

AGM NEWS

The June AGM was a fairly quiet affair despite many Rule & Regulation (R&R) changes. A substantial overhaul of the R&R was agreed, which incorporated the veterans leagues into the mainstream rules. The vets rules were previously separate for historical reasons. The changes will have minimum, if any, effect on the organisation of teams or playing of matches, but do change the date that team entries must be provided to enable the leagues to be formed - this date is now 2nd Wednesday of August. For the 2009/10 season this is 12th August.

The other significant change is to allow e-mail and web site communications instead of snail mail - this is largely how the league operates anyway, but is a big help to your volunteer officers.

The old chestnut of coloured clothing was again debated and again various proposals rejected - the Regulations will remain unaltered for next season.

Proposals were also rejected to have play offs in the strange circumstances that happened in the 2008/09 season, where a team winning all its games, and beating the team that came top both home and away, did not win the league! Clubs very largely wanted to keep the existing scheme, which encouraged clubs to always send full teams and fight for every rubber.

Peter Gibbs rules have been changed to remove any ambiguity re multiple teams from one club. There had been moans during the year that Club A could beat Club X's 1st team entry, then be surprised that in the next round they would play some of the same defeated players in say Club X's 2nd team. Regulation 5b) now reads "No player may represent more than 1 team in any season. Clubs should ensure they have sufficient players to fulfil their commitments for all teams entered." - this should not be ambiguous! There are also changes to the handicapping process, dealt with in Regulation 5a).

Your committee has also changed:-

Paul Barber, your Chair and stalwart of the league for many years has stood down as Chairman, but will remain on the committee as a club representative and I am sure will contribute greatly to the web site operation.

New Chair is Ken Adams - a respected veteran of the district.

No Social Secretary is appointed after Julie Gowen has stood down from her sterling work for several years.

Brian Hyland July 2009
Secretary