

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

MINUTES for the SMCA General Meeting 25 May 2026



Venue: Thornlie Clubrooms, 7:00pm

PRESENT:

As per register

APOLOGIES: Steve Kemp, Jacob Landsmeer

ABSENT: Forrestdale, Kenwick, Kwinana, Perth Tamil, Roleystone-Karragullen, SJ Blues.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Good evening everyone, and welcome.

Thank you all for attending tonight's General Meeting. It is always pleasing to see our clubs represented and continuing to support the Association and the game we all love.

For those clubs who were unable to attend our recent celebrations, and for anyone who may not have seen our socials, I would like to officially acknowledge and welcome our newest Life Member, David King. This is an honour I am sure every club would agree is thoroughly deserved, and recognition of an outstanding contribution over many years. Congratulations, DK.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the organising committee behind our recent 30 Year Celebration. It was truly a fantastic event and a wonderful opportunity to recognise the many people who have helped shape our Association over the journey.

The evening saw several legends honoured from each club, as well as the announcement of the SMCA Team of the Last 30 Years. Congratulations to all those selected in the squad, and a special mention to Andrew Galbraith and Craig Stewart, named Vice Captain and Captain respectively. It was a very special evening enjoyed by everyone in attendance.

A special thank you must again go to Ian and Sabrina Del Rosso, Joe Covic, Ian Hales, and Mario Baeli for their tireless work and dedication in making the evening such a success. Your efforts were outstanding and are greatly appreciated by the entire Association. The venue, Swan Yacht Club, was absolutely perfect and provided a fantastic setting for the occasion.

While I am congratulating people tonight, I also have a very special presentation to make on behalf of Cricket Australia and the Western Australian Cricket Association.

It is my great privilege to present a 50 Years of Service Award to our Administrator, Gary Hartman. Gary's contribution to cricket through both the Kenwick Cricket Club and our

Association has been extraordinary, and this recognition is certainly long overdue. Gary, congratulations and thank you for your remarkable service to the game.

Nominations for the roles of Administrator, Secretary, Treasurer, and Umpires Advisor have now officially closed. The successful candidates will be formally announced at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. As there was more than one nomination received for one of the positions, I have appointed Stephen Kemp and Mark Iannello to oversee and preside over the interview process for that role. All appointments will be subject to Executive endorsement at our next committee meeting prior to the AGM, where the successful candidates will be announced in accordance with Clause 40 of our Constitution.

The 2025/26 season saw the introduction of the 'First Past the Post' format for all one-day fixtures. This initiative has proven to be an outstanding success across all grades and clubs, and as an Executive, we remain committed to continually improving our competition and ensuring it remains the affiliate competition of choice within CricketWest.

In line with that commitment, our representation within CricketWest continues to gather momentum. The performances of our representative sides at the annual carnival continue to improve year after year, with each squad growing stronger both on and off the field. Just as importantly, the culture, morale, and pride within these teams continue to build.

I strongly encourage all clubs to become actively involved and to continue nominating players across all four representative sides; Masters, Seniors, Colts, and Women's.

It is our clubs that drive the success of this Association, and there is no reason why every member club should not be represented within these programs. As an Association, we should embrace and build upon this momentum and success. A special acknowledgement must go to Ian, Sabrina, Joe, Mark, Mario, JL, and all the support staff for their outstanding work and commitment throughout the carnival campaign. Their efforts continue to strengthen the standing and reputation of our Association. As we continue to grow, all clubs should look to invest in and support these representative programs, with the aim of making our Association the one that others aspire to chase; the hunted, not the hunter.

Once again, thank you all for attending tonight and for your continued support of the Association. I look forward to another successful season ahead.

Thank you.

AGENDA ITEMS:

From Steve Kemp .

Suggestion: In all Two-Day grades, bonus points for runs and wickets in the 3rd and 4th innings are only given if a team wins outright.

Why: This stops teams from creating short, meaningless innings just to collect bonus points. It encourages captains to move the game forward if they genuinely want an outright result. It removes the incentive for junk time.

David King expressed the view that a team winning outright should receive outright points only, with no bonus points awarded to either side in the second innings. His concern was that allowing bonus points could create a situation where the losing team might deliberately “throw the match.” Joe Covic, Mario Baeli and CBC contributed to the discussion. A question was raised regarding the relevance of the 5pm rule, with some suggesting it may need to be removed. Peter Anderson proposed that the top four teams trial the revised system before any broader adoption.

The following suggestion was then put: *that normal points apply for the first innings, with no bonus points awarded in the second innings other than those for an outright victory, should it be achieved.*

Suggestion lost.

From Steve Kemp

Suggestion: 1st–4th Grade stay as 8-team competitions. 5th Grade and below move to a 7-team competition. This creates a 21-week season made up of: • 6 one-day games • 6 two-day games • Byes built into the fixture

Why: • A 7-team structure naturally creates byes without needing Sunday fixtures. • Teams on a bye must supply two umpires, who will umpire in another grade to the grade they play in. • These umpires are paid by the SMCA. • This increases the number of available umpires, gives players firsthand umpiring experience, and helps clubs manage player shortages within existing by-laws.

David King suggested that any trial of players umpiring should not occur in the two-day grades but instead be considered for the lower one-day grades. Joe Covic raised concerns that byes and forfeits were consuming too much cricket time, and it was noted that it was already difficult to find players willing to umpire in matches they were playing in, let alone when their team had a forfeit. There was further concern that the quality of umpiring may not be satisfactory, and that most players preferred to play cricket rather than umpire and may be reluctant to complete an umpiring course. It was pointed out that most of the course would be available online.

A further suggestion was made that having both teams’ players umpire at the same ground could be an advantage.

In the end, no decision was made and the matter was left.

From Steve Kemp .

Suggestion: In 35 over One Day grades, wides and no balls are not re-bowled, except in the final over. Each wide and no ball is worth 2 runs.

Why: • Helps teams complete their overs on time. • Reduces time spent in the field for both

sides. • Minimises P&D issues caused by games running late or finishing in poor light. • Improves match flow and reduces frustration for players and umpires.

There was discussion regarding additional causes of slow over rates, including late starts, time taken for field placements, and general match delays. A suggestion was raised to consider a maximum of eight balls per over, but this did not receive support.

Mario Baeli stressed that the 3:20pm rule must be enforced, with the procedure being that once 3:20pm is reached, a note is taken of the overs bowled, and the team batting second receives only that number of overs. After discussion, it was agreed that the time be changed from 3:20pm to 3:30pm.

The meeting agreed that the onus is on captains to ensure a timely flow of overs. There was no agreement to adopt the original suggestion or to limit overs to a maximum of eight balls. It was agreed instead that better education of captains be implemented and that the 3:30pm time limit be enforced.

From Steve Kemp .

Suggestion: In 35 over grades, batters must retire (not out) at 40 runs and may only return to bat once all other batters have been dismissed.

Why: • Discourage players from playing in grades which they probably shouldn't be playing. • Reduces the chances of one batter from dominating the game. • Help to maintain competitive balance between teams. • Supports the development of lower grade players by giving them more time at the crease and not someone who should be playing a higher grade.

After a brief discussion, there was no support for the suggestion.

From Ian Hale

Suggestions for By-laws for General Meeting 25th of May By law 10- Alter heading to -Playing conditions during byes and teams awarded a forfeit win Alter 10a-(i.e. a bye or awarded a forfeit win) Add 10c-Players are to be named on the PlayHQ team list, should a team be awarded a forfeit win, subject to By-law 12c

After a brief discussion, the suggestion was withdrawn. Peter spoke about the trial introduced last season allowing a club to forfeit a team other than in their lowest grade. The provision was used only once, appeared to have the support of the clubs, and will be considered further by the Executive.

From Ian Hale

By-law 27 Bowling limitations Alter By-law 27a-Each bowler is limited to eight (8) overs in an innings of forty (40) over and thirty-five (35) over matches. 2

Explanation - This affects matches one day E and below (currently one day E to one day J). In

the lower grades, the bowling of numerous wides slows the over rate. The better bowlers would share four extra overs (eg:4 x 8 = 32, leaving 3 overs)

There was discussion both for and against the proposal. Concerns were raised that it could allow a strong bowler—who should arguably be playing at a higher level—to bowl an additional over, reducing opportunities for others. The suggestion was not accepted.

Further discussion noted that the issue ultimately comes back to captains managing their teams and ensuring the 3:30pm rule is enforced. Education is required, and captains need to be fully aware of the requirements at the toss.

It was acknowledged that allowances must be made for injuries and the time lost from the playing period when they occur. It was also suggested that PlayHQ may be able to assist by providing clearer information on the timing of overs.

There was discussion regarding the Captains' Report on Umpires, and Peter clarified that this report only needs to be completed when an official umpire is appointed to the match.

It was suggested that the details of P&Ds should be made public. Peter advised that the details of P&Ds, Prescribed Penalties and Cautions are already available on the website. It was further noted that these details could potentially be analysed to identify trends or recurring issues. Joe Covic advised that he would look into this.

A suggestion was made that the SMCA conduct a Zoom call with all captains to discuss important matters and ensure consistent understanding across clubs.

CLOSURE: As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.12pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Meeting 15 June at Thornlie – 6:00pm

Executive Meeting 6 July at Thornlie – 6:00pm

Annual General Meeting 28 July at Thornlie – 7:00pm

SOUTH METROPOLITAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEETING – 25 MAY 2026 – THORNLIE

ATTENDANCE

President [Signature]
Senior Vice President [Signature] Junior Vice President _____
Administrator [Signature] Treasurer [Signature]
Umpire's Advisor [Signature]
Executive IAN HALE JOE COVIC
Armadale AJITH RAJAGOPAL
Canning Vale [Signature]
Cannington Tigers [Signature] [Signature]
CBC [Signature]
Champion Lakes [Signature] [Signature]
Cockburn Jason GARDNER [Signature]
East Fremantle Ryan Jones
Ferndale-Lynwood [Signature]
Forrestdale _____
Hilton Bicton [Signature]
Jandakot Park [Signature]
Kardinya Lakes [Signature] IAN DOLOSSO
Kelmscott [Signature]
Kenwick _____
Kwinana _____
Leeming Spartan [Signature]
Maddington _____
North Baldivis [Signature]
Perth Tamil _____
Phoenix [Signature]
Piara Waters Simon Shaw
Riverton Rostrata [Signature]
Roleystone-Karragullen _____
SJ Blues _____
Thornlie [Signature]
Willetton Crows [Signature]
Umpires Assoc. MURRAY ROBINS