



HUDDERSFIELD

PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 7th January 2026

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

Other Officers Present: Match & Registration Secretary – P Senior; Administration Secretary – M Binns; Compliance Officer – Mrs Jackie Brook; EDI Chair – M Hussain

Life Vice Presidents: R Tindall

Club Representatives: L Harrison; C McCreadie

Apologies

General Secretary – N Clee; Treasurer - A Hill; President – W A Sugden; LVP- G Crompton; Media Secretary – Mrs Paula Huddleston; A Fortis

New Member - TA

Following exploratory discussions Andrew Fortis has accepted Trevor Atkinson's offer to join HPCL's Executive Management Committee as another Club Representative. The meeting agreed that he be co-opted onto the Committee with immediate effect and introduced to the Council at its next meeting in April.

In addition Andrew will work with Craig McCreadie and Les Harrison on ground and facilities matters.

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Approved.

Matters Arising

Rule Changes for 2026

Following clarification it is confirmed that the votes regarding the introduction of coloured clothing into the rules of the Sykes Cup competition were one short of what was needed for the proposed rule change to be adopted.

Linthwaite CC

The ECB/YCF and HPCL have previously concluded that Linthwaite CC are not compliant with the requirements which enable their 1st XI to play in an ECB Premier League division of our League (Premiership or Championship). This position has been arrived at despite multiple meetings and compliance support being offered and provided to LCC throughout 2025. The main area of failure is regarding not running a junior programme or having 3 junior hard ball teams.

HPCL wrote to LCC in December 2025 confirming the forced relegation of their 1st XI into the 2026 Conference division.

Broad Oak CC, who finished the 2025 season in a relegation (11th) position, were informed several days later that, as a result of the above, they would retain their status in the Championship division for 2026.

LCC have now made representations and are asking HPCL's Executive Management Committee to reconsider the decision.

The meeting was reminded of the information, and of the reasons why the decision to relegate LCC's 1st XI was made. The meeting was also brought up-to-date with the further information and assurances that LCC had sent to us over recent weeks. LCC's recent actions and renewed commitment to implementing improvements are acknowledged and welcomed, and now demonstrate a genuine effort to address the requirements and are encouraging for the Club's future development. However, it was noted that, due to the late actioning of the required measures, both HPCL and YCF (on behalf of the ECB) judged the remaining very limited time window to be too short to ensure full ECB compliance in the coming months.

After careful discussions and due consideration, the Committee unanimously voted to uphold their original relegation decision. LCC's 1st XI will not be reinstated into HPCL's Championship division and will play cricket in the 2026 Conference division.

This unfortunate situation should be noted by all Clubs who must take on board the ECB's and HPCL's expectations in terms of achieving certain standards and criteria which, if not met, will have unavoidable consequences.

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 £53k.

The Development Fund now totals just over £13k. Since last meeting we have received the performance related part of the grant from the ECB Development Fund and it is pleasing to note that the size of the ECB's payment reflects HPCL's and its Clubs' high level of compliance with the onerous requirements of being one of their PL's.

The bill for the 2025 Awards Event Greenhead Masonic has been paid.

4 Clubs have still to pay for their Presentation Night tickets (all £45) (Birkby Rose Hill, Holmfirth, Slaithwaite and Upperthong). Simeon John owes £220 for his winning bat auction bid.

Disciplinary Report – TA/MB

Nothing to report.

Media Secretary Report – PH (via MB)

Paula continues to work on the website and social media. Her priorities are to streamline the overall number of pages (but not the main content of interest and information), and ensure that content and information is interesting, useful, accurate and up-to-date.

There has been an increase in persons visiting all our information channels with the Awards Event at the end of November 25 and website pages such as registrations/transfers getting several hundred views each.

EDI Report - MH

Nothing to report

Clubmark, Safeguarding and Compliance – JB

A compliance newsletter covering all immediately relevant compliance developments and requirements of Clubs has been circulated.

An open meeting with all Club safeguarding officers may be organised before the start of the new 2026 season.

Clubs should be aware that the ECB appear to be determined to raise standards and are now checking important compliance matters, especially those that are handled through the Safe Hands Management System. Key focus areas are:

- Use of the SHMS system by all HPCL Clubs
- Up-to-date DBS's for all required post holders
- Up to date trained/qualified and sufficient coaches (see laid down coach/player ratios) for junior and W&G's teams
- Running of entry point All Stars and Dynamos or Club equivalent programmes for young cricketers

It is noted with concern that many Clubs appear to have important compliance gaps which must be closed over the next few months.

The ECB has already proved prepared to require League's to apply sanctions against Clubs that are not and do not become complaint.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

There is a large amount of player registration and transfer activity. Clubs are reminded to follow the correct process:

- The process includes the filling out and submitting to HPCL's registration secretary (PS) of an RTDF (Transfer Form), and the separate completion of the League Registered Player (LRP) process by the registering and releasing (if there is one) Club(s) in the Play-Cricket administration data base.
- RTDF's **completed by the player** should be the first step of any transfer/registration process.
- They must include an original signature of the player or, if signed electronically, must include an original photograph of the player
- Players and Clubs must also be aware of the legally binding declarations that the parties are making by completing the forms, 'signing' them and submitting them
- Nominations for LRP within the electronic Play-Cricket system must be based on the RTDF completed by the player and so must be sent to PS **by a Play-Cricket Administrator** at the same time as the LRP application.
- Receipt of the RTDF and LRP in different timeframes is unacceptable.
- A registration/transfer is completed when a 'nominated player' is listed in P-C as 'approved'

The most recent inspections had confirmed that good work had been done on Edgerton & Dalton CC's cricket square. HPCL are working on the basis that it will be much improved and in a satisfactory state to host home HPCL fixtures in 2026.

Now that matters that may have affected 2026 fixtures are clarified they can be produced and will be published within a few days.

Any Other Business

The Executive are reviewing its League and Cup competitions sponsorship arrangements for the future, and will report back next meeting.

Please note: The next meeting of HPCL's Executive Committee will take place at Almondbury Wesleyan CC on Wed 4th February 2026 commencing at 19.00pm