



LONG FORM Minutes of the AGM 2017
on Monday 23rd January 2017 commencing 7.45pm
at Wokingham Cricket Club, Sadler's Lane

NOTE: These are the Long Form minutes containing full reports and transcript of the meeting.

PRESENT:

Dennis Prior, Roy Kinner, John Golding, Jon Simmons, Gordon Whickman Martin House, Gail Bonnell, Joe Morris, David Halle, Martin Garrard, Martin Bishop, Graeme Watkins, Sue Jones, Rob Bartlett, Clive Robinson, Colin Mercer, P Wilding, Stephen Theobald, Martin Vlietstra, Mike Carter, Chris Dozell, Keith Machin, Phillip Cambray, Kevin Lavender, Kevin Snapes, John Reed, Mark Ennis, C.S. Harding, Ken Duggan, M Garland, Terry Spice, Francis Golding, G Lupton, Liz Halson, Richard Wyatt, Peter Brown, Andrew Gomez, Bob Woodmansee

AGENDA

1. Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of 2016 AGM
4. Officers Reports
 - a. Chairman & Appointments Report
 - b. Treasurers Report
 - c. Membership Services Officer's Report
 - d. Education Officer's, Scorers and Webmaster Report
 - e. Performance Officer's Report
5. Constitution – Change to add the new officer role of County Scorer Officer.
6. Subscriptions – No Change proposed
7. Election of Officers 2017
8. AOB

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Dennis Prior the current chairman of BCOA welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES for absence:

Carl Kneale, Raj Patel, Vernon Lewis, Neil Doody, Richard Bishop, John Mullins, Giles Bedford, Stephen Madgwick, Ian Dummigan

3. Minutes of 2016 AGM:

Jon Simmons gave a summary of the short form minutes from 2016.

There were no questions or issues from the minutes of the 2016 AGM and these were accepted.

Sue Jones proposed the minutes to be accepted as an accurate summary of the 2016 AGM and Martin House seconded it.

4. Officers Reports

a. Chairman's Report

The chairman's report was given by Dennis Prior.



Berkshire Cricket Officials Association (BCOA)

Committed to the Development and Support of Umpires and Scorers in Berkshire



BCOA's Main objective is to represent and support all members, Umpires and Scorers alike, to educate and give a career pathway for them to achieve the highest level each aspires too and is capable of, in support of Cricket and the players in Berkshire and Beyond So how are we doing.

Certainly the training in the year was another good one and with a large number of PD's completed adds numbers to our ever improving support level. This year 7 Umpires were supported in their ambitions to officiate in Premier League environments. Due to lack of openings in HCPL they have had to make that move within Middlesex, Surrey and Hampshire. Since that time, closer relationship with HCPL has been established, which our CPO will update further in his report.

2016 The year of Surveys on the state of English Cricket. The first was the ECB ACO report back on the state of Recreational Cricket, from the previous year, on concerns about people leaving the game. Brightest point was that Berkshire Cricket Captains were the second most happy with the Umpires performance in their games. The second was the University of Portsmouth survey of Umpires - "Is on field behaviour by players getting worse." The conclusion was yes. This lead to a Radio 5 Programme which interviewed a number of Umpires abused on field. ECB CEO Nick Cousins was among those contributing to the programme. During 2016 Red Cards were trialled.

Speakers who have been guests at our Monthly Meetings this year have included both Nick Cousins and Mark Williams, both twice. Mark spoke of the progress of the law changes due to be activated following this coming season. Sadly since that time Mark has withdrawn from the exercise, due to ill Health, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

At our Monthly meetings, attendees are kept up to date with all news worthy items and importantly law changes and interpretations of issues, like GWL. **We believe this to be most important, not only to newer members, but especially to those with Grandfather rights, who may be very experienced due to years of officiating, but have not attended any training since then and are not up to date with all the interim changes to the laws and interpretations of best practice. I would urge ALL members to attend monthly meetings as regularly as your diary allows.** You are quite privileged to have such a dedicated team of trainers and performance support, keeping you up to date and relevant to the standards required of today's Game, and I would like to thank them on your behalf.

Sunday January 8th was the South West Regional Conference for all County Officers, where the changes to the Regional Hubs were put in place. Berkshire are no longer part of the South West Region, but are now part of the South Central Hub along with Oxon. Bucks., Hants. and Sussex. This follows the ECB reorganisation of the game from top to bottom. I would like to congratulate ECB ACO for the expertise, or was it Clairvoyance, in forecasting the result of the Ballot by issuing the Agenda for the Conference in November, which was geared to the New structure before the result of the Ballot in January. The overriding issue at the meeting is that all Counties are experiencing a lack of take up of courses and new members, Berkshire included and work needs to be done in this area.

Finally I would like to give my sincere thanks to Berkshire Committee members and all those too numerous to mention who have greatly assisted me during my tenure in the role of Chairman.



The chairman's report was accepted by the meeting and there were NO questions arising.

b. Appointments Officer's Report

Dennis Prior gave the appointments officer's report.

At the start of 2016 I had decided that BCOA should look to train a successor for the County Appointment Officer role, to take over from me when next due for re-election at the 2017 AGM. Only one volunteer came forward, Raj Patel, who convinced the Committee that he could manage his time to cover all his other responsibilities. Raj was duly Co-Opted into the role, and during the Season 458 appointments were made, of which Raj did the great majority.

Raj represented BCOA at the Regional Conference along with other members of the committee and attended the Appointment Officers breakout meeting, which I asked him to report back to tonight's Meeting. This is his report of the Regional Conference Sarum, 8th Jan. 2017 Appointment officers report.

- 95% of the meeting was about the new structures and the need to find an appointments officer for the region. We were all encouraged to apply for the post.

Other matters

- It was agreed that umpires must give availabilities as soon as possible and just as importantly to update them throughout the season.
- CAO/CPOs will continue to be consulted re: appointments for u17 games.
- We were taught how to adjust min/max umpires required for any individual fixture
- County ACOs without WTU are slowly coming around to sign up to this platform. Oxon are about to take WTU up.

I also spoke to Steve Harris re HCPL take-up of WTU. I think there is a willingness to listen but Steve is unsure on how it works. I volunteered to sit down with him when I did my first batch of appointments to show him how the system works.

Not much more to report however please can you ask all Berkshire umpires to start updating their availabilities. If they could be reminded that we appoint 5 weeks in advance then that would be good too. **So please do your availabilities now.**

The appointments officers report was accepted by the meeting and there were NO questions arising.

c. Membership Services Officer's Report

Martin Garrard gave a summarised version of his report. This was based on the numbers sent by Martin Gentle in November.

There are 201 members of ECB ACO who are affiliated to Berkshire ACO. However, of the 201 only 106 were members of BCOA. Martin and Gail have an action to create a small information



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flyer on the benefits of membership of BCOA (e.g. Subsidised Training, CPD, Monthly meetings, preference on appointments etc....). This will be created and circulated to all.

County Membership Report		
Scheme:	ACO	
CCB:	Berkshire	
Date:	01-Nov-16	
Fully paid-up members for 2016	201	
Paid Members	197	
Free Members	4	These members are free based Honorary or First class
Yet to Renew in 2016	15	These people were members in 2015 but are still to renew for 2016
In Process	1	These are applications currently being processed
Cancelled	3	member has request cancellation of membership
Umpires	183	people recorded as umpires or both in the database
Scorers	49	people recorded as scorers or both in the database

BERKS CoA - 106

The membership services officer's report was accepted by the meeting and there were NO questions arising.

d. Treasurers Report

Dennis Prior gave the treasurer's report in Carl's absence. He circulated detailed accounts to the meeting. Neil Doody, who is an accountant has audited the accounts and accepted them.

As in previous years, Dennis only went through the differences in figures from the previous year (Highlights below).

- At the end of December we had £ 9723 in the Bank, compared to £9637 the previous December
- Last year we had a Surplus of £878 which is now increased to a Surplus of £ 1596.
- The expenditure from Courses and Training is down due to less courses being run last year.
- The ECB ACO rebate, BCOA gets £4 for every ACO member that is aligned to Berkshire, this is normally paid in the January following a complete year, however, this year we received our rebate in the last week of December. This year the rebate was £ 804 for 201 ECB ACO members in Berkshire.
- The Umpires appointments & fees on income had increased to £7533. This was due to umpires not being paid on the day with Berkshire cricket invoiced and the money placed into the BCOA account for payment to members. The payment to members shown in Umpires fees and expenses. This is a change from last year.
- Speaker's fees were £ 0 this year.

QUESTION: Phillip Cambray asked why the invoiced amount of £ 7533 was more than the £6570 paid to umpires in fees. This was due to cancelled games where invoices were still applied but fees not paid, also the WTU licence was paid by ECB. Carl will answer this fully at the next monthly meeting when he attends.



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BERKSHIRE CRICKET OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION			BERKSHIRE CRICKET OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION		
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016			INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016		
2015		2016	2015	INCOME	2016
£		£	£		£
	Current Assets		1740	Memberships	1470
9637	Bank balance	9723	156	Grants and donations	-
	Current liabilities		2940	Courses and training	3173
1910	Income in advance	400	1448	ECB ACO rebate	804
	Net Assets	9323	1912	Umpires appointment fees	7533
7727			150	Administration and sundries	26
	Represented by General Fund –		8346		13006
6849	At 1 January 2016	7727	3290	EXPENDITURE	
878	Surplus for the year	1596	924	Courses and training	2617
7727		9323	389	Room hire for meetings	1337
			1600	Speakers fees	-
			1195	Training packs	660
			70	Umpires fees and expenses	6570
			7468	Administration and sundries	227
			878	Surplus for the year	1596

I have examined the books and records for the year to 31 December 2016 and certify that the accounts are in accordance therewith.

18 JANUARY 2017 *Neil Doody*
NEIL B DOODY FCA

Sue Jones proposed that the accounts should be accepted, Martin House seconded the proposal and the meeting unanimously voted to accept the treasurer's accounts for 2016.

e. Education Officer's, Scorers and Webmaster Report

Education Officer:

John Golding reported on the Education activities in 2016. A fuller report is given in the long form of the minutes.

Main points presented include :-

- Umpires Level 1 – 26 candidates, 22 passed on the day, 3 later and 1 disappeared.
- The club scorer's course on line has meant a drop off in scorers and the Level 1 requiring a portfolio and PD means many do not carry onto the Level 1.
- 8 took the club scorers course and did well.

Umpires Course Attendance

Year	Berkshire Cricket League	Thames Valley Cricket League, Berkshire	Thames Valley Cricket League Other	Other Berkshire Clubs/Leagues	Out of County No Affiliation	Total
2010-11	8	13	0	6	4	31
2011-12	4	4	0	4	5	17
2012-13	10	13	1	0	13	37
2013-14	2	9	1	2	5	19
2014-15	3	5	5	7	4	24
2015-16	4	14	0	2	6	26



Scorers Course Attendance

Year	Berkshire Cricket League	Thames Valley Cricket League, Berkshire	Thames Valley Cricket League Other	Other Berkshire Clubs/Leagues	Out of County No Affiliation	Total
2011-12	0	10	0	2	4	16
2012-13	2	6	0	3	4	15
2013-14	4	6	2	0	1	13
2014-15	0	4	1	0	1	5
2015-16	4	1	0	2	0	7
2015-16	6	1	0	0	1	8

Education ran a very well attended Pre Season Refresher Course which majored on:

- Law Changes for the 2016 Season
- Changes to Ground, Weather and Light Protocols

Also ran One Umpire & One Scorer Course for Clubs plus talks on the role of Officials to the Thames Valley Academy and the Berkshire Cricket Young Leaders.

All BCOA education courses can be found under the web link: -

<http://www.berkscoa.co.uk/courses.html>

John gave thanks to his professional and first class training team – David Halle, Mike Carter, Liz Halson, Gail Bonnell and all those who had helped in the past.

No questions were raised and the education officer's report was accepted by the meeting.

Scorers Officer:

John Golding gave the scorer's officer's report again based on the numbers of scorers completing various levels of training. This also showed the effect of the club scorers and less coming through onto Level 1.

- Last year the Level 1 Course was scrapped and the Club Scorer Course introduced. We were one of the first Counties to run it. The Course is also available On-Line FREE!!! Time will tell what impact this will have on membership.
- Those who complete the Club Scorers can go on to a Level 1 by the production of a portfolio and a simple Professional Discussion. The take up, as you can see, was disappointing.



	Members	Pathway to Next Level
Ungraded	8	0
Club Scorer	6	2
Level 1	14	2
Level 1A	3	1
Level 2	7	0
Level 3	2	n/a

No questions were raised and the scorers report accepted.

Webmaster Report:

John Golding also gave the webmasters report. The website continues to be a good example and has increasing use. Traffic and hits are up. However 50% of that is from Russia and it is attempts by hackers to break into the website. John also mentioned the deleting of 2500 spam emails from Russia etc, to combat this Spam filters have been increased and as a result some emails may not get through that are legitimate. John has reloaded the website twice to ensure that no malicious programs have been planted. Facebook (type in cricket Umpires) is a good way to communicate and the twitter feed is being used as a marketing tool.

- Over the last year the number of hits has significantly increased, with about 50% from Russia
- The website continues to receive good reviews nationally & in the ECB ACO newsletter
- We now have three blogs (two Scorer & one Umpire) their initiative plus the continually updated documents pages.

There is still the lack of action shots from the members.

- There is now a BCOA Facebook page and Twitter Feed. Both well used.
- Twitter has become an effective marketing tool for us.
- As well as general support for the Committees email accounts which have suffered from a significant increase in SPAM. (i.e. 2,500 from Russia to one email account).
- We have a shared drive system for all Officers to support the large number of documents we produce securely

No questions were raised on the webmasters report which was accepted.

f. Performance Officer's Report

Roy Kinner gave the performance officers report.

- Level 1A had seen 6 out of 8 candidates who did the full course carry on to successfully pass the program.
- Once again pre-season friendlies were offered to new and experienced umpires to refresh and progress
- A level 2 program was run in March 2016, 3 attended the course and 2 passed, completing their PD's out of county.



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- Captain's marking scheme had been used again. A simple transparent average is used. Roy explained the Bands A, B, C and D across the TVL divisions. 80% was being used as a benchmark for average performance. The concept of best umpires; best games is being followed with some progressing.
- Roy also discussed the importance of CPD and umpires was that there were now paths to other premier leagues to allow developing umpires to progress by other routes than the HCPL. However relationships with the HCPL had improved and a new pathway for umpires to the HCPL will be progressed during 2017 season.
- Roy ended on a discussion of the new education courses, which may not cover man management and experience on field so well... He ended with the thought: -

EDUCATION FOR ALL – PROGRESSION FOR SOME!!!

Captains Marks

- Berkshire Cricket League - The marking format used this season did not allow us to tabulate the results.
- Thames Valley Cricket League - Results are based on the AVERAGE of YOUR Captains marks as a percentage. The number of matches is those that you received marks for. The requirements for the banding are:

Min 4 matches.

- Band A 4 or more in Division 1
- Band B Less than 4 in Division 1 and 4 or more in Division 2
- Band C Less than 4 in either Division 1 OR 2 and 4 or more in Division 3
- Others Less than 4 or do not comply with Band A, B or C requirements

Target 80%

- Band A Range 80% - 91.5% - 12 Umpires
Below 80% - 2 Umpires
- Band B Range 80% - 84.2% - 6 Umpires
Below 73% - 79.7% - 6 Umpires
- Band C Range 70.5% - 92.3% - 13 Umpires
- Others - 6 Umpires
- Total Umpires that were managed 45

Level 1A and Match management

- The 2016 years programme consisted of:
 - 3 who were carried forward from 2015
 - 7 who joined from the 2016 or previous years Level 1
 - 8 who paid for and only did First Module
- 5 of the above were already on the panel
- 3 of the above completed their Level 1A and moved on to a panel

Level 2



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- 3 Candidates
- 2 Passed
- 1 Deferred (himself)

- Over 5 years of Analysis by the ECB ACO
 - 160 Started an Umpires Level 1 Course
 - 152 Passed (95% of those who started)
 - 33 joined a League Panel (21% of those who started)

- Have increased our team to support:
 - On field Observation / Mentoring
 - Boundary Observation & Assessment (5 at County Level & 2 at Regional Level)
- Succession Planning (more Later)
- Opened up a successful pathway to Premier (Tier) Cricket:
 - 7 of our members took the opportunity.
 - 1 gained C1 status and the others will this coming season.
- Home Counties Premier League have now opened the doors to us.
 - 1 Member will be joining their panel this season.
- **Umpire Courses for 2017 / 18 are in for a radical change:**
 - Out go the Level 1 – 2 as we know it
 - In come the:
 - Club Umpire
 - League Panel Umpire
 - Premier League Umpire
 - All with the philosophy:
 - Education for all
 - Progression for some

The meeting thanked Roy for his dedication, professional approach and hard work as Performance Officer in 2016, especially in opening up alternative paths for premier league and progressions and his report was accepted.

5. **Constitution – Change proposed to add County Scorer Officer**

Due to John Golding resigning as County Education Officer and County Scorer Officer (He will retain the role of Webmaster.) it was decided to split these roles from one person and to add to the constitution the role of county scorer officer.

The meeting accepted unanimously by a show of hands the acceptance of the change to constitution.

6. **Subscriptions – No Change proposed and agreed**

The meeting accepted unanimously by a show of hands the acceptance of no change to subscriptions.

7. **Election of Officers 2016**

Officers serve a 3 year term on a rotating basis and then either step down or seek re-election.



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A NOTICE WAS SENT TO ALL MEMBERS ASKING FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSTS UP FOR RE-ELECTIONS – NO NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED by the deadline of 31st December 2016.

Officers for re-election or posts created and vacated (All other officers remain the same).

- Chairman (up for re-election) – Dennis has decided not to stand for re-election. The committee have proposed and seconded Rob Bartlett; there were no other proposed candidates. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- County Appointments Officer (up for Re-election) – Raj Patel had been working on this last year under Dennis's wing. The committee have proposed and seconded Raj Patel; there were no other proposed candidates. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- Lay Member (Up for re-election) – Gail Bonnell had done such a wonderful job with her Administration roles in education and generally; The committee have proposed and seconded Raj Patel; there were no other proposed candidates. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- Lay Member (Up for re-election) – The second Lay member was opened to the floor, no volunteers were forthcoming. With John Golding's experience the committee felt that John's presence on the committee would be valuable. The committee have proposed and seconded John Golding; there were no other proposed candidates. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands. John will also understudy Roy in the Performance Officer role.
- County Scorer Officer (New post) – This became available after 31st December 2016. Therefore the meeting was asked for volunteers and proposals, none were forthcoming. The committee have proposed and seconded Liz Halson who accepted; there were no other proposed candidates. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- County Education Officer (Acting) – This post was not for re-election but due to John's resignation the committee have co-opted Jon Simmons to take over this role for the remaining term of 1 year, until re-election. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- Secretary (Acting) - This post was not for re-election but due to Jon Simmons move the County Education Officer; the committee have co-opted Colin Mercer to take over this role for the remaining term of 1 year, until re-election. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.
- Vice-Chairman (Acting) - This post was not for re-election but due to Rob Bartlett's move to take over as Chairman; the committee have co-opted Colin Mercer to take over this role for the remaining term until re-election. The meeting also accepted this unanimously by vote and a show of hands.



Summary of Committee for 2017

Chairman	Rob Bartlett
Vice Chairman **	Colin Mercer
Treasurer	Carl Kneale
Secretary **	Colin Mercer
Membership Services Officer	Martin Garrard
County Appointments Officer	Raj Patel
County Education Officer **	Jon Simmons
County Performance Officer	Roy Kinner
County Scorer Officer	Liz Halson
Lay Member	Gail Bonnell (Administration)
Lay Member	John Golding (Webmaster & Performance Understudy)

** Co-opted by Committee until end of term

Rob Bartlett then thanked Dennis for his 9 years' service - originally an umpire in the TVL and appointments officer, with the last 3 years as chairman. Rob proposed the first Honorary Life membership of BCOA for Dennis. The meeting all agreed by a show of hands. Dennis accepted the Honorary Life membership, thanked everyone and accepted a gift of a desk organizer that Roy had organized as agreed with Dennis's wife.

8. AOB

Colin Mercer suggested that a BCOA end of season dinner or bash be had. Rob Bartlett said an email would be sent to the members and a 40% positive response would mean we would organise the event.

It was suggested the monthly meetings be moved to the 2nd Monday of every month. This was agreed and accepted by the meeting with a show of hands.

There was no further AOB and some welcome eats and nibbles were had by all before the Notchers and Scratchers competition.

The meeting ended at 9:22pm.

ALL INFORMATION on Education courses, workshops and events are on our website:

<http://www.berkscoa.co.uk/>

NEXT BCOA MEETING: The next monthly meeting of the BCOA will be on MONDAY 13th February 2017 at Wokingham CC, Sadlers Lane, 7:30 pm for 7:45 pm start.