

## MINUTES

### T.RIPPON MID ESSEX LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

#### THURSDAY 15<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018 AT CHELMER PARK

**CLUBS IN ATTENDANCE-** Aythorpe Roding, Bentley, Boreham, Brookweald, Broomfield, Burnham Sports, Canvey Island, Chadwell Heath, Chignal, Danbury, EH & GB, Eastwood, Galleywood, Goresbrook, Gt.Baddow, Gt.Totham, Gt.Waltham, Gt.Wakering, Hatfield Peverel, Havering Atte Bower, High Easter, High Roding, Hornchurch Athletic, Ingatestone & Fryerning, Lt.Baddow, Lt.Waltham, Navestock, Noak Hill Taverners, Oaklands, Old Chelmsfordians, Ongar, Purleigh, Rankins, Rainham, Rayleigh, Rayleigh Fairview, Rayne, Rettendon, South Weald, South Woodham Ferrers, Springfield, St Andrews, St.Johns Billericay, Stock, Terling, Tillingham, Willow Herbs, Woodham Mortimer, Writtle, Chelmsford Super Kings, Basildon and Pitsea

**OPENING SPEECH-** Good Evening Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you Bill.

Firstly, an introduction – Although I recognise and know many of you some of you will not know me – my name is Chris Flint – my club is OC's with whom I have been associated for more than 50 years. I have also been a member of the Rippon Cricket Committee for many years representing our sponsors – T.Rippon and Sons.

Most of you will know that our President, Len Menhinick, sadly passed away some 3 weeks ago. He had been managing director of Rippons for many years. They have sponsored our League since the mid 70's, well over 40 years – we are truly grateful to them for their generosity.

Len has been well known on the local sporting scene for even longer than this. He was Secretary of Chelmsford City FC in their glory days in the Southern League. He was responsible for signing many well-known players in that era, the likes of Hopkins, Gillott, Costello, Eades, Leggett and Bobby Smith. In those days it was not unknown for Chelmsford to attract crowds of 5,000 or more. Len left Chelmsford to buy a shop in Roxwell, after 3 years he was advised to sell up by his doctors due to deteriorating health. He joined his long-term friend, Peter Rippon in the family newspaper distribution business. After a spell managing OC's football team in the Essex Olympian League Len became Secretary and then Chairman of the Chelmsford Sunday League and Secretary of the local Referees Association.

Len loved the OC's, he took great pride in sponsoring our cricket league and was a regular attendee of our AGM's and it was his idea that led to the commencement of our Annual Presentation Evening.

His last visit to Lawford Lane was in August this year, he asked his son, Kevin, to push him round the ground in his wheelchair for one last time – he knew that he was seriously ill but remained cheerful and positive to the last. Len's glass was always half full and on especially good days it was overflowing.

Len would like to be remembered as a positive man and it is therefore appropriate that I end this tribute on a positive note – Rippon's MD, David Porter, pulled me aside at Len's Funeral on Tuesday, to advise that at its recent AGM the Rippon Directors voted to continue their sponsorship of the League as a tribute to and in memory of Len. In addition they have agreed to increase the amount they donate each year to £6,000. In accord with their usual business practice they have made this commitment for the next 4 years. David did say to me, however, that so long as we continue to behave ourselves that they will continue their sponsorship as long as we want them which I think is a fitting tribute to a wonderfully kind and enthusiastic gentleman.

Ladies and Gentlemen – Mr Len Menhinick

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE / CLUBS NOT PRESENT-** Beaulieu Park and George Mawby

**MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING-** Held on Thursday 16th November 2017 having been circulated were agreed and signed as correct by the Chairman.

**MATTERS ARISING-** There were none.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT-** Good Evening again and welcome to this year's annual general meeting of the T Rippon Mid Essex Cricket League.

It is with some sadness that I must start with the passing of the League President Mr Len Menhinick. I have only know Len for the time I have been involved with this league. In that relatively short time I found the man to be of outstanding character. Always supportive in the good and bad. Happy to put his hand up if he had made an error. It is a great loss for everyone involved.

Moving onto matter of cricket. The League has again had a difficult year. The governance of cricket has been made more difficult by our overseers imposing conditions on the laws of the game that have made playing the game more difficult. We are told that high pitched bowling must be addressed. To do this playing condition are imposed on player's who may literally not be able to bowl within the guidelines. They turn up to play a game and in less than a few overs cricket they may have no further part to play in the game. We on the Committee have found this as difficult as you have as Club administrators. We, like you, have considered the potential of playing outside of the auspices of the ECB. This would create many problems for many elements of the League. There are, around the world, other options. One being, the 'umpire can allow tolerance with regard to an over waist high full toss delivery. Officials can decide a no ball is sufficient penalty'. I will raise the matter after this meeting with graham and hope that Essex can help us to move forward with the ECB.

As ever there have remained problems with discipline, Debbie will update you with details later. Again, I would like to thank clubs who took the initiative in dealing with problems. Two of our clubs in particular did an excellent job. I understand it can be difficult dealing with your own players but if you know that there has been a problem please deal with it in an appropriate manner.

Debbie has fulfilled the secretaries roll admirably. At a mid-way point through the season she found that the roll was too demanding. At her suggestion the Committee looked at ways we could reduce her workload. It has been decided that the largest burden on Debbie was the extra work created by our disciplinary procedure. The Committee will appoint a person to oversee and organise disciplinary matters for the league.

Just so you are aware, one meeting of the disciplinary panel needs contact to the league from the club involved. Dates and venues need to be found, everyone be made aware of the time and dates. We have 4 people on the panel plus the players and clubs involved. Umpires if required.

As you can imagine, that rarely goes smoothly. We then all enjoy an evening out.

Then should there be an appeal, the same process has to be gone through again. Even with the use of email, this is a large task. The majority of which could be dealt with on the day, if Captains fulfilled their roles.

As most of you will be aware, there has been some discussion around restructuring of cricket in the County. As long as I have been involved with the league there has been effort to create a pathway for clubs to advance in the County. I sat where you are a long time ago and listened to Roy Cheek talking about a pyramid structure in Essex. Doing my best to stay awake. This has always been blocked by the SNEL not wanting to let other clubs into their league. Please be aware I am not being critical of their stance. Now, with the insistence of the ECB it looks like this may change. As I understand it the County will be arranging roadshows to give clubs the chance to have their say and inform you of what is on the agenda. I am sure Graham will have more to

say on this later. From our point of view there will be need to lots of consultation moving forward. We, the league committee will do our best to retain the structure of this league. We had a problem at the Captains meeting at the start of this season. Mick will update you on who we need to attend later tonight. Please make sure the right people attend next year. As ever I need to make our usual thank you's. To Debbie and the rest of the league committee I thank you for your support and the time you give the league. A mention for Glenn Baker who organises the website, results and league dinner. To Brian Poole who assists with the use of Chelmer for our main events and refreshments. He also saved me from being an hour early tonight. To Mick Elliott and his organisation of all our umpires and the umpires themselves. I also need to thank Mick and Lee Brooks for their efforts in organising and running our rep side for the past few years. Both have stood down this year. Finally a major thank you to our sponsors for their very generous support.

**SECRETARYS REPORT-** Well 2018 was an interesting and busy year – we had the World Cup Football which impacted on some of our games and lots of emails about what we would or wouldn't allow but everyone worked around their individual requirement with minimal disruption.

The Disciplinary Panel have dealt with a total of 15 issues and reports this season. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the clubs that have dealt with these reports internally, it saves the panel (and myself) lots of work. Where possible we would encourage clubs to follow the Disciplinary guidelines on the website and action internally but please let us know of any outcomes to ensure consistency across the League.

The new 'no ball' gave us all a few nightmares to start with. I was being notified weekly of bowlers being taken out of the attack, giving me, Umpires and Clubs extra work in monitoring this. Thankfully it seems to have settled down and resolved by Captains. Please continue to let me know if anyone has been taken off, even though we take no action as a league it is useful to collate the information for the ECB.

The LORD cricket balls seem to be going down well, we will continue with this contract for another year. LORDS have donated a cricket set which includes Bat, Pads, Gloves and Bag. This is being raffled on the presentation evening but I'm sure if anyone wants tickets they can speak to Glenn.

And a sad end to the season hearing that Len has passed away, my condolences go out to the family at the loss of this lovely man.

Finally thank you to Clubs and the Committee for their continued support.

**TREASURERS REPORT-** The Accounts have been prepared and are available as a printout at the front of the room. We have a small surplus, £1190. Matt Cranfield reported that there will be no increase to ball costs for next season, there has been 5 fines issued, mainly for non-attendance at the required meeting. He thanked all clubs for paying promptly. There were some refunds for Umpires fees, clubs identified should see him at the end of the meeting for their cheques

**LEAGUE REPRESENTATIVE X1 REPORT** - Mick Elliott reported that the team won the 1<sup>st</sup> round but lost in the second to a team that were later thrown out of the cup for playing ineligible players. The players used to be from Saturday leagues only but this has changed to allow Sunday players to be eligible and opens it up to player of a fair higher level to play thus making the games not fairly competitive. Mick confirmed that both he and Lee Brooks will be standing down from their roles but will raise these issues with the Committee. He would like to thank his wife for washing the kit, even though he takes the credit for it!

**SPONSORS REPORT-** Following Len's passing there was no report available although David had spoken to Chris at the Funeral (as per the opening speech).

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS-** The following were elected into office for the ensuing year

President: Vacant tbc  
Hon Life Member: Dr G. M. Rippon  
Vice Presidents: Trevor Blaydes  
Peter Ely  
Chris Pavitt  
David Porter  
P. J. Rippon  
Brian Simmonds

Chairman: Bill Wignall

Vice-Chairman: Alan Golding

Hon. Secretary: Debbie Pugh

Hon. Treasurer: Matt Cranfield

Hon. Fixture Secretary: John French

Hon. Results Secretary & Website Editor: Glenn Baker

Hon. Umpires Appointments Secretary: Mick Elliott

Committee Members: Lee Brooks  
Chris Flint  
George Mawby  
Kevin Robinson  
Richard Whiteside  
Duncan Williamson  
Mark Lewis (new addition)

**SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD-** The top team from each Division were handed a cheque for £100.

Premier shared between Bentley and Rainham  
Div 1 Tillingham  
Div 2 Havering-atte-Bower  
Div 3 Gt Baddow II  
Div 4 Gt Waltham II  
Div 5 St Johns Billericay  
Div 6 South Weald II  
Div 7 Havering-atte-Bower II  
Div 8 Beaulieu Park  
Div 9 Eastwood III  
Div 10 South Woodham Ferrers III

Six teams had been put forward for the Sporting Nomination. The award of £250 was given to Tillingham XI for being voted the best act of sportsmanship during the season with £50 been given to Hornchurch Athletic for recommending them. The reason for the best act:-

*In the match v Tillingham on 1<sup>st</sup> September, our player Harry Gilham was wrongly given out by the umpire. The Tillingham Captain called the player back and withdrew his sides appeal.*

*This is just one example of Tillingham's excellent attitude to the game. They played cricket properly... competitive but always sporting and are a pleasure to play against*

The Premier Division Young Player of the Year (under 21 on 1 May each season) is decided by the panel umpires at their agm from nominations made by the clubs in the Premier Division. The winner this year is Ronnie Jackson from Rainham Cricket Club – The award was presented to Ronnie. Ronnie is 19 yrs old and has scored 506 runs with a 36 average and a winnings innings of over 100 against Springfield, taken 8 wickets and 4 catches in addition Ronnie plays at Essex and England Disability level.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP-** We have 7 teams applying for election, as some aware Goresbrook (if voted) will be moving to SNEL for 2019 season. Regardless of this move the Committee recommend that we elect all teams and the divisions will be adjusted to allow all these teams in regardless of any move. All clubs had the opportunity to say a few words and were then elected (collectively) to the League. Brookweald 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, Great Baddow 3<sup>rd</sup> and Hornchurch Athletic 4<sup>th</sup> XI re-applying. Basildon & Pitsea (3 teams), Chelmsford Super Kings, Rainham 4<sup>th</sup> XI, Springfield 5<sup>th</sup> XI, Tillingham 3<sup>rd</sup> XI as new teams. Welcome all.

#### **MATCH AND RULE CHANGES-**

**1. From Broomfield Cricket Club - Match Rule 1.4.a to read:- PASSED**

Any match abandoned/cancelled due to ground condition shall count as NO RESULT. Each team being awarded 8 points (as in half of the 16 for winning a game)

**2. From Broomfield Cricket Club - Match Rule 1 4.b to read:- FAILED**

Any match cancelled due to other acceptable reasons, as determined by the Committee, shall count as a NO RESULT. The team that requested the cancellation being awarded 8 points and the opposition being awarded 26 points

**3. From the L. Committee - Match Rule 1.6 amended to read:- PASSED**

Any team defaulting or failing to fulfil a fixture (except clause 1.4) shall be penalised 20 points. 26 points and a win shall be awarded to their opponents. When calling a game off this must be done by a personal verbal call to an opposition official as nominated in the League handbook by 8.00pm on the Thursday prior to the match. If not done by this method or the call off is after 8.00pm on the Thursday prior to the match the club in default will be fined £100. The £100 fine will be paid by the League to the opposition. **In addition, the defaulting team must inform the League Results Secretary by 8.00pm on the Thursday prior to the match, failure to do so will incur an additional penalty of 5 points**

**4. From Broomfield Cricket Club - Match Rule 1.7 to read:- FAILED**

Any team failing to fulfil more than one fixture in a season must apply for re-election at the AGM. This re-election shall be in direct competition with any teams seeking election to the league. **Any team failing to fulfil more than 4 fixtures in a season shall not be entitled to apply for re-election.**

**5. From OC's Cricket Club – Match Rule 1.7 to read:- WITHDRAWN**

Any team failing to fulfil **4 fixtures or more between week 1 and week 12 will automatically be withdrawn from the League before the week 13 fixture, and their previous results for fixtures in**

week 1 to 12 removed from the records. The club will automatically be in default and their £150 deposit withheld

**6. From the League Committee - Match Rule 1.7 to read:- PASSED**

Any team failing to fulfil more than one fixture in a season must apply for re-election at the AGM. Clubs seeking re-election must do so in writing to the Secretary by the 30th September preceding the AGM. This re-election shall be in direct competition with any teams seeking election to the league.

*Further more this Match Rule 1.7 should be removed as a Match Rule and become the 4th paragraph in Constitution Rule 4.*

**7. From the Committee – Constitution Rule 13 addition of 13 (b) PASSED**

A team that fails to fulfil 5 fixtures will be deemed to have withdrawn from the League.

*Renumber existing Constitution Rule 13 (b) to 13 (c)*

**8. From Rankins Cricket Club - Match Rule 3.3 to read:- WITHDRAWN**

In Divisions Premier to 7 inclusive, a match will be based on 90 overs, each side batting for a maximum of 45 overs. In Division 8 downwards, a match will be based on 70 overs, each team batting a maximum of 35 overs.

**9. From Broomfield Cricket Club – Match Rule 5, Clause 5.1 FAILED**

Match points shall be awarded to clubs as follows:

WINNING SIDE	26 points
LOSING SIDE	0 points plus bonus points accrued
TIE	8 points plus bonus points accrued
NO RESULT	8 points plus bonus points accrued in an abandoned match (if Match Rule 1.4.a is accepted)

**10. From Broomfield Cricket Club – Match Rule 6, Clause 6.1 VOID**

Maximum bonus for batting awarded to losing teams shall be 5

a) In an 90 over game these will be awarded on attaining:

125 runs- 1 bonus point

150 runs- 2 bonus points

175 runs- 3 bonus points

200 runs- 4 bonus points

225 runs- 5 bonus points

b) In an 80 over game these will be awarded on attaining:

100 runs- 1 bonus point

125 runs- 2 bonus points

150 runs- 3 bonus points

175 runs- 4 bonus points

200 runs- 5 bonus points

Bonus points shall be awarded as above to teams in abandoned matches

**6. From Broomfield Cricket Club – Match Rule 7, Clause 7.1 VOID**

Bonus points shall be awarded to the losing bowling side on attaining:

2 wickets - 1 bonus point

4 wickets - 2 bonus points

6 wickets - 3 bonus points

8 wickets - 4 bonus points

10 wickets - 5 bonus points

Bonus points shall be awarded as above to teams in abandoned matches

**11. From Broomfield Cricket Club – Match Rule 7, Clause 7.2 VOID**

To be removed

**UMPIRES REPORT-** Mick Elliott reported that he had just been notified of a change to Law 41.7, he will get it onto the website as soon as possible but it looked like it would allow the amendment on beamer decisions. The umpires in general had a successful season, he has lost 2 umpires to SNEL for 2019 but there is training taking place in Chelmsford and Brentwood so hopefully he may pick up some new ones. The majority of issues this season had been around foul language and slow over rates, teams should be able to bowl 15 overs an hour and this will be taken more strictly next season along with immediate dealing of foul language.

Mick clarified that the Captains meeting in April should be attended (ideally) by the Captain of each and every team in Premier or Division 1, if the Captain is not available then a Senior player can attend. He stressed he had to be one person from each team and not club. The information is important and may be slightly different between Premier and Div 1.

**CWO REPORT-** No Report submitted

**GRAHAM PRYKE REPORT-** Graham would like to take the credit for helping the change in the beamer law!! It is much more sensible to consider the ability of the player that has hit the ball. A quick update on the pyramid structure, there have been emails regarding the 3 dates for the roadshow and he encourages as many as possible to attend one and give their opinions although there will be lots of discussions in the coming months.

The ECB small grants scheme has been overloaded, they are now concentrating on the Cricket World Cup. 2000 clubs could receive up to £2K to enhance their club and celebrate the World Cup, this could include Sky, Wi-fi, even a Pizza Oven to help party the World Cup, it would be an ideal time for clubs with few or no colts to target Juniors into Cricket. Chance to shine will be labelled with the World Cup and plan to visit 196 primary schools. Last year 76,000 juniors were involved in Chance to Shine so it is an excellent platform to start junior interest.

Please note – registering for World Cup does not ring fence you for the money, you still have to apply. ECCC will be looking for a club in late March / early April to come down and video their World Cup Fever, let Graham know if your club would be interested.

Graham sends a huge thanks to the Committee who do a large amount of work.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS:** John French reminded everyone to get their Fixture Forms into him as soon as possible.

The meeting finished at 9.10pm