

**CHESHIRE CRICKET BOARD LIMITED**  
**MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD AT CHESHIRE FA OFFICES, MOSS FARM**  
**ON FRIDAY 20 MAY 2022 – 10.45am**

**1. Attendance:** Peter Davies (Chair), Mike Tyerman (Vice Chair), David Sharp (Secretary), David Humpage (Clubs), Karl Bamford (CYC), Derrick Hastings (for David Bailey, County Club), Di Totty (Independent Non-Executive Director), Neeruj Luthra (Independent Non-Executive Director), Julie Rafferty (County Safeguarding Officer), Richard Newton (Director of Cricket). **Apology:** Mike Guest (Treasurer), David Bailey (County Club).

Neeruj Luthra (Independent Non-Executive Director) was welcomed to his first meeting. Neeruj was appointed at the AGM in February 2022 for a period of two years and his name has been added to our list of Directors at Companies House.

Catherine Forshaw (Independent Non-Executive Director) resigned from the Board on 17 May and her name will be removed from our list of Directors at Companies House.

**2. Minutes of the Meeting 18 February 2022.** The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising from Minutes of the Meeting 18 February 2022**

**3.1 Governance - Appointments Process- (item 3.1.2 of 18 Feb Meeting).**

**Chair** The role was advertised on 31 Jan. At the closing date (31 March) there was one applicant. It was agreed that PD, MT and MJG would arrange to meet with this applicant to progress an appointment. DWS to email the one applicant. The appointee would work alongside the existing Chair until his retirement at the Feb AGM at which time the person would be nominated to the 2023 AGM for appointment as Chair for a period of two years

**Vice Chair** The role was advertised on 31 Jan. At the closing date (31 March) there was one applicant – Di Totty. It was agreed that Di Totty be nominated to the 2023 AGM for appointment as Vice Chair for a period of two years following the retirement of the existing Vice Chair at that AGM.

**Management Group Chair.** The role was advertised on 31 Jan. At the closing date (31 March) there were four applicants. The Nominations Committee arranged a Selection Panel. The Selection Panel met with three of the applicants on 12 May. The Selection Panel's report and decision recommending the appointment of one of the applicants was circulated to Board members together with the applicant's cv and introductory letter on 15 May. Following discussion at today's meeting it was agreed that this applicant should be offered the role. DWS to email the successful applicant and once an acceptance was received, DWS would email the unsuccessful applicants. The original intention was that the appointment would be made at the Feb AGM but since the existing MG Chair has since sadly died it was agreed that the appointment be made as soon practicable once the successful applicant accepts the role.

In view of the quality of the two applicants not appointed it was suggested that consideration be given to finding another role within the organisation. A decision was not made and the suggestion would be kept under review.

**Safeguarding Lead.** Already an existing non-executive Director, Catherine Forshaw had been appointed Safeguarding Lead at the AGM following the Feb 2022 Board Meeting. Her resignation as a Director on 17 May leaves a vacancy for a Safeguarding Lead. The role will be advertised and DWS/NL would liaise regarding the distribution of a suitable ad.

**EDI Lead.** Whilst Neeruj Luthra, appointed at the AGM in February 2022 for a period of two years, would nominally be our EDI lead it was agreed that EDI is a responsibility shared by all. Neeruj has a marketing background, a skill set that will benefit the Board.

**3.2 Members Rules/Constitutions (item 3.1.3 of 18 Feb Meeting).** In her professional role with Brabners, Catherine Forshaw has prepared a template for each of the three Members (County Club, Clubs, and Youth) in line with the ECB CPA Governance requirements for use if and as needed. Costs will be capped at special rates and paid for by the Board.

**4. Director of Cricket inc Board Management Group.**

On behalf of the MG and combined with his own report RCN presented a summary of activity since the February Board Meeting (see Appendix 1).

The MG met on 22 March and the minutes circulated to the Directors and Member Representatives.

**4.1 Office move to share Cheshire FA Offices.** Since RCN's report, the contract has been signed and the move will take place from 1 June.

**4.2 Clubmark Accreditation.** Our staff are working with 80+ Clubs to gain Clubmark reaccreditation and Safe Hands Management system compliant by 30 June 2022.

**4.3 County Grant Fund.** The Board's panel has met five times and allocated £145,000 to 22 Clubs – the total allocation for year 1 of the County Grant Fund is £201,000.

To date 20 Clubs have been successful in their **Inspired to Play** applications (£1000 each).

**4.4 Grassroots Cricket Awards.** The 2<sup>nd</sup> Awards evening shared with Lancashire to reward volunteers across the network is scheduled for 7 October 2022 at Old Trafford.

Our Clubs are invited to 'shout out' their volunteers via a brief item featured regularly on our website.

## 5. Secretary

- 5.1 ECB Team Cards.** ECB Team Cards for use around the county for matches this summer are available for collection at Moss Farm.
- 5.2 ECB 2021/2022 Annual Report and Financial Statements.** The ECB AGM was held earlier in the week at Lord's. The Board was represented by our Chair. The ECB Annual Report and Financial Statements has been circulated to the CCB Directors and Member Representatives.
- 5.3 Persons with Significant Control.** The following statement is recorded at Companies House on behalf of CCB: *The company knows or has reasonable cause to believe that there is no registrable person or registrable relevant legal entity in relation to the company.*
- 5.4 Worldpay - FIS Customer Due Diligence.** Directors were thanked for their co-operation in confirming personal details as part of the FIS Customer Due Diligence exercise.
- 5.5 ECB Anti-Discrimination Policy.** It was confirmed that the Board will act in accordance with the ECB Anti-Discrimination Policy.

## 6. Treasurer

- 6.1 RBS Bank Account(s).** The balance in our RBS account remains satisfactory to maintain our operation at the current level.
- 6.2 Investment.** A lump sum investment remains in the Nationwide 95 Day Saver Account.
- 6.3 2020/2021 Accounts.** There have been no requests for information following the circulation of the accounts following approval at the AGM.
- 6.4 Requests for Support.**
- 6.4.1 Over 50s.** The Board approved a request from the Men's Over 50's for funding in line with previous years (£500).
- 6.4.2 Over 60s 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> XIs, and Over 70s.** The Board approved a request from the Men's Over 60's/70's for a similar level of funding made in previous years (£1,500).

## 7. Cheshire County Cricket Club. Derrick Hastings attended on behalf of David Bailey. David's report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 2).

- 7.1 Showcase Match 11am 31 July v Warwickshire CCC at Chester BHCC.** All Cheshire cricketing bodies are invited to participate as organisers or spectators. Those interested please contact Cheshire CCC.
- 7.2 ECB CPA Governance.** The County Club continues to work towards meeting the ECB CPA governance requirements.
- 7.3 NCCA T20 Finals.** The County Club was congratulated on reaching the Finals of the NCCA T20 Competition.

## 8. Youth Cricket. The minutes of the Youth Committee Meeting dated 9 May were circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 3)

## 9. Clubs Committee. David Humpage's report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 4).

- 9.1 Hybrid Pitches.** With most squares now getting far more use than previously the installation of hybrid pitches provides a solution to the constant repair of the grass pitches.
- 9.2 Newsletters.** James Emmerson has offered to widen the coverage provided in the CCCL Newsletter should Board Members be interested. The CCCL Newsletter (James Emmerson) and The Dazzler (Martin Saxon) are distributed widely and available via the Board's website.

## 10. Women & Girls. In her role as Independent non-executive Director with specific interest in Women & Girls cricket and its development, Di Totty's report was circulated prior to the meeting (Appendix 5).

## 11. County Safeguarding Officer. Julie Rafferty's report was circulated to Directors and Member Representatives (Appendix 6).

## 12. AOB - none

## 13. Dates for remaining 2022 Meetings. ~~\*\*16 September, 9 December~~ - Fridays 10.30am – Cheshire FA Offices, Moss Farm, Northwich. **\*\*The dates of the Sept and Dec meetings were changed after the May meeting minutes were first circulated – new dates are 9 Sept and 2 Dec**

Signed .....

## Appendix 1

### Director of Cricket & Board Management Group - Richard Newton

**District and Excellence** stages of the pathway coaching are now complete with numbers attending extremely healthy. The selection process for District and most County teams (boys and girls) is now complete with matches starting to be played. **Community sessions** on non-traditional sites took place over Easter. **Summer Courses** have recently been advertised with a minimum 50% reduction for any families on Universal Credit.

**Coach Development courses** have had successful numbers attending this winter and additional courses taking place over the summer.

**Clubs** – CCB staff working with 80+ Clubs to gain Clubmark reaccreditation and Safe Hands Management System compliant by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**Staff** – Toby Mullins has recently resigned from his role as Development & Coaching Officer. Jess Lewis has been promoted to Senior Manager status. Marianne Lea is due to start as a Women & Girls Development & Coaching Officer in June and Amy Jones will be joining the CCB as a Coaching Officer on 1<sup>st</sup> July for a 14-month contract.

**Primary School** work involving Chance to Shine and paid sessions continues to thrive along with the **Girls Secondary School** programme. New Chance to Shine Plan to be presented in mid-June with an opportunity to apply/bid for additional funding relating to children on free school meals and a more diverse audience. School competitions are currently taking place dates after 2 blank years. We have had confirmation via the Greater Manchester Cricket Partnership that additional funding to support Primary, Secondary and Street projects will add 50k between 2022-2024 and it is hoped that a further 100k will be made available.

**All Stars and Dynamos** – Most of these sessions have now commenced at Clubs throughout Cheshire and it is hope that once finalised numbers attending will be healthy.

**Lord Taverners Super 1's** – We now have coaching for 12-25 year olds at 4 hubs as part of the Super 1's initiative. Further hubs will be added in year 2. Table Cricket sessions are also taking place for young people with a disability. Special Schools tournament is scheduled for end of June.

We are **still** awaiting the finalised contract with regards to the move of **CCB offices** to County FA building on Moss Farm. The Council are **still** holding up the process, but all still remains extremely positive with the FA.

The **County Grant Fund** panel have met 5 times now and allocated 145k to 22 Clubs. Cheshire have been allocated 201k for year 1. 20 Clubs have so far been successful in their **Inspired to Play** applications (£1000 each).

**CPA** – Ongoing process - meetings with ECB. We are now in Year 2. The Board is currently finalising their EDI Plan which will embrace all our activity. A County Urban Action Plan has been produced during this last quarter.

**Grassroots Cricket Awards** -The 2<sup>nd</sup> Awards evening at Old Trafford is being planned for 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022. Opportunity also exists for Clubs to write a brief article on outstanding volunteers at their clubs to feature on our website.

A big thank you to all the volunteers in Cheshire who continue to make cricket happen.

## Appendix 2

### Cheshire County Cricket Club – David Bailey

The T20 competition has at last started, albeit rather early in the year, and we won regally 7 out of the 8 matches and qualified for the Finals at Tring CC on Sunday May 22nd. Cheshire are first on at 10am against Oxfordshire. Dorset and Cambridgeshire are the other finalists.

In other areas we are moving on with sorting out our new constitution in advance of our independent NCCA life! The draft has arrived from Brabners and will be checked through in the next month. Additionally we have progressed the Governance situation and are angling for appointments to fall roughly in line with ECB requirements.

We are delighted that Julia Rafferty has agreed to join us as our safeguarding officer. Julie will bring a great awareness of the challenges to the committee. We will hopefully shortly meet up after delays due to Covid etc..

Additionally we have also appointed a Diversity Officer who is a specialist training person in this field (none other than Diane Babbage). Amazing what you find when you ask questions!!!

We are discussing the final stages of our EDI statement with Richard Newton and his colleagues with a view to adopting it for our own use.

We will shortly begin the final discussions on the make-up of the new County committee by reducing the number of members from the present overloaded and partly inactive to a sharper body of about 10. We will in this process utilise non comm members to assist in some undertakings by using sub committees with Chairs reporting to the main committee. This has been approved by the present committee.

The celebrated past achievers, Vice Presidents etc are likely to become a new group called "The Cheshire Legends." This group of former hardworking officials, stars etc may also form a specialist luncheon group which will meet mostly during the summer at home matches. Further details will be sorted in due course.

A reminder that the Showcase match is on Sunday 31st July at Chester from 11 am against Warwickshire. Admission £10 over 18's, Parking £5. Tickets now available through myself at the moment.....!

### Appendix 3

#### Cheshire Youth Cricket – Minutes of Meeting 9.5.22

**Constitution update** - Mike G informed the group that a draft constitution had been received from Catherine Forshaw. As it is a draft that is being used by CCCC, CYC and the CCCL organisations it is all embracing, that will have to be carefully considered and altered to meet the needs of CYC.

Karl is to review the draft and consider what further work we need to undertake.

**Annual awards presentations** - A discussion took place around the format of an awards evening.

Generally, the consensus was that the events should be smaller and possibly themed, varying by age group. I.e., a game with 2 age groups, barbecue/buffet and awards.

Gavin and Jess to coordinate with managers/coaches.

With regard to the two bigger awards, player of the year and performance of the year, the possibility of those being presented at the Lancashire/Cheshire awards evening would be investigated.

Richard and Gareth to enquire.

**Innovations going forward** - Gavin outlined some ground-breaking work being undertaken in conjunction with MMU trialling Virtual reality headsets and the use of IT and AI. Using this technology with several of our players during the summer we can assess whether cricket performance can be improved in a number of areas.

It was agreed Jess, Gavin and Neeruj would form a subgroup to lead on new innovations, including the use of IT and media in cricket, to keep CYC as a forerunner on new developments.

**County Age Groups/District Cricket-Boys** - Gavin had submitted a report prior to the meeting outlining the Summer age group programme that is about to start

With a mixture of district (at 10/11's, 13's and 15's) and age group programmes (under 10's to 18's) in place a full resumption of cricket to the pre covid levels is in place.

A total of 12 boys have played for other Counties as part of the dual registration process or through their academy status. In addition. A special mention and congratulations also to Ben Gibbon who made his first-class debut at Worcestershire this week.

**Girls Cricket** - Girls' county squads have been selected for the 2022 season and matches will start in mid/late May. Squads have been selected at U11, U13, U15 and U18 age groups as well as an U18s development team.

In addition to the county teams, district squads have been selected at U11 and U14 age groups. 36 girls were invited to take part in the U11s district which will consist of 3 teams. Over 70 girls were invited to take part in the U14s district. Depending on the uptake of places, we may need to increase the number of teams.

The 5 players selected in the Thunder academy had good winters and feedback has been positive. There are a few injuries, some more serious than others, which may hold them back in the season, but they have a lot of potential.

20 other CYC players are now on the Thunder EPP ones to watch list meaning they will be scouted during the season with the hope they will be selected in the new EPP centres from October 2022 onwards.

**Club National Competitions** - Mike informed the group that a good number of clubs had entered teams for the competitions (over 60), with games about to get underway. The under 15's final is to be played at Grappenhall on June 20th (food to be provided and paid for by CYC).

Mike informed the group this would be the last year he acted as coordinator for the 15's competition, to coincide with his retirement from other CCB commitments. He thanks Gareth, Michelle and Richard for the help they had given him over the years.

Richard, expressed on behalf of CYC our thanks to Mike for the work and time he had given (in excess of 25 years!) to make sure the ECB national club competitions receive the status they deserve and have grown in standing and quality within Cheshire.

Thought has to be given to how these competitions are going to be administered in future. Mike informed the meeting that Cheshire was alone in having 2 organisers, as all other Counties only have 1.

**Club Junior Leagues** - Gareth had supplied a report summarising this year's activities:

Overall, the picture is reasonably healthy, although numbers are slightly down in some areas (NCJCA) and within some age groups (U13).

Some leagues have introduced innovative new formats or revised existing competition rules to try and retain the interest of clubs – e.g. U17 Hundred, U10 Development Leagues.

CCB U19 T20 is still proving very popular, with 33 teams. It will be interesting to see how those who have entered both U17 Hundred and U19T20 manage their fixture schedules

In anticipation of volunteers taking summer holidays, all leagues have reverted to their traditional season window (April-July). As a result, leagues will be encouraged to promote the CCB 'Get the Game On' initiative to encourage clubs and teams to continue playing into the school holidays – the £1000 ECB Inspired to Play grant supports this aim. Discussion was held about a 'soft' marketing campaign to encourage clubs to also 'share' players where this would result in the maximum of number of children participating and games being played, throughout the league season and summer holidays.

All leagues now have a presence on play-cricket, making it easier to track fixtures and results and for CCB/ECB to get an accurate picture of the number of junior teams (linked to funding). David Sharp is providing assistance to NCJCA to get their fixtures online for the first time.

Leagues have also been asked to formally adopt the ECB Anti-Discrimination Code and to share this with clubs and on their websites. Some have appointed new discipline officers to enforce the code and deal with any incidents of poor behaviour, which thankfully are few and far between at junior level.

**Coaches Association** - Graeme had sent a brief report detailing coach activity.

Four successful Core coach courses had taken place, with positive feedback. Coach ECB membership in Cheshire remains around 350.

The roll out of ECB support coach courses is underway.

Kerry Hartnett has been awarded a place on Level 3 training.

Scott Wardley has been awarded a place on the coach developer training programme.

**Schools Cricket** - There was nothing specific to report from Graham Clinton.

Gavin was having discussion with Graham about links between the private schools and clubs, so that there is a pathway from the end of the schools Saturday cricket schedule and the possibility of Club senior cricket on Saturday/Sundays during the Summer holiday period.

**Safeguarding** - Sarah did not attend the meeting and did not report any specific matters. No one else was aware of any specific safeguarding issues.

Mike to speak to Sarah regarding future availability.

**Marketing** - A CCB awareness campaign is underway, using informatics to illustrate what we do, and numbers involved, posted on all social media platforms. Neeruj to continue to work within the CCB board on marketing matters, including working with David Sharp on website development.

Neeruj and Gavin to work with the player ambassadors, to focus on specific areas i.e. specific player experiences can be profiled and positive experiences marketed. This should not be restricted to county players but should include players who have had positive district experiences or someone who has attended our training courses and taken back to their clubs what they have learnt. Similar coach ed experiences could also be profiled.

**Treasurers/ Secretary update** - There were no secretary matters to report on. On the treasurer's side, since the last meeting monies have come in from clubs for the entry into the under 13's and 15's ECB national club competitions, together with contributions to the Stan Davies memorial fund.

On the expenditure side, batting pad covers have been bought and deposits have been paid for the boys and girls county age group festivals at Malvern, Taunton and Shrewsbury.

A list of agreed expense items for 2022 will be sent out to age group managers following the meeting.

## Appendix 4

### Cheshire Clubs Cricket Committee – David Humpage

The season has got off to weekends free of the seasonal rain and with grounds and wickets hard and dry runs have been flowing in most places.

Oxton are leading the way in the CCCC Premier League after the first four games and Heaton Mersey are leading the CCL Division 1.

It was agreed in the close season that the top two divisions of the CCL would move into the CCCL structure so that the CCCL now has 4 Divisions of 1<sup>st</sup>.XIs and 4 of 2<sup>nd</sup>. and 3<sup>rd</sup>.XIs.

The women's game continues to thrive with the women's league now having four hardball divisions and a soft ball league for development clubs. Meetings have taken place to consider the organizational structure of the women's league and this issue will continue to be addressed during the summer. The league still does not have a Secretary, although a possibility has been identified, and as I suggested previously Sarah McCann is still not too far away! The biggest long-term issue as the women's league expands is finding grounds to play on as the pressure on existing grounds grows. Didsbury for example now have 6 men's teams and 2 women's teams with only one ground, and some other clubs are not far behind in terms of the number of teams. They are casting their net far and wide to find available facilities to cater for this demand. Much food for thought.

Gareth has introduced a scheme where clubs can advertise when their ground is free for hire, and logic suggest there may be a future link between this scheme and the problem of lack of grounds referred to above. Watch this space!

There is so much mid-week cricket now at most clubs with the plethora of junior games, in addition to Over 40 Cricket (36 teams now playing in the structure) and Cup games that groundmen have much more to consider when planning their pitch use.

Didsbury have become the second CCCL club after Sale to install hybrid pitches on their square. With most squares now getting far more use than previously this seems to be an approach that will surely grow. The pitches at Sale are being used by Lancashire Thunder which underlines how well they play, and clearly they do not need the constant repair of the grass pitches. Why ECB are still promoting Astro Turf pitches remains a mystery but that is another story! The gulf between administrators and the actual game continues to grow, and we must ensure that this trend does not spread to our own doorstep.

With the changes to the league structures referred to above this has necessitated changes to the umpiring panels and Ian Greensmith is performing heroics to ensure that all games in the CCCL have two umpires. Sadly this is not the case in the CCL but efforts are ongoing to recruit more umpires to the two panels. It can only be a matter of time before there is one Umpires Association covering both leagues, indeed maybe the time when the leagues themselves merge cannot be too far away.

The Groundsmen's Association continues to lay on courses and is now active in many ways in assisting clubs with any problems. Specifics can be found on their web site and Facebook pages.

Catherine Forshaw has kindly presented a draft version of a Constitution for the CCCC. Suggested amendments have been sent to Catherine and the matter is a work in progress. Hopefully it will be sorted shortly.

Finally, the now customary thanks to Gareth and Jess. Customary it may be but sincerely well deserved.

## **Appendix 5**

### **Women and Girls – Di Totty**

**National Programmes** - We currently do not have National Programme figures for the summer, but some programmes have already started up.

**Girl Guiding and Community** - We have a significant demand for girls guiding cricket sessions this summer. We will look to run community-based girl guiding sessions this summer to expand our offer in non-traditional communities.

**Schools** - There is little to update in relation to schools since the last report however we do have one additional secondary school to deliver in part of the greater Manchester funding pot.

**Club cricket** - All CCB run leagues are now up and running. There are 17 teams taking part in the CWCL soft ball division. There are 65 girls' teams taking part in the CGCL this summer between the ages of U9-U15. This is a significant increase on previous years.

**Club development** - We will be looking to roll out a new development plan for clubs which aligns to the ECBs plans for women and girl's cricket. We will continue to meet with clubs on a 1-2-1 basis to develop these.

**Women's Softball Festivals** - Planning for women's soft ball cricket festivals is well underway.

**District and County** - Girls' county squads have been selected for the 2022 season and matches will start in mid/late May. Squads have been selected at U11, U13, U15 and U18 age groups as well as an U18s development team.

Squad numbers - U11 Girls – 15; U13 Girls – 12; U15 Girls – 16; U18 Girls – 16; U18 Development - 18 In addition to the county teams, district squads have been selected at U11 and U14 age groups. 36 girls were invited to take part in the U11s district which will consist of 3 teams. Over 70 girls were invited to take part in the U14s district. Depending on the uptake of places, we may need to increase the number of teams.

The 5 players selected in the Thunder academy had good winters and feedback has been positive. There are a few injuries, some more serious than others, which may hold them back in the season, but they have a lot of potential.

20 other CYC players are now on the Thunder EPP ones to watch list meaning they will be scouted during the season with the hope they will be selected in the new EPP centres from October 2022 onwards.

**Cheshire Women's Cricket League (CWCL)** - Season started at the end of April, and there has already been some high scoring and unexpected results as reported by Martin Saxon in The Dazzler. With several clubs now having overseas players, it will be interesting to follow their individual performances and capture their views on the standard of League cricket.

We have had discussions about restricting new league entrants to Cheshire based clubs and I believe that will be agreed at the next Committee meeting.

Building on the work of Jess and the team, there is an appetite within clubs for female softball and hardball cricket. We will need to recruit more volunteers to support that demand and deal with any arising challenges.

As reported by DTH, we are still looking for a League Secretary.

£5k grant received from the Board, to support Cheshire clubs with the purchase of coloured kit - as a League we would like to move away from whites/red ball cricket over the next few years.

The MCC annual fixture takes place on Thursday 11 August.

League Finals Day is Sunday 21 August.

## Appendix 6

### County Safeguarding Officer – Julie Rafferty

- 1. Safe Hands Training** - Face to face Safe Hands workshops for new and existing Club Safeguarding Officers (CSO) have taken place in March and April 2022 in the Trafford & Tameside, Macclesfield, South Cheshire, Mid Cheshire, Wirral and Stockport areas and as a result 94 Club Safeguarding Officers have updated their Safe Hands qualification. There are only 11 CSO's outstanding, who I hope can attend an additional Safe Hands workshop, achieving full compliance for the Cheshire Cricket area.
- 2. Safe Hands Management System (SHMS) – Phase 3 & ClubMark** Of the 13 clubs invited to Phase 3 of the SHMS, most are close to compliance, with 5 clubs: High Lane, Over Peover, Pott Shrigley, Westminster Park and Wilmslow requiring further support to upload the required information.  
It's hoped that the remaining 13 clubs will be invited to access the SHMS, to move towards safeguarding compliance across all clubs. It is anticipated that the Cheshire County Cricket League and the Cheshire Cricket League (Formerly UK Fast) will include SHMS compliance in the 2023 league rules.  
Work is ongoing with the remaining 85 clubs to ensure that they retain their ClubMark status, the SHMS being an important part of the process. The deadline for compliance is 30 June 2022.
- 3. General Conduct Regulations (GCR)** - With the recent introduction of GCR, it's hoped there will be now a standardised approach to misbehaviour in cricket. All Premier leagues have to adopt the regulations this season, although the Cheshire County Cricket League and the Cheshire Cricket League are working together to apply the regulations for any reported incidents. I am the Board Discipline Officer and will liaise with the discipline officers and discipline chairs for the relevant leagues. It is my responsibility to maintain statistics on league discipline, whether they are dealt with summarily or by hearing and track the outcomes. The statistics will be shared with the board in the future.
- 4. ECB Safeguarding Conference for Board Safeguarding Leads & County Safeguarding Officers – 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022 @ Burleigh Court, Loughborough** - Although neither Catherine or myself were able to attend, I have since liaised with the ECB Safeguarding Team about the main themes of the conferences and any documents they can share. The main themes were as follows:
  - a) Low level concerns

- b) Listening to children & youth engagement
- c) Managing reporting concerns
- d) Reputational damage for organisations
- e) Safeguarding in a First-Class County/ County Cricket Board setting

**5. Safeguarding themes** - Since the last board meeting the themes and issues dealt with by the CoSO relate to:

- a) Overseas player enquiries
- b) Coach having inappropriate contact with junior players on social media, now subject to ECB investigation
- c) Complaint about club coach
- d) Ongoing investigation into allegations of historic racist language and behaviour
- e) Transgender player enquiries
- f) Livestreaming queries
- g) Junior player with disabilities and addressing inclusivity
- h) Club cricket player is a register sex offender, leading to suspension by the ECB
- i) Junior players and the use of social media platforms
- j) Complaints of senior player and spectator behaviour, which is subject to ongoing league discipline
- k) Mental health concerns of a club player/ member