

CYMDEITHAS BOWLIO MAT BYR CYMRU

WELSH SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

The Governing Body for the Sport in Wales

PRESIDENT

Wyn Jones

Cwmsawdde Farm

Llangadog

Carms

SA19 9PR

01550 777254

HWynJones@aol.com

CHAIRMAN

Gerald Hands

Terfyn Mawr

Penrherber

Newcastle Emlyn

SA38 9RL

01239 711282

gphands252@hotmail.co.uk

SECRETARY

Richard Palmer

4, Parc y Gelli,

Foelgastell

Llanelli

SA14 7AQ

01269 492972

richardpalmer999@hotmail.co.uk

TREASURER

John Matthews

The Argees

Salem

Llandeilo

SA19 7LT

01558 824269

johnstores1954@gmail.com

Minutes of the WSMBA Executive Committee meeting at the Radnorshire Bowls Stadium on Sunday 10th May 2026

Present: Gerald Hands (GH) Chair, Peter Kempster (PK) Vice Chair, Richard Palmer (RP) Secretary, Wyn Jones (WJ) President, Jac Edwards (JE) Competition Secretary, Gethin Edwards (GE) Carmarthen, Tony Morgan (TM) Brecon & Radnor, Mary Jane Rogers (MGR) Brecon & Radnor, Alan Braniff (AB) Gwynedd, Dafydd Jones (DJ) Cardigan, Stephen Williams (SW) Swansea,

Apologies: Paul Hudson Pembrokeshire, John Matthews Treasurer, Arwel Morgan West Glam, Darren Davies Cardigan

1. The chair welcomed those in attendance to the meeting
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record (proposed by TM, seconded by GE).
3. Matters arising – none
4. RP had received one item of correspondence from West Glamorgan asking if it would be appropriate for the WSMBA to provide a playing shirt for all new caps. All present agreed that this would be a good thing to do if we were in a position to do so. However, all agreed that the current financial position did not allow for this. It had been noted in previous meetings that we may want to look at increasing the cost of annual membership and/or introducing a fee for each player taking part in national finals in order to allow such things in the future. All agreed that this was something that should be considered further.
5. RP shared the financial report that had been provided ahead of the meeting by JM. There were no questions on the report. RP also noted that we had been successful in securing funding from BowlsWales again for the 2026-27 season amounting to around 51% of the funding requested. This was the highest figure secured in recent years. The Exec thanked RP and JM for their work in securing this funding.

6. RP and JE provided an update on the funding strategy. Specifically they requested agreement from the Exec for the amounts associated with each of the sponsorship options. These were agreed as per the proposal.
7. RP reported that the WSMBA proposals had been agreed by the British Isles Council and would be implemented from the BI Championships in November.
8. A report on the Ladies BI Championships had been circulated before the meeting. The report was accepted and the ongoing success of the ladies team noted.
9. RP presented a series of proposals relating to the arrangements for the Ladies squad going forward. These had been developed with the current ladies selection/management group with help from Steve Williams. The proposals were accepted.
10. A report on the recent World Championships was circulated ahead of the meeting. The Exec recorded their congratulations to all who had taken part and to those who had secured medals. The Exec thanked Steve for the report and noted their thanks also to Kate Morgan for streaming many of the Welsh matches over the course of the championships. Thanks was also noted to RP for stepping in as team manager for the event.
11. RP reported that the World Championships would be held in Canada in 2028 and in Wales in 2030. It was evident that there is a growing interest in Short Mat Bowls from other countries, with another four expected to take part in Canada in 2028.
12. Ahead of the World Championships in 2030 which Wales will host, it was agreed to establish a steering group to lead on the planning work. Group to be made up of JE, GE, SW, Craig Evans and WJ.
13. The draft Welsh Diary was shared. Accepted with the note that the U21s will be in England this season.
14. Those present agreed to pilot virtual meetings during the coming season, but agreed that the AGM would be better face to face. Agreed to meet in the Metropole (or similar venue) on 26 July 2026.
15. Any Other Business
 - a. Wrexham questioned the need for printed rule books. RP reminded the meeting that we still hold several hundred copies which JM continues to sell. Perhaps once these have been sold we could consider an online version. Agreed to discuss at a future meeting.
 - b. Monts queried if travel arrangements for the Bi Championships in November had been agreed. Confirmed that plyers will need to make their own way to Belfast.
 - c. Brecon & Radnor queried what was covered by the insurance. Agreed that we need a brief statement on cover.

- d. Brecon & Radnor plan to bring clubs together at Llandrindod and wanted to check that they would be ok to use the WSMBA mats. All agreed.
- e. JE reported on some feedback from the nationals and county competitions. Could we arrange the mats so that counties play as a block – agreed. Could we return to a draw on the day for the national quarter finals – not agreed. The Exec felt that this would be problematic in terms of mat choice and location. Could we look at refreshing our equipment – jacks, foot mats etc. To be discussed at a future meeting.
- f. SW asked if we had sufficient kit for the season ahead. RP reported that he knew that JM had limited stock of the current kit and that our supplier had moved from their previous location. JM to be asked to check with them about kit availability.