



WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY CRICKET LEAGUE – Administrator’s Report on 2011

This will be long remembered as the best and possibly driest summer for many years. Our Divisions were extremely competitive and there was a high degree of satisfaction with our league.

We divided the League Management Committee up into a series of Sub-Committees so that matters could be studied in more depth and after the first year of this structure the league’s business appears to more efficiently discharged than previously. Our Annual Dinner, with guest speaker Mark Ilott, was a great success despite numbers being lower than usual.

Stourbridge’s “young guns” performed very consistently in Division One throughout the season and set a new points record in remaining almost unbeaten. They deservedly return after a few years absence to the Birmingham League, of which they are founder members. The sides that trailed in their wake, Astwood Bank, Nomads and Pershore just could not make headway and they were worthy winners with Pershore runners up.

I am also happy to report that Barnards Green found the Birmingham League 3rd Division to their liking as they were promoted at the first time of asking so once again there is no Worcestershire team returning to the ranks in 2012. We wish Stourbridge and the other local sides in the premier league all success next season.

From Division Two, Coombs Wood, Colwall and Hagley will rejoin the top flight and in Division three, it was Rushwick who clinched the title followed by Alvechurch and both will play in Division Two along with 3rd placed Stourport next year. In the new Division Four Tenbury, Stourbridge Social and Alveley came out on top and will be promoted. In Division Five, Champions Old Hill will be promoted along with Ross on Wye and Cleobury Mortimer.

Sadly, since the end of the season Brintons have had to pull out for next season and have disbanded due to lack of a location to play. Division five for next year will have two new clubs in West Malvern, who won division six and are promoted due to no club returning from Birmingham League and, runners up Hallow who are able to profit from Brinton’s misfortune.

The Second Eleven Champions were Pedmore, Rushwick, Cookley, Tenbury and Halesowen. The 1st XI K.O. Cup was won by Pedmore defeating Redditch and an identical result was achieved when the same sides met in the final of the 2nd XI K.O Cup.

The one team section had Champions in Divisions 6 to 10 of West Malvern, Harborne 5ths, Stourport 3rds, Harborne 6ths and Hallow 2nds and congratulations go to all our successful sides. The Saturday Cup was won by Kempsey who defeated Hallow 2nds and in the Plate final Stourport 3rds beat Hagley 3rds.

Our senior representative side beat Staffs in the Cedric Rhoades trophy but lost to a very strong Premier league outfit, North Staffs and South Cheshire in the next round. We lost to the Cotswold League in a high scoring match at Wellesbourne. Unusually, after a victory over Cotswold Hills, the under 19s lost at the hands of Staffs Clubs League and Warwickshire for our first ever defeats at this level. (Since 2003 played 11, won 9).

There were again only a handful of disciplinary problems dealt with by the Committee. The fair play award, based on Umpires behaviour marks, went to Belbroughton. The average mark for Umpires was almost 90% and we welcomed still more to the ranks, however, training and recruitment continues and the Committee would like to see more registered club Umpires so that more 2nd XI games can be covered by “non-players”. The Umpire of the year award went to Dean Gervis and the Groundsman of the year was Eddie Giles of Stourport.

C. Marsh