

# **Sevenoaks & District Bat and Trap League**

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2004**

**Held at:**  
**The Chequers Inn**  
**Watery Lane**  
**Heaverham**  
**TN15 6NP**

**On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

**Committee present:** Mike Curd – Chairman  
Cyril Hensman – Treasurer  
Karrie Curd - Fixtures Secretary  
Peter Crowther

**Teams present:** The Stanhope Arms  
The Chequers  
The Old Jail  
The Rose & Crown  
The Bell  
The Bull

Apologies were received from The Rising Sun, The Gamecock and The White Rock.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 8.30pm.

### **1. Approval of Previous Minutes**

Minutes from 29<sup>th</sup> October 2003 were approved.

### **2. Matters Arising**

None

### **3. Chairman's Report**

As I wasn't at last year's AGM: firstly thanks to Leighton and Carol for running the league for the last 3 years.

This year saw 3 teams leaving and 3 joining, keeping the number of teams in the league at 18.

Those leaving were The Portobello, The Rock & Fountain and The Miners Arms. The Miners Arms hope to have a team back in for 2005.

Those joining were two teams from The Crown, Seal and a team from The Bull's Head, Pratt's Bottom. Congratulations to them for completing the season successfully and doing so well.

I have spoken to a number of landlords about entering teams in the league but it seems that the impetus has to come from their customers and not the landlord.

It has been noted that home and away games were not balanced throughout each half of the season. There were two reasons for this; firstly, The Stanhope had no pitch for at least the first 5 weeks of the season and secondly, with a lot of pubs having two teams, there is not always the possibility of scheduling a home game especially when the teams are in different divisions. An effort will be made to have more balanced fixtures next year.

Can I remind everybody that matches must start promptly at 8.30? Matches that go on after 11pm do so with the good grace of the landlord.

In my welcome letter I mentioned that Bat and Trap should be played in a friendly manner. There have been some unofficial complaints of rowdiness and bad language. Please bear in mind that not all venues will put up with this sort of behaviour. As stated, the committee reserve the right to suspend or eject teams from the league.

This year was the first year that all administration has been done via email and the website and all seemed to go smoothly. I hope to redesign the site for next year with more information on teams and a score-reporting page. The cost of the website will be minimal in future as it will be moved to my own server for which there will be no charge to the league, the only cost being the renewal of the domain name.

The one-day event was held at The Crown, Knockholt on 8<sup>th</sup> August with 13 teams taking part, slightly down on last year's turnout. Thanks to Roy and Pauline, Clive, Les and Krys for all the time and effort they put in. It seems that this event always runs longer than anticipated so next year a different format may need to be introduced to ensure a reasonable finish time - perhaps a pure knockout tournament with games over one leg not three.

The presentation evening on 9<sup>th</sup> October was a great success with nearly 140 tickets being sold. Thanks to Peter Crowther for organising the evening single-handedly.

The collection of some trophies in time for engraving proved difficult so please remember that trophies remain the property of the league and need to be looked after. Each captain should be responsible for returning them in good time. The collection of money for presentation evening tickets was also not as easy as it should have been. Some teams organised themselves admirably and paid in good

time whilst others dragged their heels and paid at the last minute. We are still waiting for payment from one team.

The bill for the venue needed to be paid before the event and so Peter Crowther and myself paid this personally. Next year will have to be stricter with tickets not being issued until they have been paid for.

#### **4. Financial Report**

There is still a sum of £90 outstanding from The Bull's Head for the presentation evening and £30 outstanding from The Blacksmiths for extra trophies.

A full report will be prepared and sent to each team when all debts have been finalised.

Currently there is £1698.22 in the account after the following expenses:

Park Wood (presentation evening)	£1680
Park Wood (licence extension)	£40
Cold Tuesdays	£350
Trophy engraving	£138.58
Individual trophies	£450.70

There are no further expenses to be paid in connection with the 2004 season.

#### **5. Election of the Committee**

The Chairman indicated that he is willing to stand for the 2005 season and also to take on the role of Internet Secretary and Fixtures Secretary under the more appropriate title of General Secretary. This was approved unanimously.

Cyril Hensman advised that he would like to stand down as Treasurer next year and so a nomination was requested from the floor. Keith Russell indicated he would be willing to stand which was seconded by Will Chatfield from The Chequers A and agreed unanimously.

Peter Crowther indicated that he would be willing to continue as Events Secretary and the floor agreed this unanimously.

#### **6. Subscriptions**

It was agreed that subscriptions should remain the same as last year at £30 per team.

Joy Brusheen from the Rose & Crown suggested that a discount of £5 be given to teams that bother to attend the AGM and pay at that time. It was agreed to start this from next year.

#### **7. Rule changes**

The following rule changes were agreed:

**Rule 6** – Each match shall consist of 3 legs. Team Captains will toss a coin for choice of batting and bowling before commencing the match and after each leg. The entire bowling team of 6 players stand at the bowlers end with at least one foot behind the bowling line, while the first player from the batting team approaches the trap. Two scorers must umpire league matches and knockouts, one provided by each team. The Scorer can be a playing member of the team.

**Rule 7** - Players are deemed to represent the team for which they played their first game of the season. For any league or league knockout match a team may include one player from another team from the same pub.

**Rule 20** - A leg is over when the second team is either all out or has scored more than the first team. 1 point is awarded to the team with the most runs, if both teams have the same score the game shall be declared a tie and each team will be awarded 1/2 a point. At the end of the match an additional point will be awarded to the team with that has won the most legs.

**Rule 21** - A team will play both 1 home and 1 away match with all other teams in their division during a season. The Team with the greatest number of points will win the division. At the end of the season, the bottom two teams of each division (except the bottom division) will be relegated, and the two top teams (except the top division) will be promoted. If, however the committee adjust the size of each division to suit the number of teams available at the commencement of the season, the two up two down may not be possible. Should there be a tie at the end of the season for league places, which affect winners etc., the winner will be the team with the most wins in the season. If this is the same the winner will be the team who beat the other home and or away during the season collecting more points for those matches. If this is the same there will be a play off or the title will be shared. This is the case unless otherwise agreed between the two Captains.

**Rule 24** - Matches must commence by 8.30pm on the day of the fixture. If both captains agree that a match is unplayable due to the weather, they must rearrange the fixture and inform the Secretary. Matches may not be cancelled for any other reason; if a team cannot make a fixture then 3 points are awarded to the team who were ready to play. All rearranged games must be played by Finals Day.

**Rule 35** - No establishment or pub is permitted to enter more than two teams per pitch, except for doubles and trebles competitions.

## **8. Any other business**

Peter Crowther was concerned that some teams were trying to intimidate others by standing directly behind the batting or bowling end when the opposition are playing. It was agreed that teams should only stand to the sides of the pitch. Captains may insist that teams move if it is felt necessary.

Brian Bingham from the Stanhope Arms asked if the season could be adjusted to start at a different time of year. The Chairman explained that this was not possible as other leagues such as Darts and Quizzes fit in very closely with our season.

It was agreed that any dispute that is not covered by the rules, or where the rules are not clear, should be brought to the attention of the Committee for a decision. Their decision will be final.

Being no other business, the meeting was then closed by the Chairman at 9.50pm.