

Twickenham Cricket Club

Founded 1833



AGM 16th February 2024

Minutes

Present

In Person

Eugene Berger (Chair), Tony Bendelow, Jon Bosier, Robbie Bosier, Colin Blunden, Carol Bryant, Kevin Cavilla, Saul Croxford, Eleanor Doherty, Anush Ganesh, Nigel Gordon, Jonathan Hunt, Weslye Hurn, Manish Jain, Victoria Jennings, Paul Johnson, Ben Leale-Green, Paul McLoughlin, Colin Messenger, Hannah Munday, Conrad Muraszko, Ashidh Singh, Liam Tebb, Karen Wilton and Chris Wylde.

1. Apologies for absence

Janet Bitmead, Gerry Brennan, Pete Burke, Deep Dasgupta, Hinay Dassani, Brian Dolton, Andy Donelan, Oli George, Dan Hough, Mark Johnson, Sanjit Sandhu, Praween Siriwardena, Dan Taylor, Harry Tebb, Brian Thorne, Jon Varney and Phil Walker.

2. Minutes of the 2023 AGM

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Reports

3. Committee's Report

Dan Hough (DH) had tabled a written report on behalf of the 2023 committee. The report is available to all members on the TCC website. Members simply needed to sign in to www.twickenhamcc.net and then proceed via 'information' to the 'documents' section.

Chairman Eugene Berger (EB) noted that for the seniors, and the magnificent success of the 1st XI in the Middlesex T20 notwithstanding, the season had been a generally disappointing one. The feeling now was very much one of onwards and upwards.

Nakul Vishvanath is standing down as 2nd XI captain and EB thanked him for all of his efforts over the last three years and wished him success as he 'returned to the ranks' in 2024.

EB noted how tirelessly Robbie Bosier had worked as a newly minted 3rd XI skipper. Relegations are always disappointing, but the threes are certainly in a good place to bounce right back.

EB also offered a huge vote of thanks to Liam Tebb for all of the work that he does with the junior network. Liam has done a magnificent job of carrying on what Paul McLoughlin's started and the junior section is now beginning to produce ever more senior cricketers. Indeed, Liam (and Paul) play alongside many of them in senior cricket.

Off the field, the club has invested in a new roller and continues to do work to improve facilities. A new concertina net on the Green is next on the list, although a new scoreboard is also something that EB hopes will be in place for the start of the new season.

The committee report was unanimously accepted by all those in the room.

4. Annual Accounts

Like the committee report, the club's statement of accounts had been posted on the TCC website. Phil Parker (PP) added a little more detail to that which had been previously circulated.

Phil noted that as of 16 February 2024 the balance in the current account was £3,594 and the balance in the reserve account was £8,027. Our annual insurance payment (£2,094) will soon need to be paid as will the next instalment of the interest free loan (1,000). Bar sales were up £8k on 2022, but subs/match fees were down by around £2,600. There are, however, a few players who still have outstanding bills to pay there.

Sponsorship revenue was also down, although the club is in ongoing talks about securing a significant sponsorship deal with Hollywood Bets. This will be for the senior section of the club, EB has plans for another sponsor to help fund the activities of the juniors. Hollywood Bets and SRB will be on the TCC senior shirts and every subs' payer will receive one as part of their membership. More details on the sponsorship deal(s) will be announced in due course.

Phil Parker talked the meeting through the income/expenditure challenges that the club faces before concluding that in the round the club's financial position remained passable. It's nonetheless worth noting that it had deteriorated (largely thanks to the investments noted above) over the last 12 months. It's for that reason that EB's work on securing new sponsorship is so important.

5. TCC Women's Report

Sarai Knight was captain of the TCC Women in 2023. She has now (sadly, for us but probably not for her!) moved to Australia. The committee and indeed the meeting would like to put on record its thanks to Sarai for all the work that she has put in. The TCC women's XI have been lucky to have had her.

Moving forward, Hannah Munday and Eleanor Doherty will be at the helm in 2024 and indeed they crafted a written report that is now on the TCC website.

Hannah noted that the women's section had 21 members in 2023 and that the side had reached the semi-final of the Surrey Slam. A good achievement. Two team members were asked to represent the league in representative cricket.

6. Safeguarding Officer's Report

Victoria Jennings (VJ) delivered a verbal report. In that report she stressed a number of things. She explained what exactly her role entailed and how it was evolving over time. She also explained that

safeguarding concerns need to be central to all we do, whether that be transporting U18s to games, changing room etiquette or conduct when playing. If any members were unsure as to what that meant for them all they had to do was ask.

Victoria also reminded all those in positions of responsibility that they needed to be DBS checked and indeed may need to think about first aid training. Again, if members weren't sure what applied to them all they needed to do was ask.

Items for Discussion

7. Membership Fees

- Proposal was accepted to raise annual subscriptions by £10 for all senior cricketers. New subscription rate will be £190. This includes a new playing shirt.
- Proposal was accepted to raise annual subscriptions for all full-time students/the unwaged by £5. New subscription rate will be £95. This includes a new playing shirt.
- Proposal was accepted to keep annual subscriptions for senior female cricketers to £40. Membership for female students and the unwaged to be set at £20. This includes a new playing shirt.
- Proposal was accepted to maintain social membership at £25.
- Junior Membership to increase by £5 to £105 for the first junior in a family.
- Junior membership to remain £85 for a second junior in the family.
- Junior membership to remain £60 for a third (and further) junior(s) in the family.
- All Stars' membership to be £80. £40 to the ECB and then £40 when they register for TCC via our website.
- Men's matchday fees
 - i. £12 (£8) for all Saturday (league and friendly) games plus any MCCL games played on Sundays
 - ii. £5 for all seniors playing non-league games of cricket
 - iii. £5 for juniors playing a senior game of cricket
 - iv. £5 (£3) for all midweek 2020 games.

8. Election of Officers – Nominations

- President – J. Varney
- Vice-Presidents – A. Kay, B. Thorne, J. Richards, P. Johnson, D. Fabian, B. Dolton, G. Brennan, G. Sanchez, C. Messenger, C. Nunes, J. Bitmead, H. Dassani, D. Hough, P. McLoughlin and P. Parker.

The committee nominated one further member who it felt deserved to be made a vice-president: Tony Bendelow. The room unanimously agreed that Tony Bendelow should become a vice-president of the club.

- Chairman – E. Berger
- Secretary – D. Hough
- Treasurer – P. Parker
- Club Captains – P. Johnson and C. Blunden
- Committee Members – Three officers plus club captains, facilities manager, junior section manager, safeguarding officer and women's XI rep(s).
- Fixtures' Secretary – P. Johnson

9. Election of Captains - Nominations

- Sat 1st XI – C. Nunes
- Sat 2nd XI – B. van der Linde
- Sat 3rd XI – R. Bosier

- Sat 4th XI – H. Dassani
- Sat 5th XI – C. Wylde
- Development League Manager – TBC
- TCC Women's Captain – H. Munday and E. Doherty

10. Any Other Business

A number of issues were discussed under AOB.

Liam Tebb noted that the club was going to purchase a concertina net to try and make sure that netting on the Green became a little safer. Too many balls were flying off into areas that were potentially dangerous. The new netting would help stop that.

EB noted that the club was still trying to source permanent practice facilities. Unsurprisingly, that was proving to be very difficult, but with a number of schools springing up in the area it was hoped that something might be agreed with one of them in due course. EB is taking forward.

EB noted the application for a non-turf wicket (NTF, or artificial pitch in old money) at Broom Road had been unsuccessful. This was disappointing but not entirely unexpected. A new scoreboard was the next priority, and EB was preparing grant applications to try and help fund this.

Colin Messenger mentioned that former president and indeed former junior cricket supremo, Tony Ward, had sadly passed away. The club was only made aware of this after the funeral had taken place. The committee is considering fitting ways to remember Tony. Having a bench on the Green in his honour is one possible way forward, or perhaps an award to a high-performing junior cricketer each year named after him. The committee will action this asap.

Nigel Gordon is going to step down as bar manager. The meeting thanked Nige for all of his efforts in that regard, he really has put in a sterling shift. Efforts to recruit a new bar manager remain ongoing.

There were further discussions around the club's overseas' player in 2024 (three players in the mix, discussions ongoing), the location of the 5th XI ground (it'll be Molesey Hurst for all nine games) and the possibility of bringing in a coach for the seniors (possible, but costly. To be further discussed).

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 21h18

Eugene Berger (TCC Chairman) and Dan Hough (TCC Secretary)