



# HUDDERSFIELD

## PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**In the Chair:** Trevor Atkinson

**Other Officers Present:** General Secretary – N Clee; Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior; Administration Secretary – M Binns; Compliance Officer – Mrs Jackie Brook; Media Secretary – Mrs Paula Huddleston

**Life Vice Presidents:** R Tindall; G Crompton

**Club Representatives:** L Harrison; C McCreadie; A Fortis

#### Apologies

Treasurer - A Hill; President – W A Sugden; EDI Chair – M Hussain

#### New Member - TA

Andrew Fortis was welcomed to his first meeting

#### Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Approved.

#### Matters Arising

##### Sponsorship

NC advised the meeting that Swift Teamwear would not be renewing their sponsorship of HPCL's Premier division for 2026. He has however agreed with Chris Liversedge for North Light Physiotherapists to take it on.

Discussions regarding other sponsorship matters remain ongoing.

##### Edgerton & Dalton CC

Unfortunately E&D CC appear unlikely to agree with their Bowling Club landlords to be able to continue to play cricket at Dalton Fold. Their landlords are in the process of making arrangements to replace cricket with football. E&D CC do not have the security of a lease agreement that they can rely on, and their short term arrangement from 2025 has expired.

E&D CC are exploring the possibility of finding an alternative ground but are not optimistic. They will keep HPCL informed about whether they will be in a position to fulfil their 2026 fixtures.

#### Financial Report – TA (on behalf of AH)

The Report confirmed that the finances of the League are in a satisfactory state, with General Funds totalling just under £54k. The Development Fund totals £13,209.83.

Since last meeting we have received sponsorship money from Titan Cricket Ltd and Fired Up Corporation, and from ACS Manufacturing (cricket covers and sight screens) Ltd.

Upperthong have still to pay for their Presentation Night tickets (£45). Simeon John owes £220 for his bat auction bid.

HPCL have received 3 applications for interest free loans for sightscreens: -

Andy Hill confirmed that the paperwork and finances at Hall Bower, Kirkheaton and Slaithwaite CC's are all in order and he recommended authorising all three loans on the terms set out. The meeting unanimously agreed to this.

### **Disciplinary Report – TA/MB**

New GCR's valid from 2026 have been received and are being reviewed to understand their impact and any important changes.

It is already known that the new regulations now allow film footage to be used as admissible evidence in any future investigations of incidents, complaints or disciplinary cases. Therefore rule L8.24.9 will be deleted from the 2026 Handbook.

Other changes will be presented at the next Executive meeting and also explained at the Council mtg in April.

### **Media Secretary Report – PH**

Paula continues to work on the website and social media, and is now unsure that we need to change our website host provider.

Pages covering Umpiring, Women & Girls Cricket, Safeguarding and Compliance have all been refreshed. As a modern source of information, the importance of ensuring that all reference material (such as handbooks and policies) is both available and up to date was reinforced.

News articles such as those honouring John Edge and Mark Roberts have attracted significant social media interest. The player registrations and transfers page is also attracting a lot of attention.

### **EDI Report - MH**

Nothing to report

### **Clubmark, Safeguarding and Compliance – JB**

A Compliance and Safeguarding update newsletter covering all relevant matters for 2026 is being circulated to Clubs.

All 40 HPCL Clubs must be aware of and compliant with the following minimum requirements:

- Use of the SHMS system
- Having a qualified Club Safeguarding Officer
- Having up-to-date DBS's for all required post holders (which includes coaches and team managers, captains and vices, Club Safeguarding Officers, Club Umpires, persons involved with junior and other vulnerable Club members)
- Sufficient and up to date trained/qualified cricket coaches (see laid down coach/player ratios) for any junior and W&G's teams
- Keep your P-C 'about us' page up to date including adding the name of your Women & Girls coordinator (or Activator) if relevant

The 24 Clubs with teams in our top two ECB PL divisions (Premiership & Championship) must make themselves aware of and compliant with the above (deadline 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026) and other ECB PL requirements and be aware that the ECB may require HPCL to deduct 2026 league points from a Club that is not fully compliant by the deadline date.

Jackie further informed the meeting that the ECB's Club Affiliation process will, in and from 2026 onwards, be handled via Play-Cricket. All Clubs must sign up to the ECB's/YCF's basic Affiliation Terms & Conditions. This is now done through Clubs' P-C Action Centre.

Affiliation fees will continue to be invoiced separately by our Treasurer alongside HPCL's annual Subscription fees.

It is important to inform everyone that the obligations that attach to a Club being 'affiliated' to the ECB (which is a pre-requisite of HPCL membership) are being extended. To become and remain affiliated HPCL Clubs will be required to put in place certain basic things (such as: must use the ECB's SHMS), and should expect that the ECB will check for compliance. The new replacement for Clubmark – 'ECB accredited Club status' - will then build on the foundation of basic affiliation for Clubs who want to go further and be eligible to play in an ECB PL division (in HPCL's case the Premiership and Championship).

### **Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS**

Registration and transfer activity totalled 45 to end of December plus another 27 to date.

Phil is currently investigating an application to register a player as a local category 1 cricketer where the visa situation is not yet clear.

### **Grounds and Facilities - AF**

AF presented a new process that proposes auditing the grounds and facilities of all HPCL Clubs each year. An audit template is being developed to guide and record the outcomes from physical visits, and it was agreed to convert the audit template into an electronic google drive sharable format.

Clubs whose ground was placed towards the bottom of the ECB 2025 Pitch Mark league table will be visited as an early priority.

Audits will be led by AF, C McC and LH who will each be accompanied by a colleague.

The HPCL Umpires Association are asked to remind their members about the importance of the WTU Pitch Mark feedback.

### **Any Other Business**

Everyone is reminded that there is a training course for Scorers that is taking place on Saturday 28th March 2026 at Almondbury Wesleyan CC, commencing at 09.30am. This free training course is suitable for anyone who is aged 13 or older, and will cover both PCS Scorer and PCS Pro apps. See website for booking details.

Clubs in the 2026 Paddock Shield are asked to note that Club Umpires are needed to staff all 1<sup>st</sup> Round matches.

**Please note: The next meeting of HPCL's Executive Committee will take place at Almondbury Wesleyan CC on Wed 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 commencing at 19.00pm**