

Date: 3rd March 2023

Dear Member

# **Election of Member Directors**

I hope that this letter finds you well and like me, you are looking forward to the sound of leather on willow in a few weeks' time. It is not too far away now!

Following the overwhelming support from Members for a change to the Club's Governance in November 2021, it was my privilege to be elected as your Chair at the AGM last year. I have found the role to be both exciting and challenging as Somerset navigates its way through a period of rapid change for the game.

Over the last nine months, the new Board has been working extremely hard to ensure that our Club is equipped to thrive in whatever environment we find ourselves operating in going forward. It is imperative that Somerset stays at the 'top table' of domestic cricket and provides an environment for the South-West's rich playing talent to develop and prosper, while at the same time offering a match day experience and facilities that our Members and supporters can enjoy. We look forward to sharing the progress we are making on these matters and others at the AGM on 2 May 2023.

Over the next few weeks, in accordance with Club Rules, we will be inviting you to vote for three Members to join the Board and take up office from the date of the AGM. Within our skills-based and diverse Board, three Board member positions are reserved specifically to be filled by individuals elected by our membership. These roles are currently occupied by Christine Brewer, Richard Brice and Geoff Vian, all of whom have played an invaluable role in helping us transition from our previous governance arrangements to the current ones. Their terms end on 2 May 2023, although they are eligible to put themselves forward for re-election if they wish to.

We are now in a position to invite Members to put themselves forward for consideration. To manage succession, one Director will be appointed for a term of two years and two Directors will be appointed for a term of three years. Club rules stipulate that Member Directors must have been a Member of the Club for at least 2 years on 31 October 2022.

### Member Directors - key accountabilities:

- Work with the Chair, CEO and other Board members to set and oversee the strategy for the Club.
- Provide challenge and support to the Chair, CEO and President in the execution of their roles.
- Serve as a member of the Membership Committee and other Board Committees as required.
- Engage proactively and constructively across the breadth of the membership; including communicating the Club's Purpose and Vision, gathering balanced representative views, and feeding back to the Membership Committee; promoting/building Member understanding of Club activities, engaging Member groups in relevant activities, and constructively disseminating Board/SCCC messages.



## Person specification:

All eligible Members are welcome to express an interest in standing. To obtain the optimal balance of skills and knowledge on the Board, we would particularly welcome applicants with the following attributes:

- A love of cricket and Somerset CCC in particular.
- A commitment to high ethical standards and to role model the values of SCCC.
- Knowledge and understanding of Somerset and the South-West and especially sport/cricket at grassroots level.
- Active engagement in and/or experience of local or regional community activities.
- Direct experience of leadership and/or delivery in areas relevant to SCCC's plans, for example, facilities development, commercial growth, organisational development, social impact.
- Ability and aptitude to engage in Board discussion, leadership and governance across the full breadth of Club activities and be prepared to add to the diversity of perspective during Board deliberations.
- Ability and capacity to support programmes, in doing so providing advice and challenge to help the Executive and ensure alignment with Board/SCCC objectives.
- · Building relationships with other Members.
- · A demonstrable track record of promoting inclusion and diversity.

As with all our non-executive director roles, the Member Director roles are voluntary positions.

#### Time commitment:

The Member Director role will include, but is not limited to, the following activities:

The time estimate is indicative.

- Induction and training programmes to support role and responsibilities as a Board Director. 3-5 days within first 6 months of appointment.
- Preparation for and attendance of up to 12 Board meetings each year. Estimated 1 day/month (in person or virtual).
- Develop and lead Members' communication and working sessions across the region, as part of the Members Committee. Estimated 6 days/year.
- Work with various teams to steer and/or support delivery of activities. Estimated 12-18 days/year.



If this opportunity is of interest to you and you are confident you are able to commit the necessary time to the role, **please submit your expression of interest by 16 March. This can be done by sending an email, details of your experience and skills and a covering letter explaining why you are seeking election to the Board, to governance@somersetcountycc.co.uk.** 

If you have any questions prior to this date, please send an email to the same email address, **governance@somersetcountycc.co.uk**. We will endeavour to respond to all questions in a timely manner.

### **Nominations Committee**

In accordance with the Club's recently approved new constitution and rules, to ensure that Members put forward are eligible for election and meet the 'fit and proper person' criteria, the Nominations Committee will review all the expressions of interest that come forward and applicants may be asked to meet with this Committee, which comprises the following:

Sir Michael Barber (Chair)

Rowena Sellens (Appointed Director)

Chris Bishop (Club Member)

Kevin Jones (Independent)

Sir Peter Wanless (President)

The timetable for these elections is as follows.

20th March: Expressions of interest reviewed, and suitable applicants invited to meet the Nominations Committee

22nd and 23rd March: Suitable applicants to meet the Nominations Committee and Members going forward for election to be confirmed.

4th April: voting papers to be issued to the membership by a third party, independent provider.

24th April: Voting closes.

2nd May: Member Directors announced at the AGM.

I trust that this letter is helpful in laying out the process and thank you for your support of the Club and cricket in Somerset and the South-West.

Yours sincerely,

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Sir Michael Barber Chair



## APPENDIX ONE

#### **Equal Opportunities and Inclusivity Statement**

Somerset County Cricket Club endorses the principles of equality and equity and strives to ensure everyone involved with the Club has a genuine and equal opportunity to participate to the full extent of their own ambitions and abilities, to give of their best and be assured of an environment in which their rights, dignity and individual worth are respected. Everyone is responsible for creating an inclusive working environment and we expect all colleagues, partners customers and suppliers to abide by our equality, diversity and inclusion policies and procedures.

The Club ensures all existing and potential employees receive equal consideration during the recruitment process and beyond and is committed to the elimination of unlawful or unfair discrimination of any kind and in particular on the grounds of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, gender reassignment, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and age.

### **Safeguarding Statement**

Somerset County Cricket Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is everyone's responsibility to keep vulnerable people safe.

As part of our safer recruitment process all relevant roles are subject to an enhanced or standard DBS check as appropriate, and two satisfactory references. We also require every staff member to undergo safeguarding training appropriate to their role.

We encourage an open, welcoming environment where everyone should feel safe to express any concerns. We have a range of policies and procedures in place which promote safeguarding and safer working practice across all that we do.