

SURREY ASSOCIATION OF CRICKET OFFICIALS

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO 2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

I am pleased to present my final report as Secretary to the Surrey ACO membership.

Activities

The objectives of Surrey ACO are to promote the interests of all cricket officials and cricket in general in the county of Surrey. Surrey ACO has continued to work closely with the Surrey Cricket Foundation and our affiliated Associations in delivering these objectives, and our achievements in 2017 are highlighted in each Officer Report. We have also represented the interests of umpires and scorers in Surrey at a regional and national level within ECB ACO.

Affiliated Associations

There are seven affiliated Associations – four District Associations (Croydon, East Surrey, Farnham and West Surrey) and three Umpires Panels (Surrey Championship, Surrey Cricket League, and the l'Anson Cup Competitions).

Committee

Surrey ACO is administered by a Committee consisting of seven elected Officers, two co-opted Surrey ACO members and the nominated representatives from each of the seven affiliated Associations.

As at 31 December 2017, the **Officers** are Matt Johnson (Chairman), Shyam Bharadwaj (Secretary), Paul Bridge (Treasurer), Howard Cohen (Education Officer), John Flatley (Appointments Officer), Martyn Holloway-Neville (Scorers' Officer), and Brian Hurn (Performance Officer). Elected Officers serve for a period of three years and the Committee positions of Secretary and County Education Officer are due for election at this AGM. David Brown as Education Officer and David Yandell as Secretary are proposed by the Committee. Additionally, Paul Bridge wishes to step down as Treasurer so the Committee are actively looking for a successor.

The Committee extends its thanks to these individuals for the contribution they have each made to the Association during their time on the Committee.

The **co-opted Surrey ACO member roles** are Welfare Officer (Heather Dean) and Webmaster (Howard Cohen). These roles are **not** Officers retiring by rotation and eligible for re-election. Heather is also the Welfare Officer for each District Association and provides a point of contact on welfare issues for all District Association members.

We welcomed new representative to the Committee during the year and the **nominated representative from the affiliated Associations** is Paul Harrison (Surrey Cricket League).

Committee Meetings

The Surrey ACO Committee meets quarterly and Committee meetings take place in February, March, May and October each year at Ashted CC. Where possible the Committee carries out some of the decision-making process by email communication and the use of a sub committee system, such as the Training Group. The Committee extends its thanks and gratitude to Ashted CC for allowing us the use of their facilities for Committee meetings and the AGM.

Surrey ACO continues to have a strong working relationship with the Surrey Cricket Foundation (SCF) and the SCF Cricket Development Officer with specific responsibility for Officials attends each Committee Meeting. In addition, representatives from the Fullers Brewery Surrey County League and the Surrey Trust League are invited to attend Surrey ACO Committee meetings as Observers.

Surrey ACO Members

All fully paid up members of ECB ACO resident in, or with appropriate cricketing connections with, the county of Surrey is eligible for membership of Surrey ACO. As at 31 December 2017 there were **375** Surrey ACO members, a decrease of 3 from our membership of 378 the year before.

We have also implemented the use of Mailchimp which has made it easier for us to communicate with our members and especially allow members to unsubscribe permanently from these communications.

The 'David Edwards Award for Officiating' was presented to Howard Cohen for his work as an umpire across several Surrey leagues for almost 40 years. This award is given to officials who raise the profile of good officiating within the county, display enthusiasm when recruiting new officials and build rapport with players to create a positive image of the modern cricket official.

Membership Matters

The ECB ACO Membership Services team continues to provide excellent support on membership matters. With their help, we have continued to improve the accuracy of contact details for Surrey ACO members, in particular email addresses. This is important because we primarily communicate with our members via email and the website. We now have valid email addresses for most of our members.

In 2017 we published two issues of our new Newsletter which provides Surrey ACO members with an easy way to keep up-to-date with cricket developments and informed of upcoming events and activities in Surrey. The newsletters are filled with useful information, news and insight from our contributors, including training and development opportunities, and they have been warmly welcomed by our members.

Finally, I have decided to step down from the role of Secretary due to professional commitments. In my brief spell I brought diversity to the committee and can only wish that this opportunity will present itself at a more convenient time of my life.

Shyam Bharadwaj, Secretary
March 2018