



## **NOTES ON MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ACTCAUC AND THE ACTCA ON 31 JULY 2008 RE ROLE OF THE ACT DIRECTOR OF UMPIRING IN CONTEXT OF IMPLEMENTATING THE ACTCAUC WORKING GROUP REPORT ON *THE FUNCTIONS AND STRUCTURE OF THE ACTCAUC EXECUTIVE*<sup>1</sup>**

**Meeting held:** Office of ACTCA CEO, Bradman Pavilion, Manuka Oval, 1615, 31 July 2008.

**Present:** ACTCAUC: Ken Brazel (Chair), Brian Lawrence (Director of Umpiring), Andy Turner (Secretary), Bill Ruse (Chair, Training Panel – part meeting only).

ACTCA: Mark Vergano (CEO); Martin Garoni (Community Cricket Manager).

**Apologies:** ACTCAUC: Andrew Shelley (immediate past Chair).

### **1. Background**

The focus of this meeting was on identifying the role of the ACT Director of Umpiring (DoU, under whatever title might be used in the future), based on the draft note and accompanying table, *Roles of the ACT Director of Umpiring/High Performance Manager*, circulated on 7 July following discussions held on 24 June 2008. The meeting also provided an opportunity to canvass progress in previous discussions about implementation of the Working Group's Report with Ken Brazel, the Council's new Chair.

### **2. Discussion**

Discussion canvassed the following issues.

a) Implications of Cricket Australia's reforms of high performance umpiring:

- continuing uncertainty about the responsibilities of CA's High Performance Panel (HPP, R. Evans, R. Strathfield, D. Hair & R. Levens);
- whilst HPP members will be responsible for monitoring umpires at, amongst other things, CA Cup games, it is unlikely that they will spend more than a day at such games played in Canberra;

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<sup>1</sup> See Notes of the Meeting of 22 May and 24 June 2008.

- given the role of the HPP at national championships, ACT is no longer required to send an observer to championships held outside the ACT;
- ACT DoU remains Andrew Scotford's (CA Umpire Manager) 'high performance' contact within ACT cricket, and the ACT's representative in the 'national system';
- CA's umpiring plans (panel composition, playing condition etc) for the coming year will be discussed at a seminar in Brisbane on 13-14 August;
- Council needs to get advice to CA on its 2008-09 State Panel in time for the Brisbane seminar;
- the use of the ACT State and First Grade Panels has overtaken previous Council/Association processes for appointing umpires to CA Cup and other 'representative' matches: the ACTCA role is now monitoring appointments to the panels and ensuring that appropriate panel members are appointed to representative matches;
- ACT will retain umpiring appointments to home CA Cup matches, but CA may 'intervene' if our potential high performance panel umpires are not appointed to these games;
- attention needs to be devoted to the age of umpires appointed to ACT panels, given the predominance of Council's umpires who are already into their fifties and, therefore, most unlikely to be appointed to CA Panels;
- the selection of ACT umpires for Under 17 and Under 19 national championships needs to be considered in the light of how CA is selecting its panels and the importance of these championships as a scarce source of 'exposure' for ACT umpires; and
- the need for the Council and Association to cooperate in developing umpiring exchanges with Sydney and/or other jurisdictions as a way of developing 'career paths' for 'emerging' Canberra umpires given CA's view of the ACT as a 'feeder' for larger jurisdictions.

b) Level 1 umpiring:

- Martin Garoni is taking on the major role in recruiting and organising the training of Level 1 umpires in the absence of the Council having the sophisticated administrative structure and resources of the NSWCU&SA et al;
- the ACTCA has no interest in taking on a similar role for high performance umpiring, and the DoU does not have a 'lead role' with Level 1 umpires;
- the ACTCA remains grateful for the assistance provided by Council members in delivering training and expects to continue taking advantage of such help, noting that the introduction of the requirement for CA accreditation applies only to those in charge of delivering a course, rather than to each individual 'presenter'; and

- ACTCA is becoming much more actively involved in recruiting Level 1 umpires, and is looking to the Council for assistance with retaining these individuals within the 'cricket community' and providing 'development pathways' for those interested in progressing through the umpiring ranks.

c) Liaison with CA:

- there will be benefits in clarifying whether the Council's relationship with CA is exclusively through the DoU, or whether there are other avenues that need to be identified and clarified; and
- Martin Garoni has frequent contact with CA's Education and Training Department, whilst the DoU's contact is primarily with the high performance Umpiring Department (Andrew Scotford).

d) Competition and match management and ACTCA 2008-09 budget:

- appointments for national championships (eg women's competitions) held in Canberra have been made in consultation between ACTCA and ACTCAUC, coordinated by the DoU: ACTCA representatives are prepared to leave to Council who should handle that responsibility on the Council's behalf;
- the DoU's role as match referee/commissioner has evolved as a way of providing 'value for money' as the ACTCA's funding of the position endured following the ACT's omission from the Mercantile Mutual/ING Cup and the loss of CA funding for a DoU;
- the DoU job came to require about 20 days per year for attendance at matches and meetings, with some expenses, eg attendance at meetings in Brisbane, being met by CA, but still implying the need for a significant amount of time off work that requires 'compensation';
- all ACTCA's funding (including all of the funding for ACTCAUC) from CA is for 'game development': ACT receives no 'high performance' funding from CA (nor elsewhere), notwithstanding the DoU/Council contact with the CA's high performance umpiring department (Andrew Scotford).
- Mark Vergano is intending to make some significant changes to the ACTCA budget<sup>2</sup> for 2008-09, including reducing the payment for the services of the DoU to \$5000, and allocating an additional \$5000 to the Council for it to spend on its own priorities (secretariat, training, travel expenses etc); and
- such changes have implications for the role of the DoU role that Council needs to consider further, for example:
  - ✓ consulting further with ACTCA about the redesign of match refereeing and commissioner duties; and
  - ✓ developing a system of expenses/allowances for various roles, to be met from the \$5000 allocated by ACTCA and paid to which ever individuals are available and able to undertake the relevant duties.

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<sup>2</sup> Council access to a copy of this budget will be necessary to further clarify the new funding arrangements.

e) Coaching and development of ACT umpires:

- CA's reforms appear to imply the need for Council to invest more effort in developing its own umpires, even at the potential cost of having some move on to Sydney or other jurisdictions; and
- need for 'umpire coaching' in association with ACTCA coaching staff (Ashley Ross et al).

**3. Summary of action arising**

- Council needs to get advice to CA on its 2008-09 State Panel in time for the Brisbane seminar;
- the need for the Council and Association to cooperate in developing umpiring exchanges with Sydney and/or other jurisdictions as a way of developing 'career paths' for 'emerging' Canberra umpires given CA's view of the ACT as a 'feeder' for larger jurisdictions;
- Mark Vergano is intending to make some significant changes to the ACTCA budget<sup>3</sup> for 2008-09, including reducing the payment for the services of the DoU to \$5000, and allocating an additional \$5000 to the Council for it to spend on its own priorities (secretariat, training, travel expenses etc); and
- such changes have implications for the role of the DoU role that Council needs to consider further, for example:
  - consulting further with ACTCA about the redesign of match refereeing and commissioner duties; and
  - developing a system of expenses/allowances for various roles, to be met from the \$5000 allocated by ACTCA and paid to which ever individuals are available and able to undertake the relevant duties;
- need for 'umpire coaching' in association with ACTCA coaching staff (Ashley Ross et al).

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<sup>3</sup> Council access to a copy of this budget will be necessary to further clarify the new funding arrangements.

#### 4. Roles of the ACT Director of Umpiring/High Performance Manager

Roles necessitating an experienced umpire	Roles <i>not necessitating</i> an experienced umpire
<p><b>1. Provide ACT representative for CA's National Umpiring Department:</b></p> <p>(a) provide ACT 'point of contact' with Department on 'technical' umpiring matters, particularly 'high performance';</p> <p>(b) attend CA meetings<sup>4</sup> of state/territory umpire 'high performance managers', including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">monitoring/assessing Panel umpires' performance;</p> <p>(c) provide advice on Laws etc and interpretation of field craft; and</p> <p>(d) advise ACTCA/CA on relevant ACT umpire appointments.</p>	<p><b>1. Co-ordinated liaison with CA:</b></p> <p>(a) manage correspondence (e-mail and post) with CA, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">ACT 'point of contact' with CA on umpiring matters, including despatching, receiving and distributing correspondence;</p> <p>(b) organise Level 1 umpiring recruitment and training, with assistance from Council's training panel in delivering courses<sup>5</sup>.</p>
<p><b>2. Competition and match management as required by CA:</b></p> <p><b><i>Develop 'expenses schedule' to facilitate 'case by case' allocation of the following roles between Association and Council:</i></b></p> <p>(a) attend CA Cup, PM's XI and other representative matches played in ACT to manage umpiring issues, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>liaise with CA, ACTCA, team management and umpires; and</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>provide reports to CA et al on the performance of umpires;</i></p> <p>(b) act as match referee/commissioner for representative matches and competitions played in ACT.</p>	<p><b>2. Competition and match management as required by CA:</b></p> <p>(a) manage umpire issues for competitions (age championships etc) held in ACT, including:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">arrange appointments in consultation with Council; and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">liaise with competition organisers, teams management and umpires throughout competition.</p> <p><b><i>Develop 'expenses schedule' to facilitate 'case by case' allocation of the following roles between Association and Council:</i></b></p> <p>(a) attend CA Cup, PM's XI and other representative matches played in ACT to manage umpiring issues, including:</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Continued.....</i></p>

<sup>4</sup> This normally requires attendance at four meetings per year, held in State capitals (often in Brisbane), requiring about 12 days per year participation and travel.

<sup>5</sup> This has not been, and is not expected to become, a role of the ACT DoU/HPM, but is included here for the purpose of clarity, given the growing significance of Level 1 umpiring.

<b>Roles necessitating an experienced umpire</b>	<b>Roles <i>not necessitating</i> an experienced umpire</b>
	<p><i>liaise with CA, ACTCA, team management and umpires; and</i></p> <p><i>provide reports to CA et al on the performance of umpires;</i></p> <p><i>(b) act as match referee/commissioner for representative matches and competitions played in ACT.</i></p>
<p><b>3. Coaching and development of ACT umpires:</b></p> <p>(a) lead identification, assessment and development of ACT umpires with 'high performance' potential, including:</p> <p>liaising with Umpires Council office holders (Chairs of Training and Appointments panels, Umpires Observer et al) to identify and assess potential 'high performance' umpires (State/First Grade Panels etc);</p> <p>liaise with CA/ACTCA/NSWCU&amp;SA et al to arrange and/or deliver 'high performance' coaching/development programs/opportunities, including training sessions, seminars, exchanges, etc;</p> <p>contribute to other Council Level 1/2 training courses/seminars; and</p> <p>briefing Umpires Council and ACTCA on CA expectations/developments;</p> <p>(b) provide Umpires Council member of ACTCA Discipline Committee.</p>	<p><b>3. Coaching and development of ACT umpires:</b></p> <p>(a) management of umpire coaching opportunities with ACT Comets and other representative teams, including:</p> <p>liaising with ACT coaching staff and Council to 'program' coaching opportunities;</p> <p>arrange videoing of coaching sessions etc; and</p> <p>managing feedback between coaches and umpires</p>

Andy Turner  
Hon. Secretary  
ACTCAUC  
8 August 2008