



2011 AGM

Minutes

Present: Richard Boote (RB), Will Davies (WD), Dave Gower (DG), Jon Gower (JG), Karan Katariya (KK), Sumer Katariya (SK), Andy Orme (AO), Hem Patel (HP), Joe Rahman (JR), Chris West (CW), Guy Wilson (GW).

Apologies: Dave Proctor, Jimmy Hall, Tom Henderson, Tom Higginson, Mike Gabbay, Rich Brown, Jerome Armit, Mark Mellor, James Schneider, Jules Kelly, Zorain Masood, Rich Woolhouse, Harry Lojhan.

President's Welcome

RB welcomed everyone to Strongroom (where an excellent buffet was laid on). He said that even though he didn't play last season and was mostly out of the country at weekends, he followed us on the internet and was delighted that a Strongroom CC team was still running after 27 years.

Captain's Report

JG summarized last season as 10 wins, 12 losses (= poor to average). We struggled several times with players and as a result there were a couple of very unsatisfying defeats with teams of people that the couple of regulars who did turn up barely knew. JG thanked Sumer for keeping us afloat with new recruits, several of whom had put in excellent service. Our batting was pretty poor all season. JR took a record busting 29 wickets. We had a couple of great games too.

Treasurer's Report

DP sent a report by email. Precise statement/summary not available, but SCC account at something like £35 in credit. Upcoming expenses projected to be ca. £1290 for ground hire (ca. £550), insurance (ca. £200), and winter nets (£540 for 12 sessions). As a result, we need as many people as possible to pay subs immediately. The £5 home match fee for every SCC and opposition player needs to be enforced.

Fixtures

Fixture Secretary JG pointed out that we struggled to get a team for some fixtures, especially in the middle of the season. Other than Ruislip Orientals (who asked us for too much in terms of match fees/match balls in 2011), there were no scheduled 2011 fixtures that we especially needed to consider dropping.

The August Bank Holiday weekend game could be dropped. Although some players (e.g. DP) had suggested a more sparse fixture list, it was felt that an alternative would be to more quickly cancel games if it looked as though we would struggle to get XI players. The trouble with a more sparse fixture list is that we could be unlucky with the weather and end up not having the option to play for several weeks (and lose regular players to other clubs). JG would bear both options in mind as he puts together 2012 fixtures.

There was general agreement that we should try to raise a few more midweek T20 games – for which there was a good appetite in 2011.

Subs

A good level of payment in 2011, probably partly as a result of having electronic banking up and running. Subs for 2012 to be kept at a very reasonable (paltry) £60. JG to email club to ask for subs asap. Poor students and unemployed folk could pay £30 if really necessary, but £60 is a damn good price already.

SCC Strip

Everyone seems happy with the new SCC clothing range sponsored by AKA and Corporate Interiors. There was no clamour for a new order, but we still have an account with the company who provided the last batch and more can be ordered if/when enough demand is built up again.

Squad

JG wondered if we could try to recruit more players with Strongroom connections. RB to advertise/check within Strongroom.

Kit

The first year without a kit bag went OK for the most part. The biggest problem (other than someone having to carry wicket keeping kit around) was that several new players did not have equipment and some regulars ended up loaning their bats more often than they wished. We should encourage all players to get their own equipment. We can buy a new club bat or two but the question is then who will carry it around.

AO has found some equipment in a shed (including wicket-keeping pads, gloves, inners) and he will donate this to the club at the earliest opportunity.

Club posts

(1) Captain. JG happy to stand again, unanimously nominated and voted for, unopposed.

- (2) Vice captains. We agreed again to appoint two. Nominations received for Mark Mellor, Dave Proctor, Joe Rahman, Sumer Katariya, Dave Gower. Following a vote in which everyone present voted for preferred two candidates, DG and JR were selected. Everyone else received votes and it so it can be assumed they are in line to deputise should occasion arise.
- (3) A new post of T20 captain was decided upon. Apologies to people who could not attend the meeting! There was a single nomination (SK, who came 3rd in the vice captain poll) and Sumer was unanimously voted in.
- (4) Treasurer. Dave Proctor happy to continue and unanimously voted in unopposed.
- (5) Kit boy. This post somehow reappeared and Rich Woolhouse was voted in unopposed. It shouldn't be too onerous now that we have no kit bag.
- (6) Fielding Coach. Hem Patel was happy to relinquish his role. Karan Katariya was nominated and voted in unanimously, unopposed.

Tours

The Devon tour 2011 was a total success and survivors seemed very happy for it to run again in 2012. AO said he would be happy for it to be one day longer. The Sidmouth (Sunday) fixture is already booked (June 10, 2012) and negotiations are underway for Friday (T20) and Saturday games. There seemed general agreement that we would try not to stay at Ladram Bay in 2012.

The possibility of an overseas tour made its annual appearance. The usual issues of cost, location, organization etc came up. The only general agreement was that the cricket part of any tour should be partner/wife/husband free, and that several people were interested. Probably nothing will happen until someone takes the first step to rough out a more concrete plan and approach the rest of SCC.

AOB

Some games were heavily over-subscribed in 2011 and difficult decisions had to be made about who was left out for some games. Selection difficulties will be discussed and resolved by the captains and vice-captains on the basis of various factors (length of service, payment of subs, balance of team, ability, season- and fixture-specific factors etc).

The standard of SCC umpiring was raised by WD. People who do not know the rules need to learn them (<http://www.lords.org/laws-and-spirit/laws-of-cricket/laws/>). Poor lbw decisions are the source of greatest dissatisfaction and umpires should be prepared to give not out decisions unless they are sure it couldn't not be lbw (and not because they could imagine how the ball might possibly have hit the stumps).

Minutes recorded and written up by David Gower.
