# Western Province Bowls

MINUTES - Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 21 January 2026 at 18h30 at Durbanville Bowling Club

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**1. WELCOME**

The President, Tony Harland (TH), opened the meeting by reflecting on the period since the last Exco meeting approximately six weeks earlier. He noted that members had hopefully enjoyed a good break and holiday period and highlighted that:

- League fixtures had begun positively.
- The Singles competitions were underway.
- Feedback from clubs about the double-header weekend (league + singles) was generally positive.

TH acknowledged that there had been some withdrawals and administrative challenges but credited Nico Taljaard (NT) and the Competitions Standing Committee for managing a demanding period effectively. He stated that the agenda would address outstanding issues and queries raised across the District.

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**2. ATTENDANCE & APOLOGIES**

**Present:** Tony Harland (TH), Marianna Kirsten (MK), Anina Black (AB), Eddie Douglas (ED), Jonathan Cochrane (JLC), Nico Taljaard (NT), Debbie Phillips (DP)

**Apologies:**

- Mark Gibbs (MG), Joy Calvert (JC) - later joined online

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**3. CORRESPONDENCE**

**3.1 Kraaifontein / Edgemead – Player Conduct Complaint**

TH informed Exco that Kraaifontein's response only addressed **2 of the 4 concerns** raised. He has requested a full response and is awaiting further communication.

The committee acknowledged that incomplete disciplinary correspondence from clubs creates administrative delays and exposes WPB to unnecessary uncertainty regarding sanctions and follow-up actions.

**Action:** TH to obtain full written response from Kraaifontein.

**3.2 Kuils River – Termination of Player Membership**

A detailed discussion took place regarding a member whose club membership had been terminated and who had appealed only the sanction, not the guilty finding.

**Key Details from Discussion:**

- The club has called a Special General Meeting for 4 February to reconsider the sanction.
- The member believes the sanction is disproportionate despite admitting guilt.
- Exco members clarified the constitutional requirements:
    - 50% + 1 attendance quorum.
    - Two-thirds vote required to amend a sanction.
- Strong anticipation that the club may uphold the termination.
- If appealed to WPB, Exco will need to follow District-level disciplinary procedures.

**Operational Concern:**
There is uncertainty about WPB's constitutional process once a club-level sanction appeal reaches the District. TH noted this must be clarified ahead of receiving such an appeal.

**Action:** ED to review constitutional process related to disciplinary appeals.
**Action:** Exco to prepare for potential escalation.

**3.3 District Colours / Headgear – Queries from Past Players**
Two ladies enquired whether they may wear **historic District colours** or caps.
A lengthy debate unfolded on the broader implications:

- Caps are generally permissible at tabs-in, even if bearing provincial insignia.
- Shirts/uniform with past colours in *tournaments* is less clear.
- Some members argued that highest honours should be allowed in singles competitions; others highlighted fairness and uniformity concerns.
- Historical precedent is unclear; none of the current Exco were certain of past practice.

**Decision:**
Exco agreed to consult long-standing district representatives, selectors, and the Players Association to determine established norms.

**Action:** TH to consult experienced ID players and Players Association on historic colour-wearing rules.
**Action:** TH/DP to communicate interim guidance to the two members.

**3.5 "Just Lawn Bowls" – Game Changer Proposal**
TH reported receiving an unsolicited request to sign a **Non-Disclosure Agreement** without being provided with project details.

- The NDA came from Michelle Ashburn, who had already approached other provinces.
- TH refused to sign without clarity.
- National representatives (including Bobby Donnelly) appear to be aware; more information is expected.
- The developer reportedly needs **six provinces** on board to launch a new national tournament concept.

**Action:** TH to monitor communications from national bodies and report back once formal details are available.

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**4. UPFRONT DISCUSSIONS**
**4.1 Approval of Minutes – 3 December 2025**
Minutes approved.

- Proposed: **Jonathan**
- Seconded: **Anina**
- Debbie had already updated attendance and spelling issues.

**Action:** DP to upload corrected minutes and resend to Exco.

**4.2 Matters Arising**
Covered within agenda items.

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**5. PORTFOLIO REPORTS**

**5.1 Sponsorship, Club Liaison & Membership**
**Membership Reports**
No report received for the previous month.

**Action:** JC to ensure monthly membership reports issued by the **25th**.

**Transformation Targets**
No progress since prior discussions; however:

- MK contacted **Valhalla Park BC**, which has a diverse, active membership.
- Proposal to hold a transformation consultation session there.

**Action:** TH/Exco to schedule transformation workshop by **15 February**.

**Fairtree Cup – Sponsored Singles**
Discussions ongoing with Lombard; sponsorship interest acknowledged.

**R5,000 Sponsorship Package (Expanded Bundle Proposal)**
TH suggested a new, more attractive sponsorship structure:

- One package covers **Masters**, **WP Finals**, **IDs**, and **livestreaming**.
- Exco believes ±20 sponsors at R5,000 each is attainable.

This bundle is designed to increase sponsor value through cross-event exposure, addressing historical difficulties in obtaining event-specific sponsors.

**Actions:**

- TH to draft consolidated package.
- MK & AB to support sponsor acquisition.

**Livestreaming Sponsorships**
Several leads are being pursued (including Anderson, a new bowler from Outeniqua).

**Action:** MK to follow up with potential sponsors.

**Club Survey**
Still pending final review.

**Action:** TH/JC to finalise survey.

**5.2 WC Bowls / DSC Committees**
No WC Bowls updates.
Some DSC forms still outstanding; one new GC form received.

**Action:** ED to chase outstanding DSC forms.
**Action:** TH/ED to confirm next DSC/Exco joint meeting.

**5.3 WP Players**
TH to meet WP Players DSC regarding current matters and potential new member.

**Action:** TH to schedule discussion.

**VICE PRESIDENT – MARIANNA KIRSTEN**
**5.4 Ladies Selectors & Transformation**
Items discussed included:

- Aligning selectors (men & women).
- WP vs Boland fixtures.

- Kit orders for IDs.
- Clarifying ranking list differences with PBA.
- Finalising SA Masters shirts.
- Planning the Capping Ceremony at WPCC on **2 March** (R100 tickets; VIP invitations).

**Actions:**
- MK to finalise ID levies, forms, kit orders.
- MK to coordinate alignment meeting.
- MK to finalise Masters shirts.
- MK/TH to prepare Capping Ceremony programme; DP to coordinate logistics.

**5.5 Youth Bowls**
Updates on DSC-YB work, including kit stock take and Junior Nationals logistics.

**Actions:**
- MK to complete stock take.
- MK to finalise Junior Nationals' arrangements.

**TREASURER – JOY CALVERT**
**5.6 Donor & Sport Dept Liaison**
Updates on Lotto, DCAS, CTSC, and provincial colours criteria (still being clarified).

**5.7 Finance & Administration**
Key matters:
- Debtor status improving.
- DCAS funding application ongoing.
- Lotto opening date awaited.
- Barnyard reconciliation pending final sign-off.
- Asset register requiring updates (laser level, trailer sale).

**Actions:**
- JC to update asset register.
- TH to oversee trailer sale.
- MK to finalise development bowls register.
- JC to prepare ID budget, including meal allowance.

**EXEC REPORTS**
**5.9 Competitions (NT)**
NT provided feedback on:
- High number of withdrawals.
- Positives of the double-header weekend.
- Possibility of centralised venues for top-level singles rounds to enhance atmosphere.

**Actions:**
- NT to compile a full withdrawals list.
- NT to recommend suitable central venues.

**5.10 Technical Officials (NT)**
TO records still need updating on BSA database.

**Action:** NT to update TO records.

**5.11 District Administration (MG & DP)**
Extensive clothing updates:

- Disa shirts: returns/payments after 1 Feb.
- DSC shirts for Greens, TOs & Coaches: completion by 23 Jan.
- ID travel shirts: stock take in progress.
- ID kit orders close 23 Jan.

WPB Office: streamlining and cost-cutting discussed.

**Actions:**

- DP to complete all shirt logistics.
- MG to oversee travel shirt top-ups.
- JC to sign off meal allowances.
- JLC to work on office efficiency plan.

**5.12 Men's Selection & Transformation (MG)**
Similar topics to Ladies; Men's Ranking List to be finalised.

**5.13 Coaches (JLC)**
Safeguarding Policy rollout, WP Academy survey, and need for DSOs for each ID team discussed.

**5.14 Disability & VI Bowls (JLC)**

- JLC met with Eddie van der Heiden.
- Player registrations are in progress.
- Classification testing dates to be finalised.
- Financial reports (Blind/Disability Bowls) - Peninsula Blind Bowlers are a separate entity and not affiliated to WP Bowls. Each bowler is a member of a club affiliated to WP. We don't have a right to see their financials.

**Actions:**

- JLC to complete BSA registrations.
- JLC to obtain financial statements.
- JLC to confirm testing dates.

**5.15 Executive Projects (JLC)**
WPB Honours Board in progress.

**5.16 PBA Liaison (JLC)**

- PBA entrant submitted
- ABBA Singles update
- Ranking link to be circulated

**5.17 Marketing & Media (AB)**
Website updates continuing; awaiting feedback on Marketing Coordinator role.

**5.18 Donor & Sport Dept (ED)**
Covered under 5.6.

**5.19 Governance (ED)**
Constitutional update ready for rollout; comments from B. Eksteen to be reviewed.

**5.20 Greens (ED)**

- DSC updates
- Venue readiness (Pollsmoor, Oakdale)
- Complaint regarding Glen

**Action:** ED to resolve Glen complaint and confirm ID greens readiness.

**5.21 Events Committee – Open IDs 2026**
Ideas around catering, entertainment, and sponsorship were shared for further planning.

**Action:** ED & TH to develop an event plan.

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**6. OTHER IMPORTANT BUSINESS**
Next meeting scheduled for **18 February 2026** at WP Bowls Office.

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**7. CLOSURE**
Meeting closed with thanks from the President.

***AI Usage Disclosure:*** *Portions of these meeting minutes were generated using an AI Tool. Human editorial oversight and verification have been applied, but this text may contain errors or omissions.*





**PRESIDENT** **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

28 January 2026

**DATE**

**ACTION ITEM REGISTER**

| No. | Action | Owner | Due |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Obtain full response from Kraaifontein | TH | ASAP |
| 2 | Prepare for disciplinary appeal escalation | Exco | Pending |
| 3 | Review WPB constitutional appeal procedure | TH | Before Feb |
| 4 | Consult PA & senior ID players re colours | TH | Feb |
| 5 | Communicate interim colours guidance | TH/DP | ASAP |
| 6 | Report back on Game Changer NDA | TH | When received |
| 7 | Upload & resend amended Dec minutes | DP | Immediate |
| 8 | Issue membership report monthly | JC | 25th monthly |
| 9 | Schedule transformation workshop | TH | By 15 Feb |
| 10 | Fairtree Cup sponsorship follow-up | TH | Feb |
| 11 | Draft consolidated sponsorship package | TH | Feb |
| 12 | Sponsor leads follow-up | MK/AB | Ongoing |
| 13 | Finalise club survey | TH/JC | Feb |
| 14 | Follow up DSC forms | ED | ASAP |
| 15 | Set DSC/Exco meeting date | TH/ED | Feb |
| 16 | Meet DSC-WPP | TH | Feb |
| 17 | Selector alignment meeting | MK/MG | Feb |
| 18 | Complete ID kit forms/levies | MK/DP | 23 Jan |
| 19 | Prepare Capping Ceremony | MK/TH/DP | 2 Mar |
| 20 | Junior Nationals arrangements | MK | Feb |
| 21 | DCAS/Lotto engagement | JC/ED | Ongoing |
| 22 | Complete DCAS funding app | JC | Feb |
| 23 | Update Asset Register | JC | Feb |
| 24 | Sell trailer | TH | Feb–Mar |
| 25 | Compile withdrawals list | NT | Feb |
| 26 | Review central venues for singles | NT | Feb |
| 27 | Update TO records (BSA) | NT | Feb |
| 28 | Complete DSC shirts | DP | 23 Jan |
| 29 | Travel shirt stock to MG | DP | Jan |
| 30 | Sign off IDs costing | JC | Before IDs |
| 31 | Office cost-cutting plan | JLC | Ongoing |
| 32 | WP Academy survey | JLC | Feb |
| 33 | Disability registrations & financials | JLC | Feb |
| 34 | Constitution rollout plan | ED | Mar |
| 35 | Greens readiness & Glen complaint | ED | Feb |
| 36 | Open IDs event plan | ED/TH | Early 2026 |