

South Metropolitan Cricket Association



MINUTES for the SMCA Executive Meeting 2 February 2026

Venue: Meeting conducted via Microsoft Teams, 6:03pm

Present: Peter Anderson, David King, Mario Baeli, Ian Del Rosso, Joe Covic, Norm Harris, Mark Iannello, Ian Hale, Steve Kemp, Jacob Landsmeer, Andrew Ring, Shamez Rashid, Gary Hartman (minutes – on Teams)

Apologies: Nil

Absent: Nil

Minutes of Previous Executive Meeting

Moved by Mark Iannello and seconded by Ian Hale that the minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 10 November 2025 be accepted as a true and accurate record. **Carried**

Matters Arising

Nil

President's Report

Firstly, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year. I hope you all had an enjoyable and refreshing break and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends over the festive period.

I would like to extend my congratulations to all clubs and teams who were successful in their One Day Grand Finals within the Two-Day competition. Achievements like these are a credit to the players, coaches, and volunteers who put in the work throughout the season.

While we here, I would also like to congratulate all the members, support staff and volunteers of our CricketWest squads. Although we were unable to secure any premierships, the Association has built some very impressive foundations for future campaigns. A special shout out to; the Del Rosso's, Ian and Sabrina, Jacob Landsmeer, Joe Covic, Steven Warchomij, Steven Greaves, Jackson Edgar, Deepa Goruganthu, Ben Scotson, Tom Harris, Colby Schokker, Frank Camporeale, and the Kardinya Lakes Cricket

Club. Without your support, we would not have had the success on the field we continue to have.

As we now embark on the second half of the 2025/2026 season, I ask all clubs to please remind their players of their responsibilities both on and off the field. This includes maintaining appropriate on-field behaviour and being mindful of their conduct on social media. We certainly do not want to see players appearing before the P&D Committee and receiving suspensions that could result in them missing important matches, particularly leading into finals.

I would also like to remind clubs that if there is any uncertainty regarding player qualification, please forward those specific queries through to the Association and we will confirm availability. This is not intended to be a blanket approval process for entire playing lists; however, we are more than happy to assist where there is genuine uncertainty. Please also ensure clubs remain mindful of the 50% plus one rule.

Finally, the Association has received an invitation to participate in an SMCA versus Gosnells District match at both Colts and Senior levels, to be played at Sutherlands. I am keen to see this initiative proceed and would like to explore the possibility of making this an annual event. It could serve as an excellent lead-in to the CricketWest carnival and would be a great opportunity to further strengthen relationships and showcase the talent within our Association.

Administrator's Report

Several teams have recently had match-forfeit issues, with Perth Tamil and Willetton Crows among those now reaching three forfeits overall. Perth Tamil in particular has forfeited their last two ODH fixtures. Roleystone-Karragullen also experienced ground complications at Cross Park, though these appear to be resolved. In the meantime, they used an alternative ground that isn't currently listed on PlayHQ.

Gary also advised that he will be away from mid-April to mid-May. He will still be contactable by email during that period, but his general availability will be reduced.

Gary also indicated that he is looking to further reduce his workload, and this intention has already been raised with both the President and the Senior Vice President. This matter will be considered in more detail at the end of the season.

There was further discussion regarding Perth Tamil, and it is understood that they wish to withdraw their ODF team rather than their ODH side. This approach is inconsistent with the By-Laws, which require that if a club removes a team, it must be their lowest-graded team. Shamez is to contact Perth Tamil and ascertain their intentions.

Treasurer's Report

- Cash Reserve: \$40,323.74
- Community Reserve: \$84,286.24

No further financial updates were presented at this meeting.

Umpire's Advisor

Norm reported that it has been a challenging period since Christmas, with the panel maintaining around 20 umpires, though availability continues to vary due to work commitments and holidays. A new junior umpire has commenced, and there are ongoing enquiries with a couple of additional potential recruits, but more umpires are still urgently needed.

Discussion revisited the idea of establishing an umpire pool, under which: (1) clubs requesting an umpire for a specific match would be required to provide someone to umpire in another grade, and (2) lower grades could operate with an uneven number of teams, with teams then supplying umpires. This proposal had previously been put to clubs last season and was rejected. All pool umpires would be paid.

CricketWest

Mark reported that a meeting had been held last Wednesday, confirming that the Men's Statewide Cup Final will be played at the WACA on 22 February, with the Women's Final to follow at Murdoch on 28 February. Gosnells requested an inter-association match, and while this is supported in principle, the proposed date conflicts with the Statewide Cup Final. Peter will speak with Gosnells and suggest scheduling the fixture in November 2026. Peter also highlighted the positive culture Kardinya Lakes has brought to the CricketWest teams, noting that these games remain an important part of the program and should continue to be embraced. It was suggested that CricketWest should push for Sutherland Park (Gosnells) or Tompkins Park (Melville) to be used for future fixtures instead of Leederville, as this could be a significant revenue opportunity for the Gosnells club.

It was also noted that this is Brad Pearce's final year at CricketWest. Securing the WACA for the final was emphasised as essential.

Constitution and By-Laws

The following amendment was provided by David King (changes in red).

62. Protests and disputes

a. The Protest & Disputes Tribunal (hereafter referred to as the P&D) may consist of up to five (5) persons who will make up a sitting board to hear any matters brought before it. The board members shall be made up of the P&D Chairman and up to two (2) members of the SMCA Executive and two (2) club members from a roster of club nominated P&D representatives. Each club must nominate a P&D representative one (1) week prior to each season starting. Alternate persons may be co-opted to assist this board to carry out its duties if so required. **Should a club fail to provide a member for the P&D when rostered a fine of \$200 will apply.**

There had only been one rostered club non-attendance this season, and the club rostering at P&D's could be considered a great success.

It was moved by Steve Kemp and seconded by Mark Iannello that the suggested amendments to the SMCA By-Laws be accepted and implemented. CARRIED

Protests and Disputes

There was discussion regarding a recent caution issued to a player for knocking over a stump. Some felt the incident should have resulted in a suspension, while others supported the umpires' discretion in issuing only a caution. Another matter was raised involving footage on FrogBox showing a player staring at the umpire for approximately 10 seconds after being given out LBW, with the view expressed that this could reasonably be interpreted as dissent.

Further discussion was held about waist-high full tosses and concerns around inconsistent umpiring. The By-Laws clearly state that any delivery above waist height is considered dangerous, and this is intended to be definitive rather than subject to interpretation. If the current interpretation among umpires does not reflect this, it may be necessary to review and clarify the By-Laws.

East Fremantle, Thornlie and Champion Lakes have had players before the P&D recently. The Champion Lakes player appealed to the Review Committee but was denied as no evidence in line with By-Law 67 was provided.

Gradings and Fixtures

Question as to how the last round of fixtures were to play out.

One Day Game with two-day rules; only one innings

30th Anniversary

Ian Hale reported that a recent sub-committee meeting had been held. The function is scheduled for 15 May at the Swan Yacht Club. Discussion took place regarding the guest list, including the proposal to name a Team of the First 30 Years as well as a Legends Team. A pro-forma will be sent to all clubs.

The Anniversary Book is still in progress. Norm and Peter were asked to provide reports, with Peter to prepare the President's Forward. A selection panel will be required for the team announcements.

The sub-committee will continue to meet regularly. The allocated budget is \$18,500, which includes \$8,300 for the Annual Windup.

Other matters were discussed, including whether Life Members should be charged for the event, whether clubs should be contacted to confirm how many tickets they require, and how any remaining funds in the budget should be managed. It was noted that the venue has a seating capacity of 120.

Mental Health Round

Peter reported that the Mental Health Round was a great success, with no negative feedback received. He is sending a pro-forma to WA Cricket, advising that approximately 2,500 people were involved, including players, umpires, officials, and volunteers.

He noted the importance of continuing to develop this event each year. If WA Cricket designates a dedicated Mental Health Round weekend, the SMCA should align with it; if not, consideration should be given to holding the round on the last one-day match of the season.

A big thank you was extended to all involved and to the clubs for their strong support.

Agenda Items

Ian Del Rosso reported that plans for the Annual Windup are progressing well. The date has been set for Friday, 20 March, which falls after Grand Final weekend. It was noted that the event needs to be advertised on the website.

General Business

Steve Kemp queried By-Law 64(e) and the current 12-month period applied to a second or third player caution. He suggested that this timeframe may be insufficient and proposed that it be extended to 24 months.

Ian Del Rosso reported that all CricketWest gear had been returned from all four teams. Orders for next season should be minimal, including for training gear.

Jacob Landsmeer suggested that clubs be given early notice of the upcoming General Meeting, as many clubs are already discussing likely matters for consideration. It was agreed that clubs will be advised that the General Meeting will be held on Monday, 4 May, and notification will be provided both by email and on the website.

Joe Covic raised the issue of play finishing early when a team is bowled out quickly, noting the challenge this creates for the team batting second, who may then face only a short batting period. He commented that this is part of the natural variability of the game and should be accepted as such.

Joe recommended the abolishment of the 30-minute rule to allow for maximum playing time, and suggested that this matter be brought forward for discussion at the General Meeting.

Shamez raised the issue of clubs requesting late venue changes, sometimes as late as the day before a match. Consideration should be given to introducing a deadline for such requests.

David King raised an incident involving an **ODJ** team where players arrived at a match carrying stubbies of beer and were drinking during the game. It was also reported that a player entered the field of play to offer an opposition fieldsman a beer. Shamez is to write to the club requesting a formal explanation.

Closure

As there was no further business, the meeting was officially closed at 7:53pm.

Next Meetings

- **Executive Meeting:** Monday, 16 March 2026 at Thornlie – 6:00pm.