

Minutes of 52nd ManCom Meeting

February 4th , 2025

1. Attendees

Joseph Newsome(chair), Judith Fearn(ssecretary), Robert Mumford(competitions secretary), Rod Dawson(vice chairman and team captain tornados), Pat Jones(terriers captain), Chris Prendergast(tigers captain)

2. Apologies

Roger Green(treasurer), Jill Newsome (safeguarding officer)
David Randon (membership secretary)

3. Minutes of 5^{1st} ManCom Meeting were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from last meeting.

a) County Format. The 2 proposals will be prepared nearer to the cut-off date for NESMBA AGM ACTION JF

b) ESMBA motion. This has been submitted and the following reply received

Thank you for the proposal submitted regarding the national qualifier results. This is not a proposal for the AGM however as it does not refer to something that would be a constitutional change. This is therefore something which I will add it as a discussion point for the Open Forum and it can be debated then.

c) Match fixing. A reply has been received from the NESMBA secretary which was factually incorrect but denied any complaints had been received. A letter will be written to express our disquiet and accept we will get no answers to our questions. ACTION JF

5. Finance. RG sent a written report.

Item 5 Finances: As at today, the current balance is **£8964**.

I estimate that further income/expenditure prior to year end (Mar 31) will reduce this to around **£7500** - slightly up on last year.

This estimate includes outstanding hall hire charges for 2025, all mat hire charges, Honorariums, L Cup, the est. cost of engraving all our trophies for the last 2 years (with Robert) + a trophy for Roger Ellis (with Pat) and expected income from raffles. etc etc

Unless we decide we want to slowly increase our year on year final balance, I see no reason to increase any of the charges for 2025/26.

The only exception to this is those listed in our "Fees & Charges" document under F – Allowances. if it is agreed to increase the mileage and meal allowance and extend this to cover all umpiring. (Such a change would probably double the amount we pay for umpiring services during the course of a full year) I am attaching a modified document that can be presented to the AGM for ratification if this gets committee approval when discussed (**Item 7 b**). Note that I have also updated the figures covering our **Insurance** payment which changed last year. However, should we consider increasing our

Equipment cover when it is renewal time? At the moment stands at £6000?

The committee agreed that no increase in competition fees was necessary, and this would be taken to the AGM.

6. Membership. DR sent the following report: -

The updated membership details are that 667 are registered with ESMBA (-11 from last season) and 710 are listed at 35 NYSMBA Clubs Including 5 Juniors. The difference being those who are listed at more than one Club.

I previously advised about the need to have at least 6 at each Club who pay £7 as being primary members listed with ESMBA. This is to satisfy the terms of the Insurance cover automatically provided. Two Clubs have had to change the status of some dual members this season in order to comply and adjust fee payments accordingly. I will be adding the appropriate information to the covering letter in the autumn for the 2025-26 registrations.

ACTION DR

7. Competitions. a) 2024/2025 County Competitions. The only competitions outstanding are the over 55 pairs and the mixed fours. All the rest have run relatively smoothly. Letters to those qualifying for the national finals are due to go out shortly. The chairman thanked RM for all his hard work

b) As a result of a request for a lunch allowance for umpires attending all day competitions it was decided to increase our rates in line with ESMBA reimbursement. The updated fees and charges document will be submitted for ratification at the AGM to reflect this.

c) Competition refunds. Requests for refunds from players unable to compete after submitting their entry form are very infrequent. However, due to a

recent request it was decided to add to the entry form under the terms and conditions that no refunds will be made.

8. County teams. a) Update from team captains. RD reported he is still experiencing some difficulties finding team players which is having an impact on some of the tornado's results. CP reported that it had been necessary to cancel the tigers away game to Staffordshire due to a lack of players who felt it was difficult to make the journey for various reasons. Alternative dates have been suggested but as yet nothing is finalised. The team have found the league difficult winning only one match so far but are still in the fight to avoid relegation. PJ feels her team has done very well and are totally committed. She apologised to CP for not being able to help with players from her squad as travelling was also an issue for those who possibly could be available.
9. Safeguarding. A report was provided ny JoN on behalf of JiN.. There have been no issues to report. Encouraging club safeguarding officers to participate in online courses is proving difficult and although there might be an opportunity to do face to face courses, these were proving expensive at £40/person.
- 10.2025/26 Diary. JF has tried to facilitate a meeting between various officers of the committee and the Galtres but has been unable to do so. After some discussion it was agreed, albeit reluctantly by some members, that JF should liase with AJ regarding the diary and discuss the outcomes. ACTION JF JoN suggested once the leagues were known it may be

possible for 2 Yorkshire teams to play the same team on the same day, and this should be considered as a possibility

11.NESMBA. a) Staffordshire's embryonic proposal of forming geographical zone rather than divisions for county fixtures. This was debated with views for and against both from ManCom members and county players. As nothing concrete has come from Staffs it was decided to await the outcome of their discussions

12. ESMBA nothing to report

13.Review of policies. RG has updated the fees and charges policy which will be presented at the next AGM.

RG has sent some of his thoughts with regards to the Website Policy and recent discussions about a search facility. It was decided that the cost was excessive. RG is concerned that the website is underused but the feeling around the table didn't collaborate his concerns. Discussions took place regarding RG's decision to step away from the website, be it in 2025-2026 or earlier. It was decided to bring his decision to the attention of the clubs and their membership along with the AGM papers and take their views at that meeting into account

ACTION JF

Nothing further has been done on the policies however JoN will endeavour to consider the constitution before the AGM as any changes to this will require ratification at that meeting.

ACTION JoN

14.AOB a) Bowls development programme. As part of this programme a workshop is being held in York next month. CP, JF and Chantal Ireland have an interest in going ACTION JF

b) RM noted the Little cup will need to move next year due to other bookings at the Galtres. Discussions took place as to whether it should be held at the end of the season but due to the pressure on bowlers to start outdoors, it was agreed it should be earlier.

c) JoN informed the committee that since the last meeting, Chantal Ireland has passed her umpires exams and congratulations were conveyed to her. Anna Norton has a date to do her practical and Ian Ding has passed his theory exam. Caroline Harris is doing her written

d) JoN has been approached by West Yorkshire suggesting a preseason friendly. It was decided to consider this for our county warmup event. ACTION JoN

15. Next meeting. To be held on Thursday 26th March at 6.30pm.
RM kindly agreed to host.

