



Minutes:	General Committee
Date:	Thursday 8 th May 2025
Time:	16:00
Place:	Prince of Wales Room, Kia Oval
Chair:	O Slipper
Members in Attendance:	Z Ansari M Eadon P Garrard D Gill A Grabiner KC W Jones E Lewendon C Payne P Pocock M Reeve L Rolles M Tee C Thompson
In attendance:	E Calvert C Doyle C Dymond S Elworthy MBE A Lane K Leach (minutes) A Stewart OBE A Wells

ITEM 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 Apologies were received from A Harinath, J Hudson, K Kumaria, R Trinick & A Tudor.

ITEM 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 2.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2025 were agreed as an accurate record.

ITEM 3 MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 O Slipper advised that his and S Elworthy's visit to Mumbai was very successful and the hosts were very hospitable. The franchise agreement was only briefly discussed over the three days.

ITEM 4 CEO REPORT

- 4.1 S Elworthy advised that the Club is still negotiating with Reliance and that he and A Lane had another meeting today where financial recharges were discussed. The Club has already incurred substantial legal fees and will engage with the lawyers again, once the Participation Agreement between the ECB and the franchises is agreed. The Club plans to invite Reliance staff to some of the Hundred matches this year and to plan the dates for the Hundred Board meetings well in advance. The franchises will only become partners for the 2026 season, not 2025.
- 4.2 The Club's Strategic Plan has been sent to ECB as part of the CPA 2 requirements. The Plan is a living document but creates a solid framework with which to move forward.
- 4.3 Meetings are ongoing with all FCCs regarding the future domestic programme and all 18 counties will have been consulted by 18th May. The meetings, which are designed to gauge the priorities of each club, have been broadly positive so far.
- 4.4 Lisa Beresford-Hines starts as the Director of People and Culture on 12th May.

ITEM 5 CRICKET

- 5.1 A Stewart reviewed the first four matches of the County Championship and updated the Board on overseas players and player injuries.
- 5.2 E Calvert & A Stewart commented on the newly completed dressing rooms and how happy the players and coaching staff are with the refurbishment.

- 5.3** E Calvert updated on the start of the season and player availability for the upcoming matches. Four Surrey players have been selected for the England A squad and England selections will be announced next week.
- 5.4** The Committee asked how the women's team feel playing at Beckenham and E Calvert confirmed that it is a good out ground and as many of the team had played there as part of the South East Stars, it feels like a home ground to them. The Surrey branding was not great at first but is improving.

ITEM 6 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- 6.1** The feasibility study conducted by Savills for potential out grounds has come back with an initial long list of 84 sites, which will now be investigated further and a short list produced. LSE has not been discounted but the Club felt it was prudent to look at all options.

ITEM 7 GOVERNANCE

- 7.1** M Eadon proposed O Slipper be elected as the Club Chair, standing unopposed. This was seconded by D Gill and the Committee voted unanimously in favour of electing O Slipper as the Club Chair.
- 7.2** C Doyle confirmed that eight candidates had stood for election to the General Committee and that 11.5% of the membership had voted in the online election with 2046 votes cast. The candidates voted onto the General Committee are Simon Dyson, Richard Mantell, Simon Menneer and Steve Wootten. The 5th place candidate, Kim Barlow, only lost out by a handful of votes and so the General Committee has agreed to co-opt Kim to the Committee for one year. Kim will be eligible to stand again in the 2026 election.
- 7.3** The Committee discussed the number of spoilt ballot papers and how to encourage new members to stand for the Committee. The Committee discussed how in all types of elections, there is voter apathy, and some people actively choose not to vote. The role of the General Committee should also be explained at Member Forums and members encouraged to find out what being on the GC entails. P Garrard suggested those interested in standing for election should meet with the Chair to discuss their motives for standing and, to gain an insight into the role.
- 7.4** O Slipper thanked those members leaving the General Committee today for their service and support – Matt Tee, Jerry Hudson, Alex Tudor and Ros Trinick.
- 7.5** O Slipper confirmed that interviews have taken place for the Board Non-Executive technology role and an appointment will be made shortly.

ITEM 8 FINANCE

- 8.1** A Lane advised that Forecast 1 is slightly behind budget but is reasonably on track.

ITEM 9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1** D Gill remarked on the impressive, modern re-design of the Club Museum and how it is now more accessible for wheelchair users.
- 9.2** The General Committee congratulated Nat Sciver-Brunt on being named the England women's captain.
- 9.3** P Garrard highlighted the cost of Brixton Ale and Thatcher's in the Members Bars and that this is more expensive than the local pubs. The Committee discussed how the club strategy is to keep membership and ticket prices lower than average, but then food and beverage may be slightly higher.
- 9.4** M Tee highlighted the shape of the new floodlights and that this should be explained as the Three Feathers, as some members saw them as something else!
- 9.5** L Rolles noted that those entering the ground at tea time at County Championship matches are now being counted in the attendance figures, which is a good move. Laura asked if, when attendance figures are published, this could be stated.
- 9.6** The Committee discussed the Supreme Court gender ruling and how this will affect the Club. The ECB has amended its regulations, and this has proved challenging for transgender people playing cricket. It was noted that there are no transgender women in the Surrey pathway but there are at other clubs. There will have possibly been an impact for the Cricket Foundation.
- 9.7** E Calvert encouraged Committee members to view the new women's honours board in the pavilion.
- 9.8** It was noted that the Club would acknowledge the 80th anniversary of VE Day at the Club AGM later today.

ITEM 10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 10.1** The date and time of the next meeting is Tuesday 17th June 2025 at 18:00.