

CARDIFF CAVALIERS CRICKET CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012

6.30pm Friday 27th January 2012

Upstairs bar, Promised Land, Windsor Place

Agenda

Please note that this meeting will start **promptly** at **6.30pm** and will finish by **no later than 8.30pm**.

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the previous AGM (available on the web site)
3. Officers' reports on the 2011 Season (see below)
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Captain
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
4. Election of Officers for the 2012 Season
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Captain
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
5. Subscriptions, match fees and Budget for 2012
6. Kit inventory
7. Tour arrangements, 2012
8. Nets, 2012
9. Draft fixtures, 2012
10. Willow League, 2012
11. Any Other Business

Cardiff Cavaliers Cricket Club
Annual General Meeting: Draft Minutes

28th January 2011, The Woodville, Woodville Road, Cardiff @6pm

Present: Jonathan Thomas (Chair), Glyn Poulson, James Marchant, Jason Duffy, Nigel Adams, Jonathan Davies, Glenn Chapman, Graeme Brown, Steve Davis, Wyn Pritchard, Mike McVeigh, Chris Evans, Mike Dawkins, Gareth Payne, Jeremy Sparkes, Al Fraser, Bill Ward, James Gardner.

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Steadman, Andrew Graveson, Alistair Steadman, Mark Twaits, Ross Bowen.
2. **Toast:** A toast was proposed, by Jeremy Sparkes, to the Ashes-winning England team that had kept us awake all winter.
3. **Minutes** of the previous AGM held on 31 January 2010 were approved as a true record.
4. **Officers' Reports for 2010 season**
 - **Chairman** (full report provided in advance to members and available on the web site)
Confirmed that, given the membership numbers and position of the finances, the club was in decent health.
 - **Captain** (full report provided in advance to members and available on the web site)
Highlighted that it showed how far the club had come in that we were disappointed with the final stats from last season having had such a good start.
 - **Secretary** (full report provided in advance to members and available on the web site)
Reiterated thanks to those that had helped out with various tasks during the year and stressed the importance of this for easing the workload on the officers.
 - **Treasurer** (full report provided in advance to members and available on the web site)
JT confirmed that in accordance with good practice the club now requires 2 signatories on each cheque.
 - Al Fraser raised the question of how we address the mid season slump in results. It was agreed that fitness and form played a large part in this slump but several ideas were suggested. Jon Davies suggested that fielding & noise in the field needs to be better in every game, while Jon Thomas suggested that nets need to be taken more seriously. Jimmy Marchant stressed the importance of fielding drills before each game so we start 'match ready'. Chris Evans thought that mid season nets might be useful, especially for those who had been injured or unavailable for the early part of the season.
 - It was decided that we would try and ensure that fielding drills & catching practice took place before each game as well as looking at the option of a fielding practice session at certain points during the season, providing they were well attended. The possibility of mid season nets would be explored but would need to be co-ordinated with the fixture list and the weather with perhaps one or two dates highlighted as possible nights to switch to indoor nets, should the weather cause postponement of a game. We would be unable to reserve the sports hall for every fixture as this would need the caretaker to be on site for every game which would incur a cost.
5. **Election of Officers for the 2011 Season.** The following were elected un-opposed:
 - Chairman: Jonathan Thomas (moved by Glyn Poulson, seconded by Wyn Pritchard)
 - Captain: James Marchant (moved by Jonathan Thomas, seconded by Mike McVeigh)
 - Secretary: Glenn Chapman (moved by Glyn Poulson, seconded by Jonathan Davies)
 - Treasurer: Andrew Graveson (moved by Jonathan Thomas, seconded by Glyn Poulson)

Vice-Captain will also join the Committee once chosen by the Captain. The appointment of the Convenor of Selectors will be made by the Committee.

6. Subscriptions, match fees and budget for 2011

- It was confirmed that Cathedral School would be available to us for the 2011 season following the completion of the new pavilion. Jeremy Sparkes confirmed that the cost of hire would however increase to around £60 per midweek game, if we were to use only the lower level of the pavilion. This would be broadly in line with Llanrumney (£55ish for poor quality pitches and outfield) and St Fagans (£50-55).
- Jonathan Thomas proposed that we return to Cathedral School, with the option of having fund raising events during the year to pay for the increased hire costs, as opposed to raising annual subs or match fees. If the fund raising events didn't work out, then we would consider the increase in subs & fees next season, to take the pressure off the club funds.
- Chris Evans offered an alternative suggestion of increasing annual subs by 10% (£3) which could be handed back at the end of the season if fund raising went well. Jeremy suggested that another increase of the upfront membership fee, so soon after an increase last year, may put off potential new members.
- It was agreed that JT's original proposal would stand and this was ratified by the members.
- Fund raising ideas were requested – Gareth Payne suggested asking the Butchers for sponsorship if we go back there after games. Jonathan Davies suggested similar with both The North Star & The Malsters, as well as proposing a summer dinner, with partners. Jeremy Sparkes brought up the idea of a match ball sponsorship and it was decided that we would try and implement a fining system in conjunction with more court sessions that we enjoy on tour. Finally, consideration could also be given to tagging a fund raiser on to an established event such as the curry night, the tour or the dinner.
- Glyn Poulson suggested that anyone who had any ideas for fundraising should approach one of the officers so that these could all be discussed at the next committee meeting with a view to formulating a strategic fund raising plan.

- In summary, we will return to Cathedral School and subscriptions (£30 before the 31 May) and match fees (£2/£4) will remain unchanged.

7. Kit Inventory

- Jeremy Sparkes and Michael Dawkins undertook the inspection, with the kit generally being in good condition. New keeper's gloves & inners were needed. Al Fraser has a pair of keeper's gloves that he would supply to the club and Jimmy Marchant agreed to source inners and counters. Balls would be ordered from the league once Jimmy and the vice captain established how many were needed. A new scorebook was also required. Jonathan Thomas thanked JS and MD.
- A volunteer was requested to look into a new online clothing supplier. Mike McVeigh offered to look into the options for the club.

8. Tour arrangements 2011

- Jonathan Davies & Al Fraser confirmed tour has been arranged to Cheltenham 19-21 August 2011. Big Sleep hotel has been booked for 14 people. Aim is to leave Cardiff at 11am on Friday, play Tewkesbury CC at 2pm followed by a day of leisure on Saturday. We then return to Cardiff on Sunday via the Forest of Dean, where we play Newnham on Severn CC at 2pm.
- Cost of the tour is £100 to include 2 nights' accommodation with continental breakfast and they will start collecting at nets.
- The cost of a minibus/bus has been looked at, and a show of hands confirmed that there would be support for this idea. JD & AF agreed to explore exact costs but initial indications point to a cost of £12-15 per person for a bus with a driver or a minibus without a driver could be paid for from the tour funds without any additional cost, subject to 14 people touring.

9. Nets 2011

- Jeremy Sparkes confirmed that the sports hall at Cathedral School was now available and that 4 sessions had been booked starting on Wednesday 30th March at 7.30pm until 8.30pm (shorter session as club has indoor game), with the following 3 sessions running from 7.30pm-9pm. An outdoor practice is planned for the w/c 25 April, weather permitting.
- It was agreed that sessions would need to be planned to get maximum benefit from them and Jimmy agreed to take responsibility for organising this.
- Net managers will be appointed again to help smooth running of sessions.

10. Fixtures 2011

- Nigel Adams confirmed that most weekend fixtures are in place. Highlights include an early start to the season with a game against Barry Athletic on Sat 02 April and new fixtures against Newbridge, Newport Fugitives & Ystradfelte. NA asked the members if they wanted him to try and organise a fixture on the second weekend in April and the general consensus was that this would be a good idea if it could be done. NA also indicated that he thought there could be scope for some sort of festival in mid July, where we have 2 consecutive w/e fixtures, which could tie in with a testimonial event. Jonathan Thomas thanked NA for his efforts on this.
- Jeremy confirmed that the midweek fixture organising had now been passed over to Ross Bowen. Glenn Chapman thanked JS for his considerable efforts over many seasons in this role.

11. Willow League 2011

- Jeremy confirmed that no AGM date had yet been set, although it was likely to be early in March. There may be a proposal to exclude GE from the league due to non-fulfilment of fixtures and poor communication. If this is carried then league would drop to 10 teams as there have only been light enquiries to join. (Since the AGM, Jonathan Thomas & Glenn Chapman have both advised that they would be able to attend the AGM, allowing Jeremy Sparkes to attend as an independent representative).

12. Any other business

- Jonathan Thomas raised the issue of the annual dinner venue, indicating that he felt the Masonic Hall did not meet their usual standards this year. He suggested looking at other venues for comparison such as the Swalec Stadium, where some members had recently enjoyed an evening at a Barry Wanderers anniversary dinner. Jonathan Davies suggested inviting guests, however Graeme Brown & Glenn Chapman felt that guests may find the speeches and awards boring. GB also felt that we shouldn't discount the convenience and privacy that the Masonic Hall offers. Nigel Adams suggested that the USM should be considered and it was decided that NA & Glyn Poulson would look into all of these options and report back to the committee.
- Wyn Pritchard proposed having a second team as he felt he didn't play much last year. The members present decided that a lot of work goes into getting fixtures and availability for one team and that a second team would not be viable. WP was reminded that he had played 3 of the last 5 fixtures he was available for.
- Glyn Poulson registered a vote of thanks to the Committee, and in particular to Jonathan Thomas, for their efforts behind the scenes.
- Jeremy Sparkes asked for volunteers to help out with keeping the stats for batting & bowling – Chris Evans agreed to look after these again.
- JS again offered scoring and umpiring refresher sessions but needed people to commit to attending. It was agreed that JS and GP would assist with this at nets, while Graeme Brown also said he would be happy to give people basic guidelines for the level we play at. Chris Evans & GB both agreed that we should decide, as a club, that any batsman who knows he has nicked it should walk, so as to help out the person who has volunteered to umpire.
- A volunteer was sought for arranging the curry night – Gareth Payne agreed to do this, assisted by Jason Duffy.
- Jonathan Thomas proposed Ross Bowen as a candidate for a testimonial season this year, to reflect his many years service to the club. This was unanimously approved.
- JT also advised that the discussions around awarding 'caps' were still taking place in committee meetings, but issues were being encountered around the number of appearances that a member should make before receiving a cap and the cost implications to the club of setting this benchmark. Discussions to continue.

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.50PM

Chairman's report 2011 season

When preparing my annual report I inevitably reflect on my personal highlights both on, and off the field. My favourite memories from the games we played include Glenn's maiden century for the club against the Newport Fugitives, Siva's aggressive knock as we successfully chased down a big target set by Rhiwbina, Andy Graveson's extraordinary spell against South Glam and Jimmy's quick thinking to dismiss a batsman in the same match with the sharpest (and cheekiest) run-out you're likely to see. Ross's testimonial match was a really happy day for all involved and, later in the summer, we were touched by Avi's generosity when he provided a magnificent home-cooked buffet as his way of saying thanks and goodbye after his season with us.

After another decent Willow League campaign which saw us consolidate our position in the top half of the competition, our overall return for the season – 14 wins and 2 ties/draws from 39 games – was pretty much in line with the last couple of years. We're capable of playing outstanding cricket, but we also have our moments of madness where we can snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Perhaps the best (or worst) example of this was our Willow League defeat at the hands of South Glam by 2 runs – blowing what was probably our best ever chance of beating these fierce rivals, as Joey Newbury reflected ruefully in his match report.

One of the real joys of the role of Chairman is presenting awards at the dinner. I'd like to take another opportunity to congratulate:

- Mike McVeigh, our Clubman of the Year
- Jimmy Marchant, Player of the Year
- Andrew Steadman, our top batsman with 590 runs (top score 94) at an average of 32.78
- Adi Ramegowda, who topped the bowling averages with 9 wickets at 11.77 a piece
- Glenn Chapman for that maiden century (109 against the Newport Fugitives)
- the Champagne Moment winner, Dan Bailey
- Steve Davis, Graeme Brown and Nigel Moore for their elevation to Honorary Vice President
- Jeremy Sparkes, who received a special recognition award for his tireless work behind the scenes

Off the field, the club goes from strength to strength. Membership is healthy after recruiting well again at the beginning of 2011, selection processes are well-established, communication is excellent throughout the season and we're financially sound. Many of us talk about the ethos of the Cavaliers and playing competitive cricket in "the right way". I don't think that this is becoming tired or clichéd – I genuinely believe that we are part of a very special club and it's great to see our new recruits buying into our history and traditions, no matter how quirky. It's a sign of a healthy club when two of this year's awards went to newbies (Adi and Dan) and that Mike McVeigh has been both Player of the Year and Clubman of the Year over the course of just three years with the Cavaliers.

In my previous reports I've tried to acknowledge the contributions made by individual members to the successful running of the Cavaliers - without them, we wouldn't have a club. When you start to list them you appreciate the enthusiasm of the membership and the willingness of people to share the load. This year my thanks go to:

- Jimmy and Jason for their leadership on the pitch throughout the season
- Al Fraser for the enthusiasm he brings to managing the indoor squad
- Grizz for the work he does in arranging our weekend fixtures
- Gareth Payne for arranging our pre-season night out at Cosmo's and for being the Harry Judd of the Cavaliers when it comes to cutting some moves on the dance floor
- JD for taking the lead in organising our tour to Cheltenham in August, and Al for acting as his deputy, coordinating things while we were away,
- Mike McVeigh negotiated our new Cavaliers kit range and was responsible for sorting out the official tour merchandise again this year
- Jez carried on the good work Glyn & Grizz had started in arranging our annual dinner and presentation evening which saw a welcome return to the USM
- Jez for the work he continued to do for the club behind the scenes (despite claiming to be retired!) and his work with the Willow League (despite being the man "without portfolio"!)
- Ross for sorting out our midweek fixtures so efficiently in 2011

- Chris Evans for updating our statistics throughout the season and Gary Elliott for developing the 'stats spreadsheet' to make it easier to update
- Mike Dawkins for continuing to look after our kit and assessing our replacement needs, supported by the ever vigilant Jez
- Bill Ward and Gareth for agreeing to organise what promises to be a terrific tour to Exeter in August.

Think about what you can do to help the Cavaliers this year.

My thanks go my fellow committee members and to all those connected with the club for the support and guidance I've received during the year. I'm honoured to be your Chairman and I look forward to another enjoyable year in 2012.

Jonathan Thomas

Treasurer's report 2011 season

The following represents a summary of the club's current financial position:

	£
Funds available as at 1 January 2011	804.63
Net inflow of funds during 2011	417.68
Funds available as at 31 December 2011	1222.31

Represented by:

Bank Accounts: £1197.31

Cash in Hand: £25.00

The previous change to our bank mandate requiring two authorised signatures for any payment of club funds is working well. Transactions have not been delayed thanks to prompt cooperation between the signatories.

We have arranged for internet access to be added to our bank account. Due to the restriction on a single person being able to authorise a payment of club funds, the internet access is effectively a "read-only" facility. This enables us to monitor club funds on a day-to-day basis (rather than relying on monthly statements by post as was previously the case). This is especially useful for monitoring membership subscriptions and tour payments which have been paid electronically by members to the club's account.

Club funds have been boosted during 2011 thanks partly to the introduction of social post-match fining. Members are thanked for their willingness to participate in this useful form of fundraising.

There will be a one-off cost of several hundred pounds in 2012 for a revamped club website. The current website is technically obsolete and no longer supportable. A specification for the proposed new website is currently being prepared and quotation(s) will be presented to the club committee in due course.

The club continues to be in a healthy financial position. Any forthcoming financial commitments/obligations can be met from current funds and we do not believe there is a need to invest heavily in new equipment. We will recommend subscription & match fee levels for 2012 to the members at the AGM.

Andrew Graveson

Captains report 2011 season

Summary -

Played: 39

Won: 14

Lost: 23

Tied/Drew: 2

Cancelled/Rain: 9

2011 was a season where I believe we definitely came up short; with the quality and ability that we currently have it certainly feels it was a year of what could have been.....

I would like to start by thanking my fellow committee members for their support, advice and input this season - JT, Jason, Glenn, Glyn and Gravy. Jason as ever has given me huge support on and off the field. A special mention to Jez for everything he has done for the club and myself over the years (too much to mention), as you know he is taking a deserved break from administration duties this season. Thanks to Al for again overseeing another credible indoor campaign and for taking the reins on the odd occasion this season. Thanks to Grizz and Ross for arranging our fixtures for the year. Also congratulations to Ross for his testimonial year, the testimonial game was one of the highlights of the season along with the inter club game proving what a great club it is to be a part of. Thanks to Chris Evans and Gary Elliott for keeping the stats for the season, sadly we did not see much of Gary this year. Thanks to Dawko for undertaking the baggage management and kit inspection duties. And finally thanks to Mike M for sourcing a new clothing supplier.

2011 saw big influx of new members, all great guys who fitted in to the club right away. Welcome to Dan, Siva, Avi, Adi, Tom, Neil, Chris Hopper, Paul, Chris Hajgato. The new additions have certainly brought down our average age and given us some much needed "youth" in the outfield. I hope you all enjoyed your debut years and will be sticking around for forthcoming seasons. Sadly injuries hit the team again this season with many having to miss games. Noticeably was losing the highly influential Mike McVeigh. Chris Hooper was another long term casualty who was cut down before he could really get going after tearing a "pec", surely a first for us!

The new selection process via Mailchimp has been extremely successful. However there is still room for improvement on this front; the onus is on **YOU** to update your availability should it change. All too often last season a team was sent out and immediately we had responses advising "no longer available". This has a knock on effect where players who were needlessly overlooked for selection are then asked to play, it then becomes a very time consuming job to call up replacements. So keep your availability up to date and please respond within the timelines.

The 2011 season saw a change of destination for tour, it was off to Cheltenham. The bus option was a revelation with no one having to worry about driving; this definitely seems to be the way forward. Our two opponents were very welcoming and as ever we conducted ourselves impeccably. It was a fantastic weekend so massive thanks to JD and AL for organising. I look forward to 2012 in Exeter.

On the pitch there were some standout performances –

- Steaders once again topped the averages for batting; he was consistent and dependable as ever. A top performer.
- Adi topped the bowling averages in his debut season, a great effort. It will be nice to see him playing more games next season and adding to his wicket tally. There were good performances from Twaitzy who finished a very close 2nd in the averages, Jez kept the flag flying for the oldies coming 3rd just ahead JD who again bowled well.
- Mike M deservedly was voted clubman of the year; he was present at most games to support us, score or umpire. Hopefully after going under the knife post season he will be back fighting fit for 2012.
- Congratulations to Glenn for his maiden ton in a memorable win against Newport fugitives. A fantastic knock in another consistent season.
- Tom making a fifty on debut was a great effort and had a very good first season. A fine acquisition for the club and finishing 4th in the averages.
- Jason had one of his finest seasons with an excellent all round year; he bowled as well as I have seen. A personal highlight was batting with him in Ross's testimonial game against the Sri Lankans where we shared an unbroken century partnership, with Duffy making an undefeated fifty.
- Gravy again was unlucky not to pick up more wickets but had another fine all round season. He was in devastating form against South Glam and it could be clearly seen that the opposition did not fancy facing him.
- My standout performance and win of the season came against Cardiff Hockey – Steve "Gog" Davis ripped through a full strength hockey team and ended up with figures of 5 for 15 which included conceding 7 wides! Truly a

remarkable spell and victory, it was to be our second win of three against Hockey. Their respectability was only saved by a last wicket stand involving Hockey's wicket keeper and our own Mr Sparkes.

Other good wins include one of our highest successful run chases of 174 against Rhiwbina where Siva displayed his big hitting prowess in a fine knock of 61. A weekend win against Newport fugitives was also a good display. Unfortunately with some good performances there were also bad ones, the Casuals in the cup, Cbb's in the league and particularly against South Glam where we managed to grasp defeat from the jaws of victory. To lose by 3 runs chasing only 90 was a sickening loss.

These are the games that we need to learn from, we have enough experience and ability to beat all teams that we come up against in the league and cup. It appears sometimes we don't have enough self belief or confidence within ourselves. This then shows with some very lack lustre performances that do not give justice to the quality players we have. Our weekend fixtures seem fairly well balanced; they are played in far more relaxed manner. These games are the perfect opportunity for those who feel they need some time at the crease or to bowl more overs without having the pressure of a league or cup game.

There are many areas we can look to improve on, the main one's to concentrate on are -

- Have more self belief and confidence for the "big games".
- Take responsibility as an individual and don't just think someone else will perform.
- Back your own ability.
- Look to improve our game as individuals and as a team.
- Oh.....and **STOP LOSING TO THE HURRICANES!!**

Finally I would like to thank all the club members for your support and effort on and off the field. I hope that you have enjoyed the season. I'm sure I have made many mistakes along the way but would like to think I have got one or two right. Most importantly, that we all continue to have fun and enjoy playing the game and appreciate the camaraderie that comes with being a "Cavalier".

It has been a privilege to Captain the club once again.

Jimmy Marchant

Secretary's report 2011 season

I don't want to repeat too much of what has appeared in other officer's reports other than to reiterate the thanks expressed to all those who have contributed to the smooth running of the club. Ultimately, a club does not run this efficiently by accident and with Jez taking a well deserved step back from a lot of the admin, the onus will be on all members to help out and do their bit.

The key points of the 2011 season are:

- Membership has remained strong with an unprecedented number of new faces appearing at pre-season nets, with the vast majority staying with us for the season. The website yet again has done a great job of publicising the club and attracting new enquiries. Our thanks go to Jez for the maintenance and upkeep of this valuable resource, and I look forward to seeing a potential new upgrade of the site for the coming season.
- It was a pleasure to welcome our new members and it was noticeable that they contributed, on and off the field, towards the healthy running of our club. I hope this reflects your enjoyment and understanding of the ethos, spirit and sense of fun that the Cavaliers strive for, and I trust that you can look forward to being part of the club for many years to come. It was particularly encouraging to see so many of the new members appearing so prominently on the end of season averages, and I hope this added competition will see improvements in our results in the coming season.
- There were 48 fixtures planned this season with 9 of these either rained off or cancelled. I believe that the current number of fixtures seems to be about right, given the availability of the membership, and the balance of the weekend fixtures seems spot on, where we meet several like-minded teams. Midweek friendlies will be tweaked next season so that we don't play against Willow League teams so often and to provide a better spread of fixtures. We have struggled to get full teams out for a couple of weekend games so I would urge all members to try and make themselves available where they can during a season – the lawns can wait until Monday! Thanks to Grizz, Ross & Jez for their work with the fixture list.
- Our performances on the field can be improved, with 14 wins and 23 losses recorded this season – exceeding 14 wins should be our benchmark for the 2012 season.
- It is clear that Mailchimp has revolutionised the availability, selection and communication processes within the club, and it has never been so easy to keep the club informed if you are available to play cricket. However, I cannot stress enough the importance of taking individual responsibility for maintaining your availability and responding promptly when team announcements are made. It is a difficult job trying to balance team selection to ensure that everyone gets their fair share of games, whilst also trying to assemble competitive teams for each fixture, and very often this means the selectors are picking teams 2 or 3 games in advance. All of this planning goes out of the window if someone isn't available but hadn't updated their Mailchimp profile so please do your bit to make the selectors' job easier.
- Another enjoyable tour took us to Cheltenham where the bus proved a revelation for those of us that have driven in previous years. Thanks to JD and AI for their hard work and good luck to Bill & Gareth with this year's trip to Exeter.
- Finally, the dinner & awards evening again proved to be a highlight of the year so thanks to Glyn, Grizz & Jez for their efforts. It also provided an early contender for 'Pork scratching moment' of the season so watch this space for details!

Glenn Chapman