

2013 GWLCC AGM

Minutes

Opening:

The AGM of the Gentlemen of West London Cricket Club (“the Club”) was called to order at 6.30pm on 9 November 2013 at Club 182, Wembley by Chairman Naveed Khan.

Present (22):

Committee:

Naveed Khan (Chairman)
Andrew Burman (Secretary)
Horace Hibbert (Vice-Captain)
Greg Newcombe (Captain)
Ken Toft (Treasurer)

Members and prospective Members:

Wayne Caveney
Michael de la Perrelle
Himanshu Desai
Peter Denton
Nilesh Dubey
Horace Hibbert
Mark Jones
Sumit Kumar
Ramanjit Lall
Dhruv Patel
Hemin Patel
Sanjay Patel
Mark Sciberras
Jonny Small
Dane Thoms

Guests:

Dave Bender
Bradley Caveney

Apologies for Absence:

Praveen Bocha
Sachin Desai
Richard Gilkes
Raj Pentakota
Noman Qureshi
Stuart Snelling

A. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

B. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the previous AGM were unanimously approved as distributed.

C. Treasurer’s Report

Please see Appendix – Income and Expenditure.

The 2013 season saw the club make a loss of £285 which was a small improvement on the previous season. The biggest concern is the drop in revenue from annual subscriptions. This can be partly explained by the semi-retirement of a number of club stalwarts, but a few regular players haven’t yet paid. I would remind members that the annual subscription is a major source of club revenue and without it the club can’t afford to play cricket. If current trends continue, then the club will no longer have money in the bank so it is vitally important that members pay as early as possible in 2014. The two-tier match fees haven’t been as effective this season, although managing this system is difficult for the person collecting the fees.

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Summary:-

- Revenue from subscriptions has dropped dramatically.
- Revenue from match fees has increased.
- Less expenditure on kit, but there are still far too many items getting lost – all members please look after the club kit.
- Opposition fees have fallen, but this is a result of both ‘reciprocal arrangements’ (e.g. Hale, London Saints, Judd Street Tigers) and the 20th anniversary fixture where no opposition charges applied.
- Thanks to Naveed Khan and Mediworld for continuing financial support, e.g. the new website.

Finally big thanks to Andy for doing a lot of my club work in my many absences and all those who helped in any way.

D. Secretary’s Report

A successful Jubilee season will be much cherished in future years, but it took some organizing. No fewer than 51 players donned the shirt, of whom 13 played only in the 25th. anniversary games and seven only on tour. Injury ruled out de la Perrelle, Himanshu Desai and Khan for the whole season, Dubey and Sanjay Patel until June. George Wright went travelling and brother Laurie’s blossoming musical career meant he was absent until August. Toft was rarely available apart from the Netherlands tour. It was therefore somewhat chaotic week to week and there was a danger that the tour would have to be cancelled before Judd Street Tigers mustered behind the flag. It was fitting that the best game of the season was between the fledging rivals.

When it became clear that such absences were threatening the ability to fulfil fixtures (one was indeed lost) the Committee reacted quickly. The tour was honoured thanks to Judd Street Tigers, who supplied five players. Fortunately, Caveney, Hibbert, Sciberras and especially Lall were of great assistance in arranging guests, several of whom were exceptional players. It was delightful to welcome three splendid new regulars, Tom Jones, introduced by Greg Newcombe, Jonny Small (Mark Jones) and latterly Vijay Basker (Praveen Bocha).

The total of games played looked nothing out of ordinary but was skewed by unplanned short second games against Ramgarhia, MSV Zeemacht and London Saints. Seven Sundays were missed before September, none due to the weather. Rams (and their tragic replacements BBC Mishits), Swinging Googlies and Crown Taverners bailed on the Gents, while the Gents bailed on Northfields. Other weekends were left fallow.

An early Twenty20 win over Cairns Fudge was notable for sprung stumps at the batsmen’s end, a kitbag masquerading as the stumps at the bowlers’ and Cloete (16 balls) leapfrogging Bocha (21 balls), who had just 20 minutes before set a record for the fastest Gents’ fifty. Sixty-five more sixes (27 by the prolific Lall) would be struck in addition to Bocha’s three and Cloete’s eight that freezing April day. Pentakota, Lall, guest Raipuri and Bocha then bowled out Ramgarhia in 12 overs. A week off was followed by the tour, three defeats in low-scoring contests against MSV Zeemacht and CC Zwolle, a town home to club founder Mark Ashton in the 1980s, during which residency he thought that all public transport was free as he never saw a ticket inspector.

An unbeaten 57 by Small on debut saw a win against London Saints in a game that marked the return of Sanjay Patel. Bocha’s 7-0-37-5 (his last four overs carding 4-0-7-4) and some smart field placement by Newcombe then set up the win against a strong Hale. The warm weather had finally arrived, but the Gents played only alternate Sundays from late May to late July. There was nevertheless some enjoyable cricket to be had, notably a Twenty20 day against Pak followed by an epic tie against Judd Street Tigers, Bocha and Lall scoring fifties.

A pattern was beginning to emerge. Playing on true pitches the Gents won five tosses, batted first and were inserted in two others. Runs flowed – 1,795 in seven games with Lall scoring 61, 67, 80 and 87. Small hit two more fifties in this Elizabethan period, Sanjay Patel, Sachin Desai, Dubey, Basker and Khalid one each. Judd Street Tigers, London Saints and Clapham Inn replied well but the unbeaten run was extended to 14 on a damp pitch at Hale. The Twenty20 Silver Jubilee, a gathering of the clans, was well organised and saw some good play, Caveney distinguishing himself with 50* in the second match, one of eight 15/20 over games out of 20. At season’s end, the Gents had lost only three matches and were proudly unbeaten in England.

Lall (an impressive 486, the highest since Husain’s 680 in 2007), Bocha, Small and Sanjay Patel dominated the batting with punitive hitting while six others made fifties, Dubey’s against Clapham In being particularly stylish. Lall also headed the bowling (and appearances) with 18 wickets and Sanjay Patel took 16, paying only 12.6 runs per wicket and conceding only 4.1 runs per over. Bocha, Hibbert and the reinvigorated Hemin Patel also took more than 10 wickets. The fielding improved and 50 catches was eight more than in 2012.

As the season progressed Hemin Patel and Sachin Desai rediscovered their enthusiasm to great effect. This complemented the efforts of Newcombe and Hibbert at the helm. They led with dignity and acumen. Chairman Khan worked generously and tirelessly to market the club, setting up a new website and a Facebook page.

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E. Captain's Report

It has been quite a year for the Gents both on and off the field. The last two seasons have been somewhat of a transitional period and while some senior players have been playing less, the new generation of Gents have filled in to great effect.

Going a whole season (bar a trip to Amsterdam) unbeaten is some achievement and says a lot about us as a team. Firstly, the talent many of our players boast has finally come good over a whole season. Our strength in depth is also one of the main reasons we have been so successful this year.

As captain, to know that we have a readymade replacement who can score a fifty or get three wickets whoever is missing certainly makes my life a lot easier and is a credit to every one of you.

I've said it before but the best part of this club is the fact that whoever comes to play feels welcome straight away. We have kept players who are far too good for our level because they love playing for us. That must continue and after getting to know all of you over the last four or five years I'm sure it will.

As for this season, apart from the obvious achievement of going unbeaten, we have had a fantastic year. A brilliant trip to Amsterdam with the Judd Street Tigers was definitely a highlight, plus the tie with them was by far the best game of the season.

Other than some brilliant batting, bowling and fielding displays there were a number of memorable moments from this season that I wanted to mention:

1. Lucy's banoffee pie
2. HP's sightscreen curse
3. Hemin, as his victim so wonderfully described, leaping like "a baby elephant on a trampoline" to catch Scibo
4. Amsterdam tales including Mark seeing ninjas on our hotel wall, Jonesy's internal GPS being well off when looking for the toilet and yours truly falling off the back seat of the coach.

And much, much more...

As you all know, I am stepping down as captain, but before I do I want to thank you all for making this a fantastic season for the club. For everyone who gave me advice, for the Committee who do so much for the club on a daily basis and for every player who has dug me out of a hole, scored some big runs or taken a wicket just as people were starting to question whether I had a clue what I was doing.

I look forward to playing under whoever takes the helm and can lead the Gents into what I'm sure will be another very successful season next year.

COYG!

F. Proposals for Membership

The following were proposed, seconded and elected nem. con.:

Vijay Basker
Jonny Small
Dane Thoms

G. Nets

Nilesh Dubey and Sumit Kumar requested the opportunity to have access to a bowling machine at the net practice as well as mid-season nets. Naveed Khan will investigate the cost and level of interest of both and inform the membership accordingly. Nets will again be held at the Oval and Teddington SC.

H. Subscriptions and match fees

These will remain at the 2013 tariff:

Annual subscription

£50

Match fee

Members £5

Guests (first three games) £5

Guests (fourth and subsequent games) or Members with annual subscription in arrears £8

Student Members £2

Student Guests or Student Members with annual subscription in arrears £

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I. Election of Committee

The following Officers were elected nem. con.:

Secretary Andy Burman
Treasurer Ken Toft

The following Officers were elected after a Vote:

Chairman Naveed Khan
Captain Horace Hibbert
Vice-Captain Sachin Desai

Sachin Desai was proposed and seconded for Captain and Hemin Patel was proposed and seconded for Vice-Captain.

J. Chairman's Awards

Bronze (100 runs and 10 wickets):

Praveen Bocha
Horace Hibbert
Ramanjit Lall
Sanjay Patel

K. Awards

The 2013 Awards were voted for as follows:

All-Rounder Ramanjit Lall
Batsman Ramanjit Lall
Bowler Ramanjit Lall
Fielder Greg Newcombe
Most Improved Mark Jones
Bob Ashton Andrew Burman

Conclusion:

Meeting was concluded at 9.30pm by the Chairman. The next AGM will be on 8 November 2014.

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Appendix – Income and Expenditure 2013

Gentlemen of West London Cricket Club Income / Expenditure 2013

Opening Balance **£582.73** **£907.64**

Income **2013** **2012**

Match Fees (refund)	£40.00	
Players' Match Fees	£893.00	£733.00
Nets	£170.00	£70.00
Opposition Fees	£100.00	£637.50
Interest	£0.61	£0.63
Subscriptions	£590.00	£940.00
Grand Total	£1,793.61	£2,381.13

Expenditure **2013** **2012**

AGM		£97.85
Web Site	£44.33	£35.99
Kit	£194.47	£307.45
Match Fees Charged	£390.00	£390.00
Nets	£177.60	£124.00
Pitches	£700.00	£930.00
Teas	£332.00	£532.00
Tour		£253.75
Refund		£35.00
20th Anniversary	£225.00	
Bar	£15.00	
Grand Total	£2,078.40	£2,706.04

Profit (Loss) **-£284.79** **-£324.91**

Closing Balance **£297.94** **£582.73**