



Walker Timber **HUDDERSFIELD** PREMIER CRICKET LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday 9th August 2025

In the Chair: Trevor Atkinson

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

Life Vice Presidents: G Crompton

Club Representatives: L Harrison; C McCreadie

Apologies

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

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd July 2025

Approved.

Matters Arising

Executive oversight and administration for the future

The Chairman reiterated the need for a structural review of the way the League is managed and administrated.

He said that discussions were ongoing with a working group comprising the Chair, General Secretary and Administration Secretary to map a better way forward.

As already advised, due to increased professional commitments, Jamie Harrison is stepping down as Media Secretary at the end of September. The Chair announced that he will be replaced by Paula Huddleston who will take over from him on 1st October.

A handover and familiarisation process is being agreed and her first task is to review and refresh the HPCL website. It was agreed that Jim Woodhead (who is Chair of Holmbridge CC and runs an expert digital marketing company - Jaywood) will be advised that his proposals regarding refreshing the website, will not be taken forward at this time.

ECB Premier League Matters - TA

The Chair reported that the HPCL have recently been notified that we are being awarded monies by the ECB, recognising our good running of one of the country's Premier Leagues. There is the potential to be awarded a further monies subject to meeting several important criteria and submitting confirming evidence. This will be done in the months post the end of the season but before the AGM.

After some discussion it was agreed that this money would be placed in a separate Development Fund that would be used to pay for the development of the League and key areas of Club life including:

- Improving the number and quality of League and Club Umpires (including such things as training costs)
- Junior cricket and the ECB requirement to run at least 3x junior hard ball teams
- The accelerated development of Women & Girls cricket against the requirement for Clubs to be running at least one team by 2027

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 over £57k.

Moorlands still owe their April to 03 May fine (£40) and 3 Clubs still owe their 14 to 28 June fines (Edgerton & Dalton £20, Mirfield £50 and Thongsbridge £64)

Since last meeting we have received monies from England & Wales Cricket Board (as referred to above), T20 Cup sponsorship from Pearson Financial Wellbeing and from Swift Teamwear.

The name of newly acquired sponsor Pearson Financial Wellbeing will also be attached to the upcoming Sykes Cup Final on the 17th August, and they are thanked for their very generous support of these two competitions.

Disciplinary Report – TA/MB

HCL Disciplinary Register 2025										
Date	Name	Club	Match	Division	Offence	Sanction	Dates	Captain	Sanction	Dates
5.7.25	Mark Beaumont	Hall Bower	Slaithwaite v Hall Bower	Alliance 2	Serious dissent, insulting	L2 2 wk ban	18.7-1.8.25	Ray Bottomley	L1 1 wk suspended	to 4.7.27
5.7.25	Broad Oak	Broad Oak CC	Broad Oak vs Armitage	Championsh	WTU Fair Play 9	1 WTU Penalty		Adam France		
12.7.25	Jonny Hoyle	Wes	Wes v Kirkburton	Premiership	Low level dissent	Reminded		Pragam Sharma	Reminded	
19.7.25	Club Umpire	Skelmanthorpe	Skel vs Denby	Conference	Unsuitable and foul language	SCC Reminded				
26.7.24	Chaves Younes	Moorlands	Moorlands v Mirfield	Conference	L2 Serious Foul & Abusive langu	L2 2 wk ban	1.8 - 15.8.25	George Crowther	Reminded	

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	
5.7.25	Broad Oak	1	

It is pleasing that there has been only one addition to this list since 17th May.

The number of disciplinary cases YTD is significantly reduced vs 2023 and on the way to being further reduced following a pleasing reduction in 2024. All Clubs, Captains and players are thanked for their efforts. It is believed that the focus on, and efforts of team Captains has been a key factor in this very welcome improvement, that is enhancing the enjoyment of all participants and spectators.

Media Secretary Report - JH

The Media Secretary's work to review the League's website will be handed over to Paula Huddleston.

Exploratory discussion with Jaywood/Jim Woodhead have taken place, but will not be actioned for the time being.

An evaluation of Play-Cricket's functionality and suitability will be completed asap. We will continue with Symphony Commerce (formerly Shopblocks) who host our website for the time being.

EDI Report

A Review Meeting will take place before the end of the month and report back in September.

Clubmark, Safeguarding and Compliance – JB

Upperthong CC have completed the work to become accredited to Clubmark in 2025. It is unclear whether Almondbury CC have done enough to gain accreditation or not.

Some Clubs, who entered teams into the 2025 HJCL or confirmed being compliant with the ECB's PL requirement for 3x junior hard ball teams, do not appear to have completed the season with the necessary 3x teams in place. We expect the ECB/YCB to follow up on this, but are not sure what effect it will have on a Club's eligibility to continue to play in HPCL's top two divisions. We await any communication or action from the ECB.

In this regard it was confirmed that where HPCL Clubs run junior teams in partnership with other local clubs (such as Delph and Friarmere) this has historically been acceptable to the ECB.

Clubs are reminded that a failure to routinely run 3x hard ball junior teams may result in those Clubs being prevented from playing in HPCL's Premier or Championship divisions.

Match & Registration Secretary Report - PS

Many Team sheets (TMRF's) have not been submitted over recent weeks and this is reflected in the Fines List (which is attached to these Minutes).

It is a concern that Clayton West have failed to provide a Club Umpire on at least five recent occasions.

Cup Finals

The T20 Finals day was a big success with two very competitive, close and entertaining matches. Armitage Bridge CC are thanked and commended for their staging of the day.

The MCC Match was a successful and enjoyable event. Honley CC are thanked for stepping in at short notice to host the fixture.

Due to Honley reaching the Final of the Sykes Cup the venue is being changed to Thongsbridge CC, and the General Secretary has been in contact to make all necessary arrangements.

Arrangements to staff all upcoming finals and present the trophies are now in place.

Edgerton & Dalton CC

Following three separate reports received over the last two months of Edgerton & Dalton's ground and pitches being very unsatisfactory HPCL's Ground and Facilities Sub-Committee (which included two experienced groundsmen) visited to inspect on two separate occasions. The pitches were observed in a dangerous, badly neglected and very poorly maintained condition.

The Sub-Committee has ruled that the E&D cricket square is not fit, and will not be fit for the remainder of this season, to safely stage adult cricket matches that can facilitate the standard of cricket played in the HPCL.

We have instructed E&D to undertake a comprehensive programme of work on their cricket square as a matter of urgency. As such we have stipulated that no further league games will be allowed to be played at their ground for the remainder of this season. E&D have been asked to find alternative venues around Huddersfield for their "home" games. If that venue is acceptable to the League the visiting opponents will be notified and obliged to attend the revised venue on the scheduled date. If no venue is available on the scheduled date the opponent may be asked to nominate an alternative date on which their ground would be available (such as the Sunday after the scheduled fixture date).

If E&D are unable to accept that nomination or no suitable alternative venue to stage the game can be found then maximum points available on the day (normally 6 pts) will be awarded to E&D's opponent with Zero points awarded to E&D as this situation is not classified as a normal Concession.

E&D CC have been advised that (with HPCL's support) they must make arrangements with Clubs that have free Saturday ground dates and Phil Senior has identified Almondbury, Cartworth Moor, Denby Grange and Flockton as having free dates available to assist.

The Sub-Committee will review progress to improve E&D's cricket square no later than the end of October to determine whether it is likely to be fit to recommence staging cricket matches again in 2026.

Any Other Business

It was agreed that we must clarify the correct interpretation of the HPCL rule regarding the relegation (or otherwise) of 1st XI teams from the Alliance division (L7.6.5).

The next meeting of the HPCL Management Executive will take place at **Honley CC after **(Please Note)** the Meeting of the Council which will take place on Wednesday 3rd September 2025, commencing at 19.00pm.**