

# Wanstead & Snaresbrook Cricket Club (incorporating Snaresbrook Football Club)



*Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Nutter Lane on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 @ 8:00pm.*

**Apologies:** M. Mead, T. Hebden, T. Burgess, A. Briggs, S. Batra, N. Bainton, D. Southcott, J. Ellis-Grewal, S. Nasim, P. Staniford, Ad. Akram, B. Phillip, N. Evans, S. Dwivedi M. Patel, A. Evans and M. Pluck.

## **1.0 Introduction**

The President introduced the meeting, including reading the notice of the meeting.

## **2.0 Adoption of the Committee Report for 2016**

2016 had been a momentous year for the club, both on and off the field. On the playing front, it had probably been the most successful year in the club's history. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> XIs had won their respective Essex League Premier Division titles, an unprecedented achievement. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI had also won the Dukes League Cup to complete the double and had finished runners-up in the Bertie Joel Cup. Our U19s had been successful in the Essex NatWest U19 Club T20 competition and went on to win the South East Regional play-offs, an exceptional effort by a very talented team. Wanstead Ladies won the North London Womens League for the fourth time, beating Harrow in the final game to take the title and the girls' team beat Hutton in an exciting final to take the Essex U16 Matchplay trophy.

Off-the-field activities centred on the club's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations. The highlights of these were the fabulous trip to Jamaica in February 2016, the excellent commemorative book compiled by Mike Mead and the very successful 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary week in late July and early August. The centrepiece of this was the marquee anniversary dinner, where the guest speaker John Barclay was particularly entertaining. The club would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this such a memorable week. Special thanks must also go to Mike Mead for his efforts in producing an engaging and compelling review of the 150 years of Wanstead and Snaresbrook Cricket Club, with a special focus on club personalities and events of the last 50 years.

The one setback during the year was the abandonment of the match against the Cross Arrows at Lord's due to the poor weather. Fortunately, we had been given a second opportunity to fulfil this fixture later this year. The club would like to thank Arfan Akram for the role he played in obtaining this second invitation.

To round off this historic year, work was now taking place on a major refurbishment of the Overton Drive club house. This was a significant initiative that would not have been possible without Terry O'Connor's generous legacy and the very welcome Sport England grant. The refurbishment was now well underway and we hoped to have everything completed by sometime in April. The revamped main hall, new extension

and renovated entrance, with its seamless blend of new and old, already looked very impressive. Despite the extent of the work involved and the occasional challenges that needed to be overcome during the refurbishment work, we had managed to adhere very closely to the original budget. The club would like to thank John Gray for all the time and effort he had expended in overseeing the building work to ensure everything went to plan. His involvement had been vital to the success of this project. Overton Drive would now be a far more attractive venue and it was important that all club members made full use of this superb asset.

More than 30 club members had recently returned from an extremely successful and enjoyable tour of South Africa that included a coaching session in a township and several competitive fixtures for ladies' and men's teams, including games at the iconic Newlands Cricket Ground in Cape Town.

The President observed that the involvement of so many club members in a variety of off-the-field activities, especially over the past 12 months, allied to consistent success on the pitch, underlined why Wanstead continued to be one of the foremost recreational clubs in the country.

**The Committee Report was approved** – *proposed by S. Osborn and seconded by C. Hurd.*

### **3.0 Adoption of the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

The club had achieved a small operating surplus for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running, something that would not have been possible without the ongoing support from our sponsor, Keatons. There had been several large discretionary expenses and we continued to rely on takings from the bar at Overton Drive to underpin the club's income. The big challenge facing us in 2017 was the fact that Overton Drive would not be available for the first 3 months, or more, of 2017 due to the refurbishment. The upshot of this was that the club was likely to make a loss during this financial year as we had been obliged to turn down the opportunity to host numerous social events that would have normally taken place at Overton Drive between January and April. As a club, we had to do everything possible to maximise the use of the refurbished clubhouse once the work was complete.

The auditor, Alun Evans, would supply the necessary certificate to reflect his successful audit of the club's accounts.

**The Treasurer's Statement of Accounts was approved** – *proposed by C. Hurd and seconded by Ar. Akram.*

### **4.0 Election of Officers, Vice Presidents and Management Committee**

The President, Vice-Presidents, Management Committee and Honorary Auditor were re-elected.

The Officers and Management Committee members would be as follows:

<b>President</b>	John Gray
<b>Club Management Committee</b>	
Honorary Club Secretary	Nigel Hutchings
Honorary Club Treasurer	Nalliah Rathakrishnan
Cricket Secretary/Hon. Match Secretary/ Chairman	Martin Pluck
Bar Chairman	Simon Andrews
Social Sub-Committee Chairmen	Joe Palmer Snr Scott Emmons
Welfare Officer	Trevor Hebden (co-opted by Management Committee)
First Team Captain	Joe Ellis-Grewal (appointed by Players Meeting)
Head of Junior Cricket	Stuart Phillips (co-opted by Management Committee)
Football Section Manager	Paul Staniford
Other Member	Matloob Piracha

The following members would also be co-opted onto the committee as required:

- Len Enoch
- Arfan Akram
- Pauline Osborn

**Honorary Auditor:** Alun Evans

**The election of the club President was approved** – *proposed by L. Enoch and seconded by P. Osborn.*

**The election of Officers and Management Committee was approved** – *proposed by S. Osborn and seconded by J. Pluck.*

**The election of an additional Co-Chairman of the Social Committee, Scott Emmons, was approved** – *proposed by Ar. Akram and seconded by J. Pluck*

**The election of Vice-Presidents was approved** – *proposed by Ar. Akram and seconded by Stuart Phillips.*

**The election of the Honorary Auditor was approved** – *proposed by C. Hurd and seconded by I. Aziz*

## 5.0 Subscriptions

A small increase to some subscriptions was proposed.

A question was raised as to the reason for the slight decline in subscriptions between 2015 and 2016 and whether this had been the result of the small increase in subscriptions the previous year. In response, it was noted that this was predominantly due to the change in the age profile of our junior members. There continued to be a drop-off in the number of players in the 13 to 17 age groups, a problem across all forms of sport, not just cricket. This decrease in numbers in the older age groups had been offset by a big increase in junior members in the 5 to 8-year-old range. Whilst our overall junior membership numbers continued to recover, there was no charge for the younger players until they reached the age of 9, hence the recent drop in subscription fees. It was important to remember that Wanstead was still considered as a model for other clubs. The reduction in our younger membership numbers was minimal, whilst other clubs continued to struggle to attract junior members. This was in no small part due to the dedication and skill of our volunteer coaches in encouraging continued participation across the junior age groups at Wanstead.

**The recommendation for the 2017 annual subscription rates was approved – proposed by P. Baily and seconded by L. Enoch.**

#### **6.0 Match Fees**

It was recommended that the 2017 season match fees for both adult and junior members should remain the same as the previous year.

*The recommendation for 2017 match fee rates was approved – proposed by L. Enoch and seconded by M. Piracha.*

***The meeting was formally closed by the President***