

# Worcestershire Cricket Umpires & Scorers Association

## Chairman's Newsletter - February 2009

### ❖ Monthly Meetings

It has been suggested that members ought to have another newsletter so that they can be apprised of the feelings of the Committee in relation to the Associations Monthly meetings. During the current close season attendances at the monthly meetings have dropped to an all time low. The October meeting at Kidderminster produced only a handful to listen to Kelly Everson and at Old Elizabethans in November there were but 5 members all from the Worcester area, other than the Committee. The January meeting did show a marked improvement but there were only 5 members at the February meeting. The Committee have discussed this matter many times and now feel that you, the membership, must make up your minds as to whether we should continue having speakers at our monthly meetings or. Indeed, whether monthly meeting should continue. One suggestion is to reduce the number and maybe having two guest speakers, plus the Andy Hicks general quiz and a law quiz, making a total of four. But what do you think??

We have already made arrangements for the last two meetings before the season begins.

**Our QUIZ NIGHT is Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March 2009** and is at Kidderminster with Andy Hicks asking all the questions. Prizes will be available for the 3 top teams so, why not organise a team of 4 and enjoy the fun.

**Bill Brooks** will be organising a raffle.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	ECBACO Tie
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	WCU&SA Coat Badge
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	Bottle of wine.

**Our Presentation Evening is Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April** 2009 at Kidderminster

**Special Guest Peter Mitchell ECBACO Regional Representative**

Peter will be updating us on all ECB ACO matters and the ECBACO Midlands Region.

#### **Also on the Agenda**

- I. Presentation of Certificates to all Candidates who have taken the Umpires and Scorers examinations
- II. Explanation and Discussion of Umpires Gradings
- III. The "Wide Ball" and the WCL interpretation thereof.
- IV. "Open Forum" the Committee will be available to answer members questions
- V. Changes to Law 6 etc etc

**John Nash, our Supplies Officer** will be available with his usual display and sale of insignia and other Umpire regalia and

**Bill Brooks** will be organising a raffle.

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	WCU&SA Shirt
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	WCU&SA Tie
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	WCU&SA Coat Badge

**The evening will conclude with a superb free buffet.**

❖ **Presentation to the Captains of The Crusader Worcestershire County Cricket League**

As last year, WCU&SA gave two presentations to the Captains of CWCCCL at Kidderminster and Old Elizabethans. The Administrator, Chris Marsh, had advised that the three aspects on which Captains marked Umpires the lowest were No Ball, L.B.W. & Wides and these were the subjects covered. We received some interesting feedback and the main problem identified was **“inconsistency”**. It makes good sense **for the two Umpires to discuss their interpretation of a “Wide Ball” with the captains at the pre-match meeting.**

This starts with the premise that the two Umpires have a similar interpretation and I suspect that therein lies the problem. If you don't talk to your colleague before the match and agree a joint policy on what will be regarded as a WIDE BALL then you will be bound to be inconsistent, you will both be marked down and, more importantly, you will be letting down the Association. That is why I shall be giving a brief exposition on the CWCCCL Special Regulations pertaining to the Wide Ball at the April Meeting. So, please make every effort to attend that meeting so that you can see what CWCCCL want you to do and then you will have absolutely no hassle whatsoever in the coming season!

❖ **Training Matters**

There are three training seminars underway covering both ECB Level One and WCU&SA Level two examinations. John Collins and Bill Brooks are at Kidderminster, Peter Stevens and John Iggulden are at Worcester Norton and Alan Norcott and myself, ably assisted by David Gower, are at Evesham. I hear of very few members attending any of these courses by way of a refresher. Are you certain that you are up to date with all the new Laws and the many interpretations thereof? The Captain's meetings complained about one Umpire who apparently was unaware of the Special Regulation in the CWCCCL which states that where a match is interrupted due to weather conditions in the first innings, the side batting first “shall still be entitled to their full allocation of overs as agreed at the start of the game”. Perhaps we should have a session on the Special playing Regs.

❖ **General Matters**

- Bill Brooks, our treasurer, has the latest edition of the MCC Laws of Cricket available at £3 each and also has the new ECB ACO Blue and Maroon Ties available at £13 each.
- You can view the details of the new ECB ACO Insurance Scheme on [www.mycricketcover.co.uk](http://www.mycricketcover.co.uk)
- ECB ACO merchandise – The new range of “on the field range” the casual range and accessories will be manufactured by Duncan Fearnley Sports and will be available in April 2009. It is understood that a catalogue will be sent to all ECB ACO members in March 2009

❖ **And finally**, I do hope you will make every effort to support our last two meetings and I hope to see you there.

*Tim Granger* CHAIRMAN