

WILLOW LEAGUE AGM 2015

- AGENDA -

DATE: Thursday 26 February 2015
VENUE: Bar 33, 33 Windsor Place, Cardiff CF10 3BZ
TIME: 6.15pm

- Apologies
- Minutes of Previous Meeting (attached)
- Treasurers' Finance Report
- Vote of Thanks to Officers
- Appointment of Officers for 2015
 - Chairman: Eclipse Print (Alistair Collyer)
 - Vice Chairman: [if no volunteers, drawn from hat, exc Uni Staff, Cav, Ch Trust, Eclipse]
 - Treasurer arrangements: Cavaliers (Jonathan Thomas)
- 2015 Season
 - Teams
 - go with current members or invite other(s) on probationary basis?
 - if invite other(s), which team(s)
 - and which competition(s) to participate in (League; WiSP; Cup; or any mix/match of the three?)
 - Grounds/hire costs (where known)
 - Playing rules (2015 rules attached)
 - Match balls
- Any Other Business
 - Farewell to JS (last Willow mtg in any capacity)

Note: Fixture Planning meeting will follow immediately after the conclusion of the AGM

WILLOW LEAGUE – Autumn Meeting 2014

- Notes –

DATE: Wednesday 10 Sep 2014

VENUE: Bar 33, 33 Windsor Place, Cardiff CF10 3BZ

Present

Chair: Simon Wallis (Uni Staff)

Vice Chair: Ali Collyer (Eclipse)

Treasurer: Darren Deane (Consmen)

Jeremy Sparkes (without portfolio)

Casuals: Dan Lewis

Cavaliers: Glyn Poulson, Ross Bowen

Char Trust: Philip Dooley

Rhiwbina: Gareth Davies

Uni Staff: Mubashir Khan

Consmen: Richard Saunders

Eclipse: Chris Stork

Apologies

Cardiff Bay Barbarians

Reason for meeting

1st full season without any major hiccoughs (teams dropping out, etc) under the new competition format so good to review how things had gone and any major issues that need addressing over the winter so, if required, new proposals could be drawn up, circulated to teams for comment etc and then formally put to the AGM in the spring.

A quick run round the attendees identified a few common themes and these were discussed first.

Format/competitions

2 similarish suggestions (1 from CBBs and 1 from Jeremy) on reverting to old structure to provide more interest and fun for teams who are less competitive

Consmen: league in 1st half of season, then Cup rule format for 2nd half of season comp with aim to involve more guys in the games

Casuals: need to be wary of restructuring things when really it comes down to the approach of each team and the captains

Eclipse: but teams and captains operate within the context of the competitions, perhaps a change to the context would help rejuvenate the spirit

General agreement that the certainty of knowing fixture days/dates for the whole season at the outset was valuable, but to have 2 distinct competitions: straight league for 1st set of 7 fixtures, then Shield style for 2nd set of 7 fixtures (max 3 ovs, but also having retirement for batsmen 25 as in Cup), keep Cup knockout comp but maybe don't have a dedicated week for 1st round.

Actions: Jeremy to work up proposal(s). Chris to look at possibility of having all 1st round Cup games in the final week of April at St Fagans

Over rate/slow play/late finishes

Cavaliers: is it possible to develop a rule to help with this, eg. time limit.

Generally felt difficult to implement as many factors can also affect time (injuries, lost ball, batsman not padded up)

Jeremy: but maybe look at start time being adhered to with possibility of over deduction where 1 side is clearly ready and wants to get started but other team is slow and maybe waiting for an opening batsman or the wicket-keeper to arrive

Consmen: but v difficult to get 22 people to some of the further venues by 6 mid week when travelling from many diff places

Rhiwbina: either have to do it for all circumstances or it won't work in any circumstance

Eclipse: aim to start at 6 but penalties apply if one side not ready to start 6.10pm when the other one is

Uni Staff: could look at bowling 10 from one end then 10 from the other. Belived to have been used some years ago for games at Llandaff Fields where pitch orientation and setting sun was a factor but hadn't really impacted on game time; not thought to be a solution

Actions: Jeremy to look at indoors rules and work up proposal(s) for further consideration

Player 'registration'

Cavaliers: felt that people should not playing for more than one team over the course of a season

Eclipse: would rather see 11 v 11, and if 'guests' from other sides helped make the games enjoyable by having more equal numbers then that wasn't necessarily a bad thing

Cavaliers: wanted to clarify that it wasn't actually an issue now, but thought it might happen in the future

Casuals: had been brought up by one of their guys but not sure of context, and didn't think it was a problem

Generally felt unlikely but trying to keep the ethos of the Willow at the forefront of captains' and teams' minds should help to avoid any situation where an exceptionally good player was drafted in by several teams specifically for 'big' games

Blackweir bookings

Casuals: concern at no changing room and gate locked up early

Unfortunately, Cardiff Council approach of charging (a lot) more money for unlocking changing rooms meant no teams asked for them to be open (and were often re-locked before the games had finished). There were some loose palings in the fence so it wasn't necessary to try climbing over the fencing

Replaying league matches

Casuals: felt there was a need to have rule to cover it, either to rearrange or rained off.

Generally felt that one game shouldn't be used to double up for more than one competition. Where a league fixture was used to get a re-arranged Cup tie played then teams to agree beforehand whether to classify league game as a "no result" or to fix an alternative date (if possible) – league games should not be carried over in to the 2nd half of the season and, ideally, Shield games should not be carried over beyond the final Willow week

Spirit

Cavaliers: most games fine but 1 or 2 where it was not apparent

Eclipse: where more riding on the game then can be tense

Generally felt that it was the responsibility of the captains and senior players to ensure that newcomers understood what the Willow ethos was about, to set the example, and to address any issues at the time

Expansion/vacancy

If any team not going to be in Willow, then as much notice as possible as other sides have indicated they would like to be considered for joining the Willow

Generally felt that 8 teams works well and we're still bedding in the new formats etc – so no opportunity for an additional team. If a vacancy did arise, then would be able to offer a probationary season

Casuals, Eclipse and Uni Staff have played against Glamorgan Centurions and would be happy to recommend them for the Willow if they applied to take up a vacancy

Trophies

League: Uni Staff (Simon Wallis) – has been engraved

Plate: Eclipse (Chris Stork) – engraving to be arranged

Cup: Chartered Trust (Phil thought Craig Mohring) – engraving to be arranged

The Shield and Wooden Spoon had never been returned by Hockey and GE respectively

Cheques

Darren will sort out payment for Jeremy (engraving) and Chris (Cup final pitch hire)

Any other business

Cavaliers: vote of thanks to Chair, Fixture co-ordinator, and 'without portfolio'

Meeting closed

WILLOW LEAGUE AGM - Minutes -

DATE: Wednesday 26 Feb 2014
VENUE: Bar 33, 33 Windsor Place, Cardiff CF10 3BZ
TIME: 6.15pm

Present

Vice Chair: Simon Wallis (Uni Staff)	CBBs: Andy Rees
Treasurer: Chris Stork (Eclipse), Darren Deane (Consmen)	Uni Staff: Simon Wallis
'without portfolio': Jeremy Sparkes	Consmen: Rich Saunders
Casuals: Mark Stephens	Rhiwbina: Dai James
Cavaliers: Glenn Chapman	Eclipse: Luke Bonelle
Char Trust: Philip Dooley	

Apologies

Glyn Poulsom (Chair)

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Agreed as correct record. No matters arising.

Treasurer's Finance Report

£873.75 balance. Discussion on whether to redistribute or hold in case of future surprises, and also pay for trophy engraving, Cup final pitch and any anniversary. Agreed to keep fund but no League fees would be charged for 2014.

Vote of Thanks to Officers

The outgoing Officers were warmly thanked for their work during the year.

Appointment of Officers for 2014

Chairman: Cardiff University Staff (Simon Wallis)
Vice Chairman: Eclipse Print (drawn by lot; nominee to be advised)
Treasurers: Cavaliers (Jonathan Thomas) & Consmen (Darren Deane)

2014 Season

- 1) Confirm which teams participating: all teams present will play in the League and the Cup
- 2) Grounds/hire costs (where known): Eclipse, Chartered Trust and Cardiff Bay Barbarians planning to use St Fagans again, pitch cost £70. Cavaliers using Cathedral School, pitch cost £70. Casuals using Wenvoe, pitch cost not yet known. Rhiwbina, Consmen and Uni Staff will be using Cardiff Council parks pitches but requested that where they are the designated home team for games with teams based at St Fagans and Cathedral School that they would wish these to be played at the 'away' team venue. Pitch cost to be shared equally & paid on the night.
- 3) Playing rules: as previously circulated were agreed, with the addition of "virtual" Shield & Plate for a trial in 2014, which would be played under existing League rules but that a separate 'administrative' exercise would be managed by Casuals to calculate the Shield and Plate. Phil asked whether there should be a restriction on the re-arrangement of League fixtures beyond the 'final' week; however, it was felt this only happened rarely and that the current wording of the League rules was sufficient to cover it
- 4) Match balls: no bulk purchase by League so responsibility of each team to provide a new ball of suitable quality for every game for which they are the designated home team. The ball may be red or pink. Alternatively, white may be used but, as per the Rules, must be by mutual agreement between the captains

Any Other Business

- 1) Missing Trophies: Shield (Hockey). Wooden Spoon (GE). Jeremy advised that Glyn had chased repeatedly but none had been returned. Agreed unanimously that any future application to join the League by either side (or any team under another name but essentially run by or containing these players) would not be considered until the trophies were returned in good condition or recompense paid.
- 2) Trophies: Phil to check League and Cup to advise if repair/replacement needed and engrave with 2014 details.
- 3) Contact list: circulated for teams to update/revise accordingly.

Meeting closed at 7.00pm and was followed by the Fixture Planning meeting

THE WILLOW LEAGUE

The Willow League was formed to provide recreational cricket for adults, with the emphasis firmly on the social, fun and friendly aspects of the game. It is played mid-week in and around Cardiff. It is not open to clubs that play any form of league cricket at any level within the weekend league structures in south Wales (this exclusion also applies to teams that adopt a different name but which are, to all intents and purposes, run by or comprised mainly of players from one such club).

WILLOW LEAGUE RULES

The rules of cricket as approved by the MCC shall apply unless otherwise amended or adapted locally for the League. The following local rules apply for the 2015 season.

GENERAL RULES

Teams may rearrange games if the date they have been allocated in the original fixtures is not convenient due to widespread unavailability of players, unavailability of designated pitch etc: providing that both teams can reach agreement on an alternative date. However, this does not apply to those games lost to bad weather as such games are not to be rearranged (except in the Cup).

If the weather is particularly bad during the day of the game and there is realistically very little chance of the game being played, representatives from both sides may agree, by telephone, to cancel the game beforehand to avoid players from both sides unnecessarily making the journey to the ground.

The toss for each game should take place no later than 5.55pm irrespective of whether the captains are present or not and each team should be ready to commence the match as soon as the toss has been completed. If the captain of a team is not present by the appointed time to toss up and no other member of the team is prepared to do so, the other team shall be deemed to have won the toss and shall decide whether to bat or bowl. The game then commences without further delay.

If local factors such as traffic hold-ups affect both teams and there is mutual agreement by both captains (or another representative of a team if the captain is absent) to delay the start time then a game comprising a reduced number of overs shall be played.

Where only 1 team, either through their actions or stated wish, causes a delay to the game starting promptly at 6pm then this team shall have the number of overs in their batting innings reduced using the following format: 1 over less in their batting innings after 5 minutes, and then 1 further over less for each subsequent 5 minutes (or part thereof) delay in the start, up to a maximum of 5 overs deduction. If the game has not commenced after a delay of 25 minutes then the team causing the delay shall forfeit the fixture and it is awarded to the other team.

The home team (as designated on the fixture list) must supply the wickets and the Willow match ball in each game. Teams are allowed to use a white ball for matches providing that both teams agree beforehand.

The pitch costs are shared on the night between the two teams.

The minimum number of players in a team to take part in a match should be no less than 7 otherwise the team forfeits the game unless the opposition agree to play it.

Children/youths: may only play where they have a familial or other long standing connection to an existing or recent Willow player and/or team. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that they are fully aware of – and comply with – the regulations, safeguards and requirements of having children/youth players (defined as under 18 years of age) in their team. A web link to the appropriate area provided by the ECB will be uploaded to the League website.

All teams agree to play the game in the spirit intended and resolve to accept that the umpires' decisions are final and should not be questioned under any circumstances. In line with this all teams should ensure that, wherever possible, they provide individuals to umpire of sufficient competence and familiar with the rules.

Wides - As in all forms of limited overs cricket any ball bowled down the leg side is deemed a wide. In the interests of fairness and to avoid contention captains are to remind their team of this at the start of the game.

No balls – All full tosses over waist height are no-balls irrespective of whether the ball is hit or not and bouncers over shoulder height, when the batsman takes a normal stance, should also be called as no balls. Either umpire may call and signal no ball.

In the event of a side starting the game with less than eleven players, any player turning up late will not be allowed to bowl if 10 overs have already been bowled in the match.

Scores and results should be emailed or texted to the Webmaster by the winning team as soon as possible after the game but by no later than one week after the date game was played, together with the scoresheet for the match. Any scores and result not submitted within this timescale will be classed as not having been played and shall not count for points or in the season's calculation of relative positions in the competition to which the game applied.

If games are not played due to bad weather please inform the Webmaster by email so that the League table can be updated accordingly.

COMPETITIONS

The format will comprise **three competitions**: the League, the Cup **and the WiSP (Willow Shield/Plate)**.

1. LEAGUE COMPETITION

- ❖ Teams play each other **once in the 1st half of the season, either home or away**.
- ❖ Games comprise 20 overs with a maximum of 4 overs per bowler.
- ❖ Matches may comprise a reduced number of overs; in the event of rain, bad light or other conditions on the day affecting the number of overs that can be bowled, but this must be by mutual consent between the captains and both teams must have the same number of overs available to them.
- ❖ In the event of a tie for the League title, it will be decided in favour of the team that won the game(s) played between the two teams. If this fixture was not played due to rain, then the team with the most number of wins is awarded the title. If both teams have the same number of wins, net run rate shall be used to determine the winner.
- ❖ Points system. 15 points are available per game: 10 for winning and 5 bonus points allocated between the two teams according to the relative closeness of the result (as shown in table below). If a game is tied, the points are shared equally (7.5 each).

Wickets victory (Wkts remaining*)	Runs victory (Runs margin)	Winners	Losers
1	1-5	0 bonus	5 bonus
2	6-10	1 bonus	4 bonus
3-4	11-15	2 bonus	3 bonus
5-6	16-25	3 bonus	2 bonus
7-8	26-35	4 bonus	1 bonus
9-10	36 or more	5 bonus	0 bonus

* where the side batting 2nd wins but has fewer than 11 batsman available, the wickets result shall be adjusted so that the margin of victory represents the actual number of wickets remaining in the match (eg. a team winning with 3 wickets lost but only 9 batsman available shall have won the game by 5 wickets only)

- ❖ Positions will be decided on an average points system with win and bonus points divided by the number of games played to give a mean average rounded up to 2 decimal points.
- ❖ Matches cancelled due to bad weather will not be rearranged – no points will be awarded as the averaging system is used to determine positions.
- ❖ If a team fails to fulfil match due to lack of players the opposing team shall be awarded 15 points. The defaulting team receives no points but the game will count in averaging points over the course of the competition.

2. CUP COMPETITION (optional)

- ❖ The Cup competition is optional and is played on a knockout basis.
- ❖ Unlike League games if Cup matches are cancelled due to bad weather they will need to be rearranged unless one team forfeits the game.
- ❖ Cup games comprise 18 overs with a maximum of 2 overs per bowler and a requirement for batsman to retire as soon as they have scored 25 runs. The batsman may resume his innings if all the other wickets have fallen. In the event of two batsmen being retired and needing to return, the return is done in scorecard order (not the order of retirement).
- ❖ If a team fields less than 11 players in a Cup match the opposing captain is entitled to choose which bowler(s) must bowl the extra overs if they have less than 9 people to bowl 2 overs each. For example, if a team has 8 players, once they have all bowled 2 overs each the opposing captain can choose the one who has conceded the most runs to bowl the extra 2 overs.
- ❖ A team may change its wicket-keeper once during the course of a match except due to injury and, the original wicket-keeper may then bowl a maximum of two overs.
- ❖ If a team cannot raise a side for a scheduled Cup match, the tie is awarded to the non-defaulting team.
- ❖ In the event of a tie in a Cup match the game will be decided by a bowl out (the number of wickets lost is NOT used to decide the winners). The bowl out is by overarm bowling and is administered as follows:
 - A wicket is set at each end, the match ball is used for bowling
 - Normal no-ball rules concerning feet and number of bounces before reaching the wicket shall apply.
 - Six players from each team bowl one delivery each.
 - Team that batted first starts the bowl out, and then alternates between the two teams.
 - The team with the most number of wicket hits (ie. the bails are removed from the stumps) wins.
 - If the bowl out is undecided after these 12 deliveries, the bowl out switches to a sudden death basis, with the remaining players from each side alternating. If required, the original 6 players who started the bowl out shall bowl again until one team has one more hit than the other once both teams have bowled the same number of times.

POLICY FOR ENSURING CUP GAMES ARE PLAYED ON TIME

If a Cup match cannot be played on its scheduled date it should be rearranged as soon as possible thereafter to ensure that the game is played by the date of the next round. If a Cup match is cancelled on two separate occasions due to bad weather and it cannot be played by the date of the next round then the tie should be decided on a toss of a coin. This is by no means ideal but otherwise games will not be played by the date of the next round. If the Final is unable to be played due to bad weather then, after two further attempts have been made to play the game, the two teams shall agree a mutually acceptable way of settling or sharing the competition. In the event that agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to the League Chairman. In the event of the finalists disagreeing over whether a game should proceed on a previously agreed date due to the weather, then one or both of the independent umpires may be called upon to decide whether the game is to be played.

Any disputes relating to the rearranging of Cup matches should be referred to the Chairman as soon as possible for a decision. If the dispute involves the Chairman’s club, then it is referred to either the Vice Chairman or one of the two Treasurers. If the dispute also involves the club of one of these individuals, then it shall be referred to one of the others.

Where a League or WiSP fixture between 2 clubs is used to play a rescheduled Cup game then the teams either need to agree that the League or WiSP fixture shall be recorded as “no result” or to arrange a new date to play it – a rearranged date shall not be after the week of the final fixtures in each respective competition.

3. WiSP (Willow Shield/Plate) COMPETITION

- ❖ Teams play each other once in the 2nd half of the season, with home or away being inverse to the respective fixture in the League earlier in the season.
- ❖ Games comprise 18 overs with a maximum of 3 overs per bowler and a requirement for batsman to retire as soon as they have scored 25 runs. The batsman may resume his innings if all the other wickets have fallen. In the event of two batsmen being retired and needing to return, the return is done in scorecard order (not the order of retirement).
- ❖ Matches may comprise a reduced number of overs; in the event of rain, bad light or other conditions on the day affecting the number of overs that can be bowled, but this must be by mutual consent between the captains and both teams must have the same number of overs available to them.
- ❖ In the event of a tie for the WiSP title, it will be decided in favour of the team that won the game(s) played between the two teams. If this fixture was not played due to rain, then the team with the most number of wins is awarded the title. If both teams have the same number of wins, net run rate shall be used to determine the winner.
- ❖ Points system. A simple win/loss/tie/cancelled format shall operate. Win = 2 points. Loss = 0 points. Tied = 1 point. Table positions will be decided on an absolute points system.
- ❖ Matches cancelled due to bad weather will not be rearranged and points are shared equally.
- ❖ If a team fails to fulfil match due to lack of players the opposing team shall be awarded the win and the defaulting team receives no points.

SUMMARY TABLE OF RULES FOR COMPETITIONS

Competition	No. of overs	Max. overs per bowler	Points System	Game off due to weather	Game off due to forfeit
LEAGUE	20	4	Win, bonus & average	0 points each	15 points
WiSP	18	3	Win 2, Loss 0 Tie 1	1 point each	2 points
CUP	18	2	Result	Rearrange game	Game awarded

SUMMARY TABLE FOR BOWLER ALLOCATIONS IN REDUCED OVER GAMES

League – minimum of 5 bowlers to be used					
No of overs	20	18	16	14	12
Bowler allocation	4ovs	3x4ovs; 2x3ovs	1x4ovs; 4x3ovs	4x3ovs; 1x2ovs	2x3ovs; 3x2ovs
WiSP – minimum of 6 bowlers to be used					
No of overs	18	16	14	12	10
Bowler allocation	3ovs	4x3ovs; 2x2ovs	2x3ovs; 4x2ovs	6x2ovs	4x2ovs; 2x1ovs

Information provided by Glamorgan Centurions who wish to be considered for a probationary season in the Willow League for 2015

Glamorgan Centurions CC

Home Ground: Central Park, Llantwit Fardre, Church Village, RCT, CF38 1RJ

Status: Founded in 2006, we are new team in terms of the Willows outdoor league but have for three years been participating in the WICKET indoor cricket tournaments, alongside other Willows League teams.

Experience of Team Members: Varied, some playing consistent Saturday cricket (mainly a mixture of 1st and 2nd team players at Llantwit Fardre CC), some experienced midweek cricketers with the club for many years and some social infrequent players.

Prior League Memberships: The South Wales Full Toss League

Prior League Contact/Reference: Danny Driscoll (Highway Hurricanes)

Club Secretary for League/Fixture matters: Gareth Ball