

CERN CRICKET CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 2nd. December 2004 in Restaurant No.1, for approval at the next Annual General Meeting in 2005.

Present: I. Ahmed, S. Akhtar (part), D. Allen (2 minutes while on shift-break), C. Carter, N. Chohan, T. Elvin, T. Goodyear, C. Onions, J. Osborne, B. Pattison, W. Salter, St. J. Skilton

Apologies: D. Allen, R. Campbell, M. Elliott, N. Dyde, A. Goodwin, M. Grant, P. Gregory, J. Roberts, E. Schyns, X. Stücker

The meeting was formally opened by the President-for-Life at 18.37h. and the Agenda adopted as proposed.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of November 2003 were accepted, as written.

There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

In the absence of the 2004 Captain (Rob Campbell) no formal Captain's Report was available but, as the President observed, all results and season's highlights were on the Club website.

N.B. In his formal apology for absence, Rob Campbell had thanked the Committee for scheduling the AGM at a later hour than normal in order to facilitate attendance of non-CERN people, endorsed the continuance of the present Committee should they and the AGM so wish, suggested that Tim Elvin be the 2005 Club Captain subject to AGM approval, apologised for discomfort caused by himself at the J. Harvey Cup match on 12 September and accepted his subsequent ban from two 2005 SCA Cup matches decided upon by the CCC Committee at their meeting on 12 October.

Treasurer's Report

Wayne Salter made the following points, in presenting his report:

- The positive balance in the Club's account had increased by nearly CHF 800 during 2004. This, despite relatively high outlay (eg. nearly CHF 1,400 on the bowling machine). The policy on charging for beer had, largely, worked. That account almost broke even.
- The "pay or not play" policy had secured higher subscription income and this policy should be continued and formally strengthened (see also "Guidelines for Playing Cricket at CERN").
- Emile's scoreboard expenditure was reimbursable, despite an absence of prior approval of the work; "Ashes" tour participants should pay the CHF 145 per ticket into the Club's account. The Club was in a fairly healthy financial position; no big item of capital expenditure was in the pipeline, since buying the bowling machine.

John Osborne pointed out that there had been no response from Club players to his invitation to buy disco tickets, this time around. Therefore, the 2005 accounts would show CHF 500 less income – which was regrettable.

The accounts were approved and Bryan thanked Wayne for a job well done.

Groundsman's & Kit Report

John Osborne reported on the continuing war on moles (a set-back had been the cutting of mole trap markers). Some effective rolling had taken place at the start of the 2004 season and would be repeated (hopefully after rain) during late April '05. The hut canopy had been completed, with good work done by Emile and Allen. Hut painting was now a priority, hopefully early in the new season.

Tim Elvin reported on the state of current kit and the need for new kit items. Apart from St. John Skilton getting stuck into velcro repairs, the main focus was on items to buy (hopefully with the assistance of Bryan when in Penrith). Needed items were: three pairs of right-hand pads; two pairs each of left and right-hand gloves; at least one pair of wicket-keeping inners; 12 x non-League balls; a big kit bag; one long and one short-handled Kookaburra bats.

Bryan thanked John and Tim and the Meeting then turned to the Agenda item that had stirred most interest, prior to the AGM ...

Guidelines for Playing Cricket with the CERN Cricket Club

Wayne Salter spoke to the item first, since he had been responsible for drafting various versions of the "Guidelines" (the latest version is on the CERN cricket website) in response to, as he saw it, various negative trends and resentments in 2004 involving team selection, availability, eligibility, conflict between "CERN" and "non-CERN" players and the general spirit of the Club - which had suffered as a result.

Several people had made submissions by e-mail prior to the AGM. The strongest views expressed alarm at the prospect of any *absolute* preference in team selection accorded to players on the CERN staff; that team selection should generally be on merit, but that distinctions could be made, for example, in the case of non-League games; that there should be an element of "reaping what you have sown" – in terms of being selected at least partly as a reward for regular attendance at net practice, or providing services to the Club such as physical labour or holding office. One element of that would be the simple case of actually having paid the annual subscription.

A lively and lengthy debate ensued, despite the absence of some of the principals involved in the events of 2004. At the end of it, the AGM resolved the following:

- It was always a captain's responsibility to answer for the conduct of his players on the field.
- The Club should continue in the SCA League in 2005 and League teams should be picked on merit from the available pool of players.

- Players should be asked for their availability, by the match-manager, at least 9 days before any fixture and the team message should if possible be sent to everyone no later than 4 pm. on the Thursday before a Sunday match.
- Where games were over-subscribed, a Selection Committee consisting of the Captain, Vice-Captain and one other (chosen by the first two) should choose the team. One of those three people should be a past or current member of the CERN staff. No formal preference for CERN staff would over-ride other selection criteria.
- It was the sole responsibility of a selected player “running late” for a game, to contact the captain for the day, advising him of his likely arrival time, thus allowing the captain to make a judgement on whether or not to field his 12th. man.
- To be eligible for selection, any potential player would be required to pay the annual subscription by 1 June (if available from the start of the season) or after playing two matches (if joining later in the season).
- Wayne Salter and Chris Onions would, if possible, try to devise a new scheme for a table of availability over the season, for potential players to provide input and for the Selection Committee to use.

Election of Officers for 2005

Various nominations had been received prior to the Meeting. After the formal nominating/seconding procedure was completed, the following line-up was established:

Tim Elvin is 2005 CERN CC captain

Michael Elliott is vice-captain

John Osborne is groundsman

Wayne Salter is treasurer

Tim Goodyear is secretary

Bryan Pattison is “manager of match managers” in addition to continuing as Club President

St. John Skilton agreed to take on a variety of tasks – net and bowling machine maintenance, net practice organisation, and readiness to be nominated as SCA Youth Development Officer – but has since returned to the UK.

At least initially, Bryan and Wayne would be alternates as the third member of the Selection Committee, when needed.

NB. The “i/c. kit” task was not minuted.

Bryan thanked **Joan Davenport** once more for her work as social secretary and said he would ask her to continue in 2005.

SCA Affairs & Fixtures for 2005

The SCA League, to which CERN remained committed, was, at the time of the CERN AGM, to be organised on a Western and Eastern regional basis, with each Club to play the other seven once only. In the event, the AGM of the SCA drew two groups of eight from the entire pool of 16 Clubs. CERN is to play four home and three away League fixtures against teams all over Switzerland.

The SCA Pickwick Cup is due to be a “20/20” competition in 2005. Assuming it can be organised, CERN would be entered for it.

On individual fixtures for 2005: the Club would try (and has in fact secured a place) for the Lodi Festival; an “Ashes” tour to Durham has been organised and also a weekend in Luxembourg. An attempt will be made to play the E. Jones trophy during May; the opening game would be against the Rugby Club, in April; we should leave September free for possible League semi-finals/finals; greater emphasis would be given to arranging friendly games first – then fitting League games around them.

Any other Business and Close of Meeting

On a disciplinary matter involving the game on 12 September 2004, Bryan stated that he was seeking the views of the other side.

The President closed the meeting at 20.30h.