



Bowls Hampshire Executive Meeting

16th September 2026

1. **Apologies received:** : K Kerley, R Shelley, L Taylor, M Varndell, R Newsom, Tim Orr, Maxeen Fletcher, Malcolm James, Tom Regan Atkins, Min Wright, David Brindley, Anji Smith, Mike Squires, Alex Tymon, Mandy Orchard, Richard Purchase

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair the Treasurer Carl took the meeting.

2. **Confirmation of the minutes of the meeting held on 25th March 2026** (previously distributed)

Proposed by Charlie Bumstead, seconded by Sue Lewis Parkes, unanimously agreed.

3. **Matters Arising**

No Matter arising

4. **Finance Update**

Carl informed the meeting

- That following an email from Bowls England with a new competition increase for 2027 even though they had already informed the Counties of the 2027 competition fee. The new charge will be £5.50 which is a 36% increase on 2026. This even without any increase from Bowls Hampshire brings the cost for competitions to £7.50. The Management and Finance committee agreed that for the County only competitions the Golden Pairs and the 2 wood Triples the cost would be £6.00 There would be no change in the Club team competitions which are £20 per entry. There was no vote on these costs due to the current competition review taking place. The vote will now take place at the Executive meeting following the AGM when the Competition review will report their recommendations.
- Affiliation fees for 2027 will be the 2026 cost plus an uplift of the CPI rate as at the end of September. The rate is currently 3.1% so this would be an increase of about 30p meaning the 2027 affiliation would be in the region of BE £7.60 BH (no change) £3.50 = £11.10.

5. **New Online System**

Hazel and Carl gave an update on the online system at the beginning of the year the main problem was people forgetting their password or trying to register again. Also, for some clubs their members email addresses hadn't been added and this meant members were not able to register their account and apply for matches. From a competition point of view it has gone exceptionally well with the exception of the competitions where an age is required. Jim Marsland requested that a reminder go out to all secretaries that they ensure any member wishing to play in a competition where an age is required that they add this to their account.

The affiliation went well and following the closure at the beginning of March Carl the opened the Late Affiliation where any new players joining would be included. Carl stated that this had gone well other than a few clubs who he was still awaiting payment from. Carl also gave the number of members last year which were 6500 affiliated members in February and an additional 499 at the end of August giving a total for 2025 of 6999. In 2026 6594 members were affiliated in February with a further 547 new members entered during the year to the end of August, giving a total for 2026 of 7141 and increase year on year of 142 which everyone agreed was a good sign for our sport.

6. Competition Working Party Review

The Management and Finance committee suggested at the last meeting at the beginning of September that a competition working party would do a review of the competition structure and put forward recommendations. The working party consisted of Chair Richard Shelley, representing the West Liz Bingley, North Jim Marsland, South Margaret Leppard and East Alex Tymon. Following their first meeting, their initial findings with ideas was sent out to all the Executive for their approval to further develop these findings and come back to the Executive meeting following the AGM with their recommendation. Unfortunately Alex Tymon wasn't able to attend the meeting so Hazel read out her email with particular emphasis on the future cost of the 2 wood singles as it was felt this was particularly expensive when if losing in the first round the individual would have possibly only played 14 / 15 ends, a suggestion was that a consolation competition was run at no cost for those people knocked out in the first round. There was quite a bit of discussion and it was agreed by the Executive that this should be one of the items looked into when the working party met for their next meeting.

7. BH Vacancies

Hazel gave an update on the current vacancies;

County Development Officer (vacant for a few years) – no nominations

County Competition Secretary – Mandy Wilde is prepared to take on this role effective at the AGM

Year Book & Membership Secretary – Julie Greenwood has agreed to take over this role from MW.

County Administrator – no nominations received for 2027 but there maybe someone willing to take on the role from the 2027 AGM.

County Managers – although the closing date is 4th October at the moment there are no nominations for the Middleton Cup, Johns Trophy and the Men's U24 Manager. There is one nomination for the Ladies U24 Manager.

The Management & Finance committee requested the current Managers of the Over 60's Mixed Inter County competition carry on for a further year following two successful years.

BH Vice Presidents – Two nominations are coming forward for a Lady from the East and a Man from the West so for 2027 we will have Vice Presidents to join Peter Sunderland and Anji Smith who will be awarded their Presidential badges at the AGM in November.

Safe Guarding Officer – a nomination has been received from Paul Todd for this position and unless anyone else coming forward before the 4th October, Paul will be invited to the AGM.

Obviously, it will be very important that Paul understands we have a BH disciplinary officer and he will have to work closely with him to ensure that he only takes on identified safe guarding issues. Initially any incidents should be reviewed prior to any involvement.

8. Date of Next Meeting / Any Other Business

Hazel informed the meeting that Hayling Island had applied for a match to celebrate their 50th Anniversary in 2027. A date to be agreed for this match to be played on 20th April with 6 mixed rinks.

A Ladies County Tour from Warwickshire has been agreed with a match against Bowls Hampshire which Sue Lewis Parkes has agreed with them. Hazel has been in touch with the organiser and sent a number of clubs information for them to arrange other matches during their tour. One confirmed match will be on their arrival day a match against Hayling Island as they are staying locally at Warners Sinah Warren.

Sue Lewis Parkes brought up the current procedure for awarding of County badges and felt very concerned that under the current procedure they were being awarded to individuals that lowered the standard of a county badge. Doug stated that the current procedure for the men was working well and he didn't want any change to how they were awarded. Following a further discussion, it was agreed that a change may be required for the ladies and Sue was asked to look at the documentation and bring a proposal to the next Executive meeting. It was also agreed that the Colts badge should be awarded to any lady who played her first match in the County Mixed Friendlies but not for playing in the ladies' friendlies.

As there were no further questions. Carl closed the meeting at 20:00pm

The next Executive Meeting is Thursday 19th November following the BH AGM.