

16th Annual General Meeting
of the Cheshire Cricket Board Limited at Alderley Edge CC
at 10.15am on Friday 20 February 2026

- 1. Attendance:** N.D.Muirhead (in the chair), P.D.Totty, S.Elliott, R.C.Newton, M.J.Guest, D.W.Sharp, N.R.Brooks, N.Luthra, J.Seddon, H.C.Nicholson, D.T.Humpage, J.W.Law, P.Brown, L.Hawkins, J.Rafferty, J.Lewis. **Apology:** L.Forrester.
- 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting.** The minutes of the 15th AGM held on 7 February 2025 10am at Hartford House were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 3. Matters Arising from those Minutes.** There were no Matters Arising.
- 4. Chair's Report.** N. Muirhead (Chair) reported as follows:

'The Board continues to grow in strength, and the past 12 months have been no exception, with all members skills and knowledge coming to the fore. The specialist skill sets that members possess have enabled the Board to run a professional organisation.

The past year saw an additional Director, Lauren Forrester being appointed. Her legal background will assist the Board moving forwards, and we offer our congratulations to her on the birth of her second child.

Progress in EDI (and marketing) under Neeruj's leadership continues to gather momentum and has enabled more people from diverse backgrounds to become involved in cricket within Cheshire and become a part of our 'family'. Staff members have continued to present to the Board on their work in this area and again has brought about some excellent discussions, passion and energy amongst our members in the 'boardroom'. A big thanks to all the staff for their professional presentations and instigating some encouraging conversations. The Board certainly continues to have that desire to continue to strive in making cricket inclusive..... A Game for Everyone to enjoy!

Prioritisation with Women and Girls cricket in the county has seen an increase in players and teams over the past 12 months, with the Cheshire Women's Cricket League again seeing more teams entered in 2025 in both softball and hardball Divisions. An expanding league structure is again planned for 2026. A big thank you to the commitment that Jo, Di and all the other key volunteers have again demonstrated in keeping Women & Girls cricket in Cheshire at the forefront on the national stage. 2025 saw the introduction of the County Women's team in Tier 3. Under Jess's management, the team had some very encouraging results and prospects for a successful 2026 are high.

The Cheshire Cricket Clubs Committee and the Cheshire Leagues continue to keep adult recreation cricket in a an extremely healthy place with the professionalism and commitment of their members. As always, a special mention to David Humpage and Selwyn Stephenson for their management of their respective Leagues and the challenges they encounter head on, to make cricket happen for so many teams and players within the County. Massive thank you to all the volunteers involved in the running of Leagues and Clubs. Without their dedication and support, the game would be a far cry from what it is today. The Board must continue to support our Clubs and its members.

Any occurrences of safeguarding issues (of which there are many to varying degrees) continue to be handled professionally. The Board has the expertise of Nick and Julie leading in this field. Both are dedicated individuals in making cricket a 'safe place'. With Nick and Julie (and Sarah Hallas as deputy) leading our safeguarding operation, the Board remains in 'safe hands'. The value also of Club Safeguarding Officers in supporting a safer environment for all, is immense. The second half of 2025 saw a new sub group formed to look at how we can continue to make cricket a safer place. Representatives from clubs and other sports are also involved in this group. A great example of listening and acting upon our learnings.

The County Club, under Jim's dynamic management continues to provide elite cricketers of Cheshire with opportunities to test their skills on a bigger stage. Much effort and commitment go on behind the scenes in continuing to take the Club forward.

Cheshire Youth Cricket, under Tim and Paul continues to do excellent work in developing the young talent within the County. The 2025 season proved to be another successful year with two national semi finals being reached. It is also worth noting that two Cheshire boys recently represented their countries (England and Ireland) at the recent Under 19s World Cup, with both opening the batting. Girls and boys from the County continue to progress onto County Academies.

CCB Governance is progressing with the CPA 2 guidelines. Quarterly meetings of the Governance sub group are focussed on the Board maintaining its standards and achieving Gold accreditation within the next 12 months.

The Board Management Group, under Scott as Chair and Mike as Treasurer, continue to manage professionally the operational side of the business. Staffing levels have reached an all-time high, with currently 32 (25 full time) members of staff.

We have also continued to ensure Cheshire is on the ECB radar, with attendance at the ECB Board last year, a session on the plans for the distribution of the Hundred fund and finally a planned visit from the MD of the recreational game, Leshia Hawkins in February.

Finally, the most important thank you is to the huge number of volunteers in Cheshire, who dedicate so much time to make cricket happen. Their continued support of this great game is highly valued by the Cheshire Cricket Board.'

Those present expressed thanks to Nigel for his leadership as he continues to help shape the Board's future.

5. Accounts.

The Annual Accounts for the year ending 30 September 2025 prepared by the Board's Reporting Accountant, Murray Smith LLP, having been approved by the Directors at the November 2025 Board meeting, were formally adopted. Proposed by D.T.Humpage, and seconded by P.Brown.

6. Reporting Accountant

The appointment of Murray Smith LLP as the Board's Reporting Accountant was agreed. Proposed by M.J.Guest, and seconded by H.C.Nicholson. DWS to advise Murray Smith.

7. Elections

In accordance with the procedure in the Board's Rules the following persons were nominated to the AGM for appointment from 20 February 2026:

Neeruj Luthra Independent non-executive Director – for two years.
Nick Brooks Independent non-executive Director – for two years.
Joanna Seddon Independent non-executive Director – for two years.
Helen Nicholson Independent non-executive Director – for two years.

All appointments were proposed by D.T.Humpage, and seconded by P.Brown.

All nominees were duly elected

Confirmation that Scott Elliott Management Group Chair was first appointed Director on 16 August 2022 and scheduled for re-appointment at the 2027 AGM

Confirmation that Nigel Muirhead Chair was first appointed Director on 10 February 2023 and scheduled for re-appointment at the 2027 AGM which will be his last term (max 6 years as Chair)

Confirmation that Di Totty Vice Chair was first appointed Director on 18 September 2020 and scheduled for re-appointment at the 2027 AGM which will be her last term (max 8 years as Director)

Confirmation that Lauren Forrester was first appointed Director on 23 April 2025 and scheduled for re-appointment at the 2027 AGM

8. AOB. There were no items submitted prior to the Meeting.

9. Date of next AGM – provisionally Friday 19 February 2027.

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