

**The Minutes of the Ladies Bowls Committee Meeting held at 23 Boleyn Gardens
West Wickham on Tuesday 30th March, 2026 at 10.30 am**

Present: Chair – Anne Simmonds, **Captain and NWK Delegate** – Barbara Huggins,
Match Secretary and Vice-Captain – Jeanette Whitehead,
KCBA Delegate – Anne Bailey, **Competition Secretary** – Kim Blacker,
Management Committee Delegate – Krystyna Martin, **Secretary** – Sandra Figg

Apologies for absence Pat Walkinshaw

Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the Ladies Committee Meeting on 3rd February, 2026 were approved and signed.

Matters Arising

- None

2. Safeguarding Officers' Report

Following further guidance from Bowls England the club now has a Transgender Policy document. With regard to changing rooms and toilets the club provides male only facilities, female only facilities and a private (single use) changing/toilet space. Individuals may use facilities corresponding to their biological sex. The private facility is available to anyone who prefers additional privacy. A new sign with the wording 'Inclusive toilet. This toilet can be used by anyone' will be secured to the disable toilet door.

3. Secretary's Report

- A letter addressed to Jeanette has been received from June Green setting out her reasons for not renewing her membership. She will return her locker key at some time. I have sent a reply to her letter.
- The new club shirts have arrived and will be distributed at the Pre-Season Meeting and at the Opening Supper.
- The handbooks have been prepared and are at the printers. These should be available to distribute at the Pre-Season Meeting.
- All of our 33 Lady Playing Members have been affiliated with Kent County Bowling Association.
- We have had a good response regarding attendance at the Pre-Season Meeting on the 11th April. To date 24 Ladies have said that they wish to have a meal following the meeting.
- I have received a top-up of £100.00 from the club treasurer for our Welfare Fund otherwise known as Petty Cash which now stands at £119.94.

4. Captain's Report

There are a few matters I wish to discuss:

1: The setting up of a WhatsApp group for all lady playing members to convey messages.

This was agreed by the committee.

2: The use of Bowlr for selection of mixed matches (discussing later in the meeting)

3: Having a set time each week for the selection committee to meet. As there are 7 people on the selection committee perhaps splitting into two teams.

It was agreed that the Captain and one Vice-Captain plus one other of the selectors attend Selection meetings to be arranged on a mutually convenient day. A WhatsApp Group for the Selection Committee will be set up.

4: David Figg has advised the men are running a season long league pairs competition and asked if the ladies wish to be included.

There will be 4 people in a team.

Matches will be on Mondays at 3.00pm (if the green is available)

Each team will include 1 player of less than 3 years' experience.

Handicaps will be applied to the teams.

The committee was in support of the ladies being included in the pairs competition. Barbara will send out an email inviting all Lady playing members to join the league.

5. Match Secretary's Report

-All fixtures have been confirmed.

-Most of the Social Committee are away when the home game against Lancing takes place on the 1st of May so food will consist of bought sandwiches and a sweet. Lancing will be informed of this in advance of the game.

-An invitation has been received from West Beckenham BC for entry into the Alexandria Shield to be held on Saturday 23rd May. Closing date is 10th May.

-Closing date for entry into the Belle Trophy is 26th April. The draw takes place on Thursday 30th April at 7pm at Bellingham BC. Barbara will deal with our entry.

-Jeanette and Malcolm are standing down as fixture secretaries at the end of the season but will assist their successor/successors for the 2027 season.

6. Competition Secretary's Report

Barbara has sent emails to Kim with attachments for the Finals Day Programme, Competition Rules and a Mixed Pairs Draw sheet. At the next committee meeting handicaps will be allocated and the competition draws made.

7. Management Committee Delegate's Report

-Quotes are being obtained for the installation of CCTV cameras.

-An electric fence has been installed to deter badgers destroying the green.

-Procedures to be tightened up for when new membership applications are rejected.

-The men are now using Bowlr for the selection of players for their matches.

8. NWK Delegate's Report

-Jeanette and I had a meeting to discuss the two West Wickham teams. It was decided that West Wickham 1 team will be the same ladies who were in the team last year apart from Irene who is coming to help the West Wickham 2 team.

There are 11 ladies I am inviting to play in the West Wickham 2 team, of which 3 are brand new bowlers. We are keen but all relatively new bowlers. I plan to arrange practice sessions and will ask

the more experienced ladies if they could join us for these sessions. We would be grateful of their help.

9. Kent Delegate's Report

- The next Ladies Kent County meeting will be on 1st April. Anne will collect the Ladies Year Books at the meeting.

AOB

-Anne B suggested that it would be prudent to check with the County secretaries for their food requirements for the John's Practice game on the 24th May.

-The hanging baskets will be available for collection at the Pre-Season Meeting.

-Barbara raised the subject of the ladies joining the men in using Bowlr for the selection of players for mixed friendly matches. Not all ladies are happy using Bowlr for the selection so there will also be a sheet in the availability book in the club. Barbara will send an email to all playing lady members to ask if they wish to be considered for mixed friendlies and to be notified/selected by Bowlr of matches.

The meeting ended at 11.45 am.

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Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th May, 2026

Signed..... Chairperson