



Norwich Icení Baseball Club
Committee Meeting #3 Minutes

Date: 8 March 2022

Time: 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Location: The Georgian Townhouse

Start time: 7:30PM

Attendees

Present: Tom Thornhill (TT), Chairman; Phil Walmsley (PW), Vice Chair; Ashley Waller (AW), Warriors Captain; Rachael Burrough (RB), Queens Captain; Nichole Lim (NL), Treasurer

3.1. Welcome

3.1.1. TT thanks all attendees for joining

3.2. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes

3.2.1. Committee votes to approve minutes from the previous meeting

3.3. Update on Previous Action Items

3.3.1 Women's team update

Action Item #1: RB to draft a recruitment strategy for this year and key objectives for next year

- Work with coaching group to schedule and run taster sessions once a month and work toward chosen goals
- Use Local Leagues as a vehicle for recruitment and run numbers and demographics on women currently involved in Spring Local League 2022
- Poll women on which pathway is preferred – Local League, EEBL Division 2 or WBUK
- Look into other engagement opportunities (e.g., women only friendlies against Blue Sox, EEBL tournaments in Cambridge)

3.3.2. No other outstanding action items from previous meeting

3.4. Grounds & Equipment

3.4.1. Facilities Fund and planning permission update: Pre-planning advice came back favorably that any application is likely to be granted.

Action Item #2: PW to take photographs of the field and complete the application. Local Leagues revenue is able to cover the cost of the application (around £500).

2.4.2. General groundskeeping: JH has largely taken over day-to-day field preparation, and lines and bases are ready for play. Once infield mix is ready to order, the mound and batter's box can be properly tended to.

Action Item #3: NL & Andreas Fopp to ask Colney ground staff what mix they use for the mound and home plate area and look into costing for Hewett.

2.4.3. Equipment

Action Item #4: Ash and Tom to do an inventory of helmets, game balls and lefty gloves. NL to make purchases of needed equipment ASAP:

- Up-to-date first aid kits x2 (one for each team)
- Game ball boxes (quantity dependent on inventory)
- Club helmets x4
- Orange base plugs x3
- Club bats x2 (maximum £40 each, potentially look into a doing a bulk order for new players who want their own bat)
- Potentially bags for equipment like helmets, mitts (quantity dependent on inventory)
- Potentially bags for each captain to contain first aid kit, balls, club helmets and club bats

3.5. Volunteer Engagement

3.5.1. Increasing volunteers: Biggest challenge is volunteer numbers for groundwork (especially preparing the field for game weekends). See next sub-point regarding groups proposal.

3.5.2. TT's groups proposal (to replace idea of sub-committees): The restructuring of the board to create of six key operational groups would have many benefits for the club (see the structure of the groups in **Figure 1** below)

- Increasing the number of volunteers (less intense requirements and easier engagements of community)
- Increasing the frequency and quality of local play (coaching accessibility, format and quality; regional development sessions; raising funding; developing Hewett diamond)
- Engaging and reaching a specific consumer base through an improved communications strategy and delivery

Action Item #5: The committee moved to approve TT's proposal with no objectives. TT to put proposal into action ASAP to facilitate the transition into the EEBL season.

3.6. Finances Update

3.6.1. Local League revenue and future membership prices

- Spring Local League revenue is approximately £1,200 (after deducting jerseys)

- There is scope to add another team for mid-summer or fall 2022, and there is no intention of changing membership prices

3.7. Memberships

3.7.1. Timeline and logistics

Action Item #6: NL to put a call out for memberships and payments *immediately* to facilitate in EEBL team structuring by captains. This will occur after testing the infrastructure of Spond Club (a version of the Spond app with more club management features)

3.8. EEBL logistics

3.8.2. Merging team Messenger groups

Action Item #7: Create *one* Messenger or WhatsApp group for both EEBL teams (to better facilitate flexible team structures)

3.8.3. Wednesday training schedule & venues: Down to the Coaching & Development group to decide when and where to commence Wednesday evening trainings. Committee to push coaches to organize.

Action Item #8: Make it a long-term priority to prepare the field for the weekend at the conclusion of Wednesday trainings (cooperation between training attendees and Grounds Group volunteers).

3.9. Concluding Remarks

3.9.1. TT thanks all attendees. A fourth committee meeting shall be scheduled in 1 or 2 months' time depending on the success of the newly created operational groups.

End time: 8:42PM

(Figure 1. Icení Operational Groups on the following page)

Figure 1. Icení Operational Groups

	Grounds	Coaching & Development	Teams	Communications	Local Leagues	Finance
	Ad Hoc	Ad Hoc	Ad Hoc	Ad Hoc	Ad Hoc	Standing
Terms of Reference	The grounds group oversees the development and maintenance of the Hewett Academy diamond.	The coaching and development group is responsible for coordinating and operating the development of baseball play, coaches and (on a temporary basis) officials at all levels and abilities.	The teams group oversees the organisation and running of the Norwich Icení, Icení Warriors and future women's side.	The communication group is responsible for developing and delivering a communications strategy based on the Icení's club's objectives.	The local leagues group oversees the organisation, delivery and growth of the club's local league program in line with the club's objectives.	The finance group oversees the club budget, finances, bank accounts and financial reports.
2022 Objectives	Ground development			Development and execution of 2022 communication strategy	Spring, Mid-Summer & Fall League delivery 1 additional team	
Chair	Phil Walmsley	Andreas Fopp	Ashley Waller	Tom Thornhill	Tom Thornhill	Nichole Lim
Board Members			Tom Thornhill		Nichole Lim, Ashley Waller	Tom Thornhill
Volunteers	Jim Hudson	Matt Pritchard, Joe Steward, Roderick Van Doorn, Brad McLean	Andreas Fopp, Roderick Van Doorn, Rachael Burrough	Ara Kemp, Danielle Oz	Luke Rivens, Roderick Van Doorn, Joe Steward	