

WARWICKSHIRE CRICKET UMPIRES AND SCORERS ASSOCIATION

Winter 2011

EDGBASTON

Newsletter

A message from the Chairman



Why Should I Join The Committee?

I made a plea at last year's AGM for new blood on the Committee of the Association, and I was quite reasonably asked what was involved in being on the Committee, and what a prospective new member would be required to do. I hope this article explains things.

As with any committee, we have some wonderfully dedicated volunteers who give up their time to help run the Association. We have officers with responsibility for everything from money, appointments and scorers, through to welfare and training.

However, any committee requires an influx of new blood and new ideas to back up and support the existing members, and we also have to plan for the future as existing members retire.

This is why I am asking again for new members to come forward.

In truth, new members of the Committee do not require excellence or skills in any specific areas, what is important is that there are keen to get involved and move both our Association forward, and cricket officiating in the County. We can find a role to suit anyone who is sufficiently interested in getting involved.

In short, if you have a passion for cricket, I'm sure we can find a place for you.

All that we would ask is that you find time to attend 3 or 4 meetings a year, and spend some of

your spare time doing the work of the Committee, depending on what it was you wanted to get

involved in and how much time you want to give up for the Association.

In addition, one particular area of growth for us as an Association since the advent of ECB ACO has been training and assessment. Those of you who heard Paul Joy address our last member's meeting cannot fail to have noticed that matters of training, assessment, and grading have grown massively in the last 12 months or so, and we really do need new blood to help push forward our education programme.

You do not need to be a teacher to be able to help, just a love of the game, a desire to get involved and some experience of umpiring or scoring would be useful! All the training you need will be given free of charge.

What do you get in return?

Well, you get the satisfaction of helping the Association grow and become more successful, and you can have a direct input in how things progress. But you can also learn a thing or two which might improve you as an umpire or scorer, which could lead to you officiating at a higher level.

In any one year there are several offices up for re-election, as well as directly elected places on the Committee. In addition, the Committee has the power to co-opt any new blood as it considers appropriate on to the Committee, so it is no excuse to say that there were no vacancies!

If you are interested in learning more, give me a ring on 07702 525699, or drop me an email at mark.gumbley@sky.com.

I look forward to hearing from you.

WCU&SA AGM

Will be on 17th Jan 2012 at
Moseley Cricket Club at 7:30pm

Buffet served from 6:45PM & Bar will be open

You will receive Agenda & other documents in the post soon. If not received by early Jan, please contact Ghazan.

07801594946 giawan@hotmail.com

Guest Speaker at November meeting of WCU&SA members



PAUL JOY

ECB

*Regional Performance Officer
Midlands*

Those who attended last meeting at Edgbaston were treated to a lively & one of the most informative evenings for a long time.

Paul explained that his role is to Support Umpires, Tutors, Assessors and Local Regional Officers (John Bates for WCU&SA) by developing consistent Assessment Procedures as well as effective Training Courses. After his talk, Paul encouraged an open and honest discussion, and the audience obliged..

He wants to help members go as high up the ladder as they wish, irrespective of age, as long as they were physically and mentally fit. (Although there is an age limit for Minor Counties now).

Paul pointed out that ECB receive Umpire marks for all 26 Premier Leagues in the country, including from Nick Archer, and they lookout for those who are consistently in the top quarter of table. Selection for multi day cricket (County 2nd XI & Minor Counties) is made from these 25%. Anyone, who is not 60 years of age, potentially has a chance to get onto Minor Counties Panel, but will have to retire once 65. However, for County 2nd XI games, there is no age limit.

There was a surprise visit from Nick Cousins and Glyn Pearson from ECB, who mingled with members and answered any questions they might've had.

At the end, one of the members, who will remain nameless, remarked, 'this is the first time I didn't fall asleep during the meeting'...



Tony Coombs

We regret to have to announce that one of our members, Tony Coombs has recently passed away after a short illness.

Tony was a member of Shirley Cricket Club and stood as their club umpire for their Sunday games. He also was a member of Moseley Cricket Club and has for a number of years stood as the club umpire for the second team games.

Tony's funeral was held on Tuesday 29th November at the Streetsbrook Road Crematorium.

President of WCU&SA
John Jameson
presented awards at
Sandwell Cricket League's
Annual Dinner and Presentation



UMPIRING COURSES

The following umpires course are arranged in Warwickshire in 2012

Level 1 Courses

- Sat 28th Jan 2012 for ten weeks venue Edgbaston Cricket Centre - Birmingham
- Sat 28th Jan 2012 for ten weeks venue Standard main club - Coventry
- Mon 30 Jan 2012 for ten weeks venue Edgbaston Cricket Centre - Birmingham
- Mon 30th Jan 2012 for ten weeks venue Standard main club – Coventry

Anyone wishing to attend or would like to be considered for teaming up with a mentor, or who needs assessment should contact John Jameson by email at

johnjameson240@talktalk.net

THIS NEWSLETTER - Please email any contributions to: Mansoor.Qureshi@umpire.com

ICC Officials Grace WCU&SA meeting



Around 150 WCU&SA members and colleagues from neighbouring counties attended the meeting with ICC officials at Edgbaston on Monday 8th August.

The Officials from the Elite ICC panel arrived early and made themselves available to anyone for a chat or photo.

Unfortunately, the event had to be cut short when news of rioting in Birmingham City centre started filtering through.

We are grateful to ICC, Chris Kelly, Nick Cousins and Mark Gumbley for putting this together.



Mansoor Qureshi

Birmingham League Panellist was one of 4 umpires, who officiated at ECB Cockspur T20 Finals day at Chelmsford on 19th Sep, live on Sky.

Mansoor umpired the first semi in the middle, was 4th official in 2nd semi and TV umpire for the final.

Calling All Scorers

Colin McKenzie will be running courses for both established scorers and those wishing to take their first steps this winter.

If you are interested in finding out more, or know someone who is, please contact Colin by email at colinmc32@aol.com or by telephone on 0121 351 4869

Umpire of the Season Warwickshire Cricket League



Keith Boyle

One of our newest members, Keith Boyle, was awarded Umpire of the Season Award by the Warwickshire Cricket League in his first season of umpiring last summer, having passed his level 1 in April 2011. It's a tremendous achievement, we wish him all the best for next season.

Prior to taking up umpiring he played for Wilnecote CC in Tamworth for 17 years having moved from Scotland, where he played for Fauldhouse Victoria CC in the top division of the East of Scotland League.

**Ken Horden
& Peter Mitchell**

*Two of our most senior and well respected
Umpires were selected to officiate in
The National Village Cup Final
at Lords*

(Pictures: Courtesy of ECB)



A brief Profile
DAVID LUDLOW
Appointments Officer



I enjoyed umpiring when I was still a player in 1968 donning the white coat and doing my 10 overs during the match, although I would admit I knew very little about the laws of the game.

I was a player of only moderate ability being a 2nd change swing and seam bowler. My first club was St Augustine's and Rolls Royce and Associates in Derby and when I moved to South Wales I joined Miskin Manor, a village team that played in the South Wales League (they subsequently won the Village Knock Out Cup).

After finishing as a player in 1975 after a back injury, my next door neighbour persuaded me to go on a cricket tour in 1985 with Gillingham CC purely as a 'social' member. They didn't have an umpire so I volunteered to stand and became their Saturday umpire in league games.

I moved to Solihull in 1988 and became an umpire at

Moseley CC starting with umpiring the 3rd team games on a Saturday and the following year umpiring the 1st XI in the Warwickshire Sunday League matches (replacing Johnny Allan!). I joined the Birmingham League panel in 1992 and have umpired many memorable games. Particular games I recall were :

a) Old Hill v Smethwick when Wasim Akram opened the bowling at my end and also scored a century. He complained when I no balled him for over-stepping saying it was only just over the line and I shouldn't be so hard on him!

b) Umpiring at Lords twice in a season in 2010. Firstly in March were the club finals at the Indoor School and later in the summer in June on the main square where I stood in the Eaton v Harrow annual game.

I enjoy watching football and I am a Derby County fan (we have won the League title twice in my lifetime).

After retiring from work in 2006, I took up reading and try to read at least 2 books a week. I have managed to also read most of the Booker shortlisted books over the last 10 years.

Favourite food is roast beef and Yorkshire pudding and I also enjoy any type of curry.

My favourite cricketer is Garfield Sobers as he is the greatest all round cricketer I have had the pleasure of watching live.

**If you know any businesses who might be interested
in advertising in this Newsletter, please contact:
Mansoor.Qureshi@umpire.com**