Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

www.ycspl.co.uk

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 18 November 2026

Shaw Lane Sports Club, Shaw Lane, Barnsley S70 6HZ

7.00pm start

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Reports
   i. Chairman & Head of Senior Section's report
   ii. Head of Premier Section's report
   iii. Women's & Girls League report
   iv. Competitions Manager's report
   v. Safeguarding Manager's report
   vi. Disciplinary report
   vii. Compliance Manager's report
   viii. Scoring & P-C Manager's report
   ix. Equity & Diversity Group report
3. Financial report and accounts 2025/26
4. Subscriptions, honoraria & fees
5. Election of League officials for 2026/27
6. Proposed constitution & rules changes for 2027
7. Girls' teams requirement
8. Umpire recruitment
9. Any other business allowed by the chairman
10. Close of AGM

Item 2: Reports

I. Chairman & Head of Premier Section's report

Once again, I thank our clubs for their support and co-operation during the year. We have had issues to deal with – not everything has gone as we would have wished – but the vast majority of people have been understanding of the challenges that have arisen.

There have been comments about the continuing admittance of new clubs and the size of the league. The latter does not stand up to scrutiny – our colleagues in YPLN, for example, have 22 divisions. When a club that is in our catchment area applies to join us, and they meet our criteria, we would have to have very good grounds to refuse them. The Pontefract & District League has been losing clubs for several years and it seems only a matter of time before that league is no longer viable. But our attempts, in conjunction with YPLN and the YCF, to talk to them about an organised transfer of clubs, have been rebuffed.

One issue that has unfortunately raised its head is that of unacceptable discriminatory comments and behaviours. This has to be addressed, and I have asked the Equity & Diversity Group to their advice on any practical measures we can take. I believe that the cause of the issue is deep-rooted attitudes that go back generations, and manifest themselves in casual comments that are not necessarily meant to be offensive, but that cannot be an excuse. We must raise awareness of what is not acceptable and its consequences.

Over the last two or three months, we have placed a lot of emphasis on improving our social media profile. This is necessary if we are to attract the sponsorship that I believe is necessary in ensuring our ability to continue and build on what we currently do. I thank particularly Alison Dixon, Leanne Parker and Zac Cooper for all they have achieved so far.

It seems that the weather pattern is changing, and that we must expect hot dry summers. That obviously helps in terms of our cup schedules and in getting games on in general, but presents problems for ground staff. The better our pitches, the better our cricket will be, and will be more attractive to better players. A priority for us over the winter and into next year is to revisit our grounds and facilities criteria, to ensure that they are challenging, but achievable. We must aim for the highest possible standards across the whole League.

In 2026, all clubs in our top two divisions of Premier Leagues were required to meet ECB accreditation criteria in terms of girls and junior teams. It is to the credit of all concerned that these were met, despite the challenges of finding suitable grounds to play games on, and volunteers to organise them. As participation in the game grows, particularly in respect of women and girls, and juniors, this is going to be an ongoing issue for clubs, and one that is recognised across the game.

During last season, we also expanded the Premier Section to include Divisions 1 and 2, and the Mick Savage Trophy. This makes sense from several angles. Divisions 1 and 2 already played under the same conditions as the Premier Section, their teams will, in most cases aspire, to play in the top two divisions, and the change lessens the load on the Senior Section to a small degree.

I congratulate all our award winners, both team and individual, and we honour them all at our Annual Presentation Dinner; but there are 73 clubs in our League, and they have all contributed to our season in a variety of different ways. They make our League what it is, and I thank them all.

Next season will see the introduction of the Points Cap in our top two divisions. This is an idea that originated in Australia, aimed at encouraging clubs to develop their own talent, and has been used in the Nottinghamshire PL for four seasons now. It is a long-term measure, and whilst there will be immediate changes in club recruitment, we will probably not see the full benefits for several seasons. I thank the working group members, and all those who supported the idea.

I would like to thank our sponsors, *Oxbridge Tiflex*, *Readers* and K3 Dental, for their generous support; Appleby Frodingham, Darfield, Doncaster Town, Norton Oakes, Penistone, Wakefield Thornes, Whiston Forge for their excellent hosting of League finals days; our hard-working volunteer League officials who do all the background work that enables the League to function; and our clubs, their players, officials and followers, who make our league what it is.

In 2027, we welcome five more new clubs into our league and we hope they will have an enjoyable and successful time with us.

I hope that everyone connected with our League will winter well, and I look forward to seeing you again in 2027.

Roger Pugh

II. Head of Senior Section's report

As yet another cricket season comes to a close, preparations are already underway for the next. This season has been another good one in terms of weather with only a few weekends affected by the rain.

I know how much of a battle it has been for the grounds' teams within in the League to keep pitches and squares watered during dry spells. I would like to thank everyone involved in preparing pitches each week for all those hours spent at the ground that no one sees.

I'd like to thank all the members of the Senior Section committee for their work throughout the season, the workload has definitely increased this season. I'd like to thank Richard Fidler, Bryan Lowe and Melvyn Bond who, for various reasons, are standing down from the committee. I'd especially like to personally thank Melvyn for his hard work over the years for cricket in South Yorkshire. It's not until I started working with him in a League capacity that I really appreciated how hard he works.

I'd also like to thank Rachael Roberts, who has worked with the committee this year to help the ex-Yorkshire & Derbyshire League clubs transition into the YCSPL. I'm over the moon to announce she has agreed to join the Senior Section committee in 2027.

The lack of available grounds continues to be a massive issue within our catchment area and with the growth of junior and Women and Girls cricket placing more and more demand on our grounds I can only see this problem growing.

On the new clubs that joined us this season, I hope that you have enjoyed your first season within the YCSPL and hopefully you feel that it is a place where your club can develop.

On the latter, the Senior Section continues to grow year-on-year with another five clubs joining us in 2027 and a number of our established clubs looking at introducing extra teams. We are already ready receiving enquires from clubs for the 2028 season and Matt Summerhill is looking at plans to introduce another division into our structure.

I would like to congratulate our divisional winners Coal Aston 2, Wombwell Main, Sheffield Centralians, Stocksbridge 2, Sheffield Medics, Frickley 2, Waverley 2, Sheffield University Staff 2, and both Whiston Forge teams. I would also like to congratulate Sheffield Centralians and Waverley 2 on their cup wins in the Presidents and Billy Oates competitions respectively.

Thank you to Norton Oakes and Whiston Forge for their hosting of our two cup finals, both clubs did an excellent job on their first time of hosting a final. I encourage more clubs to put themselves forward to hold a final for the first time.

Finally, I wish all of our clubs and their volunteers, players and members a successful season in 2027.

Richard North

III. Head of Women's & Girls' Section's report

2026 was the biggest and best season so far for the SYWGCL, as we had 27 teams playing hardball and a record number of 46 softball teams.

For the first time, the Premier Division was stabilised as a 30 overs-a-side competition with fixtures focussed exclusively on Sunday afternoons, This allowed batters a real opportunity to build innings (we saw our first 3 three-figure scores across the season) and bowlers to bowl significant spells. Congratulations to Rockingham Colliery who were worthy winners of the Premier Division.

Below that, the League continued to provide a Super 8s offering – an introductory level of hardball cricket designed to be inclusive and give everyone a chance to participate. A big well done to Sheffield Transport Saints on taking that gong.

We also continued to provide a softball offering as a welcoming introduction for players of all ages and abilities to 'give it a go'. Due to the sheer number of teams, the League was split across five divisions and congratulations to Sheffield Transport Saints, Penistone, Frickley Colliery, Oughtibridge and Coal Aston, who won their respective divisions.

We held our traditional season ending Big Bash tournaments: three separate celebrations of women's and girls' cricket with multiple teams at each Bash.

Unfortunately, our now traditional representative team fixture versus our friends and rivals from West Yorkshire was scheduled for the one weekend of the summer when it rained and was unfortunately postponed until May bank holiday 2027. Our representative side did, however, play in a three-team T20 round-robin tournament at Ossett in May, recording a victory over North-East Yorkshire but narrowly losing out (again!) to West Yorkshire.

Off the field, Liz Harris stood down as Chair for personal reasons. I would like to thank her for her diligent leadership of the League over several years, and also Alex Littlewood for stepping up to the plate until the AGM. At the AGM, I was honoured to be elected to chair the League. Kat Cogill (vice-chair), Alison Gresser (secretary) and Jim Taylor (umpires' lead) also joined the committee, whilst Wendy Crabtree and Abi Dakin stepped back from their roles. I would like to thank them all for their excellent work.

As it is for everyone, ground availability is a never-ending concern. This year we worked more closely with partners in YCSPL and other leagues – particularly the local junior leagues – and adapted a more collaborative approach to managing this scarce resource.

We have also continued to work closely with our equivalent Premier Leagues in West Yorkshire and North Yorkshire. Whilst both these leagues will be moving to 40-over fixtures in 2027, member clubs in SYWGCL voted to remain at 30 overs for next season. One of the challenges for the League will be to work with clubs to hopefully identify the barriers to a 40-over structure with a view to moving to the longer format in 2028.

Brittney Lamour

IV. Competitions Manager's report

The weather throughout the 2026 season meant that very few matches were lost, and all cup competitions reached the semi-final stage on schedule. Of course, Mother Nature decided that the five weeks during which our cup finals were scheduled would be the most inclement of the season. However, using reserve days where necessary, we successfully completed all cup competitions.

Compiling the League fixture list has become more challenging with each passing season. The combination of increasing participation numbers, ground availability constraints, and the Pontefract & District League utilising its own fixture grid rather than ours resulted in a record 65 matches requiring rearrangement in 2026. Whilst many clubs were prompt in resolving these fixtures, for which I am grateful, too many either left arrangements until the last minute or agreed revised dates after the extended deadline had passed.

Our grounds are becoming increasingly congested, with as much, if not more, cricket now being played on Sundays across junior, women's and girls', and Sunday league competitions. Clubs may not view rearranging fixtures as a priority, but every YCSPL fixture played on a Sunday has an impact on these other organisations. Therefore, my request for the coming season is that rearrangements are finalised as early as possible and that clubs adhere to the deadlines set.

Finally, I would like to thank all clubs for their co-operation in providing the information required to complete the fixture list. As a final plea, where rearrangements are necessary, please work collaboratively with your opponents to find suitable solutions. You never know when your own club may be the one in need of a favour.

Matt Summerhill

V. Safeguarding Manager's report

Safeguarding continues to be a priority of the YCSPL. We strive to be proactive in supporting our clubs in these challenging and changing times. All our existing and new clubs have Safeguarding Officers in place, who work extremely hard to keep players, officials and members safe.

Club Safeguarding Officers still need to attend ECB Safe Hands face to face courses every three years. There are a variety of online courses available for all officials. Club Chairs are also encouraged to attend the face-to-face courses and are at present free of charge. We have a number of Safe Hands courses booked in the diary and thank clubs for the use of their facilities.

I would like to remind clubs of their responsibility to check the Safe Hands Management System on a monthly basis to ensure that their club remains Safe Hands compliant. It is mandatory for a CSO to attend a Safe Hands SGL3 course every three years, and the CSO compliance report in the SHMS will give you the information on who needs to re-attend or renew their DBS.

As a league we have been involved with safeguarding investigations. Cases have been escalated to the Cricket Regulator and South Yorkshire Police when required. The YCSPL disciplinary team and myself have worked together this season to try and ease workloads. We thank our member clubs for their cooperation and for providing the relevant information to support the investigations.

To all our ever growing, progressive and inclusive clubs, I personally thank everyone for their continued support and encourage clubs to recruit more safeguarding volunteers.

Safeguarding is everyone's business and we all have the responsibility to keep everyone safe.

Lindsay Pepper

VI. Disciplinary report

The 2026 season saw 53 players receive sanctions in respect of 56 disciplinary offences. These figures are virtually identical to season 2025.

Sanctions were issued in relation to two separate Level Three offences. Both were determined at the mandatory disciplinary hearings which are held in respect of such matters. A full list of sanctions follows *(sanctions relating to season 2025 are in brackets)*:

- Level One 'warnings' 39 (39)
- Level One offences 7 (13)
- Level Two offences 8 (4)
- Level Three offences 2 (1)
- Level Four offences 0 (0)
- One player was reported on two separate occasions, receiving two separate sanctions as a result.
- One player received three separate sanctions during one fixture.

Existing Level One 'warnings' (2026). Seven of the 53 players who were reported had previously received Level One 'warnings' - all of which were activated, leading to a mandatory one match ban for the players in question.

Disciplinary bans. Bans totaling 36 weeks were applied across the YCSPL during the season (29 weeks of bans were applied in season 2025).

Suspended bans. Suspended bans totaling 95 weeks remain in place until the end of season 2027 (84 weeks were in force during season 2026).

Disciplinary sanctions by Division/Section. The following is a breakdown of the respective division/section of those who received sanctions during 2026:

Premier Division: 10 players (10 sanctions) – *2025: 12 players - 13 sanctions*

Championship Division: 10 players (10 sanctions) – *2025: 10 players - 12 sanctions*

Senior Section: 33 players (36 sanctions) – *2025: 31 players - 32 sanctions).*

Disciplinary Penalty Points (DPPs). DPPs are issued in each case where players receive sanctions. The general rule of thumb is as follows:

Level One 'warnings':	1 DPP	Level Three offence:	9 DPPs
Level One offence:	3 DPPs	Level Four offence:	12 DPPs
Level Two offence:	6 DPPs		

On rare occasions, when considered appropriate, the Disciplinary Committee may partially suspend DPPs.

The significance of the above is that if a team within a club receives 15 DPPs during the given period, ie, up to the end of the following season, then it is highly probable that a recommendation would be made by the Disciplinary Committee to the Head of the relevant Division / Section, that that team be deducted 12 league points, when most impactive.

The commencement of season 2027 will see 126 DPPs in place for teams within the YCSPL.

Words of advice. A significant number of players were dealt with by way of 'words of advice' – administered on the day of the game – for matters the umpires considered to have fallen short of formal disciplinary action.

From the commencement of and throughout the coming season, if the Disciplinary Committee receive two separate information reports from umpires detailing 'words of advice' given to a player, then that player will automatically receive a Level One 'warning' which, as is always the case, will remain in force until the end of the following season.

Additional information. The Disciplinary Committee regularly reassess the existing disciplinary format. We seek to be proportionate, fair and consistent when finalising individual cases, applying context to each report that we receive. The Disciplinary Committee will proactively continue to 'tweak' the rules and regulations in order to benefit players, clubs and officials alike.

Captains in the YCSPL. During season 2026, a number of captains received sanctions relating to what the Disciplinary Committee judged to be a failure on their part to control their players. Throughout season 2027, the Disciplinary Committee will continue to take a close look at captains and their behaviour in games where any of their players have been reported.

Each disciplinary report will be looked at on an individual basis and if it is felt that a captain ought to have done more to stop or prevent the poor behaviour of their player(s), then appropriate sanctions will be considered for the captain in question.

Safeguarding responsibilities. The Disciplinary Committee would like to again remind all clubs and umpires about their safeguarding responsibilities in respect of junior cricketers. Players found to have 'crossed the line' in respect of their conduct toward junior cricketers will be dealt with accordingly.

Finally, our thanks go to all who have supported the Disciplinary Committee throughout the past season - your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

Neil Vaughan & Mick Bocking

VII. Compliance Manager's report

The YCSPL continue to monitor and register overseas players in line with ECB guidelines. We should stress once again that these are criteria agreed between the ECB and the Home Office and that they relate to immigration rules and regulations.

In 2026 we registered:

- 14 professionals on International Sportspersons Visa
- 35 amateurs on a variety of visas
- 13 students

We had no players subject to investigation by the ECB/Home Office. However, we will still be amending the registration procedure for overseas amateurs, and clubs will be asked to sign up to the fact that they are ensuring full compliance with the ECB definitions of amateur and professional.

Next season will see the introduction of the player points cap system within the Premier and Championship divisions. Overseas players will attract between four and six points, depending on the levels at which they have played.

Most important of all, clubs are reminded to ask for assistance if they have any doubts about eligibility prior to the arrival of a player in the country – thus saving time, effort and potentially money.

Mark Brook

VIII. Scoring & Play-Cricket Manager's report

1. *Scoring*
   i. The 2026 season has seen a very slight decrease in games scored electronically, to 97.27 %. This is due to our new clubs that have joined the League, and their reliance on manual scoring and lack of facilities to score electronically. However, there has been a marked improvement in the take up of laptop scoring, and a decrease in tablet/phone scoring, which is where we want to be. Other leagues only allow clubs to score electronically, but I do not think that we should push away scorers who only score in a book.
   ii. I have produced our Scoring Plan for ECB and am reviewing how I can make best use of time in organsing and delivering League and ECBACO training. I aim to cut down on the number of sessions but increase participation.
   iii. The umpires' marks on scoring facilities do not reflect the true situation. Scoring facilities should be marked by away scorers, and I am looking at the most efficient way of doing this.
2. *Play-Cricket*. I am currently putting in place arrangements for Play-Cricket management in 2027, following the retirement from the role of Melvyn Bond. So far, I have
   i. met with Notts Premier League about incorporating the Points Cap system in P-C
   ii. recruited eight volunteers who will help administer the different tasks, including player registration and scorecard checking, and produced job descriptions
   iii. removed all player registrations for Category 3 players and players who have not played for their club for two full seasons.
   iv. made contact with all new clubs, about bringing their players over to the YCSPL on Play-Cricket
   v. been producing guides for clubs on the full functionality of Play-Cricket.
3. *Live Streaming***.** I have spoken to the UK Manager at NV Play and negotiated a discount for new clubs who are looking to use NV Play for their streaming. He has produced a leaflet to go on the tables at the League dinner, and will donate a raffle prize of one year's licence, which equates to £500.

As usual, I thank everyone in the League for their support in 2026, and particularly all our scorers for their continued hard work.

Steve Ward

IX. Equity & Diversity report

The E&D Group have in the past two seasons reshaped their membership. This will continue into the 2027 season as two original members, Milton Samuels as Chair and Jason Booth as Administrator, will step down from their roles at the 2026 AGM. The E&D Group would like to thank both for their service and support.

Following reshuffles in the SYWGCL, Kat Cogill is now the EDI lead for that league and will join the E&D Group with immediate effect.

This leads to an opportunity for the group to reset with new Chair, Vice Chair, Administrator (Leanne Parker will take up this role) and members to work alongside the League and Yorkshire Cricket Foundation (YCF).

The updated list of the group's current members is:

Kat Cogill*	Gordon Laidlaw	Leanne Parker (administrator)
Gareth Davis - YCF	Brittney Lamour	Roger Pugh
Afraz Khan	Alex Littlewood	Nelson Windle

** new member in 2026*

Identifying key areas of work and projects that will assist in providing inclusivity guidance and support for cricket in South Yorkshire remains the utmost priority for the group going forward.

The consistent presence of the E&D Group as a sounding board for the league across a range of matters and within the leagues disciplinary committee has proven to be a great success again this past season and puts the YCSPL at the forefront of League cricket across the country.

New strategic direction, initiatives and projects aligned to the needs of the league will be planned and forthcoming.

Jason Booth

Item 3: Financial report and accounts 2025/26

In last year's accounts we had a surplus of expenditure over income of £10, 207, this year's loss is £3,478. However, ball sponsorship (£5,332 last year) had not been received in time to include in the accounts.

Since the formation of the League in 2021, we have endeavoured to keep League subscriptions as low as possible, and will continue to do so. However, much of our expenditure is essential, and is likely only to increase, so if we did not receive sponsorship, an increase would be necessary. For this reason, we are doubling our efforts to attract more sponsorship.

I would like to draw attention to a few issues connected with our income and expenditure:

- *Cricket Ball Sales*: Since clubs purchase directly from our suppliers the only increase shown is for balls supplied by the League for cup finals and representative matches.
- *ECB funding:* The increased figure reflects a return to 'normal' funding after last year's reduction to offset a previous overpayment.
- *YCF Affiliation Fees:* The Yorkshire Cricket Foundation have not yet announced the fees for 2027; these will be added to the Annual Subscriptions.
- *Laptop scoring.* The League's contribution to clubs purchasing laptops has increased significantly due to clubs taking advantage of this incentive to move to laptop scoring.

As we enter the winter period, please be mindful of the possibility of vandalism and theft of vital maintenance equipment. Please ensure your insurance policies are up to date with adequate coverage.

I once again thank John Wilson for auditing the League's accounts and his contribution in producing a comprehensive end-of-year statement.

Finally, I thank all officials on the League committees and clubs for their support throughout this financial year.

Ashley Boothman

Yorkshire Cricket Southern Premier League

Income and Expenditure Account
Year Ended 30 September 2026

	2024/25	2025/26
Income:	**(£)**	**(£)**
Cricket ball orders	3,821	2,972
ECB Donation	10,543	15,086
Sponsorship	6,332	
Subscriptions	13,740	15,460
Penalties	3,235	3,215
Handbook advertising	335	300
Disciplinary hearings	362	177
Presentation Evening	10,500	11,814
Other income	1,753	289
New Club Entry Fees (2027)		500
Bank interest	206	117
Total income	**50,827**	**49,929**
Expenditure:		
Cricket ball purchases (See Note 1 below)	6,210	6,272
YCB affiliation fees	3,960	4,680
YCF Subscription (2025 and 2026)		500
ECB Club Funding	6,206	6,326
Disciplinary	312	312
Presentation Evening 2025		12,245
Presentation Evening 2024	10,719	
Presentation Evening 2025 (Deposits)	1,500	
Awards and Trophies	3,804	2,145
Development Grants Awarded	4,275	500
Cup final expenses	5,264	3,850
Cup final medals	3,434	312
Travel costs	1,300	630
Representative matches	1,090	810
Training	1,288	1,895
New umpires	400	
Honoraria	1,850	2,150
Professional services - Audit	100	100
Clothing	162	224
Donation to SY Umpires Ass'n	150	200
Donations and Gifts	374	822
Communications inc Website & Zoom	1,498	1,579
Telephone & Broadband	760	746
Laptop - Digital scoring	1,000	1,900
Insurance	3,122	3,189
Administration	2,256	2,021
Total expenditure	**61,034**	**53,408**
Surplus of expenditure over income	**-10,207**	**-3,478**

2025/26 Summary:		
	2025	**2026**
Opening bank balances 1 October	57,745	47,538
Surplus of expenditure over income (above)	-10,207	-3,478
	47,538	**44,060**
Closing bank balances 30 September		
Current account	26,303	20,064
Deposit account:		
Development Fund	2,340	5,003
Contingency Fund	18,895	18,993
	47,538	**44,060**

Stock held as at 30 September 2026:
-Cricket Balls £1,374
-Clothing & Merchandise £191
(The expenditure figures above have not been adjusted for closing stock)

Checked and found correct
John Wilson ACMA,CGMA, FinstLM
Oct-26

Item 4: Subscriptions, honoraria & fees

These remain unchanged except as shown.

1. Subscriptions per team for 2026/27 (excluding YCB fees which are not yet known):
   - Premier & Championship - £80 per team
   - Divisions 1 & 2 - £75 per team
   - Divisions 3 to 6 - £70 per team
   - Divisions 7 to 9 - £65 per team **No increase**

2. The 2025 AGM approved £1,850 in honoraria for 2024/25. For 2025/26, we propose the following:

• Mick Bocking	Disciplinary officer	£200	
• Melvyn Bond	Play-Cricket manager	£400	
• Ashley Boothman	Treasurer	£250	
• Becky Brook	Teams administrator	£200	
• Zac Cooper	Social media officer	£200	**New**
• Alison Dixon	Social media co-ordinator	£300	**New**
• Leanne Parker	Social media officer	£200	**New**
• Lindsay Pepper	Safeguarding manager	£300	
• Linzey Scothern	Trophy steward	£200	
• Steve Taylor	IT support manager	£200	
• Neil Vaughan	Disciplinary adjudicator	£400	
	Total	**£2,650**	

3. Umpires' fees 2027:
   - Premier Division and Yorkshire Leagues Knock-Out Cup: £90 **Increase of £10**
   - T20 Blast matchdays:
     - one match £50 each (two umpires)
     - two matches £65 each (two umpires)
     - three matches £80 each (three umpires)
   - Championship, Whitworth Cup & T20 Plate: £65
   - T20 Plate matchdays:
     - one match £40 each (two umpires)
     - two matches £55 each (two umpires)
     - three matches £70 each (three umpires)
   - Divisions 1 & 2 & Mick Savage Cup £65
   - Divisions 3 to 5 & Presidents Trophy £60 **Increase of £5**
   - Divisions 6 to 9 & Billy Oates Cup: £55

Item 5: Election of league officials for 2026/27

1. League Executive Board

Brittney Lamour and Eleanor Barber have been nominated by the Women's & Girls' section in place of Liz Harris and Mel Mahmood. All other current LEB members have confirmed that they are willing to continue to serve. Subject to ratification at the AGM, the constitution of the LEB will be as follows:

Premier Section representatives:	Andy Harrison, Roger Pugh (chairman), Steve Ward
Senior Section representatives:	Richard North, Matt Summerhill, Jonathan Crabtree
Women's & Girls section representatives:	Eleanor Barber, Brittney Lamour, Alex Littlewood
Safeguarding Manager:	Lindsay Pepper

In addition, the Equity & Diversity Group and the YCB will continue to nominate non-Executive members of the Board (Leanne Parker and Gareth Davis respectively).

2. Premier Section committee

All current committee members have confirmed that they are willing to continue to serve, as follows:

Roger Pugh (Head of Section), Mark Beardshall, Alex Fletcher, Mick Forrester, Andy Harrison, David Jones and Steve Ward.

In addition, there will be one representative each nominated by the Equity & Diversity Group and the Yorkshire Premier Leagues Umpires Association (currently Jason Booth and Neil Vaughan respectively).

There remains one committee vacancy, which may be filled by co-option at the discretion of the Premier Section committee, and subject to confirmation at the next AGM.

3. Senior Section committee

Melvyn Bond, Richard Fidler and Bryan Lowe will stand down from the committee after the AGM. Rachel Roberts has been nominated by the Senior Section committee. All other current committee members have confirmed that they are willing to continue to serve. Subject to ratification at the AGM, the constitution of the committee will be as follows:

Richard North (Head of Section), Ashley Boothman, Jonathan Crabtree, Lindsay Pepper, Linzey Scothern and Matt Summerhill.

In addition, there will be one representative each nominated by the Equity & Diversity Group and the South Yorkshire Umpires Association (currently Nelson Windle and Terry Bateman respectively).

There are two committee vacancies, which may be filled by co-option at the discretion of the Senior Section committee, and subject to confirmation at the next AGM.

4. Women & Girls Section committee

The committee was elected at the SYW&GCL AGM as follows:

Brittney Lamour (chair), Eleanor Barber, Kat Cogill, Alison Gresser, Tracey Helliwell, Alex Littlewood, Jim Taylor and Sarah Wood.

Item 6: Proposed rule changes for 2026

New rules and rule changes are proposed by the League Executive Board except where stated. Changes to the League Constitution are for vote of all clubs; changes to Competition Rules and Playing Conditions are for vote as shown; and, with the exception of the proposal in para 11, changes to Administrative Rules are for notification to clubs only.

Constitution

1. Consequential changes following the transfer of Divisions 1 & 2 to the Premier Section as follows:

   i. Para 6 - first three sentences amended to read;

   The YCSPL will be split into three sections – Premier, Senior, and Women's & Girls'. The Premier Section will comprise four divisions; the Premier Division, Championship Division, Division 1 and Division 2; each to comprise 12 teams. The Senior Section, working from Division 3 downwards, will be divided into the required number of divisions to accommodate all remaining teams; the aim will be to have 12 teams in each division, but this may need to be varied according to the number of clubs.

   ii. Para 12.i – amend to read;

   Premier Section committee – to have responsibility for the rules and playing conditions governing the Premier Section divisions and associated cup competitions, subject to endorsement by the LEB and voting at AGMs as appropriate.

2. Para 16 to be amended to include 'inclusivity' as follows;

   The YCSPL will aim to ensure that its committees reflect the diversity of our clubs. The League will maintain and ensure adherence to ECB policies in relation to equity, diversity and inclusivity in all parts of the cricketing spectrum within its control. The League will support an independent EDI Group, that the LEB and section committees can consult and collaborate with about all equity, diversity and inclusivity issues.

Competition rules

1. **Grounds & facilities**. New para 4.v to provide that; '*Grounds must be available to players and officials for preparation purposes a minimum of one hour before the start. Where a junior or women's & girls' game is to be played beforehand, a delayed start may be agreed to accommodate this.*'

   For vote by all clubs

2. **Cancellations** – 8.v. Insert at end;

   At the same time as the complaint is made, a complaint handling fee of £50 must be sent to the League treasurer. This fee may be returned where the committee upholds the complaint; where it is not returned, it will be put into the Development Fund.

   For vote by all clubs

3. **Cancellations** – 9. Insert new sentence to say that, '*No game may be cancelled more than 24 hours before the start time.'*

   For vote by all clubs

4. **Player selection** – 16.iv.a – emphasis to be put on '***unless'***

   No vote required

5. Proposal from Sheffield University Staff CC, seconded by De la Salle CC: **Teas –** 30. Revise to say that;

   'In all cup and league games, except in Divisions 7-9 and the Billy Oates Memorial Cup, teas must be provided at the interval for teams, umpires and scorers. In Divisions 7-9 and the Billy Oates Memorial Cup, the provision of teas will be optional. Home teams must state at the start of the season whether they will provide teas; this must be for all their home league and cup games; and visiting teams must take and pay for teas when provided. In all cases teas must be provided for match officials. In T20 games ……

   For vote by all Division 7-9 clubs

6. **Club entry to cup competitions** - 30.

   i. In paras I and ii, after 'entry is mandatory', add '- *see vii below*.'

   ii. Add new para vii. As follows;

   Clubs expected to enter the Whitworth Cup and Mick Savage Trophiy competitions may apply to the Premier Section committee for exemption where, due to the lack of availability of senior players for Sunday cricket, it is not possible for them to field a competitive and representative side. In these circumstances, the club would be required to furnish a list of its squad for the team in question, indicating which players would not be available to play. Any club granted an exemption from either competition must not enter a team in the ECB National Club Championship, Heavy Woollen Cup, or any other external cup which Premier Section teams are entitled to enter.

   For vote by Premier Section clubs

7. T20 changes

   i. Rule 30 Club entry to cup competitions; amend last line to read '*Premier Section committee'*

   ii. Rule 31 Fixtures; amend first line to read '*Sundays or Bank Holidays (or midweek in the case of the T20 competitions*)'

   iii. Rule 35 to read;

   35 ***T20 and T20 Plate draw arrangements****.*

   i. An open draw will be conducted from the eligible teams in each competition. In the main T20 competition, the previous year's semi-finalists in each competition will be awarded a first-round bye. If, for any reason, one of the teams eligible for a bye is not playing in the competition, the first team drawn out in the open draw will be given a bye. In the T20 Plate, where the number of teams entering necessitates byes, precedence will be given to the previous year's winners, then finalists and then semi-finalists, after which the byes will be determined by open draw from the remaining teams.

   ii. The semi-finals and final in each competition will be played on one day on grounds agreed by the Premier Section committee.

   ii and iii for vote by Premier Section clubs

8. **Points cap** – a new rule to cover the points cap as follows.

   Points cap*. For all league games in the Premier and Championship Divisions, all players will be allocated a points value, and the composition of teams will be restricted to an overall points cap in accordance with the following:*

   i. A points value will be allocated to all players in each club's squad(s) for their Premier and Championship Division team(s) in accordance with the 'Player points allocation table' (see below), using historical information from Play-Cricket and Cricket Archive.

   ii. A Points Cap Sub-Committee (PCSC) of three persons will be nominated by the Premier Section Committee to oversee the administration of the system.

   iii. Each club must submit a list of squad players for their team(s) by the first Saturday in April each year, along with the points they consider should be allocated to each player. These lists will be checked by the PCSC; corrected, if necessary; certified; and published. Players can be added or removed during the season.

   iv. Where more than one category applies to a player, except where the player qualifies as a Cat 1 player, it will be the higher category that determines the player's points value.

   v. Other than for overseas players, the points value for each category will reduce, to a minimum of one point, after a player has completed service to their club as follows:

   - *after three full seasons, by one point*
   - *after five full seasons, by two points*
   - *after seven full seasons, by three points*
   - *after nine full seasons, by four points*

vi. *In the event of an overseas player gaining UK citizenship, their points value will be recalculated on the basis of what it would have been had they been a non-overseas player at the point of their transferring to their club. For example, a former overseas test player who last played for their country four years before they joined their club four years ago, would have been a Cat 6 player at that time; but if they subsequently obtain UK citizenship that will be adjusted to Cat 4b and reduced to three points by virtue of having been at the club for over three years.*

vii. *In the event of a player who was originally registered as an overseas player becoming habitually resident and thus no longer regarded as an overseas player, their points value will simply be reduced in accordance with 5 above.*

viii. *If a player returns to a club after **no more** than one season's absence, and they have played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time, that one year will be disregarded for the purposes of calculations under 5 above.*

ix. *If a player returns to a club after **more** than one season's absence:*

- *If they have **not** played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time; the time of absence will be disregarded for the purposes of calculations under 5 above*
- *If they have played cricket with an ECB-affiliated league in that time; unless they qualify as a Cat 1 player, they will be treated as a completely new signing*

x. *If the Category of the player changes after they have joined the club, this will not affect their points value (eg, an overseas player who gains international honours) but if the player moves to another club, their points value will be calculated afresh.*

xi. *The points cap per game will be 24 points.*

xii. *The points cap will apply in League games only.*

xiii. *Clubs will be exempted from penalty under League competition rule 16 Player Selection if they need to demote a player to avoid breaching the points cap, but they must not infringe ECB Disparity Regulations.*

xiv. *If the total points value of the eleven players in a team in any league game in which play takes place exceeds 24, penalties will apply as follows. On each occasion on which a team exceeds the cap:*

- *any points they have won in the game will be lost, plus*
- *a 12-league point penalty will be applied, and*
- *if the offending team have won the game, the result will be overturned.*

xv. *The only exception to the application of penalties as in 14 above will be where a player is subsequently found to have a higher points value than was previously certified by the League and published. In these circumstances, the corrected value will be applied immediately, but not retrospectively.*

xvi. *Potential breaches of the cap may be identified and brought to the attention of the Head of Premier Section by any Premier Section club or committee member within five days of the alleged breach. The breach will be considered and adjudicated by the PCSC. In the event of any dispute, Administrative Rule 74 (Disputes) will apply.*

Rules passed at EGM – no vote required

Player points allocation table *(for reference)*

1-point players	
Cat 1	Players playing for, or returning to, a club for which they played as a junior or made their senior debut. Where a player has played for more than one club as a junior, they must have played for a minimum of three seasons for a club to be counted as a 'one-point player' for that club – this that means they may qualify as a 'one-point player' for more than one club.
2-point players	
Cat 2	Players who have transferred from another club, who have played **no more** than six games for their previous club in the previous complete season at the same or higher level as the team they will be playing for ('levels' being defined as; (i) top division of another Premier League, (ii) second division of another Premier League, (iii) lower divisions of Premier Leagues **and** all other leagues)
3-point players	
Cat 3a	Players who have transferred from another club, who have played **more** than six games for their previous club in the previous complete season at the same or higher level as the team they will be playing for ('levels' being defined as in 2a above)
Cat 3b	Players who have transferred from another club, who are currently on a County Academy/EPP pathway or have played more than six games at county 2nds or National Counties level.
Cat 3c	Players who have transferred from another club, who are England-qualified players who **have** played at 1st Class/List A/T20/franchised competition level, but **not** in the last three years.
Cat 3d	Players who are not eligible to hold a British Passport but have been resident in the UK for a minimum of 210 days between 1 April and 31 March in the year preceding the start of the relevant season.
4-point players	
Cat 4a	Players who have transferred from another club, who are England-qualified players who **have** played at 1st Class/List A/T20/franchised competition level in the last three years.
Cat 4b	England players who have played at full international level, but **not** in the last three years.
Cat 4c	Overseas amateur players.
5-point players	
Cat 5a	Overseas professional players who **have not** played at full international level (test or List A).
Cat 5b	England players who have played at full international level in the last three years.
6-point players	
Cat 6	Overseas professional players who **have** played at full international level (test or List A).

Note**:** Except where specifically stated otherwise, a 'player' means a player who is defined by the ECB regulations as a Category 1 player by reason of being a British Citizen who was born in England or Wales.

Playing conditions

1. Wide ball lines. To bring into line the League (Prem-Div 2), Cup (K3, Whitworth & Mick Savage) and T20 playing conditions in respect of the requirement for 'wide ball lines' on pitch, as follows;

   '*A wide ball line will be marked 17 inches from the return crease on either side of the wicket. These lines will be painted in dark blue or dark red to ensure good visibility in all weather conditions*.'

   To be included in 'The creases (Law 7)' and not under 'Wide balls (Law 22)' in each case.

   For vote by Premier Section clubs

2. Alcohol, drugs, smoking and vaping. New rule to provide that:

   i. *participants in the game, including officials, should not partake of alcohol or drugs at any point throughout the duration of the game*

   ii. *there must be no smoking or vaping on the field of play.*

   For vote by all clubs

League playing conditions

1. The ball (Law 4). – amend ii to read;
   - Premier & Championship Divisions – the Oxbridge Windsor ball must be used
   - *Divisions 1 & 2 – either the Oxbridge Windsor ball or the Reader Sovereign ball may be used*
   - *Divisions 3 to 9 – either the Reader Sovereign or League Special ball may be used*

For vote by all clubs

Cup playing conditions

1. The players (Law 1):
   i. Amend rule 2.ii to read; 'In the Whitworth Cup *and the Mick Savage Trophy*, players must be dressed in coloured clothing …. '
   ii. In rule 2.iii delete 'Mick Savage Trophy'

For vote by clubs in Divisions 1 to 3

2. The ball (Law 4) – amend i to read, '*in the Whitworth Cup and Mick Savage Trophy …*' and delete ii.

No vote necessary – will pass or fail automatically according to the decision on 1 above

3. Fielding restrictions (Law 28). Insert new additional para after iii as follows;

   In the President's Trophy and Billy Oates Memorial Cup, one powerplay will in the first eight overs. At the instant of delivery, no more than two fielders will be permitted outside the fielding circle. In an innings of 40 overs, these are overs 1 to 8 inclusive. In the case of matches where overs are reduced, refer to the table in para 22 and follow the Powerplay 1 column only.

For vote by Senior Section clubs

T20 Playing Conditions

1 Start of play and loss of overs - 10.iv.b. Amend to read;

'The first 30 minutes lost will be ignored, except in the case of evening games, or where there are to be three games played at a venue on the same day, in which case overs will be lost from the scheduled start time.'

For vote by Premier Section clubs

Administrative rules

1. YCSPL structure. Amend rule 1 as follows

   i. *Premier Section, which will comprise the Premier Division, the Championship Division and Divisions 1 & 2*

   ii. *Senior Section, which will comprise Divisions 3 to 9, and*

2. Composition of the LEB. Amend rule 3.ii as follows:

   In addition, there will be a representative of the League Equity Diversity & Inclusion Group (EDI Group – see para 19 below) ….. etc.'

3. LEB membership. Add an additional para vii to rule 5 as follows:

   LEB members have a responsibility for any public comments they make, including in meetings and on social media, not to criticise the League, YCF or ECB. All LEB members must take collective responsibility for League decisions made. LEB members must also, as requested by the League Chair, declare any club or other cricket-related affiliations they may have.

4. Equity Diversity & Inclusion.

   i. Amend the heading of rule 17 to '*Equity Diversity & Inclusion policy'*

   ii. Amend rule 19 to read, '*Equity Diversity & Inclusion Group. The League will support an independent Equity Diversity & Inclusion Group (EDI Group) that the LEB* ….. etc.'

5. Approval for expenditure. Amend rule 27 to read,

   i. *Amounts of up to £50 – the committee member making or approving the claim.*

   ii. *Amounts over £50 and up to £200 – Chair or Head of Section.*

   iii. *Amounts in excess of £200 – LEB*

6. Breaches by clubs of League rules. Amend rule 29 to read as follows:

   i. para iv – delete.

   ii. para vi. Procedure for all points deductions – amended to read;

      a. Except in the case of conceding fixtures, where the points deduction will be automatic, any recommendations for points deductions will be made by the relevant Section committee and will be subject to endorsement by the LEB.

      b. Any decision to apply a points deduction, other than automatic deductions as above, must be notified to the club within seven days of the decision being made, and will carry the right of appeal under rule 74.

      c. Any deductions will be applied at the time when the decision is made, unless by that time it is clear that the deduction will make no material difference to whether a team wins the divisional championship, is promoted, or is relegated in the current season, in which case the deduction will apply in the following season. Deductions for breaches in the close season will be applied in the following season.

7. Accreditation and participation requirements. Amend the first line in rule 31.ii to read, '*Clubs in the Premier Section and in Division 3 of the Senior Section must:' etc.*

8. Other roles. Amend 13.ii to read

   Competitions Manager – who will be responsible for:

   a. giving advice and making recommendations to LEB on all fixture-related issues

   b. scheduling the league and cup fixture dates each season

   c. producing a divisional structure each season for approval by LEB

   d. producing the league fixture list and co-ordinating all rearrangements to the list

   e. organising cup draws and liaising with the relevant Section on rearrangements

   f. entering league and cup fixtures on Play-Cricket

   g. maintaining records of fixture concessions

9. Fixtures. Delete rule 38.

10. Demotion requests. Insert new rule in Section 7 as follows:

    Demotion requests

    i. When a club requests that any or all of its teams are demoted beyond the League's established promotion and relegation arrangements, the League will consider the circumstances leading to the request, the anticipated strength of the club's teams for the following season, and the ECB Disparity policy, in reaching a decision on the request.

    ii. Taking into account the factors above, the League will decide on whether the request will be granted, and, if appropriate, the divisions into which the team(s) will be offered a place.

    iii. If the request is granted, this will be deemed a 'relegation event'. Any demoted team(s) will take the place of the highest-placed team in the relegation places in the division that they are leaving. Any consequential promotion and relegation will be managed into such a way that the published promotion places in each division will not be affected.

    iv. All decisions made under this rule must be ratified by the LEB. If the request is agreed and the club is offered a place or places in lower divisions, they may either accept the offer or retain the status quo. There will be no right of appeal if an offer is made.

    v. Requests for demotion under this rule must be made by 31 October for the following season.

    vi. For the purposes of historical record, league tables will remain unchanged.

11. Proposal from Whitley Hall CC, seconded by Elsecar CC and Millhouses Works CC (to potentially add to the above) *'Any team that self-relegates is then barred from promotion for 2 years following their relegation.'*

    For vote by all clubs

12. Repeated conceding of fixtures. Amend rule 43 to read;

    i. Where a specific club team concedes three or more fixtures in any one season, they will be asked to put in place a realistic plan to avoid a repeat of the situation by 30 September in that year. The relevant Section committee will then make recommendation, on whether the team should be allowed to continue in the League, for endorsement by the LEB.

    ii. Where a specific club team concedes five or more fixtures in any one season, unless there are exceptional extenuating circumstances, and the club has a realistic plan to avoid a repeat of the situation, they will no longer be allowed to compete in the League.

    iii. Where a specific club team concedes three or more fixtures in any one season and achieves re-election, they will be put on probation for two years, and if they again concede three or more fixtures in this period, will no longer be allowed to compete in the League.

    iv. Decisions on re-election and expulsion of teams under this rule will be made by the LEB and subject to ratification at the AGM.

13. Timeframes for player registration. Amend para 49 to read;

    Unless a player has any outstanding contractual, financial or disciplinary issues with their club, they will remain registered to that club until two full seasons have elapsed since they last played for the club, or they register for another club, after which their registration to that club will be removed from the YCSPL P-C website. If the player has any such outstanding issues with a club, they will remain registered to that club until such time as they are resolved, or the club cancels their registration. The above does not in any way remove a player's right, if they have not played for any club in a given season, to be regarded as a 'free agent'.

14. Loan players. Add a sentence to para 60 to the effect that, '*no club may loan a junior player unless they are compliant on SHMS*.'

15. Club umpires. Add new sub-para to rule 69 as follows:

    iii. Club (non-panel) umpires must:

    - *stand for both innings*
    - *be dressed in a white coat or shirt; dark trousers – not jeans or shorts; and white footwear*
    - *umpire the game in an impartial manner*

16. Trophies. Insert a new second sentence to say that;

    'Clubs must ensure that a player or official who holds a League trophy returns that trophy to the club or League before transferring from, or leaving, the club.'

17. Complaints. Rule 74.i. to clarify that all complaints to follow the procedure set out in Competition Rule 16 by adding the requirement for a £50 deposit, to read; '*Any disputes between clubs, complaints about the actions of any players or officials, or about decisions made by League committees must in the first instance be referred to the LEB Chair by email within ten days of the decision or incident arising. Such disputes or complaints must be accompanied by a £50 deposit, which will be refunded if the complaint has merit; otherwise, it will be donated to junior cricket.*

18. Application criteria for clubs wishing to join the YCSPL. Amend the second bullet in Appendix 1 to say, '*all clubs must be able to show that they meet all required criteria, including SHMS compliance, by 2 June …… '*

19. Minimum age of players. Amend Appendix 6 to clarify that, *'In exceptional circumstances only an 11-year-old who also satisfies the four set criteria in ECB Safety Regulation 3.2.2 may be allowed to play. For 'exceptional circumstances' to be met, the YCSPL would require written confirmation from the player's county coach that, 'the player has the ability, size, mentality and maturity to participate in open age cricket, as well as the ability to cope safely with uneven bounce'.*