



# London and Southern Counties Bowling Association

## Minutes of the 130th Annual General Meeting Saturday 7th March 2026, 11 am

### 1. **Opening remarks.**

The President, Ray Young, opened the meeting at 11:00 and welcomed all present.

### 2. **Notice to convene.**

The President read the notice to convene the meeting.

### 3. **Attendees:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Club</b>
Ray Young	President	Exec (Bounds Green BC)
Julie Colby	Hon. General Sec	Exec (Chipstead BC)
Steve Colby	Hon. Treasurer	Exec (Chipstead BC)
John Harryiott	Past President	Exec (Wealden BC)
Carolyn Lythgoe	Club rep	Camberley BC
Brenda Maycox	Club rep	North London BC
Joe Willis	Club rep	Temple BC
Roger Crick	Club rep	Broadway BC
Pat Geddes	Club rep	Leighton Buzzard BC
Rob Dodds	Club rep	Richmond BC
Philip Timms	Club rep	Flitwick BC
John Dodd	Club rep	

## **Apologies:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Club</b>
Andrew Richardson	Hon. Outdoor Comp Sec	Exec (Southey BC)
Dave Atwell	Club rep	Alton Social BC
John Gunson	Club rep	Atherley BC
Bob Pomeroy	Club rep	St. Albans BC
Pam Andrew	Club rep	Windsor & Eton BC
Billy Gough	Club rep	Thorpe Bay BC
Keith Raymond	Club rep	Palmerston BC
Anthony Weller	Club rep	Ladygate BC

### **4. Previous minutes.**

The minutes of the 129th Annual General Meeting were unanimously approved.

### **5. Matters arising.**

None.

### **6. Annual Reports**

#### **a. Hon. General Secretary**

A new incentive has been introduced this year to try to engage more clubs in areas where there is already LSCBA-affiliated representation. If a club introduces a new club, they receive a year's free affiliation fee. Two clubs have already taken up this offer.

David Figg and the members of West Wickham BC are to be highly commended for their excellent job on the 2025 outdoor finals day. There were many compliments to the Exec, not only on the quality of the green, but also on the superb food provided. The bowling standard was very high, with special mention going to the Lonsdale and Challenge Shield for the fantastic calibre of play. There were some great matches throughout the day, which were a strong showcase of the high standard of match play required to reach the LSCBA finals.

There are still problems when clubs have to source a neutral green. Most players are unaware who has to organise the neutral green and how they decide on a venue. The challenger arranges the game, but

with their opponent's approval, and any dispute over venue should be referred to the relevant competition secretary. The neutral green should be approximately halfway between the two clubs when they are more than 50 miles apart. The cost of green fees, etc., incurred is to be shared, but the challenger is responsible for booking the rink at the agreed venue. The neutral green need not be affiliated with LSCBA.

Four new outdoor clubs have joined this year, and we would like to welcome Tilehurst BC, Desborough BC, Totton & Eling BC and Chipstead BC.

Two new competitions were introduced for the 2025 outdoor season: the ladies' singles and ladies' pairs. These are proving popular, with numbers increasing in the first two years: in the pairs from 27 last year to 41 this year, and in the singles from 26 to 38. This shows the association is responding to the needs of the membership.

This season, we have had an issue with a club entering the same person in the mixed pairs and the mixed fours. This contravenes the association's rules, and after it came to light at the quarter-final stage, the committee was forced to disqualify them from one of the competitions. The choice of which one was left to them to decide. As a result, we now require all team members' names to be entered into the system at the start of the competition season, and photos of the first-round rink cards to be sent to the relevant competition secretary. Details of how to do this will follow shortly. If you enter your teams on the website correctly, it will not allow you to enter a person in more competitions than they are allowed: the Challenge Shield, one mixed competition, and one single-sex competition. Personnel changes within a team do not constitute a substitution until after the first round has been played.

**b. Hon. Treasurer**

Last year's income was slightly higher at £16,893, and I am happy with the performance. Running expenses were higher due to increased insurance costs, website-related computer expenses, and the cost of storing our trophies at a secure facility. As you can see, there is a net loss for the year of £1,829, although this includes the purchase of the four new ladies' trophies for £1300. Last season, I also subsidised the ladies' competitions as it was the first season, and I wanted to make them more attractive to enter. This season, the number of entries in these competitions is higher, and a subsidy will not be needed.

**c. Hon. Outdoor Competition Secretary**

The competitions went quite smoothly. Earlier rounds saw a lot of walkovers; bowlers just enter too many competitions. We need to make sure no one plays more than the competitions allow. The finals were held at West Wickham, which proved to be an excellent venue on a superb green. We had the first year of Ladies competitions, which proved popular, but we need more entries so bowlers won't need to travel so far. There were a few great finals of very high quality. I thank West Wickham for being such a good venue.

2026 has been booked for West Ealing. It will be a really good venue, and a lot of effort will go into making sure the day goes well.

The entries for 2026 have come in, and the draws will be held in March. I appeal to all clubs, please fill in your team contacts for each competition in 2026.

**d. Hon. Indoor Competition Secretary**

No report.

Rob Dodds (Richmond IBC, Southey BC) asked if the indoor competitions could be expanded to include a men's pairs and men's triples. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

**7. Election of officers for 2026-7**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Club</b>
President	Ray Young	Bounds Green BC
Immediate Past President	John Harriyott	Wealden BC
Hon. General Secretary	Julie Colby	Chipstead BC
Hon. Treasurer	Steve Colby	Chipstead BC
Hon. Outdoor Comp. Sec.	Andrew Richardson	Southey BC
Hon. Indoor Comp. Sec.	Robert Walker	Falcon IBC
Hon. Webmaster	Julie Colby	Chipstead BC
News Editor	vacant	
Safeguarding Officer	vacant	
Committee (outdoor x3)	vacant	

Committee (indoor x 3)    vacant

The officers were unanimously elected *en bloc*. Julie appealed to those present at the meeting to stand as Exec members, but there were no takers. In case anyone else is interested, there are only four meetings per year, all held on Zoom, so no travelling is required.

**8. Appointment of Hon. Examiner of Accounts.**

John Elwood, Chairman of Donyngs IBC

**9. Annual affiliation fee.**

It was agreed to maintain the affiliation fee at £30.00 for the upcoming year.

**10. AOB**

Reminder of the indoor finals day to be held at Donyngs IBC on Sunday, 22nd March.

**11. Close.**

The meeting was formally closed by the President at 11:25