



Minutes of Committee meeting

11th August 2026 at Harpole Bowls Club

Welcome by Chair Sue Gunter

Apologies: Wendy Kean

Attendees: Sue Gunter, Nicky Frost, John Fox, Janice Fox, Chris Weston, Adam Hawkins, Tim Gunter, Mike Edwards, Paul D`Inverno, Chris Terry.

Registrations:

ME has received replies from eighteen clubs to date. The date set for completion is 15th August 2026. ME will chase nonresponders after that date. So far four clubs are registering for affiliation only (Cranfield, Hackleton, Mawsley and Roade). General discussion followed re the number of clubs registering. SG Brian Baker (ESMBA) has requested that the ESMBA will require the DOB`s of all those registering with them and gave the rational as being, safeguarding and confirmation that those entering competitions are eligible. Following a general discussion, it was agreed that this would be put to the NSMBA membership.

Treasurers report:

NF reports had been sent out to the committee prior to the meeting. All agreed. NF the switch from Metro bank to Lloyds has been problematic and following a meeting with a representative from Metro, who acknowledge they had got it very wrong and have now generated a complaint. ME the Lloyds account details have now been published for payment of registration fees. NF Metro will forward any payments they may receive to the Lloyds account.

Competition updates:

CW NSMBA forms have been generated and will be emailed out to club secretaries. Cost to enter will be £8 pp payable on the day, NO CHEQUES. ESMBA are going to invoice NSMBA.

Random competition on 23rd August 2026 currently there are 45/47 entrants. The charity is to support a local blind bowler who has been selected to represent England in New Zealand. Cost is £5pp payable on the day, NO CHEQUES. AH over sixty's date still to be confirmed.

League update: TG. Due to the reduced number of clubs entering the league it is not possible to split the groups. Day 8- 5 teams, Evening 8- 5 teams, Day 5-6 teams, Evening 5- 6 teams. The leagues will start week commencing 14th September 2026 with the first half finishing in November which will allow for any postponed games to be played before starting the second half in the new year. AH will collate the scores.

Cranfield: SG had received an email from Chris Carter at Cranfield requesting some help re membership, equipment, and venue. A general discussion took place as to what their specific needs are. SG to have contact with CC to discuss further information.

AOB:

ME. Harpole are arranging friendly fixtures to develop players. SG expressed concerns that some clubs had not registered additional teams in the leagues to include players that are not regularly playing at the higher level and that this may discourage those players. ME which is why he is arranging the friendlies. JF when we started at Pytchley we only played friendlies until we were at a certain level so ME idea is not new. PD, the leagues are extremely competitive and as such clubs will play their better players. General discussion during which the committee agreed that NSMBA are open the club amalgamation.

CT. Requested that those who have been invited to attend the County squad day please reply ASAP whether you can attend or not.

AH suggested a new format for competition and agreed to provide a presentation to the committee at the next meeting.

Meeting Closed 20.30

Next meeting 7pm Wednesday 9th September at Harpole Bowls Club.