

SUSSEX COUNTY BOWLS (Men's Section)

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

**Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Adur IBC
at 11.00 hours on Tuesday 8th September, 2026.**

Committee Members: Mark Broadway (MB)(Chairman), Martin Graham-Hyde (MGH)(President), Geoff Fitch (GF) Vice President), Peter Copper (PC) (I Past Pres)., Rod McBeth (RMc)(Hon. Secretary), Lindsay Bangs (LB)(Hon. Treasurer), David Page (DP)(Hon. Asst. Secretary), Kim Hudson (KH)(Hon. Comp. Sec.), Mike Cross (MC)(Hon. Match Secretary) and Barry Hobbs (BH)(Hon. Safeguarding Officer). Plus 1 member from each of the Four Areas: Area 1 – Brian Henty (BH), Area. 2 – Stephen Gorrington (SG), Area. 3 – Graham Scutt (GS), Area. 4 – Paul Chuter (PC).

Prior to the start of the meeting, Jo Doust, Chairman of Bowls England, gave a talk and sought comments and questions on the proposed merger of Bowls England EIBA.

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Apologies and Absence | Action |
| a) Apologies were received from Barry Hobbs and Kim Hudson failed to attend. | |
| 2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 23rd June, 2026 | |
| a) The minutes of the previous meeting were considered and signed by the Chairman as a true record. | |
| 3. Matters Arising for the Previous Meetings | |
| a) There were no matters arising from the previous minutes. | |
| 4. Reports | |
| a) Reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary and Safeguarding Officer had been circulated prior to the meeting and all were accepted. No report was received from the Competition Secretary. | |
| 5. Competitions 2027 | |
| a) The arrangements of Area Finals/Quarter finals were discussed and RMc was asked to see if it was possible to amend the schedule to revert back to Quarter finals being held in the evening in the week before the Semis. | RMc |
| b) It was agreed that specific instructions should be prepared for those who oversee the County Two wood day to ensure similar practice is used in all area. | RMc |
| c) It was agreed that payments to clubs for hosting the Billingham League matches and the Pullen Cup Semi Finals where 'snacks' are required to be provided after the match, should remain at £200 inclusive of any green fees. It was also agreed that the payment to a club for hosting the Pullen Cup Final where a 'full size buffet' is required, should be increased to £300 – inclusive of any green fees. | |
| d) It was agreed that now Bowls England no longer provide travel money for players who qualify to attend at the Nationals at Leamington, the County would make a discretionary payment of £25 for each such player. | |
| 6. Purchase and Sale of County Merchandise | |
| a) RMc reported that stock of county kit was extremely low and a top-up order was required to be placed. Currently the women and men sections have different shirts and this had caused problems in the Mixed Inter County Over 60 s Competition and forced the players to play in white in the early rounds. The team was very successful and reached the semi finals at Leamington, where to enable all to be dressed in county colours, the women were all loaned a men's style shirt. | RMc |

- b) The women's section had confirmed that for 2027, the women will be moving to wear the same style shirts as currently worn by the Men and this will enable the county to play in mixed competitions all wearing the same shirt. Confirmation is awaited as to whether the women will also move to the same shorts/trousers as worn by the men.
- c) The larger the quantity in the order, the more reduction in price we receive and it was agreed that subject to confirmation that the women would also move to blue trousers/shorts a top up order of over 100 shirts and shorts and trousers would be made at a cost of circa £9K. RMc
- c) It was further agreed that to assist with the women changing to the men's style shirts, a similar system to that used when we moved from the three Martlets shirts, to the current county shirt, would be provided for the women.
- d) Finally it was agreed that the sale of the new County Waterproof jackets, currently only available to County badged players, would now be made available to 'all players who still represent the county', but at the purchase price of £52 and would not be screen printed with the players name. RMc

7. Appointments made by the GPC

- a) It was agreed that the four current VP Controllers, Peter Copper (A1), Chris Sykes (A2), David Page (A3) and John Whitfield (A4) would be re-appointed for season 2027, together with Jamie Dunk, as the MC/HCL and Under 24/25 Manager and that Mark Strong would be appointed as the Inter County Over 60's Mixed Manager to work with one person appointed by the Women's section. RMc

9. Attendance at Leamington for Presidential Team

- a) After considerable discussion it was agreed that whilst it was considered that it was still important that we have a Presidential representative at Leamington each day, there was considered to be no requirement - or perceived justification - for both the President and the Vice President to both be at Leamington at the same time - apart from one day of handover.
- b) i. It was agreed that the Vice President would travel to Leamington to arrive for the evening of the day prior to the commencement of the Championships and received payment for overnight stays for that day and the ensuing six nights. For 2027 the nights of Tue 10th Aug to Mon 16th Aug - 7 nights.
- ii. It was agreed that the President would travel to Leamington to arrive for the Monday evening of the second week and received payment for overnight stays for that day and the ensuing eleven nights – up to and including the Friday night prior to the weekend of the Championship. For 2027 the nights of Mon 16th Aug to Fri 27th Aug - 12 nights.

8. Any Other Business

- a) Consideration was given as to whether players who had received a county badge in another county should be accepted as a badged player by this county, but after discussion it was considered that the procedure for the award of county badge in certain other counties does not always match up to our criteria - so was not agreed.
- b) It was agreed that the award of county points for Inter County Mixed Over 60's Competition 'should be considered' - dependant - as in other competitions - on the number of rounds played and that RMc should draw up a proposal for consideration. GF,CS, BH,JW
- c) It was agreed that an honorarium for the Over 60s Manager should be added. All honoraria to be discussed at the next GPC meeting when the FP document is reviewed.
- d) It was agreed that we would continue to purchase blazer flashes for competition winners. RMc
- a) There was no other business. All

14. Date of Next Meeting

- a) The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 3rd November, 2026 – at 10.00 hours – at Adur IBC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.28.

Signed:

Mark Broadway (Chairman)

Date: 3rd November. 2026