13th October 2023 NBCC Cricket AGM 2023 Minutes

Welcome, in attendance:

A Neal, J Corbett, S Sherratt, J Eastwood, C Smith, M Humphries, M Humphries, S Gardner, J Fairclough, M Homes-Ivers, E Shiff, E Blowers, J Horrocks, G Jones, I Liversage, D Hamm, J Courtney, B Ellis, L Jones, H Jaan, M Wahid, K Jones, S Sherratt, H Neal, R Neal, C Keogh, B Bell, T Horrocks, N London, S King, S Corbett, M Cumner, R Bibby, M Evans With apologies from:

P Croft, A Rabot, O Williams, S Shiff, D Johnstone, K Winter, C Reilly, A Atherton

2022 Minutes were confirmed via a proposer, J Fairclough, and seconder, J Courtney.

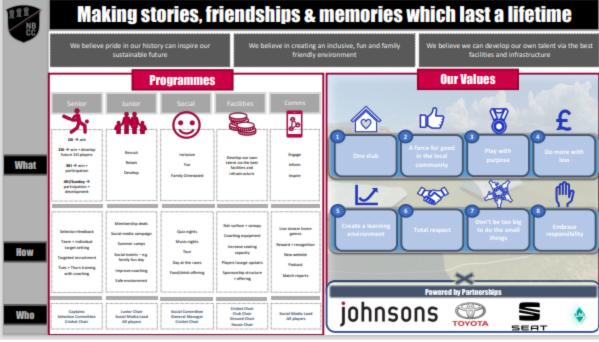
A minute's silence was observed for cricket members who had passed away during the year: B Rodgers and B Murphy.

Chairman's Report:







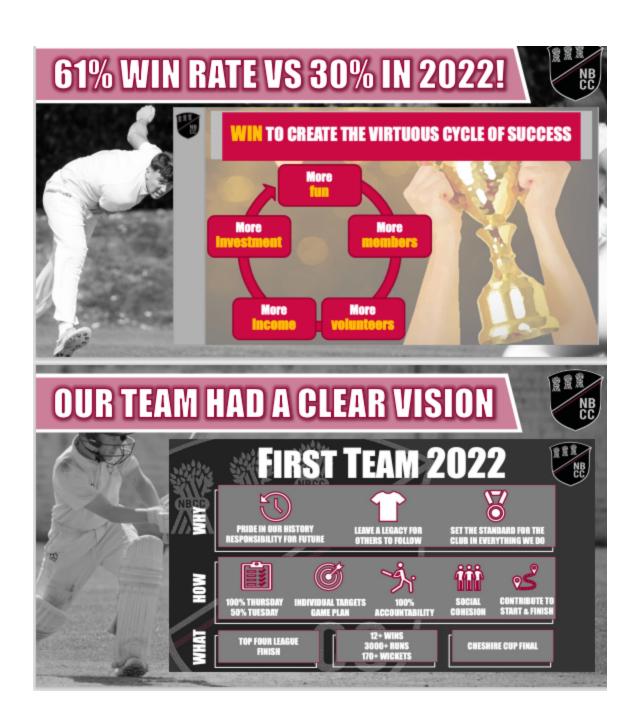






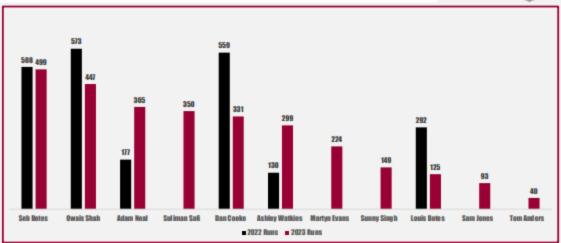






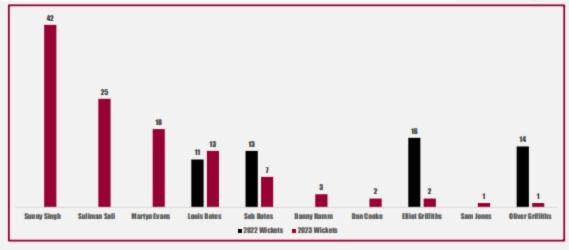
-16% RUNS SCORED vs 2022





-4% WICKETS TAKEN VS 2022







FIRST TEAM PERFORMANCES







RAKERS & MAGPIES PERFORMANCES



	TOP RUNS	TOP RUNS		TOP WICKETS	
0. 3	BEN ELLIS	370	JOE CORBETT	41	
	MARC HUMPHREYS	357	DARREN CRAVEN	28	
	JAMES CORBETT	315	MARC HUMPHREYS	27	
	ANDY MCWILLIAM	301	ANDY MCWILLIAM	21	
	MATT CUMNER	286	OWEN WILLIAMS	20	

SUNDAY TEAM PERFORMANCES





TOP WICKETS **TOP RUNS** MATT CUMNER **JJ STUFFINS** 232 23 107 **NOAH LONDON ROSITH FERNANDO BEN ELLIS ROSITH FERNANDO** 7 103 MARC HUMPHREYS JOSH EASTWOOD 101 6 **LAUGHLIN LOWE** ARMAND RABOT 101 5

FIELDING PERFORMANCES





WICKET KEEPING		FIELDING		
ADAM NEAL	29	SULIMAN SAFI	13	
BEN ELLIS	17	DANNY JOHNSTONE	11	
ALEX ENGLISH	15	JAMES CORBETT	11	
SAM NEAL	1	MATT CUMNER	10	
DAN COOKE	4	DARREN CRAVEN 1		



BOWLING PERFORMANCES

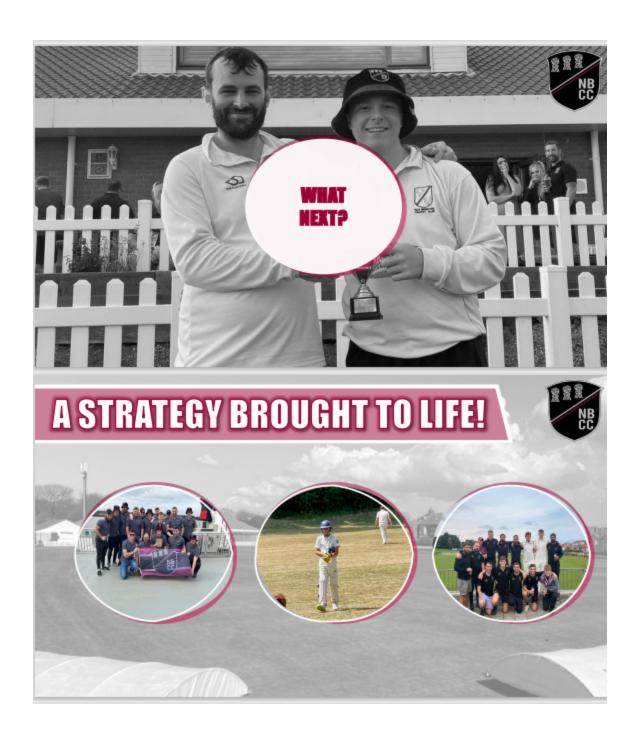












5 PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE



WE HAVE A DUTY & RESPONSIBILTY TO ENSURE WE EXIST FOR THE NEXT 165 YEARS

BUILD ON THE FOUNDATIONS & CONTINUE TO GROW OUR WAY TO SUCCESS

IDENTIFY AS THE BEST CLUB TO PLAY, LEARN & WATCH CRICKET

ASK WHERE YOU CAN HELP DO NOT RELY ON TOO FEW TO DO TOO MUCH

HAVE FUN & ENJOY CREATING THE FUTURE TOGETHER



Included in the chairman's report was a 1st Team captains report, juniors report and ladies cricket report:

Dear all,

I am writing with great sadness that I have decided to stand down as both First Team Captain and Cricket Chairman with immediate effect. From a personal perspective, serving as First Team Captain and Cricket Chairman over the past two and three seasons respectively, will remain something I am eternally proud of and immensely privileged to have had the opportunity to have done. I want to thank the Committee for their efforts in 'turning the Club around' and wish everyone continued success in running our great Cricket Section!

Strategy & Vision

In 2021 we created a new strategy, vision and identified values to help build momentum and create a clearer focus on 'why' we exist as a Club and what our purpose is to members.

Our vision, is to be the best club to play, watch and learn cricket. Our purpose is to create stories, friendships and memories which last a lifetime. We are underpinned by three fundamental beliefs:

- 1) We believe pride in our history can inspire our sustainable future
- 2) We believe in creating an inclusive, fun, and family-friendly environment
- 3) We believe we can develop our own talent via the best facilities and infrastructure

One of the best examples of 'strategy into action' was the changing room transformation completed by volunteers in 2021 which **turned the changing rooms into an inspirational area** which epitomises the pride in our history we want our players to have when representing New Brighton CC.

Senior Cricket

Our Senior Cricket Section has been revitalised and we now have both quality and quantity of players, with our membership numbers **increased by 58% since 2020**. Remarkably, in **2023 we did not concede a single game** which is testament to both the hard work from Captains to recruit players and additionally the fact we are **now a club of choice for local cricketers**. Furthermore, we have increased our focus on standards, for example with a newly documented selection policy, and introducing additional training sessions on Tuesday nights. Furthermore, we have continued to professionalise our section via recruiting a Director of Cricket to improve quality of coaching, offering sports massages during training, and new kit items such as sliders, traditional jumpers, and bucket hats!

As a result, our performances have improved, and we have had one of our most memorable seasons in 2023 with the **Second XI and Rakers XI both gaining promotion** to their respective Premier Leagues. In addition, our First XI secured Premier League status and had a fantastic cup

run ultimately becoming runners up in the Cheshire Cup final. Finally, our Magpies XI competed superbly to finish 8th and our Sunday XI finished 2nd, which highlights the optimistic future our Senior Cricket Section has to look forward to. We are back as a Premier League Club!

Ladies Cricket

In 2022 we created a new Ladies Softball Section which has gone from strength to strength with approximately **fifteen members** regularly training on Friday nights and attending competitions all around the North-West. In their first season competing in the LDCC league our Ladies Softball Team 'New Bees' finished in a **brilliant 3rd place**. It is a great source of personal pride to see our Ladies improving week on week and more importantly having fun playing cricket!

Junior Cricket

In 2022 we published a Junior Pathway which summarised our ambition and roadmap for juniors to transition to our Senior Cricket section.

Our aim is to recruit, retain and develop junior cricketers via:

- 1) Engaging as many players as possible through being a welcoming, inclusive, and fun club
- 2) Always operating in a safe environment
- 3) Providing an effective pathway for junior cricketers to transition to senior cricket via outstanding coaching, infrastructure, and facilities

We have significantly invested by providing free membership, increasing the numbers of qualified coaches and engaged the Senior Cricket section to volunteer on a Friday night through a reward & recognition scheme. As a result, our membership has **increased by 150% from 2020** and we have started to see a successful transition of junior cricketers into senior cricket with **over five u13s making their debuts in 2023**!

In addition, we have run **incredibly successful summer camps** over two weeks in 2022 and 2023, with over thirty juniors in attendance each week and **brilliantly positive feedback** from children and parents! I am sure the memories and friendships built during summer camps will live long in all those who attended and hopefully **build a long-term affinity with the club** – who knows, they may even end up as Chairman one day!

Social Events

We have come together as 'One Club' and created a close knit, positive and supportive culture which, for many, goes beyond playing cricket. Organising successful tours to both Leeds and the Isle of Man in 2022 and 2023 will live in the memories of those in attendance for a long time and I am hopeful that the tradition of tours will continue for many years to come! In addition, we have organised paintballing, a day at the races, ten pin bowling, pool competitions, quiz

nights and music nights all of which have contributed to driving a positive culture change of togetherness and belonging.

Social Media

Our Social Media content is now setting the standard and leading the way across all clubs in the North-West. We have significantly increased engagement and following across every metric via improved quality and professionalisation of content. As the world becomes more digital it is imperative, we continue to drive improvements across our social media to land the right narratives internally and perception externally, which can bring benefits for both player recruitment and sponsorship opportunities.

Sponsorship

In 2022 we launched a Sponsorship Brochure and in 2023 extended to launching the SnapSponsor platform. We have **continued to build relationships with long standing partners** such as LawMed (who sponsor our Ladies Section) and Johnsons Toyota (who hosted the 'hit a six' competition on Bank Holiday Monday). Furthermore, we have **attracted new sponsors** such as Unilever Port Sunlight (who sponsor our Junior Section) and Castore whereby we have successfully fundraised via a raffle over the last two seasons. Finally, we have monetised our photographs through the **creation of an annual calendar**, which I know many look forward to purchasing!

What next?

- 1) Our Club has been in existence for over 165 years, it is our collective duty and responsibility to ensure the Club continues to be around for many more years to come so that others get the enjoyment from creating memories, stories and friendships which last a lifetime.
- 2) Now is the time to continue to build on the strong foundations which have been established. We are at a critical turning point, and we must continue to build momentum and grow our way to success. More members, more volunteers and more income will result in more investment back into the Cricket Section which will create a virtuous cycle of growth and financial sustainability.
- 3) We must continue to identify as the best club to play, learn and watch cricket in everything that we do. Keep pushing the standards higher, take individual and collective responsibility for what you can control and create a commitment culture.
- 4) Ask where you can help, we still rely on too few doing too much, we must all pull together to go faster and further.

5) Most importantly, have fun and enjoy the journey! This is and always will be a fantastic Club with amazing people and an incredibly optimistic future ahead!

2nd XI report:

A report written by second team captain S Shiff: "Would like to apologise for my absence! Will keep it short.

After finishing 3rd in 2022 and missing out on promotion by 3 points, this year we wanted to go one better.

The start of the season was very ropey but also positive. After the first 5 we only won 1, Drew 3 and lost 1. The positives for me was the standard of the league was a lot better than last year and at the start of the season we played all the cricket and was unlucky at times not to turn them draws into wins. After the first 5 we didn't loose a game! Again was a couple of close draws in there with us playing all the cricket, but all in all a very successful second half of the season.

Everyone that played in the second team this season played a massive part of us lifting the trophy at the end of the season.

Some really key performances and games that stand out for me.

Luke jones 32 off a 100 balls & Ollie griffiths 42 off 69 balls vs Liverpool on a horrendous wicket. We should of been rolled for 40/50 that day but these two along with Josh Courtney and Darren craven at the end of the innings got us to a total which was nearly perfect. Having them 9 down with some magic from Danny hamm taking 5, we nearly pulled a win out of it, but the main thing was we shared the points which we knew was crucial for the end of the season run in. I believe Luke jones was awarded the Umpries player of the year award for this innings off Eddie blowers!

Elliot Griffiths 5 for 73 in 23 overs vs orrel! Never gave up even though they batted forever! In the second half we needed 165 off 35. Luke jones again was excellent with 46, Rasi with a quick 27 and then Tom anders was the man of the day with a superb 44 in 20 odd balls, needing 4 off the last ball we didn't quite get there. But again, we knew not giving them any winning points would be perfect for us come the end of season.

Danny johnno 103 not out off 49 balls and Josh Courtney 5 for 22 off 8 overs with a hat-trick vs Northop hall.

Josh Courtney 5 for 20 off 7 vs high field

Danny hamms two 7th fors - 7 for 27 vs Northop hall and 7 for 69 vs rainhill.

Pretty much summs up a wonderful season for the second team, it was fun with a lot of laughs and head pops along the way.

As always I would like to thank Eddie Blowers for his umpiring skills, without you ed my blood pressure wouldn't be as high so thank you!

Also thank you for the selection committee and cricket committee for all there hard work all year round not just in the cricket season.

Job done, loads of hard work ahead for the prem next season

Thanks

Simmo "

Rakers XI report:

A report written by Rakers captain B Ellis:

"I'd like to thank everyone for There commitment this year it's been a great pleasure to have captained the rakers and do what we did with the support of everyone and people showing up week in week out to make it all tick and even better we could get the job done and win the league and back in the prem where we belong. Some of the main talking points from the season are

Joe 41 league wickets Darren 28 Macca 19

Joe 6/10&5/50 Darren 6/25 & 6/44

Myself 359 James 380 Macca 301 Hakim 281

Noah 99 Myself 100* and 103* Macca 97* Some brilliant individual performances through a great season for the rakers"

Magpies XI report:

A great year for the magpies, last year the team got disbanded due to too many concessions. This year there were no concessions at all! Finished 8th in a league of 16 teams with 7 wins. Could have easily been more wins too with a lot of very close games including a tie (!) against the team that finished second. A couple of stalwarts I'm sure the captain would like to thank: D Croman, D Edwards, M Humphreis, S Gardner, R Smith and JJ Stuffins.

Sunday XI report:

A report from Sunday XI captain O Williams:

"Taking over after 5 games, we continued the season with a comfortable win against Prescott & Odyssey CC with wickets and runs being shared around, a wonderful display of team spirit.

Another strong performance from the lads at St Helens Town saw Noah London take 5 wickets bowling a very questionable self proclaimed "off spin". The game finished with the newb taking a full 25 following James Corbett finishing on an impressive 47 not out.

Then after, a rain affected July, in which we failed to complete a full fixture. July's rain was the top performer from this month, saving us from a grimacing 27-7 against wavertree, somehow walking away with 5 points.

Towards the end of the season we found ourselves chasing Liverpool Lions, staying in contention for the title, knowing that a win away to them would put us right in the driving seat with 2 games to play. This however, would not be the case. A very strong Lions side bowling us out for 130, we simply did not have enough runs on the board to defend, despite a valiant effort from the team, we lost by 3 wickets

Ending the season on a high with 2 victories, an absolute thriller against bootle going down to the wire, and a comfortable win against Rainhill. A wonderful Sunday 3's season ended with us finishing 2nd in the table with only 1 loss all season. Plenty of standout performances to be noted, Armand's 100, Stuffos 6fer and plenty of junior success, in the form of Lennon Duckers, Sam Neal, Harry Smith and Mir Wahid.

With myself unfortunately unable to take on the captaincy next season, the next captain will certainly have a fantastic group of players to work with, and hopefully push towards winning the league and earning us promotion."

Election of Officers:

Position	Candidate	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	-	-	-
Secretary	James Corbett	A Neal	S Shiff
Junior Secretary	Sue Sherratt	A Neal	J Corbett
Cricket Socal Sec	Charlie Smith	A Neal	J Corbett
Committee Member 1	Armand Rabot	A Neal	J Corbett
Committee Member 2	Gareth Jones	A Neal	J Corbett
Committee Member 3	Tom Horrocks	A Neal	J Corbett
Committee Member 4	Adam Neal	J Corbett	S Shiff
1st XI Captain	Martyn Evans	A Watkins	J Corbett
2nd XI Captain	Simeon Shiff	A Neal	J Corbett
Rakers XI Captain	Ben Ellis	A Neal	J Corbett
Magpies XI Captain	-	-	-
Sunday XI Captain	-	-	
Selection Committee 1	Steve Corbett	A Neal	S Shiff
Selection Committee 2	Gareth Jones	A Neal	J Corbett

Unanimous vote of all of the above took place to elect our officers for the 2024 season.

Questions:

JF: What is the timescale to find a replacement chairman?

AN: Not going to let any work slip, I'm not continuing indefinitely but can cover work with help of the committee.

SC: Whats the plan with next years overseas pro?

AN: Financially we are challenged. Projected loss of 23k in the current financial year. Paid player budget lower but still healthy.

ME: We're looking for a SLA who can contribute with the bat. Additionally any loss of players will need to be replaced so big recruitment drive for all teams. Overseas pro will take a big portion of the budget and if he's also a LH bat that would be ideal. Whole club recruitment will make the club better with more competition for places. Fighting for places leads to increased performance. Thanks to AN for great leadership in hard times. But to conclude; the budget will be smaller.

SS: What was the budget for the current season?

ME: 14.5k paid player budget is what I'm being told to work towards. Is more complex than that given clubs financial position but in short.

SS: Who are we paying? Are any of them local? And if so should they be paid at all?

AN: There is x amount of money allocated to cricket every year but next years hasn't been decided yet so hard to be specific.

ME: Overseas pro will be majority of any budget given.

SC: Will the overseas pro coach?

AN: Yes, is always in their contract and is a requirement for them to get a Visa.

ME: Agents will help ensure all ECB coaching and visa requirements are met. Basically recruitment is key as we will lose a few so if we recruit well we'll have more to spend on a pro who will also be a better coach because of that. Bad recruitment means more paid players needed and less for a pro.

AN: recruitment has been good but first team quality recruitment is the issue. More difficult, especially finding ones that don't desire to be paid.

JF: Who are we expecting to lose?

ME: Current paid players aren't in the budget for next year. Can't compete with offers for some. One lad is going to spend next summer traveling so will be unavailable. Some losses for sure.

TH: Suliman Safi coming back?

ME: No. Want a SLA.

TH: Winter nets plans?

ME: Early 2024. Probably back at Birkenhead school. Ideally a better night and time than last year.

JF: Coaching plans?

AN: Infrastructure of coaching isnt going to change but no specific decisions made for next year again.

ME: Pro will help.

DH: Junior numbers are up due to good coaching, if we lose that players will leave. Need to keep quality coaches.

AN: Club paid for 4 members to complete coaching qualifications but always need more volunteers.

Awards:

1st XI POTY: Performed in key moments. Important in getting to CC Final: S. Botes

2nd XI POTY: Great Success. Added alot with bat and even more with ball: J. Courtney

2nd XI Players POTY: Off the pitch incredible as well as great on the pitch. Destructive knocks. For the second year running: D. Johnstone

Rakers XI POTY: 41 Wickets. Joint top in the league. First year back after a six year break: J.T. Corbett

Magpies XI POTY: Great year. Top run scorer and wicket taker for the team: M. Humphries

Sunday XI POTY: Close between a few people. First year bowling seam after a shock change of bowling style, although maybe it shouldn't have been a shock as he's approximately 6'4". Tore through teams: JJ. Stuffins

Womens XI POTY: Great progress. Most runs, most wickets and most improved. In the second to last game of the season the league title was still attainable but the team needed a 6 off the last ball to win and she hit it. Amazing moment to witness. So positive and great to have around the club: B. Bell

U21 POTY: Under the radar but had a great season. Works hard at nets. Trains in the week by themselves too. So much belief in this individual: H. Jaan

U16 POTY: Loads of talent despite not having his own age group at the club. Helps on a friday with younger age groups. Opened the bowling for the Rakers in the penultimate game of the season which was a must win game for them. Got one of the highest run scorers in that league out for a duck in his first over. Great to see: L. Lowe

Club Person OTY: Enthusiastic. Always helps. Brings enjoyment. Hard to say more than isn't said about him every day: G. Jones

Calls for an acceptance speech were waved away.



- S. Botes
- D. Johnstone
- B. Ellis x2
- D. Cooke
- A.Watkins
- A. Rabot
- C. Beard
- 7 Wicket hauls:
- D. Hamm x2
- 5 Wicket hauls inc Hattrick:
- J. Courtney

No other business, thanks to all again for coming.

Conclusion.