



Minutes of the Isle of Wight Cricket Board AGM, held on Monday 18th December 2017, at Porchfield CC
The meeting opened at 7.30pm with Chairman, Graham Cooper, thanked everyone for attending.

Representatives Present:

S. Chatfield (Cricket Development Manager), G. Bailey (Freshwater CC), P. Rudd (Cowes CC), J. Goldsmith (Northwood CC), A. Goldsmith (Northwood CC), G. De Belder, (Shanklin CC), M. Richards (East Cowes CC), S. Wratten (Ryde CC). S. Bligh (Ryde Cavaliers CC) R. Cook (Ventnor CC), R. Webb (Island Bakeries CC). Janice Routledge (Disciplinary Chair). D Pratt (Porchfield CC), O Hooper (Porchfield CC) A. Woodward (IWCB Head Coach & Ryde School). R. Winter (IWCB Director). P. Rudd (IW League Sec & Cowes CC).

1. Apologies:

C. Millington (St Helens CC) Ron Cook (Ventnor CC). R. Cooper (IWACO Sec). P. Mew (IWCB Director). H. Downer (IWCB Director). Seb Edgerton-Read (Godshill CC). Tina Cooper (Arreton CC & IWCB Company Sec). H. Wells (IWCB Director).

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM:

The minutes of the 2016 AGM were accepted.
Proposed by: M. Richards; Seconded by P. Rudd.

3. Matters Arising:

No matters arising from the 2016 Minutes

4. Management Report for 2017:

Isle Wight Cricket Board Annual Report 2017

As Chairman I have said from the start of my tenure that the Isle of Wight Cricket Board is more than just the Chairman however I think it is appropriate, at the AGM, to explain my decision to step down as Chairman and a Director after only one year; the following statement was sent to the Isle of Wight County Press:

"I advised the Isle of Wight Cricket Board in August that I would not be seeking re-election as Chairman or as a Director, this has not been a secret as it was in the minutes that are published. I totally underestimated what was required from what is a voluntary role and at times it has been like the full time job I left in March 2016. The time pressures have not been helped by my tendency to try and take control of situations and being unwilling to delegate as much as I should; this combined with my personal circumstances means I have not got the time to do the role justice.

Too often the term "personal circumstances" is used as a cover; all I can say is these are genuine. Within a week of last year's AGM my mother had a heart attack and spent Christmas in hospital, further stays in hospital in January and February were followed by a pacemaker being fitted in March. Another heart attack in June resulted in further stents being fitted and I would like to spend more time with her as well as supporting my sister who lives near her in West Sussex. On top of this my wife, Tina, lost her father in January after a short illness; I am not looking for sympathy I merely wish to fully explain and be transparent about my decision.

Since my decision it has also become likely that I will be involved in litigation in 2018 regarding a licence at Rookley Country Park that has recently been covered in depth in the Isle of Wight County Press.

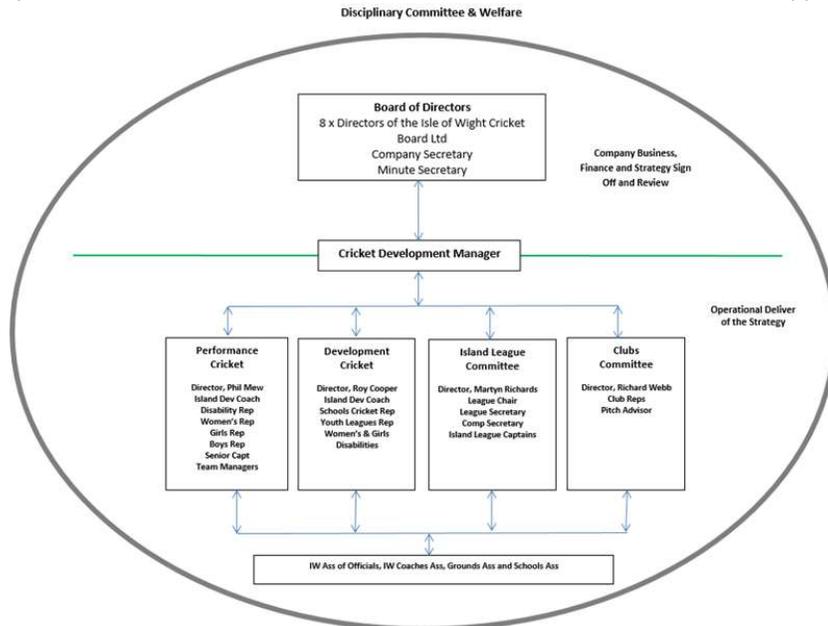
When I advised the Board in August I offered to step away from the role immediately but said I was keen to continue, for the sake of continuity, until the AGM – this was accepted by my fellow Directors. Since that time I have remained committed to the role and will continue to support local cricket as much as I can.”

I have offered to remain involved as an ECB Ambassador, attending the bi-annual Recreational Assembly meetings in London. I have also agreed to review our Constitution as it is no longer relevant for the structure of the Isle of Wight Cricket Board.

Last year’s annual report highlighted the changes in the organisation of the ECB at a National and Regional level, 2017 saw the Isle of Wight Cricket Board start to implement its own changes which started with 7 new Directors being appointed at last year’s AGM, with the nominations for the year ahead 6 of those Directors will remain with one new Director offering stability in 2018. Work is still required with regards the equality and diversity of the Board.

The Board of Directors have met formally on 11 occasions this year with the minutes being published making the thoughts and plans transparent. The structure, as detailed below, has enabled the Board to consider more strategic areas of Island cricket whilst the pillars, with a director linked to each, have delivered in the specific areas of Performance, Development, League and Club.

Island League Cricket is often seen as the barometer for the success or failure of local cricket as it is probably the easiest to measure, the new structure has resulted in a balanced approach to local cricket.



The Island League Committee was given its own budget and with it autonomy that has enabled it to deliver League and Cup cricket; there have been challenges along the way but the well-attended presentation evening dinner highlighted what can be achieved with this autonomy. The challenges in “competitive” cricket are not unique to the Isle of Wight or in fact just to cricket and we need to continue to be initiative in the way cricket is delivered to keep it relevant to our audience.

There has been much comment re the number of teams playing in the Hampshire League; naturally the Board would like as many teams and players to play in the Island League as possible but also acknowledge it is down to the individuals and clubs prerogative to make that decision, this is why the Board supported Northwood's decision to make an application to the Hampshire League and was disappointed with its rejection. In a recent exchange of emails with the Hampshire League it is evident that they will not consider future applications from Island Clubs due to the cost and time of the travel involved. If clubs decide that they wish to return to the Island League the door is open and they will be welcomed and supported.

The success of junior cricket remains a highlight especially with the innovation of All Stars and the continued development of Chance to Shine. All Stars saw over 130 young children playing cricket across 8 centres on the Island and thanks goes to the Activators who made this happen – more families involved in cricket bodes well for the future. Chance to Shine saw over 5,000 school children playing cricket with an equal mix between boys and girls.

2017 saw specific funding for the development of Women's cricket with 2 very successful soft ball tournaments, the majority of those playing were new to cricket – this will remain a priority for 2018. The interest in Women's cricket was enhanced by the ladies winning the World Cup in front of a packed house at Lords and locally Newclose hosted a warm up match between the Vipers and the Stars and whilst only 5 overs could be bowled it provided a flavour of what can be delivered on the Island.

The Clubs Committee gives a voice to those clubs and players who prefer to focus on social cricket – it is still competitive just not in a league or cup format. The long awaited new website should support those clubs that entertain touring teams in getting more cricket with the Touring Charter underpinning what is delivered. The website will continue to be developed so please keep the feedback coming in.

When considering the website I also think about Social Media which I know can be a great way of getting a message to a wide audience, it can also be used as a pretty dull weapon. The use of social media has caused some issues in the past 12 months – as soon as send, post, enter etc is pressed it cannot be undone and I would implore all users to think twice before passing comment.

Performance Cricket is supporting more winter training than has been seen for a number of years with over 100 youngsters a week taking part – this will set the base for a successful 2018 summer season where we expect to see an increase in the number of games played at age group level with 8 senior games also planned. 2017 was a mixed bag, the under 17's had one of its best years, the under 15's was a struggle to get games on and the under 13's looks like a very strong group so the future looks bright. There is always going to be the county v club argument but let's not lose focus on the player as we need to do the right thing by them, in the same way inviting non-island based players to play supports, where necessary, getting the game on.

2017 saw a new broadcast deal agreed between the ECB and Sky / BBC (the ECB do not have a deal with BT – the reason this winter's Ashes is on BT is they have an agreement with Cricket Australia) that should see, in 2020, more money invested in the development of grass roots cricket – until then funding will remain at a similar level and with the reduction in grants the Board may have to draw on some of the reserves it has built up over the past few years to continue to deliver cricket at the same level. Clubs face a similar challenge which may explain why the Small Grants Scheme was oversubscribed by double in 2017 – the applications are now available for 2018.

I will finish my report thanking those that have made the last 12 months happen – cricket like many sports is very reliant on volunteers and I would ask next year that every club and organisation submit at least one nomination for an OSCA; it makes a difference and it is important that those that help get the game on are supported and recognised.

My first thanks goes to my fellow Directors who have given up so much of their time and worked so hard to deliver changes in local cricket –as with so many they are volunteers and have many commitments outside cricket, they cannot be at every game or meeting – where would we be without the fantastic teas that are loving prepared, the pitch being prepared and marked out, the outfield being cut, the sightscreen erected, the club house and changing rooms cleaned etc etc.

Next are the officials, both umpires and scorers so ably supported by the ACO committee. For a number of years clubs have enjoyed panel appointed umpires in Division One and this may be coming to an end due to the decline in the number of umpires willing to stand – I will leave you to draw your own conclusions as to why. The new online scorer and umpire courses makes it accessible for more people and even if you decided you do not wish to be an official taking the courses will increase your appreciation of the game.

I then turn to the Cricket Development Manager and Coaches (both employed and voluntary) who do so much unseen work. The Island is unique in many ways and this brings its own challenges – being one of the smallest counties in the UK it only has one CDM undertaking what 6 people do, for example, in Hampshire.

Lastly thanks to all our sponsors without whom we could not fund much of what we do.

Many thanks to the support of so many this year, and I close by wishing everyone a successful 2018 and beyond.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Graham Cooper presented the accounts to the meeting and explained there may be the possibility of a not insignificant loss in 2017/18 in view of the funding restrictions from the ECB. No questions were asked by the meeting. Graham asked for the membership to give their Approval of Accounts:

Proposed By: P. Rudd; Seconded: M. Richards

Accounts were accepted by the meeting

6. Appointment of Auditor:

Company Auditors	A.H. Cross & Co
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Proposed by P. Rudd; Seconded M. Richards.

Auditor Accepted

7. ECB Update and 2019 Priorities

Graham Cooper presented on 2019 priorities and the latest ECB direction (See attachment)

Janice Routledge presented on the New Laws

8. Election of Officers

Directors IW Cricket Board Ltd:

	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
Director	Phil Mew	Cowes CC	Arreton CC
Director	Ray Winter	Cowes CC	Arreton CC
Director	Hugh Wells	Godshill CC	Ryde School
Director	Richard Webb	Ryde School	Godshill CC
Director	Martyn Richards	Island Bakeries CC	Ryde CC
Director (Hon Treasurer)	Howard Downer	Cowes CC	Arreton CC

Directors were elected on block. Proposed by: Phil Rudd; Seconded: A Woodward

9. Date of 2018 AGM:

Monday 10th December. Venue: TBC, 7pm Start

Chairperson

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____