



Minutes:	General Committee
Date:	Thursday 27 th January 2022
Time:	18:00
Place:	Committee Room, The Kia Oval Zoom Video Conference (Dial-In)
Chair:	R Thompson
Members in Attendance:	L Conder M Eadon T (Patricia) Garrard P (Philip) Garrard R Harman J Hudson W Jones K Olafare JP D Pakeman B Qureshi Dr M Searle M Tee R Trinick D Watts DL S Wootten
In attendance:	C Doyle (minutes) S Elworthy MBE A Lane A Stewart OBE

R Thompson welcomed Steve Elworthy to the General Committee.

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1** Apologies for absence were received from M Bicknell, C Dymond, E Rainford-Brent and A Tudor.

ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 2.1** The minutes of the meeting on 30th November were agreed as an accurate record.

ITEM 3 MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1** R Thompson commented on the Club's ongoing work in engaging the local African-Caribbean community.
- 3.2** R Thompson commented on the grammatical error on the front of the Pavilion.¹ C Doyle noted that these boards would be replaced at the start of the season.
- 3.3** R Thompson updated the General Committee on historical allegations of racism being investigated by the Club.
- 3.4** R Thompson reported that a new Culture and Values Board, chaired by E Rainford-Brent, was in the process of being established and would have authority to oversee and manage the Club's EDI policies, Sustainability work and Community Engagement.
- 3.5** M Eadon reported that the Club had exceeded 15,000 Members and thus, in accordance with Club Rule 7.1, the approval of the General Committee to exceed the limit was required.² M Eadon proposed that the General Committee approve a temporary limit of 18,000, adding that the removal of a numerical Membership limit was being proposed as part of the Club Rules amendments being put forward at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. After discussion, R Thompson proposed that a limit of 18,000 be put in place until the Annual General Meeting. The General Committee unanimously approved the limit of 18,000.

ITEM 4 CEO REPORT

¹ GC Minutes 30 11 21, Item 8.3.

² Rules of SCCC, 7.1, "The number of Members (but excluding, for the purpose of this calculation, any Honorary Life Members) shall not exceed 15,000 or such other number as the Committee shall decide from time to time in all categories."

- 4.1 S Elworthy formally thanked R Thompson and C Hodgson for welcoming him to Surrey County Cricket Club.
- 4.2 S Elworthy commented on the fixture release, which had been published by the ECB after a long delay.
- 4.3 S Elworthy commented on the Board Report, which included insights and recommendations from all departments of the Club and the business.
- 4.4 S Elworthy noted that the ECB Partnership Review Process meeting had been delayed until 10th March. S Elworthy commented on the importance of the next Long Term Staging Agreement, which would run from 2025 to 2031.
- 4.5 S Elworthy reported that the Duchy of Cornwall were planning an event on the outfield on Sunday 5th June to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- 4.6 S Elworthy reported that the bid for the Hundred Eliminator Final had not been successful, with the matchday awarded to the Ageas Bowl.
- 4.7 S Elworthy commented on the Club's work on Equality, Diversity & Inclusion. S Elworthy noted that work on the EDI 12-point plan, as well as Sustainability, would appear in the Board report going forward.
- 4.8 S Elworthy commented on new safety legislation known as Martyn's Law.
- 4.9 S Elworthy commented on the Data & Insight department.
- 4.10 S Elworthy noted that the Club would host the opening match of the Women's Hundred.
- 4.11 L Conder noted that the imagery in the Galadari Stand did not display or reference Women's Cricket. R Thompson agreed that all heritage projects should include both Women's Cricket and Men's Cricket. A Lane noted that new lightboxes were currently being installed which displayed Women's Cricket statistics.

ITEM 5 CRICKET

- 5.1 A Stewart reported that Head Coach Vikram Solanki was leaving the Club to join the Ahmedabad IPL team as Director of Cricket.
- 5.2 A Stewart reported that Assistant Head Coach Richard Johnson was leaving the Club to re-join Middlesex CCC as their Head Coach.
- 5.3 A Stewart reported that Gareth Batty was stepping into the role of Interim Head Coach until the end of the 2022 season. A Stewart reported that Azhar Mahmood and Jim Troughton had been appointed as assistant coaches. A Stewart added that a full and proper recruitment process for

the Head Coach would take place at the end of the season, and would adhere to the Rooney Rule.

- 5.4 A Stewart reported that 5 Surrey players were currently on the IPL auction on 14th February.
- 5.5 A Stewart reported that Kemar Roach and Sean Abbott would re-join the Club as overseas players for 2022.
- 5.6 A Stewart reported that Katherine Robson had been promoted into the role of Head of Women's Pathway.
- 5.7 A Stewart confirmed that there was an insurance policy in place for players who had returned injured following spells in Franchise cricket. A Stewart reported on injuries to Tom and Sam Curran.
- 5.8 S Elworthy commented that he was planning to meet Clare Connor to discuss the long-term plans for the structure of Women's Cricket. S Elworthy noted that Women's fixtures had not yet been fully released.

ITEM 6 FINANCE

- 6.1 A Lane summarised the 2022 Budget.
- 6.2 A Lane highlighted the increase in turnover from £36.7m in 2021 to £46m in 2022.
- 6.3 A Lane reported a budgeted increase in overheads of £3.7m, and explained the large increases in staffing costs and ancillary costs.
- 6.4 A Lane summarised the CAPEX projects for 2022, which had been approved by the Board.
- 6.5 R Thompson explained that the budget reflected a reset for the business following the significant impact of the pandemic. M Eadon noted that the budget had been robustly reviewed by the Audit, Risk & Governance Committee.
- 6.6 D Watts noted that the complete repayment of the JM Finn Stand marked a significant milestone for the Club.
- 6.7 S Elworthy commented on a Bronze/Silver/Gold ticket pricing structure was being implemented for the first time.
- 6.8 T Garrard commented that the Members should be made fully aware that the Lock Balcony and Sylvester Clarke areas would no longer be Member areas in 2022. S Elworthy agreed to ensure clear communications on the Members areas.
- 6.9 R Thompson formally proposed the budget for 2022. The budget was unanimously approved by the General Committee.

ITEM 7 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Galadari Stand

- 7.1** R Thompson commented on the Galadari Stand, and noted that there were still significant snagging issues such as leaking.

Oval Hotel

- 7.2** R Thompson reported that the demolition of the Ovalhouse Theatre had commenced.
- 7.3** R Thompson commented on funding options for the development of the Hotel.

Bedser Stand

- 7.4** R Thompson commented on several planning options to redevelop the Bedser Stand, and noted that these would cause significant disruption to the business. R Thompson noted that other stadium specialists were being engaged to examine all options for the Bedser Stand. R Thompson noted that the redevelopment of the Bedser Stand would define the Kia Oval for a generation.

Kennington Park

- 7.5** R Thompson commented on plans to develop a multi-sports facility in Kennington Park, with discussions and planning being led by Ebony Rainford-Brent.

Cricketers Pub

- 7.6** R Thompson commented that the Cricketers Pub was being put on the market.
- 7.7** R Thompson noted that an upcoming a Board offsite day had been scheduled, with development projects a key discussion point.

ITEM 8 ECB

- 8.1** R Thompson commented on the DCMS meeting with the ECB on 25 January.
- 8.2** R Thompson commented on the recruitment process for the new Chair of the ECB.
- 8.3** R Thompson commented on the issues facing the ECB in creating a new Long Term Staging Agreements.
- 8.4** R Thompson commented on the upcoming media rights deal.
- 8.5** R Thompson confirmed he would not be standing for the position of Chair of the ECB.

- 8.6** T Garrard highlighted the success of the England Under-19 team in the World Cup, commenting that this showed the success of the County Structure.
- 8.7** W Jones commented on the potential of Yorkshire CCC losing its Test Match. S Elworthy noted that, in that circumstance, the ECB Host Venue Panel would re-allocate the venue for that Test.

ITEM 9 NOMINATIONS

President

- 9.1** R Thompson formally proposed D Pakeman for re-election as President for a second year. L Conder seconded the nomination, and the proposal was confirmed unanimously. D Pakeman thanked the General Committee for their support.

Deputy President

- 9.2** R Thompson formally proposed T Garrard for re-election as Deputy President for a second year. S Wootten seconded the nomination, and the proposal was confirmed unanimously.

Honorary Treasurer

- 9.3** R Thompson formally proposed M Eadon to continue as Honorary Treasurer. M Tee seconded the nomination, and the proposal was confirmed unanimously.

General Committee

- 9.4** R Thompson listed the 14 Members who were standing for election to the General Committee.

ITEM 10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1** M Searle asked whether County Championship cricket would return to Guildford. R Thompson confirmed that County Championship cricket should be played at Guildford in future seasons.

ITEM 11 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 11.1** Tuesday 24th March at 1800 in the Committee Room.