

The Minutes of the Ladies Bowls Committee Meeting held at West Wickham Bowling Club
on Tuesday 2nd September, 2025 at 10.30 am

Present: Chair – Anne Simmonds, **Captain and Match Secretary** – Jeanette Whitehead,
NWK Delegate – Pat Walkinshaw, **KCBA Delegate** – Ann Saunders,
Competition Secretary and Management Committee Delegate – Barbara Huggins,
Secretary – Sandra Figg

Apologies for absence Gail Barnes

1. Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Ladies Committee Meeting on 5th August, 2025 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

- None

2. Safeguarding Officers' Report

- No Updates or matters arising.
- The Committee was asked whether or not to support the proposal of introducing health questions for members on joining/ rejoining and a sample questionnaire was provided. Currently, the welcome letter sent out by the membership secretary requests details of medical needs and emergency contact details. The Committee agreed to support the proposal but suggested that the questionnaire be amended. A sample of the amended form is attached. Completed forms would need to be placed in a locked cupboard which has an accessible key. If possible, any details supplied should be recorded on Bowlr.

3. Secretary's Report

- An email has been sent by the Club Secretary to Barbara Martin informing her that her application for Full Playing Membership was not accepted.
- Petty cash remains at £44.89.

4. Captain's Report

Since our last meeting on the 5th August, we have lost only one match and that was against Orpington Excelsior. Unfortunately, it was a Jubilee League game which has probably lost us first place in the League.

We hosted a very good Charity Day on the 10th August raising £465 for Motor Neurone Disease. The Caterham mixed game was cancelled by West Wickham with no ladies available to play. We only have 5 matches before the end of the season, 2 of those are Jubilee League games, one against Blackheath & Greenwich on Wednesday and another on the 17th September against Orpington.

On Friday we play Borough Green BC in the final of The Belle Trophy over at Bellingham Bowls Club.

All told we have had a very successful season and I have been glad to have had so many ladies available and ready to support our club, well done.

On another note, can I suggest a farewell gathering for Margaret Hewitt on Sunday 26th October following our ladies A.G.M. I have a card for us all to sign and I will also do a collection at the same time. Suggestions for gift welcome!!

5. Match Secretary's Report

- See Captain's report above.

6. Competition Secretary's Report

Competitions have progressed well and there is just one match that was not able to complete by the 30th of August. A date has been set to play this match. I will now start to look at the scheduling for finals day in liaison with the men's competition secretary.

The only competition that has had problems is The Novice cup. One player withdrew and another failed to complete the matches resulting in a disappointing experience. I did write to apologise to the players involved. This was also the first year applying a handicap. This was confusing and unpopular with many of the entrants.

For the final I would like to propose, in the spirit of fairness, that no handicap is applied to the players.

I would like to suggest that from next year the Novice cup is changed to a 100 Up competition. As the 100 Up is a drawing game this would be a more positive experience for new and improving players.

7. Management Committee Delegate's Report

There has been no management meeting since our last meeting. Next meeting is on the 19th of September which I am hoping to attend.

8. NWK Delegate's Report

- Since my last report we have played Petts Wood 1 and Coney Hall 1 gaining 6 points from both teams giving us 42 points at the end of the season. We finished in third position. West Beckenham also have 42 points but they are second as they have a better shot difference. They are plus 34 shots - we are minus 16 shots. South Hill Wood are top with 44 points. It was very close in the end.

I think we have had a good year. Next year we may do even better!

- The Gladys Tyler final is on Thursday 4th September at 4pm, South Hill Wood 1 against Blackheath & Greenwich 1 at Blackheath & Greenwich BC.

- This year's AGM is on the 27th October at 7pm at Bromley Indoor Bowls Centre.

9. Kent Delegate's Report

- No report.

AOB

-The survey regarding the invitation to play in a second North West Kent Team was sent to 45 members. There were 29 responses and 17 no responses.

All 29 responses thought it a good idea to have a second NWK team.

There were 19 people who would like to play in the second team. Of these there were 13 members who did not already play and two people who would play. Six people did not want to play.

Conclusion: 23 players who responded to the invitation are already playing or interested in playing in the NWK League.

A second team will be entered for the 2026 season.

Barbara to send out an email to all 45 ladies detailing the response to the survey.

-A leaving party for Margaret Hewitt is planned for 26th October directly after the Ladies AGM.

A buffet will be provided. Jeanette to circulate a card and collection. It is hoped that the club will make a presentation of sorts for Margaret's 28 years of service to the club. Barbara to raise the matter at the next Management Meeting.

-Finals Day is on the 13th September. Money raised from the sale of programmes and refreshments to go to the club. Funds generated from a raffle will go to the club's charity, Motor Neurone Disease.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm.

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Date of Next Meeting: 23rd September at 10.30 am in the Clubhouse.

Signed..... Chairperson