

ASSOCIATION DES CLUBS DE CRICKET DU SUD-OUEST

Siège social : Hôtel des Associations - 47160 DAMAZAN

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BLEVINS  FRANKS
INTERNATIONAL TAX & WEALTH MANAGEMENT

ACCSO AGM 2019 Secretary-General's Report

A season with new challenges, 2019 saw an increase in the number of teams wishing to take part in competitions, B-GCC and Damazan were welcomed back and Toulouse CC entered 2 teams, Bears and Wolves.

The format of the Blevins Franks League competition reverted to two pools with the cross pool semi finals and an excellent Final at St Aulaye. Pool matches were a 75 over format, allowing for the side batting first to declare to give more time to bowl out the opposition. Success was limited and it will be decided at the AGM if it is to continue.

Travel and player availability are always an issue especially for the clubs at the extreme south of our region. The costs associated with away matches put increased pressure on club resources and on club management to organise players for long-distance away matches. It was encouraging to see clubs work hard to manage these issues. They are to be congratulated and thanked for their efforts. A new club, Nimes CC, wishing to take part adds significantly to these issues and forms a major topic throughout the AGM. Final decisions shaping the calendar for 2020. Clubs are reminded that it is possible for more central clubs of our region to agree to act as a neutral venues to avoid excessive travel.

The weather played its usual part by disrupting the original schedule. The effect was greatly increased by the unfortunate playing surface at Toulouse CC. The slightest rain made playing unsafe and as the season progressed the surface broke up to finally make it impossible for ACCSO to permit competition matches to be scheduled there until the surface is replaced to a satisfactory standard. The wet spring and orange alerts for canicule meant re-organisation of a good number of matches. Unusually, several matches were played on a Saturday to avoid the need to have matches decided by the toss of a coin.

The problem of most clubs not having enough playing members remains. The number of matches forfeited because of the inability to field a competitive side was 7, similar to that of 2018. 5 in the League, 2 in the Cup / Plate.

On-field behaviour maintained its level of improvement. A very small number of minor incidents being reported with none requiring disciplinary action. On the other side of the coin 2 players walked, and one player signalled 6 runs rather than a successful catch, when the umpire was uncertain of the correct decisions. We are again grateful to the dedicated group of umpires who give up their time willingly to travel long distances to officiate in our games.

The 2019 competitions were competitively fought. Damazan CC winning both the T20 and Blevins Franks Cup. Eymet CC the Blevins Franks League and Toulouse CC Bears the Plate. Finals were hosted by Damazan, St Aulaye and Eymet who are to be thanked for their high standard of organisation and hospitality.

Match administration saw the introduction of the E-license Team Sheets which have proved very useful and in general were well presented. A few modifications have been proposed to make better use of the information on these and the Match Report forms. It will also make central recording more straightforward.

Our thanks go to the umpires, the scorers (of which there are still far too few), the tea ladies, groundsmen and above all our sponsor Blevins Franks.

Ian Brown

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