



Minutes of fourth O.V.C.C. Council Session (2004) held on May 03, 2004 at the Rideau Hall Cricket Pavilion, Ottawa.

The meeting was called to order at 7.38pm by President A. Mufti.

Attendees: 12 (incl. club or affiliation)

Akhter Mufti	OVCC	Prem Sookdeo	CCCCC
Jason Caley	OVCC	Narendra Patel	OCC
Rowan Widdison	OVCC	Paul Carless	BACC
Charlie Brady	NECC	Pavanveer Rana	CCC
Tony Forde	OVCC	Gullu Bajwa	DCC
Vernon John	ESC	Jim Siew	OVCC Umpires***

*** = non-voting participant

Absent: 1

Club Rep. KCC

Minutes from preceding meeting

The Secretary read out the minutes of the April 2004 session. Several discussions interceded the completion of minutes being read however since all matters were deferred to "Matters Arising" they were moved to the appropriate sections and resumed as deemed appropriate.

Minutes were accepted as read on a motion by P. Rana.

Matters arising from minutes

1. **John McFarlane's wife:** The President informed all present as to the passing of John McFarlane's wife. Apparently John was a critical part of both OVCC and RHCA in the past.
2. **OVCC Webmaster:** J. Caley informed those present that as of April 15 (closing date per previous minutes) that only one (1) response was received to OVCC by deadline. As a consequence, the deadline was extended to April 22 and the RFP was posted to the existing website homepage on April 15 at <http://www.geocities.com/ottawacricket>. Subsequent to that posting an additional two (2) responses were received, one from a member of the league and another from a US-based petitioner.

C. Brady requested a copy of the OVCC Webmaster RFP which was not readily available during the meeting. He further stated that he possessed certain skills in information technology that could be put to better use if he could ascertain a background and review the RFP rather than the responses which did not reference the actual questions posed by OVCC. (note: one response did answer each question posed within the initial RFP but did not implicitly state the questions posed in the original RFP). T. Forde and P. Sookdeo reminded the NECC representative that it was not an OVCC obligation to revisit an RFP

that had already been circulated and approved unanimously in the March session of Council and reminded *Mr. Brady* that better communication between the Club and any NECC representative attending OVCC sessions was necessary to facilitate due consideration of material facts. It was generally agreed (without motion) that NECC representatives apprise themselves of the facts and previous case history in OVCC matters rather than revisiting issues that have been previously considered and approved by Council, including matters reviewed by other representatives of NECC that were in attendance.

G. Bajwa went on to remind *C. Brady* that NECC had not presented a consistent representative to OVCC and that without adequate handover of previous material and matters arising from prior OVCC meetings that NECC would not be in a position to make informed decisions concerning OVCC matters.

The Secretary added that ample opportunity had been afforded for NECC to pass information between one another (i.e. intra-club) prior to the session of Council and that the intent of this meeting was to consider the responses rather than the public request which was already approved.

(omission – Secretary wishes to advise Council that the OVCC Webmaster RFP was indeed forwarded to all NECC members via electronic distribution. As a member of NECC himself, the Webmaster RFP was forwarded to all NECC members on March 17 2004. Therefore NECC’s representative had been afforded ample opportunity to consider the contents of the paper)

Those in attendance agreed that *C. Brady* had been put in the precarious situation of considering a proposal without having the relevant background information at hand. (note: copies of preceding OVCC Council session minutes were made available to *C. Brady* prior commencement of the meeting with the exception of the filed and pre-approved Webmaster RFP dated 15 March 2004). The question of considering the responses at hand was to be decided during this session of Council.

The following motions were put forth after an additional eight (8) minutes of general discussion by the participants:

- i) *Motion to remove from consideration the proposal put forth by Mr. Krishnan Subramanian on the grounds of lack of local (“Canadian”) presence by G. Bajwa, and seconded by R. Widdison.*

Motion carried unanimously.

- ii) *Motion to vote in “favor for” the proposals put forth by Ms. Pam Johnson and Mr. Nakul Nayyar on a motion from T. Forde, seconded by R. Widdison.*

Motion carried.

Subsequent to the passing of the motion, the Secretary requested the voting preference of those in attendance. In the absence of a request for secret ballot, a show of hands was deemed appropriate.

Results:

Ms. Pam Johnson: 6 votes
Mr. Nakul Nayyar: 1 vote

Abstained: 3 votes (O.C.C., B.A.C.C. and Secretary O.V.C.C.)

(Secretary notes: OVCC Secretary abstention was on grounds of “conflict of interest” with both remaining respondents)

Following the election of the OVCC Webmaster for Season 2004, Council considered the payment structure and interval for Webmaster as detailed herein:

- a. *C. Brady* proposed that various functions (e.g. only: content creation and design) be split between the two respondents. *The matter was rejected without motion by OVCC members based on majority opinion. Notably, the Treasurer, R. Widdison indicated to Mr. Brady that accountability was of prime concern in his function. He added that split roles had not been called for within the initial request and that management of a split function would prove detrimental to OVCC Internet objectives in terms of both billing and management. He further mentioned that there would be nothing preventing the appointed Webmaster, Ms. Johnson, from subcontracting work or collaborating with other assignees as she sees fit.*
- b. *J. Caley*, briefly polled *R. Widdison* on the optimal payment schedule for OVCC to remunerate the OVCC Webmaster. Mr. Widdison stated that his preference would be to pay the Webmaster on a quarterly basis. Following some discussion between those present:

J. Caley motioned that OVCC pay the OVCC Webmaster on a quarterly (three (3) calendar month basis) assuming acceptable design and continuing regular maintenance in line with OVCC Council expectations commencing immediately and for a term of 12-months. The motion was seconded by P. Rana

Results:

FOR: 7 votes
AGAINST: 0 votes
ABSTAIN: 1 Vote (N.E.C.C.)
ABSENT: 1 Vote (D.C.C.)

- c. *P. Carless* advised Council that BACC members had expressed concern with regard to an amount such as a \$50 contribution towards OVCC website maintenance.

G. Bajwa and *R. Widdison* reminded the BACC representative that decisions within OVCC were made on a democratic basis within the league and that OVCC membership gave BACC the entitlement to a vote rather than the guarantee of the outcome (or “result”). As a consequence, BACC was expected to meet its obligations in paying the annual C\$50 burden to OVCC for website administrative functions should the subsequent discussions result in that amount being payable. It was mentioned that this not dissimilar to how OVCC registration fees are formulated on a majority basis. Council members in attendance did not dispute the notion made jointly by *G. Bajwa*, Treasurer *R. Widdison* and Secretary *J. Caley* that shortfalls in meeting this obligation by any club, once such payment schedule (an expense to OVCC) is approved, that it would be passed directly to the clubs as part of OVCC Membership fees. Therefore it is in the best interest of all OVCC member clubs to pay the fee rather than force a uniform increase in OVCC registration fees.

- d. *G. Bajwa* emphasized that it would be highly desirable to make the site bilingual (French and English) and that this would assist significantly in tightening relations between the Governor-General's residence and RHCA. He asked the Secretary if either respondent intended to make the new website bilingual.

J. Caley responded that the function of the OVCC Webmaster was one of design, maintenance and content posting rather than content creation. He noted that all content posted to the OVCC website would need to be approved by Council prior to being distributed to the Webmaster for posting.

He further noted that French content, Hindi content or any other language could be posted to the website but that it was not the Webmaster's responsibility to create the content itself. This remains a function of the OVCC Council. He also made members aware that the site structure and design would be modified over time to easily cater

for multilingual support, particularly a structure that would be conducive to French/English support.

All Council members are reminded that new content such as articles, stories, interviews and promotional activities should be submitted to the OVCC Secretary so that they may be considered by Council during its monthly meetings.

- e. Significant discussion ensued (involving approximately 27 minutes of discussion) during which no motions or actionable items were put forth but rather that various amounts be considered as contributions from the member Clubs, OVCC and RHCA for maintenance of a unified website.

After much discussion and upon reaching a general consensus:

J. Caley motioned, seconded by T. Forde that the following allocations be assigned and agreed to by all representatives and that the following payment structure is endorsed by all OVCC members (including absent parties such as K.C.C.) of how the funds will be sourced used to maintain the OVCC Website :

- ? **C\$50 per annum per Club**
- ? **C\$100 per annum from OVCC**
- ? **C\$50 per annum from RHCA***

** subject to RHCA approval at the next session of RHCA Council. Should RHCA decide to opt-out from Web presence then RHCA references, contact details and support information will no longer be supported nor provided by the OVCC Website. The total amount payable to OVCC Webmaster would then reduce accordingly.*

Results:

FOR - 8 votes
AGAINST - 1 vote
ABSTAIN - 1 (NECC)

- 3. **Umpire Committee:** J.Siew informed Council that twenty (20) existing Umpires had undertaken "upgrade" exams last month while the new umpire training (involving nine players) had been deferred for a later date. The split for these qualifications was twelve @Level 1, four @Level 2 and four @Level 3.

Mr. Siew informed all present that new umpires joining the league this year will be tested by D. Morgan and himself during the month of May. He elaborated that the examination costs involved to officials and players seeking to become Umpires is as follows:

C\$10.00 – Level I
C\$15.00 – Levels II and III

J. Siew to re-schedule OVCC Umpire training and exams for the nine (9) players seeking to become Umpires and inform OVCC Secretary of the new dates for their testing.

- 4. **Umpire Committee:** J. Siew informed Council members that the "Man-of-the-Match" program had been reinstated and that all officials in attendance during the April 25 "Umpires Guidelines" meeting with Club representatives had been duly informed. He added that existing league Umpires had been made aware of the new provisions for OVCC Season 2004 as listed in previous bulletins (e.g. offside distances, max. 9 overs per bowler etc.)

No further action required.

5. **Cricket Balls:** R. Widdison advised Council that balls should arrive by end of the week and that status of the “promised” incentive equipment would also be ratified by end of week.

R. Widdison to report to OVCC on final outcome of both items.

6. **Conventional advertising:** R. Widdison advised Council that all ads would be placed with “The Ottawa Citizen” and “The Sun” by end of week.

R. Widdison to confirm that advertisements for the league with these publications were placed on or before promised deadline to coincide with start of Season.

7. **Masters’ Match versus H&D:** T. Forde advised Council that in the absence of free resources this year any possibility of a Masters’ match between the leagues would be deferred until next year. He also noted that coinciding a regular representative (Seniors) match in parallel with the Masters did not prove feasible at this time.

Match will not take place. No further action required.

8. **Fixtures Committee:** V. John presented the season 2004 schedule following negotiations during an April 25 session between the Club Captains or assignees, Fixtures Chairman and OVCC Secretary.

J. Caley and P. Carless both noted that the July 31st Citizen Division game between Defence and Bel Air should actually be located at the LL2 ground. V. John acknowledged that this was a minor oversight and agreed to amend this error that was covered already during the April 25 meeting.

A further matter regarding RH Club games that had been moved to LL1 in agreement with CCC during fixtures finalization on April 25 and raised by J. Caley were slated for later discussion at the next meeting of the Rideau Hall CA. As a point of record, CCC has requested to be reimbursed for the expenses associated with hosting matches between RH Clubs at LL1 this season.

No further action required. Matter is moved to Rideau Hall Cricket Association.

2004 Fixture Approval:

G. Bajwa put forth a motion, seconded by P. Rana that the Season 2004 fixture is accepted as presented noting the single correction highlighted by the representative of BACC and the OVCC Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

“On behalf of all OVCC Executives and Clubs in attendance we express our sincere gratitude and recognition to Fixtures Chairman, Vernon John, for not only ensuring a great season of Cricket in 2004 but for your coordination in ensuring a viable and competitive season that was always going to prove extremely challenging to coordinate with the added pressures of the Citizen entry from K.C.C. and the O.V.C.C. hosting of the representative clashes.

Well done Vernon, from all of us involved with Ottawa Cricket!!!”

- OVCC Council May 2004.

Unfinished Business

1. **OVCC Juniors:** Outstanding item carried forward. *R. Widdison* advised that he was yet to hear from *P. Hannaford* or *V. Ramaswamy*.

Kanga Cricket and School Cricket-Awareness:

P. Hannaford confirmed the names of the two local Ottawa-area schools seeking to introduce Cricket to their students. These are specifically *Rideau High School* and *Laurentian High*. Peter had previously noted that he and *Vishy Ramaswamy* from O.C.C. were prepared to take an active role in taking cricket to the schools. During this discussion, it was reiterated that it is essential that Peter and/or *Vishy* obtain materials about Kanga Cricket from *R. Widdison* prior to engaging the schools.

P. Hannaford and *V. Ramaswamy* to liaise with *R. Widdison* to obtain necessary materials and information on Kanga Cricket. *P. Hannaford* to provide status update at next session of Council.

2. **OVCC Budget:** *R. Widdison* mentioned that no 2004 budget would be available until the next session of Council. Reasons included the lack of a known amount for the Internet operational, design and administrative costs until such time as responses to our RFP were received and adopted. After several concerns were expressed by members about operating the league without a budget prior to season start, the Treasurer agreed to send a final budget for consideration to all Council representatives electronically by no later than Friday 7 May 2004.

J. Siew stated that the JRR levy for season 2004 shall be \$150 versus the previously quoted \$100 in the OVCC minutes from April 2004. *R. Widdison* acknowledged that this amount would be reflected in the new budget.

R. Widdison to forward a copy of final draft budget for consideration by all OVCC appointed Council members by no later than 7 May 2004.

Correspondence

President:

A. Mufti read a written request from Umpire Chairman *J. Siew* that requested consideration of increased pay allowance for league umpires in 2004. The request included suggested targets proposed by the current OVCC Umpires.

The matter was moved to New Business.

Secretary:

J. Caley noted that he had received two expressions of interest from prospective players wishing to join the league. Both requests had been sent by electronic mail to the Secretaries of each member club and copied to Club Presidents as applicable.

He further read a note he'd sent to the Umpire Chairperson requesting that *J. Siew* provide council with the established Umpire fees in similarly sized leagues such as H&D and SOCA. Within the message it was noted that for Council to consider this request fairly and in the context that OVCC Umpire tariffs can be compared to similarly sized and equipped leagues rather than larger & more commercial entities such as T&D league.

Two (2) responses were subsequently received by the *Secretary* from *J. Siew* and were read aloud during Council. The text is provided herein as a matter of record concerning Umpire fees in similar leagues:

Secretary's Request for additional information:

From: J C [mailto:lamarmotte71@yahoo.ca]
Sent: April 29, 2004 5:16 PM
To: James Siew
Subject: Re: FW: Newsletter Update for Apr 29 12:08

Hi Jim,

About the Umpires request for consideration of higher pay. Can you tell me what the Umpires in H&D and SOCA are getting these days per match so we can build a context around it to consider the request relative to similarly sized leagues (eg. NOT T&D or QCF rates).

Thanks,
Jason

p.s: Let me know when the players will be rescheduled to become Umpires. I will be on vacation from May 5 to June 4 inclusive.

First Response from Umpire Chairperson:

De: "James Siew" <jamessiew@travel-net.com>
À: "J C" <lamarmotte71@yahoo.ca>
CC: "Gulu Bajwa" <gsbajwa@sympatico.ca>, "Akhtar Mufti" <amufti6262@rogers.com>
Objet: RE: FW: Newsletter Update for Apr 29 12:08
Date: Sat, 1 May 2004 12:49:04 -0400

Hi Jason
Dont understand yourproblem. Both QCF and T&D umpires get more than our umpires .The request for increase was not based on what others received but what was fair considering the hours involved.Some Provinces still live in the dark ages and do not pay their umpires anything.The quality of their umpiring suffers as a result.Ido not know what SOCA or H&D pays their umpires or if they get paid anything. Ido know that BC does not .Have a good holiday

Second Response from Umpire Chairperson:

De: "James Siew" <jamessiew@travel-net.com>
À: "J C" <lamarmotte71@yahoo.ca>, "Akhtar Mufti" <amufti6262@rogers.com>
CC: "Gulu Bajwa" <gsbajwa@sympatico.ca>
Objet: Umpires Fees 2004
Date: Sun, 2 May 2004 11:11:39 -0400

Hi all,

In response to JC's query I now have the info from SOCA and H&D as follows;
SOCA---40 Overs--2 umpires--\$40.00 each
1umpire---\$60.00
Playoffs and Rep---\$70.00 each
H&D ----45 overs --2 umpires--\$60.00 each and for 1 umpire \$70.00
I hope this additional info is useful in making your decision.Regards Jim

Reports

President:

Nil.

Secretary:

Nil.

Treasurer:

Nil.

Disciplinary:

Nil.

Juniors:

J. Caley noted that Juniors had elected their Captain and team leaders for season 2004 at a meeting on the previous weekend. J. Caley also stated that Juniors had registered their team and thanked G. Bajwa and T. Rana (in absentia).

G. Bajwa deferred any further updates on OVCC Juniors to the next session of Council.

Fixtures:

Nil.

New Business

1. **Umpire Committee:** The written request for an increase in Umpire salaries was considered by council. The initial proposal put forth by the Umpire Committee Chairperson, *J. Siew* requested various amounts depending on the type of game played and number of umpires working the match.

President *A. Mufti* addressed the attendees and stated that in his opinion, we must be careful not to turn Ottawa cricket into a profit-motivated business. He reminded members that the league today consisted primarily of volunteers and that even the OVCC and RH Executives worked on a volunteer basis.

Vice President, *T. Forde* countered this notion and stated that the Umpires are providing an invaluable service. He insisted that this service must be paid for at appropriate levels in order to maintain umpiring standards at acceptable levels and compared the sport with other local sports (e.g. basketball) that paid their referees at much higher rates.

A brief and heated dialogue ensued with multiple points of view crossing the table.

The Secretary requested that each participant be allowed to speak and that each executive member have the opportunity to put their views before council prior to any decision or vote commencing for the benefit of all involved.

Mr. Forde reminded Mr. Caley that the Secretary does not speak for the entire executive unless so authorized. J. Caley responded that each executive member should be afforded the opportunity to present their case and views before council as elected representatives rather than as the unified executive. It was not the Secretary's view that he was speaking for the entire league.

(9:13pm – Treasurer, R. Widdison excused himself and departed the meeting)

J. Caley stated that in his view the Umpires must be payed at competitive market rates relative to other cricket leagues of similar size rather than other sports. He noted that any increase must also be balanced by commercial “supply and demand” considerations noting that pay rates would also be offset by an influx of new umpires this year who had “signed onboard” at the current understood and published pay-rates. In his view a slight increase would be preferable and allow OVCC to pay officials competitively, It would acknowledge the work of league officials especially with all the extra games occurring this year and the scheduling difficulties involved thereto. However that consideration needs to be balanced by the market reality that more people have expressed an interest in becoming qualified as Umpires making the environment more competitive this year and offsetting some of our previous exposure on the fiscal side.

G. Bajwa stated that the proposed increases in the order of up to 20% per match were too high to achieve in a single year however, due consideration should be given to a lesser increase being put forth by Council.

P. Sookdeo proposed that increases should be in the order of half that initially proposed by the Umpire Committee.

(9:21pm – Vice President, T. Forde excused himself and departed the meeting)

Motion by P. Sookdeo, seconded by J. Caley that the Umpire fee for regular OVCC League matches be increased to exactly \$45 per umpire when two Umpires are officiating.

Voting results:

***FOR – 7 votes
AGAINST – 0 votes
ABSTAIN – 1 vote (BACC)***

Motion carried.

J. Siew was asked to clarify why different amounts had been proposed for Umpires officiating playoffs and knockout matches versus regular league games. Mr. Siew responded that better qualified umpires were used during these matches and that the increased fees were there to ensure that all Umpires were given an incentive to improve their skills and qualifications by continuing to undertake exams to move to higher levels of recognition.

It was noted that the item for CCA games including the JRR Trophy matches were not applicable to OVCC since Council does not set the fees or directly pay the Umpires overseeing those matches.

The Secretary then clarified with Council exactly what amounts should be considered as reasonable for each type of playing situation. The following modifications were agreed in principle by the majority of those in attendance:

<u>Game Type</u>	<u>Umpires' Committee Request</u>	<u>Council Revised Amount</u>
Regular Game (2 Ump.)	\$50 per Umpire	\$45 per Umpire* (see vote)
Regular Game (1 Ump.)	\$70 for single Umpire	\$60 per Umpire
Playoff/Knockouts	\$55 per umpire	\$50 per Umpire

CCA games	\$70 per umpire	Item removed. (Not OVCC)
Representative Games	\$60 per umpire	\$55 per Umpire

Motion by J. Caley, seconded by C. Brady that OVCC changes the Umpire rates to reflect the revised amounts as listed above and read out aloud during Council session.

Voting results:

FOR – 6 votes
AGAINST – 1 vote
ABSTAIN – 1 vote (CCC)

Motion carried.

2. **Club Registration:** *The Secretary* thanked the relevant Clubs for providing their registration data to OVCC before the start of the scheduled season. He also drew attention to the NECC Representative, *C. Brady* that NECC was the sole Club yet to register their membership.

G. Bajwa reminded *C. Brady* that only a maximum of two (2) guest players per side are permitted at any match and that should NECC play an unregistered team against DCC, that he would pursue the matter at the next session of Council and seek the appropriate penalties be applied.

Council requested that *Mr. Brady* go back to the NECC Executive and advise them in the strongest possible terms that such delinquency will not be tolerated this season.

C. Brady to advise NECC of their lack of registered status and to request that the Club provides the OVCC Secretary with a list of members before the first match of the season is played and preferably by Friday 7 May 2004 at the very latest.

G. Bajwa requested that the Secretary provide Council members with a list registered players from each of the Clubs. The Secretary responded that this would be done prior to the first match and the list would include only the Club name and players' names. No personal information (addresses, age, email or telephone numbers) or supplemental details would be provided.

J. Caley to send a list of registered league Clubs and Player names to each Council representative before first match of the Season.

3. **4pc Ball:** *A. Mufti* passed a 4pc ball around to the attendees. It was used in a friendly match on the weekend. The purpose of which was to demonstrate that the 4pc ball was a viable option under local playing conditions. He told those present that the ball had been used in an innings of 229 runs from the bat and over the entire span of 43 or 44 overs from the bowling side.

Clubs interested in evaluating this type of ball are reminded that the brand is Slazenger and the approximate cost is C\$22 per ball (low volume) but would be lower when ordered in quantity. C.C.C. has several of these balls available for Clubs wishing to purchase them directly for evaluation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9.52pm on a motion by *P. Rana* and seconded by *G. Bajwa*. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 8th June, 2004
7.00pm
Rideau Hall Cricket Pavilion