

South Metropolitan Cricket Association

MINUTES for the SMCA Executive Meeting 9 March 2026



Venue: Thornlie Clubrooms, 6:04pm

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES: Nil

ABSENT: Nil

MINUTES of PREVIOUS EXECUTIVE MEETING:

Moved by Mark Iannello and **seconded** by Mario Baeli that the minutes of the previous meetings — *Executive Meeting held on 2 February 2026*— be accepted as a true and accurate record. **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING:

Nil

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Finals have now been reached, with the season almost completed. Congratulations to all clubs who have progressed through the semi-finals and particularly those who have earned a place in their respective Grand Finals. Reaching this stage of the season is a testament to the commitment, effort, and sportsmanship shown by players, volunteers, and supporters throughout the year.

I would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate CBC on winning the Formula 15 competition in February. It was a competitive games from both CBC and East Fremantle, however, a classy innings from Brock Larence was the difference between the two teams.

One of the most impressive aspects of this year's finals series has been the level of representation across the competition. It is believed that, for the first time in the Association's history, every one of our member clubs have featured in the semi-finals across the various grades.

This is a remarkable achievement and highlights the depth, balance, and growth of cricket within our Association. It is extremely encouraging to see so many clubs competing strongly at the pointy end of the season.

Looking ahead, the condition of Karragullen Oval remains a concern for the Association. The playing surface currently appears to be under stress, with the oval lacking sufficient water and not presenting in the condition we would ideally expect. As an Association, we will need to remain mindful of this situation as we begin planning for the 2026/27 season and work with relevant stakeholders to monitor and address the condition of the ground.

Finally, clubs are reminded of an update to Association communications.

Moving forward, the Association Secretary will be the primary contact point for all official communications. Clubs should direct all correspondence to secretary@smcacricket.com.au. Please note that the admin@smcacricket.com.au email account will be decommissioned at the close of play on Sunday, 11 March.

Thank you to all clubs, players, volunteers, and officials for their continued support and dedication throughout the season. I wish all Grand Finalists the very best for the upcoming matches and look forward to closing out another successful season for the Association.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

The past few weeks have been personally difficult, and this has affected my capacity at times. PlayHQ continues to cause issues, and I appreciate David taking on extra workload. Communication with clubs remains inconsistent, with many bypassing the Secretary despite clear instructions, creating confusion. We should move to a single point of contact — the Secretary — and remove all other contacts from our documents.

Recent examples highlight the problem, including late and unclear eligibility requests and texts from unknown numbers. Kenwick also failed to enter semi-final results on time and has been fined. Some By-Laws still refer to the Administrator, and frequent in-season amendments are causing instability; these should be addressed in the off-season.

Trophies for the Windup are ordered.

Thank you to David, Shamez, and Peter for their support.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Cash Reserve: \$ \$40,326.21

Community Reserve: \$ \$74,883.11

Many clubs currently have outstanding money owing, mainly umpire fees, and the Secretary will write to all clubs advising that all outstanding monies must be paid by close of business Thursday.

Windup tickets will be \$50, with eight tickets allocated to First and Second Grade clubs, while clubs not in those grades may purchase tickets at \$50 each. The top five women will be invited, and female winners in the Scorchers League will receive awards.

Ian Del Rosso suggested purchasing two teardrops at \$279 for use at this and future events, and this was agreed.

UMPIRE'S ADVISOR:

Norm advised that every semi final was covered by at least one umpire, and there should be two umpires appointed to all Grand Finals.

There had been some recent complaints about umpiring, which was considered normal for this time of year.

The Umpires End of Season dinner will be held this Wednesday night.

There was general agreement that Norm had done an outstanding job throughout the season.

CRICKETWEST:

Mark advised that there is a Cricket West meeting this coming Thursday, and noted that the selection process for the Statewide Cup was not handled well, with teams being posted on social media and the Cricket West website before clubs and players had been advised.

Joe advised that he has three sets of cricket kits, and it was agreed that the winners of the Jim McKenna and Ian Hale Medals will receive the kits. The third set is intended for the women's teams and will be held back for a suitable occasion. The balls included in the kits will be given to the teams representing the Jim McKenna and Ian Hale Medallists.

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS:

To be reviewed off season.

PROTESTS AND DISPUTES:

A matter is before the P&D this coming Wednesday. Kelmscott and Kenwick are the rostered clubs. David and Jacob will represent the SMCA

30th ANNIVERSARY:

Ian Hale advised that there was a sub committee meeting this coming Monday.

Joe advised that he had contacted the clubs and most had responded, with some clubs nominating legends, and there was discussion regarding the qualification criteria for the legend's teams. Ian Hale brought up who will be on the final selection panel, he suggested Rob Sims should be one.

There was discussion on who should be invited, with agreement that the Mayors of the local Councils are to be invited, along with SMCA Life Members.

It was agreed to invoice the teams for tickets using the same process as the Windup, with each club to receive and be invoiced for four tickets, and additional tickets available for purchase upon request. The facilities have a capacity of 160.

Jacob advised that he had created a short history of each year and will distribute it to Executive members for consideration once it is completed, and Peter thanked Jacob for his efforts and the subcommittee for their work

AGENDA ITEMS:

Ian Del Rosso advised that the Windup is in hand.

Peter advised on behalf of Maddington that consideration be given to holding finals on consecutive Saturdays rather than on a Sunday, noting that several of their players wish to play two-day cricket but are unable to play on Sundays. While the Association was keen to encourage more teams into two-day cricket, the practicalities of running finals across two weekends, given the already tight scheduling constraints, made this option appear highly unlikely.

Peter raised concerns about players being sledged over their previous suspensions and expressed worry that some clubs may be using such matters to bait players. Discussion followed, and it was agreed that while this would be difficult to control, clubs and players should keep personal issues out of on-field comments. It was further agreed that details of reports, other than the basic information, be removed from the website, along with the same treatment for Prescribed Penalties and Cautions.

Peter raised the issue of Executive members acting solely as players at their clubs while on the field and not using their position in any other capacity. There was lively discussion, with some feeling they had been targeted for minor comments that may have been over-reported.

It was agreed to change the deadline for club reports from 10pm Saturday to noon Sunday, with no further timeline for late reports, and this will be added to the By-Law review.

Under By-Law 78, the Association is required to advertise honorarium positions, and this will be done by email to clubs, with a notice placed on the website and potentially on social media. Applications should be sent to the President by 30 May.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Jacob raised the issue of the current structure for one-day matches, noting the need to consider a better format, and it was acknowledged that Cockburn Council had created difficulties by not allowing play later in March. Playing dates and structural options will be discussed in the off-season.

Steve raised the view that the 12-month period referenced in By-Law 64 should be extended to 24 months. There was some opposition to this proposal, and Steve was advised to present the matter to the clubs at the next General Meeting.

Steve raised the issue of the Umpires Levy for Semi Finals, expressing the view that it should be returned to clubs that do not make the finals. There was lively discussion, with some considering it a fair levy that may simply need renaming, while others felt it effectively rewarded clubs for not qualifying. Steve was advised that he may take the matter to the clubs at the next General Meeting if he wishes.

Andrew reminded the Executive that if the Association were to play on the first Saturday of 2027, it would fall on 2 January. It was agreed that playing on the first Saturday of the year, although previously forced by tight scheduling, had not been successful and should not be repeated. The clubs have been firm in their view that Sunday cricket should not be scheduled, and all of this will be considered in the off-season

Joe expressed the view that 5th to 7th Grade should operate as eight-team grades. There was discussion, and it was agreed that the popularity of short-form cricket (one-day and T20) needs to be balanced with the Association's responsibility to encourage and preserve two-day cricket.

CLOSURE: As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

NEXT MEETINGS:

Executive Meeting 13 April on teams – 6:00pm

General Meeting 4 May at Thornlie – 7:00pm