

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 11.20 hours on Tuesday 2nd September, 2025.

Members: Mark Broadway (MB)(Chairman), Peter Copper (PC)(President), Martin Graham-Hyde (MGH)(Vice President), Micky Young (MY)(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 – Chris Reynolds (CR), Area. 3 – Graham Scutt (GS), Area. 4 – Paul Chuter (PC).

1. Apologies	Action
a) Apologies were received from Martin G-Hyde, Barry Hobbs. Graham Scutt and Micky Young	
2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 24th June, 2025	
a) The minutes of the previous meeting were considered and signed by the Chairman as a true record after a correction had ben made to the amount of payments made for the Pullen Cup and Billingham League matches.	
3. Matters Arising for the Previous Meetings	
a) There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.	
4. Reports	
a) Reports from officers had been circulated prior to the meeting and all were accepted.	
5. Proposed Changes to County Constitution	
a) After considerable discussion it was agree that the proposal to remove the posts of Assistant Competition Secretaries would not be continued with. It was however agreed that since all entries to competition are now actioned 'online' the amount of work undertaken by the Asst Comp. Secs. had reduced greatly and that the Job Responsibilities for these posts should be reviewed and updated to what is now relevant to the new system. RMc to notify current incumbents of action being taken.	RMc
6. Proposed Changes to Men's Section Rules	
a) It was agreed that a proposition to reduce the Abergavenny Competition (Double Fours) to be played over 18 ends to bring into line with all other Fours Competition, would be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.	RMc
b) It was agreed that - what were previously quarter finals played in evenings in the first two weeks in July, on neutral greens across the county - would now be played as the Area Final in each area - on a neutral green. This proposal to be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.	RMc
c) It was agreed that a proposition to prohibit the wearing of 'cargo shorts and trousers' would be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.	RMc
d) It was agreed that revised wording of the paragraph concerning the stamping of woods ,would be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.	RMc
e) It was agreed that a proposition to clarify penalties for failure to take actions in Competitions, would be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.	RMc

f) It was agreed that a proposition to amend the qualification period required for a player selected for the MC to be awarded his county badge, would be placed before the Exec. Comm and AGM.

g) It was agreed that for 2026 no food will be provided at any events by the county, as it is no longer feasible to do so and most ended up not being eaten by the players anyway. Club hosting events will have the option of retailing food if they wish to do so.

7. No of Ends to be Played in VP matches.

a) Following consultation with the VP Controllers it was agreed that the Billingham League and Pullen Cup Rules would be updated to reduce the number of ends to be played to 18 – to bring into line with all other Fours Competitions.

8. Proposed propositions to introduce a Top Club Competition and to allow a Club to enter Two teams in the Double Fours.

a) A proposal received from a club to introduce a Top Club Competition was considered and firmly rejected by the committee.

b) A proposal received from the same club to allow more than one team from a club, to be entered into the Abergavenny Double Fours competition was unanimously rejected by the committee. This competition is a 'Club Competition' - not a team competition - so is restricted to one entry by any club.

9. Review of Stock

a) It was agreed that the Secretary would purchase additional stock as notified to all GPC members, to ensure we have sufficient stock for the forthcoming season.

b) It was also agreed that all county team would in future wear the same clothing and no further stock of different shirts for the MC/HCL and Under 24/25 teams would be purchased. This falls into line with systems used in other counties and avoids the requirement - to purchase and hold - surplus stock of three sets of shirts.

c) It was also agreed that we would follow a similar system as used when county players who had purchased the old 'three martlets' shirt were required to move to the new county shirt. They were allowed a new county shirt in exchange for the old 'three martlets' shirt they had purchased.

d) It was agreed that the new Waterproof jackets would be available to purchase at a cost of £25 by any current County Badged players. Old fleece or 'showerproof' jackets would still be available to purchase by unbadged players at a now reduced price of £10 until such time as current stock runs out.

10. Review of the FP document.

a) Whilst is still the intention that a representative will be at Leamington to support our competitors, the dates and length of time for the attendance of the Presidential team at Leamington was discussed and held over to the next meeting for further consideration.

12. GPC Appointments for 2025 as per County Constitution

a) The following appointments were made by the GPC. As there were two candidates for the positions MC and HCL Manager following a discussion, a vote was taken as to who should be appointed to that role for 2025.

b) The following were elected by the GPC Committee:

Safeguarding Officer	Barry Hobbs	Southwick BC
Hon Chaplain	Gordon Leaman	Arundel BC
Hon. Auditor	David Bizat	Hampden Park BC
County Coach	Geoff Fitch	Hampden Park BC
Area 1 V Patron Controller	Peter Copper	Polegrove BC

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ALL

Area 2	V Patron Controller	Chris Sykes	Lewes BC
Area 3	V Patron Controller	David Page	Shoreham BC
Area 4	V Patron Controller	John Whitfield	Bognor Regis BC
HCL & Middleton Cup Manager		Mark Strong	Preston BC
HCL & Middleton Cup Asst .Man		Vacant	
Under 25 Manager		Jamie Dunk	W Pavilion BC

13. Any Other Business

- a) There was no other business.

14. Date of Next Meeting

- a) The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 4th November, 2025 – at 10.00 hours – at Adur IBC.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 14.00.

Signed:

Mark Broadway (Chairman)

Date:

4th November, 2025