

**SUSSEX COUNTY BOWLS (Men's Section)**

(Members of Bowls England & the Home Counties Bowls Association)

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Executive Committee**

**Held at Adur I.B.C. at 14.00 hours on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

**Present:** Mark Broadway (MB) (Chairman), Martin G-Hyde (MGH) (President), Geoff Fitch (GF) (Vice President), Peter Copper (PC) (Imm. Past President), Rod McBeth (RMc) (Hon. Secretary), Lindsay Bangs (LB) (Hon. Treasurer), Mike Cross (MC) (Match Secretary), Kim Hudson (KH) (Competition Secretary) – plus delegates from 35 clubs, plus Past Presidents and Honorary Members and other Officers/appointees as per the attendance register.

- |  | <b>Action</b> |
|--|---------------|
| <b>1. Chairman's Opening Remarks.</b>  |               |
| a) The Chairman welcomed all who were in attendance.   |               |
| <b>2. Apologies.</b>   |               |
| a) Apologies had been received from Past Presidents – D Budd, G Leaman, T Sharman and J Whitfield, Area 3 Delegate G Scutt, and Club Delegates from 14 Clubs - Area 1: Fairlight, Gildredge Park and Seaford - Area 3: Hangleton, Haywards Heath, Hurstpierpoint, Popes Mead, Southgate Park and Steyning - Area 4: Bognor Regis, Crablands, Petworth, Storrington and West Sussex Tourists.   |               |
| <b>3. Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October, 2025.</b>   |               |
| a) The minutes of this meeting were accepted as a true record.   |               |
| <b>4. Matters arising from the above Minutes.</b>  |               |
| a) There were no matters arising from the minutes.   |               |
| <b>5. Officers Reports – (as issued with paperwork for the meeting)</b>  |               |
| a) Reports as previously issued from the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer, Hon. Match Secretary and Benevolent Fund Secretary were all accepted.   |               |
| <b>6. Increased Payments to Umpires and Markers</b>  |               |
| a) RMc reported that following a request from the Umpires Director and discussion at the Joint Management Committee Meeting, it had been agreed to accept a proposal from the Umpires Director and to increase payment to Umpires and marker to a sum of £20 for a single session, being increased to £30, if an umpire remained for a second session.   |               |
| b) i) The Umpires Director Robin Machell, then spoke to indicate that he would be proposing that the fee paid be increased to a payment of £20 per session.  |               |
| ii) RMc responded by stating that for many years, umpires were paid a fee and - in addition - an amount for travelling dependant on the miles travelled. That system was problematic as the payment required varied depending on the mileage, so when the previous agreed payments were introduced it was agreed to incorporate into the fee paid – a <u>fixed amount for travelling</u> . This amount was therefore included in the amount paid for a single session - but as there is no additional travelling if an umpire/marker remains for a second session - the amount paid for a second sessions was minus any amount for travelling. That was the situation previously agreed. |               |

**NB** If a formal proposal is received from the Umpires Director it will require consideration at a Joint Management Committee Meeting as it affects the Women's section as well.

- c) i) The Umpires Director then queried the fact that when considering umpire and marker requirements for matches and competitions, RMc had in email correspondence with him, indicated that he could see no reason for one marker to be provided at the 2 Wood Day, but that he felt that it was important that one was there to assist the umpire of the day.
- ii) RMC responded by stating that due to the change in how the latter stages of competitions were being run this year, he had prepared a document indicating the total anticipated cost for venues and umpires and marker at Competitions and senior matches (MC/HCL etc) in 2026, which he had copied to Umpires Director and the cost was anticipated to be circa £900 for umpires markers – plus the cost of venues.
- iii) This is a matter that is on the agenda for discussion at the Mens GPC Meeting on 21 Apr.

## 7. New Proposed Joint Constitution

- a) RMc reported that Sussex was one of only two counties ,that he was aware of, that still do not have one Joint Constitution and held separate AGM and Executive Meetings for both the Men's and the Women's sections. He had therefore prepared a document that combined the basics of the Men's and Women's Section Constitutions – into one document in order that the county could have one unified structure and one AGM.
- b) He continued to state that this document had been forwarded to the Women's Section Secretary to share with her officers and had subsequently been the subject of considerable discussion and minor amendment at the Joint Management Committee Meeting.
- c) Following that meeting the proposed Joint Constitution had been circulated to all clubs with a request for any comments. Whilst a couple of queries seeking clarification and proposed amendments to typing errors had been received, all replied had been supportive of the proposal.
- d) Several questions were then received from the members at this meeting and clarification given. No objections to the basic proposal were made.
- e) Paul Chuter, one of the Trustees of the Men's Section Benevolent Fund, queried as to whether a mention of the fund needed to be in the Constitution as the fund was a totally separate identity run by four trustees under Charity Commission Rules and SCB had not input into it.
- f) RMc reported that reference to this fund has been included in the Men's Section Constitution some years ago so members were aware of how it operated as they were each year asked to make contribution to the fund. He continued to state that he felt that If any mention of the fund was to be removed for the Constitution it would be necessary to include in the letter that is sent annually in August, to the clubs, details similar to that which is currently in the Constitution s- o clubs were fully aware of what they were being asked to contribute to.
- g) A further query was raised by Paul concerning the fact that the Women's Section also currently have a Benevolent Fund. RMc responded by confirming that whilst both

male and female members of a club make the contributions into the Men's Section Benevolent Fund, the money in the Women's Section Fund is purely a sum of 25p from each Women's affiliation Fee - being moved into that fund - and we are not in this proposed Joint Constitution attempting to interfere in how either of the Sections - who both have control of their individual finances - manage their affairs. Indication was received that their fund would be renamed.

**9. Any Other Business.**

**a) Umpires Fees**

RMc informed the delegates that payments as umpire/markers fees had remained the same since 2019 and that following a request from the County Umpire co-ordinator, at the next Joint Management Committee Meeting later this month, they will be being discussed to consider any increase.

**10. Next Meeting**

The next Meeting Executive Meeting will be held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2026 at 14:00 at Adur IBC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 14.59

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark Broadway (Chairman)

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2026