work with.

Keith

EDUCATION

This year we held 5 introductions to umpiring courses that were run at various venues across the county and offered a free introduction to umpiring teaching the simple basics, giving people the opportunity to improve their knowledge. We gave all candidates a new law book and for those clubs that could get enough attendees a Tom Smith.

The other major change in education is the change in responsibility for Formal Education. The ECB is taking responsibility for formal courses. They are replacing all of the current education courses with the basic course which consists of e-learning, and then a day long course with a highly practical balance. This course is being delivered by a group of ECB tutors, in county we have 3 tutors Peter Laughlin, Peter Hinstridge and I.

The course is designed to bring people in at M6/W6 level so CCA and CYC cricket. Development of umpires then being based on CPD offered by the ACO. Helping people developing their skills as they need.

The course is organised by the County Boards and tutors assigned by the ECB. Post Christmas, we have courses in Peterborough, Norwich and Ipswich as well as Sawston.

In terms of the monthly meetings, we are trying to have 2 small pieces of CPD every month designed to help our members improve. Any suggestions for topics are gladly welcome.

Ben