



**Sussex Cricket Limited**  
**MINUTES of the 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
***held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 at 6pm***  
**VIRTUAL MEETING**

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The Chair, Bob Warren, called the meeting to order at 6.00pm and welcomed all those present, including the Board Directors, Vice Presidents, Individual Members and Affiliated Club Members. Bob Warren asked for a minute's silence in memory of the following individuals who had passed away during the previous year:

**Recreational Clubs:**

Tony Brand – Crawley CC  
Christine Carter – Smallfield CC  
David Dee – Rye CC  
Simon Dexter – Smallfield CC  
Dave Gregory – Broadwater CC  
Peter Hind – Chiddingly CC  
Roger Hodsol – Crowhurst Park CC  
Gus Johnson – Westfield CC  
Tim Knight – Isfield CC  
David Laing – Preston Nomads CC  
Roger Martin – Glynde CC  
Peter Marklew – Smallfield Manor CC  
Sipho Mashele – St Peter's CC  
John McCartney – Burwash Weald CC  
John Pollard – Lindfield  
Mervyn Padgham – Burwash Weald CC  
Alan Rogers – Slinfold CC  
Justin Schidkamp – Preston Nomads CC  
Viv Thompson – Preston Nomads CC  
John Trevett – Preston Nomads CC  
Mr R Whitford – Dormansland CC  
Mr R Wooller – Dormansland

**Individual Members:**

George Bartaby  
JP Coles  
Elizabeth Davies

Maurice Goss  
Mervyn Goode  
S. Jenner  
Frank King  
PA Mason  
Roger Martin  
Helen Mollison  
RD MacKinnon  
Peggy Norman  
Keith Partridge  
Graham Payne  
James Pegg  
Brian Parker  
Peter Penfold  
Peter Raggett  
Philip Reason  
Gerald Reilly  
Nicholas Stovell  
Derek Semmence  
Alan Ticehurst  
Hugh Thomas  
D. Watts  
RT Webb  
M Walters  
Derek White  
Joseph Wade

The Chief Executive, Rob Andrew, then formally convened the meeting through the following announcement: "Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Sussex Cricket Limited will be held virtually due to the Coronavirus pandemic, today Thursday 20th August 2020 at 6pm."

### **1) Apologies for absence.**

No apologies were received

### **2) Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Chair requested that the minutes of the following meeting should be approved as read:

- Sussex Cricket Limited Annual General Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Proposed by David Dumigan and seconded by Mike Charman. Accepted without dissent. There were no matters arising from the meeting.

### **3) Chair's Board report**

Bob Warren drew the meetings attention to his Chair's report, which highlighted the successes of all areas of the club over the past year.

### **4) Treasurer's Report**

The Honorary Treasurer, Ed Putnam, presented the **Sussex Cricket Limited Accounts** for the year ending 31st Oct 2019. Mr Putnam informed the meeting that the Financial Strategy would remain the same as the previous year:

### **Financial Strategy:**

The organisation's strategy is to:

- Invest in professional cricket and other forms of the game
- Invest in projects which generate a recurring increase in income
- Deliver a return from the investment made in stadium facilities through income including significant non-match day revenue – we are a year-round business
- Continue to invest capital to keep Hove special
- Maintain a solvent financial position
- Maintain excellent stadium facilities via maintenance and provision for future rebuild

Mr Putnam clarified the accounts structure following the integration and confirmed that the accounts of Sussex Cricket Limited are consolidated showing the results of the Sussex Cricket Ltd (the same legal entity and activities undertaken by the former Sussex County Cricket Club) and Sussex Cricket Foundation (a wholly owned subsidiary of Sussex Cricket Ltd which undertakes the activities previously performed by the Sussex Cricket Board and Sussex Cricket in the Community Trust). He explained that the Sussex Cricket Limited Profit and Loss statements reflected the Sussex Cricket Limited and Sussex Cricket Foundation accounts combined. The Balance Sheet included a combined statement from Sussex Cricket Limited and the Sussex Cricket Foundation as well as a separate standalone Sussex Cricket Limited Balance Sheet. The Sussex Cricket Foundation subsidiary accounts were also available separately which Mr Putnam advised is typical of many businesses.

Mr Putnam noted the 2018/2019 headline results where SCL had finished the financial year with an operating profit of £344k. He advised that a significant profit was expected after last year's heavy loss due to swings in income from the ECB, however, the result had been better than planned due to two successful concerts and a home T20 quarter final. EP noted that profits were forecast for each year in the forecast cycle going forward. EP commented that the Sussex Cricket Foundation had finished the year with an operating profit of £64k.

### **Income:**

- Match: underlying match income was strong with T20 Blast sales for the group games up 21% on the prior year.
- ECB: £1m distribution from the ECB in respect of the successful World Cup
- Membership: was down 5% on the previous year.
- Commercial: still performing well (when benchmarked against peer counties). A solid year and a very successful period in terms of the reach of the Club's social media
- Catering: second full financial year of outsourcing – our share of profit represents a record return in this area. This year benefitted from the two successful concerts
- Rental income: some void periods in our property portfolio although property remains an important year-round income stream and is significantly up on a few years ago.

Mr Putnam presented the Sussex Cricket Foundation statement and noted that a small profit/loss was normally expected. He stated that income and expenditure both saw an increase in the important projects run by the Foundation. Clubs & Leagues, Disability Cricket, Women & Girls, Inclusion and Diversity all saw growth from the prior year. Mr Putnam explained that the operating profit of £64k was made up of an underlying operating profit of £25k and legacy accounting generating a further £39k.

The balance sheet showed net assets of £9.6million. He noted that there was a positive cash balance overall, however, the development of the south west corner will bring cash requirements with it and SCL excluding SCF has a small overdraft.

## **2019-2025 Financial Plan**

Mr Putnam advised that the Club had moved to a seven-year forecast to aid with strategic planning. He noted that over the seven-year period, SCL was forecast to make a surplus each year and SCF small profits based on relatively prudent assumptions. Mr Putnam explained that the phasing shows dips, as income will be lost during the construction phase of the south west corner development e.g. the Sussex Cricketers pub rental income and increases at the conclusion of construction. It was acknowledged that the spending of the legacy may have had an impact on the SCF figures, but underlying trading was expected to be profitable. Mr Putnam stressed that it was an ongoing challenge to drive the underlying trading model whilst investing in the playing squad and other strategic goals.

Mr Putnam advised that the Coronavirus has had a significant impact on the club and that there are still a number of variables that will need to be managed. Prior to COVID-19 the club was forecasting a profit for 2019/2020, however, the loss would now be substantial and the club has taken a £1million CBILS loan to assist in cashflow management. The club will continue to take a flexible approach as there is still no certainty about the future of crowds etc.

Mr Putnam received a question asking what the income from the two concerts was in 2019. Mr Putnam advised the income was just over £100k, however, this did not include the additional income from catering and therefore the total figure was very significant to the club.

The Chair asked for the adoption of the SCL accounts.

Proposed by Peter Swaby and seconded by Ian Cuthbert  
Accepted without dissent

## **5) Sussex Cricket Limited Board's proposal for rule changes**

The Chair explained to the meeting that he expected all Members to have read the proposed rule changes that had been included in the accounts booklet. He noted that the majority of changes were more of a 'tidying up' exercise to further reflect the rule changes made at the 2018 Special General Meeting.

The Chair informed that he would read out each resolution and would take a vote, using the online voting system. These votes would then be added to any votes already cast by proxy.

Mr Warren read out the following resolutions:

### **Rule 8 – President and Vice-Presidents**

It is hereby resolved that the Rule shall be changed, as underlined below:

8.2 The President shall be normally elected for a period of two years and the Vice-Presidents shall be normally elected for their lifetime.

**The resolution was carried with 96 votes for vs 3 votes against.**

8.2. ~~No one~~ shall be ~~proposed~~ for election as President or as ~~a~~ Vice-President unless ~~the Board of Directors has approved his or her nomination. This may be a direct nomination by the Board of Directors, or by a nomination made in writing by two Members and received by the Chief Executive by 15<sup>th</sup> January immediately preceding that AGM. It shall be the responsibility of the Board to satisfy itself that a person proposed to the AGM is, in all respects, appropriate to fill the role, as specified in a Regulation~~

**The resolution was carried with 92 votes for vs 4 votes against.**

8.4. The names of any persons to be proposed by the Board of Directors for election to those positions shall be included in the Agenda for the AGM

**The resolution was carried with 99 votes for vs 0 votes against.**

**Rule 9 – Officers Elected by the Board.**

It is hereby resolved that the Rule shall be changed, as underlined below:

9.3. Any candidate to be the Chair or Vice Chair of the Board of Directors must be proposed, in writing to the Chief Executive, by one other Director, not earlier than the conclusion of each AGM. If two or more candidates are proposed for one position, a simple majority vote of the Directors of the Board will decide the successful candidate. A candidate may not vote in such election. In this circumstance, Directors of the Board will also be able to vote via proxy if they are unable to attend the meeting in person.

**The resolution was carried with 99 votes for vs 0 votes against.**

**Rule 13.11 – Annual General Meeting**

It is hereby resolved that the Rule shall be changed, as underlined below:

13.11. Provided that 40 (*changed from 30*) members present at a General Meeting may require that a resolution is voted on separately by the Individual Members and the Affiliated Clubs' representatives at the General Meeting and where this happens, the resolution is only passed if approved by both categories of Membership.

**The resolution was carried with 95 votes for vs 4 votes against.**

**6) Election of President for 2019/20**

Bob Warren proposed the election of Sir Rod Aldridge as President for 2020/2021.

Proposed by David Harrison and seconded by Ian Cuthbert. Agreed without dissent.

**7) Election of New Vice Presidents**

Bob Warren proposed that the following are elected as Vice Presidents due to their overwhelming commitment to Sussex CCC:

Mr. M. Charman

Mr. H. Griffiths

Miss. S. Taylor

Proposed by William Knight and seconded by Peter Swaby. Agreed without dissent.

**8) Election of Non-Executive Directors to the Board**

The Chief Executive, Rob Andrew, noted that there was no election as only two nominations were received for the two vacant Board positions. The Nominations and Elections Committee reviewed the Nomination Forms and both candidates were considered entirely appropriate for election. The nomination was therefore uncontested.

The Sussex Cricket Limited Board reminded attendees that following the Special General Meeting which took place on the 29th November 2018, a resolution was passed to reduce the number of Board Directors elected by Individual Members from six to four and Affiliated Clubs from four to two. Johnny Barclay and Simon Crundwell have both indicated that they would not stand for re-election and therefore the current SCL Board of Directors took the decision to not replace these vacancies to enable the reduction process to continue.

Mr Martin Richards has been elected on behalf of the Individual Members for a term of three years. Mr Richards was proposed by John Barclay and seconded by M Robertson

The Chair explained that since the previous AGM, the SCL Board have been pleased to welcome both Jacqui Bandy and Bibi Lees as Independent Non-Executive Directors to the SCL Board, following another stringent recruitment process overseen by the Nominations and Elections Committee. Bandy is a Communications and Engagement Manager and is heavily involved in recreational cricket, Lees, who is a partner and Head of Private Client Department at Adam and Remers, is also heavily involved in cricket at a grassroots level with both of her children active members of St Peters CC.

## **9) Appointment of Auditors**

The Treasurer proposed that Mazars be appointed as the Organisation's auditors.

Seconded by John Reeves. Accepted without dissent.

## **10) Other Business**

The Chair, Bob Warren, stated that there had been no formal request for any specific item to be raised under 'Other Business'.

Mr Warren thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 18.32.