



Association des Club du Cricket du Sud Ouest.

Siège social : Hôtel des Associations - 47160 DAMAZAN

secretary@cricket-sw-france.org

www.cricket-sw-france.org

11 November 2023

Les Essards

ACCSO Presidents Report 2024

Dear Presidents and club members,

I would like to thank all clubs for all their efforts in in 2024. The additional participation has reduced some of long-distance travel and increased participation amongst players, both good for the game and the environment. I would like thank everyone for their efforts in managing travel especially traveling umpires and scorers.

Despite the return to a two-pool system in the League, the schedule remained tight but we managed to cope with postponements for rain and for canicules. Even though we had to re-schedule the League Final we managed to complete all 3 competitions. I remind team managers that the first reserve date is the one that should be used whenever possible, although we do appreciate scheduling of other events may be an issue.

I was delighted to see how clubs were able, most without too much difficulty to transition from licensing with France Cricket to Multisport Federations such as ASPTT. I would like to thank all club Presidents, Secretaries and other administrators involved in the transition. I know for some at times it was not easy! I am sure we would all wish to thank Peter Townsend and Hui Scheers for their assistance in the transition from FC to Multisport Federations.

Congratulations to Nimes for their victory in the T20 final and to Catus in the league. I will not write too much on the cricket for the season as this is covered in Peter Townsends review.

I was once again delighted to attend the BF Cup Final, held at Eymet. I thoroughly enjoyed the day and congratulations to Eymet on their victory. I would like to thank all at Eymet for organizing the day and laying on an outstanding spread for our sponsors, their guests and the players. However, it was disappointing we let ourselves down with an incident on the field of play in the second innings.

There will be an opportunity at the AGM to discuss discipline, for the record ACCSO have not received any formal report from umpires of any incidents in 2024. However, ACCSO is aware of at least two further incidents and to that end we propose an independent reporting procedure for umpires in 2025.



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I would like to thank my friends and Colleagues on the ACCSO committee for their support and hard work. The positions of Secretary General and President are up for election by rotation for a two-year period. Hui and I have indicated we are willing to stand for a further term, however anyone willing to come forward would be very welcome. Your Treasurer Mehul was re-elected last year for a two-year term.

Peter Townsend was elected to the position of Vice-President last year for a two-year term. However, Peter had made it clear he would only serve one year to assist the committee with the transition from FC to Multisport federations and our exit from the FC-ACCSO *conventions*. Peter managed to do much more than that including managing the traveling umpire, team sheets, web-site and much beyond. I remember Peter's previous retirement from ACCSO not long after I joined the committee as Treasurer and I thank him for his return as VP, for his period of time interim president and for his contribution to ACCSO and cricket in general.

ACCSO are therefore looking for a Vice-President, we would be delighted for anyone who would like to put their name forward or contact me for a conversation on the subject. We are also looking for people to fulfill several non-committee jobs, Competitions coordinator, Umpire and Scorer coordinator, social media coordinator and web-site coordinator. These are important positions but unlike the main committee positions they won't involve a huge amount of work and will really assist us in the running of your association. If you feel able to help please contact Hui or myself.

I will leave it to Mehul to report on the detail of your association's finances but I will mention that we were extremely pleased to receive generous financial support once again from Blevins Franks. I would like to thank Rupert and all at Blevins Franks for their critical financial support. However, we have learnt that the support will likely be substantially reduced in 2024/25 and that we should prepare that in the future the funding will likely disappear altogether.

I would also like to mention that we receive a huge amount of support from administrators, umpires and scorers either simply covering their own costs or via the tax donation scheme I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their time and donations without which clubs costs would be substantially increased.



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Hui Scheers has been instrumental in trialing the CricHQ scoring system. Unfortunately, as you are likely aware the company appears to have gone bankrupt and the system is no longer working. Hui will update you in his report and at the AGM on developments with a new system to replace CricHQ.

We must consider the format of our cricket in 2025 so it would be extremely helpful if clubs were able to come to the AGM with an idea of what competitions they are likely to wish to compete in. I am afraid I think we need to address the format of the T20, we have tried a couple of formats and the return to the three-match format this year was dependent on clubs turning up on time and maintaining over rates. If clubs can't turn up on time and maintain the over rate we simply can't play three matches on one day.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who make our cricket possible - the ACCSO committee, the committees of clubs, umpies and scorers, ground staff, Blevins Franks and most importantly the players.

I look forward to the AGM and to seeing many of you then.

Sincerely,

Peter Brown

President

ACCSO (Association des Clubs du Cricket du Sud-Ouest)

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