



Walker Timber HUDDERSFIELD PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 4th June 2025

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: President - W A Sugden; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior;
Administration Secretary – M Binns; Media Secretary – J Harrison

Life Vice Presidents: G Crompton; R Tindall

Club Representatives: L Harrison; C McCreadie

Apologies

Treasurer - A Hill; General Secretary – N Clee; Compliance Officer – Mrs Jackie Brook; EDI Chair – M Hussain

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 7th May 2025

Approved.

Matters Arising

Following the departure of our ECB contact Paul Bedford we have been introduced to his replacement Justin Preston who we hope to meet in person in due course.

The ECB has required HPCL to self-certify by formally confirming various structures are in place and operating effectively. This has now been submitted by the General Secretary.

Financial Report – TA (on behalf of AH)

The Report confirmed that the finances of the League are in a satisfactory state, with an overall balance of just under £52k.

Shelley CC have applied for a sight screen loan. This was agreed.

3 Clubs still owe their annual subs etc invoice (Almondbury, Cartworth Moor and Slaithwaite)

3 Clubs still owe their April to 03 May fines (Moorlands, Birkby Rose Hill and Skelmanthorpe)

Disciplinary Report – TA/MB

Date	Name	Club	Match	Division	Offence	Sanction	Dates	Captain	Sanction	Dates
	Disciplinary Register		2025							
3.5.25	Ben Shufflebotham	Thongsbridge	Thongsbridge v Swaine	Premiership	Serious & Abusive Altercation	4 wks ban	9.5.25 - 6.6.25	Rory France	Reminded	none
3.5.25	Nadim Hussain	Swaine	Thongsbridge v Swaine	Premiership	Serious & Abusive Altercation	2 wks ban	9.5.25-23.5.25	B Kohler-Cadmore	Formal Warning	to 2.5.27
17.5.25	Rastrick CC	RCC	Shepley v Rastrick	Premiership	WTU Fair Play 9	1 WTU penalty		J Waterson		
17.5.25	Shepley CC	SCC	Shepley v Rastrick	Premiership	WTU Fair Play 11	1 WTU penalty		Danny Glover		
17.5.25	Max Keogh	Golcar	Wes vs Golcar	Premiership	L1 dissent towards Umpire	1 wk ban Suspended	to 16.5.27	J McNamara	Reminded	

In addition there is one open case following receipt of a spectator complaint at the Birkby Rose Hill 2nd XI match vs Flockton 1st XI on 17th May.

WTU Fair Play Penalties 2025		Penalites	League Points
2.5.25	Swaine Hussain	7	4
2.5.25	Thongsbridge Shuff	7	4
17.5.25	Shepley (vs Rastrick)	1	
17.5.25	Rastrick (vs Shepley)	1	
17.5.25	Golcar Keogh	2	

Media Secretary Report - JH

Jamie Harrison continues to explore the most suitable and cost effective website providers and whether the technology behind HPCL's website can be migrated to a cheaper and more flexible set up now that interested parties go directly to Play-Cricket for fixtures and results.

EDI Report

Nothing to report

Clubmark, Safeguarding and Compliance – JB (via MB)

All currently Clubmark accredited Clubs are reminded that you must maintain 100% compliance in the Safe Hands Management System (SHMS) to maintain Clubmark compliance this year.

6 not currently Clubmark accredited HPCL Clubs are being strongly encouraged to sign up for the Safe Hands Management System. As previously mentioned, this will allow Clubs to better manage various basic regulated matters which are required of them, irrespective of Clubmark – such as designated persons (such as Captains and Club Umpires) being DBS'd

Emley Clarence are working towards to becoming Clubmark accredited this year.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

The second Fines List release is attached to these Minutes. There are too many Home teams not submitting their Team sheet either at all, or not on time!

After carefully examining the merits of the case it was confirmed that Upperthong's plea for leniency in relation to playing unregistered cricketer B Swindell on 3rd May was rejected.

The matter of Moorlands inadvertently playing ineligible cricketer Mr K Szymanski in their Sykes Cup game vs Kirkburton was discussed at length. This was a game that Moorlands won.

The details of the matter are as follows:

It has come to light that, in the HPCL Sykes Cup first round tie between Kirkburton CC's 1st XI and Moorlands CC's 1st XI last Sunday 1st June, Moorlands (MCC) fielded player Kazimierz Szymanski, who appeared not to have played the required number of qualifying matches to become eligible to play in that 1st round game.

In HPCL's Match & Registration Secretary's subsequent investigation the following important information emerged:

- As part of the Sykes Cup (SC) being re-structured to a 16 team competition the 2025 eligibility criteria (for players who are not registered with their Club prior to the start of the season) was adjusted, increasing the requirement for such a player to have played in **ONE** prior league match, up to **TWO** prior league matches before becoming eligible to play in the SC 1st round. In 2024 and for many years previously the criteria has been fixed at one match.
- It also came to light that prior to the match MCC had contacted a League Official to confirm Mr Szymanski's eligibility for the SC 1st round. The Official, who was out of the country at the time, checked the digital version of the SC rules published on HPCL's website which, it has now been established, had not been updated with this small but important technical change to the previous eligibility rules.
- As a result, but in good faith, the Official incorrectly gave Moorlands clearance to select the player based on **ONE** prior league match (which Mr Szymanski played in on 31st May). This was an honest mistake made on the information available and with the best intentions.

In consultation with key colleagues the Match & Registration Secretary had made a preliminary decision that the match result should stand. He informed KCC of this ruling. In the light of this information, and knowing the importance of the decision outcome the M&R Secretary now requested this Executive Meeting to endorse his preliminary ruling.

The option of an emergency replay was seriously considered as a compromise way forward. However this was judged to be impracticable given that the next round is due to be played a week on Sunday 15th, the difficulties in overcoming the hurdles of player eligibility (with Moorlands having played 11 cricketers in the corresponding Paddock Shield fixture on 1st June), player availability, suitable dates, the vagaries of inclement weather, and the risk of a highly tense atmosphere at such a replayed game.

HPCL's Executive Committee has historically applied our Rules diligently. However the meeting acknowledged that, in these very unfortunate circumstances, an Officer of the Executive Committee had given MCC what proved to be incorrect written advice that they relied on. Therefore the League Executive unanimously endorsed the preliminary decision believing that it had no alternative other than to rule that the match result should stand, with MCC, as winners, going forward into the Sykes Cup draw for the second round (QF).

However it was further noted that, in anticipation of the ruling being confirmed, Kirkburton CC had already lodged a formal Appeal against this decision, requesting a black and white application of the eligibility rule.

The Executive therefore confirmed it would initiate HPCL's procedures for resolving such matters by seeking the support of the Council to endorse our decision, or to uphold the Appeal of KCC. In the interests of time, which did not allow for a physical meeting, the case would be explained to the 40 member Clubs of the Council who would be asked to vote using HPCL's electronic platform, with votes to be received on or before **7pm on Monday 9th June 2025**. Clubs could opt to abstain if they wished.

The draws for the next rounds of the Cup competitions were made as follows:

Sykes Cup 2nd Rd (QF) - 15th June

Barkisland	v	Moorlands or Kirkburton
Shelley	v	Delph & D
Thongsbridge	v	Scholes
Honley	v	Skelmanthorpe

Oddfellows Cup 3rd Rd (QF)

Thurstonalnd	v	Hall Bower
Mirfield PC	v	Upperthong
Marsden or Denby	v	Slaithwaite
DenbyDale	v	Lascelles Hall

Paddock Shield 2nd Rd (QF)

Linthwaite	v	Barkisland
Slaithwaite	v	Kirkburton
Moorlands	v	Holmfirth
Scholes	v	Skelmanthorpe

Earnshaw Cup 3rd Rd (QF)

Hall Bower	v	Mirfield PC
Mirfield	v	Lascelles Hall or Marsden
Upperthong	v	Birkby Rose Hill
Rastrick	v	Shepley

Any Other Business

HPCL has been informed that the 2025 end of season White Rose Competition between the winners of the 5 ECB PL's in Yorkshire would follow a new format. The competition will from 2025 be between 6 teams with a QF in June of the following year (2026), a SF in July, and the Final in August at Headingley.

The next meeting of the HPCL Management Executive will take place at Almondbury Wesleyan CC on Wednesday 2nd July 2025, commencing at 19.00pm.