

LANCASHIRE COUNTY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Tuesday 5th May 2026

Present: Mr D. Clarke in the Chair, & Messrs, , K. Bennetta, P. Deakin,
H. Hughes, C. Gaffey, A.N. Crabtree & M. Downs.

In Attendance: Messrs, B.H. Stott, R. Jones, A. Soutar & I. Spivey.

Apologies: Messrs, G.A. Burns MBE, C.A. Baker.

Regional Managers Report.

A Soutar reported:

1. CB Funding report needs to be submitted

Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on Wednesday 8th April 2026, (previously circulated) were accepted and signed per procuracionem as a correct record.

Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

RFU.

1. PD had attended the last Council Meeting prior to the SGM. The RFU proposed Governance Review report had been significantly defeated at the vote at the SGM.
2. A counter proposal to the GRR will be published by a group of Council Members and will build on some of the positive parts of the original document.

Club & Community.

CG Reported:

1. There had been no updates as yet on a number of the projects that had been proposed at the Clubs Cluster meetings. These will be chased up.
2. An end of season survey will be run to compare against the one run by CG at the start of the season to look for any improvements.

3. County Cup finals are not all finalised yet and promotion of the events is difficult.
4. There is now information of the website about the Sale PDG.
5. KB asked for details of next newsletter, due to current end of season workload this has been delayed.

Discipline.

BHS reported:

1. A complaint received about a banner in a national cup game involving Aldwinians at Novos.
2. Issues with abuse of young match officials at a finals day at Eccles from some of the coaches of the teams.
3. A briefing document will be published and sent to age grade coaches when they get their first "Team of Three" match officials.
4. HH commented that in his view it was the responsibility of the referees society to provide safeguarding for YMOs and not the County.

Finance.

PD Reported:

1. Bank balance looks good.

Mens & Boys Rugby.

HH reported:

1. The U17s are away to Yorkshire in their 1st game at Hull Ionians. They will then play Cheshire at Lymm and finally Cumbria at the Vale of Lune.
2. The U20s beat Northumberland in their final game and 12 players have been asked to attend the North trial.
3. The Senior Mens squad had been selected.

Mini, Junior & Schools.

IS reported:

1. A good end to the season. The recent Girls Challenge at Chester had 300+ attendees. It would be good to form a girls sub committee.
2. Phil Lord had stepped down from the Age Grade committee and will be replaced by Glenn Stephens.

RJ reported:

3. Got through all finals except one, the U16s Trophy will be shared between Manchester GS and AKS.
4. School of the Year is Lancaster GS and the emerging school of the year is Haydock Outward Academy.
5. Thanks to Lancashire, MAD & LADREFS.

Safeguarding.

No Report.

Volunteering (Appendix 1).

Womens and Girls.

KB Reported:

1. Successful trials for the Senior Womens squad, team has been selected for the first home game against Northumberland at Waterloo.
2. Sale FC had asked players not to trial, then after losing a play off game players had asked to be included.

Annual General Meeting.

1. The directors who's position were to be for election had agreed to stand again and therefore would be a Board proposal.

Correspondence.

There was none appertaining to this meeting.

New Members.

There were no membership applications.

50:50 Draw

<u>May 2026</u>	Value
D Welsh	£39.00
PE Hughes	£6.50
P Hanson	£6.50
M Brennand	£6.50
P Hanson	£6.50

Date of next meeting.

Next Meeting: 6:30 pm on Monday 1st June 2026 by Teams.

Any other business.

IS – North Age Grade Meeting had discussed Trafford Schools. Changes are also to be made to Regulation 15 and will be phased in over the next 3 seasons.

PD – spoken to James Smith of Esselle Sports who had shown an interest in sponsoring the County and also would like to run Lancashire branded sports summer camps.

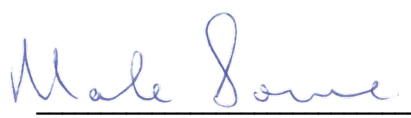
BHS – Match cards for lower XVs are a good idea but no one at the RFU is actioning this.

RJ – Lizzie Hughes, Peters daughter had presented his cup at the U14s final.

KB – asked if Lancs wanted to run a Womens U23 team.

ANC – The CB Rugby Safe review would be completed on the 25th May.

Meeting ended at 7:30pm



Chairman
pp

Date: 1st June 2026

Appendix 1.

Re Volunteers

103 Lancashire nominations. Several nominated in the last 3 years so can't be included in the lunch.

100 coming to the Volunteers event. Only 40 receiving awards other award winners can't go to the event so guests of the award winners can be there.

Certificates and badges for winners have been sorted and the majority of those for people who can't attend will go back to the clubs with other winners with a request that they're given to a club official for distribution. This will save on postage.

Laura Latham, my Assistant Volunteers Coordinator, is leading the event assisted by my usual team of helpers plus Ken Andrews.

Re Lancashire Honours Caps

120 requested so far from across all age-groups and teams.

Once I'm back from my holiday I'll check those I can against the lists that I have then I'll share names with the Board for any others that I can't ratify.

I'm sure once I start sending out payment links more orders will come in.

Re Board

I'm happy to stand again but part of my succession plan is that Laura Latham takes over as Volunteers Coordinator for 2027/28 if voted in.

She's a great assistant, thoroughly organised, a big Lancashire supporter and will be a real asset to the team. I'll then become her Assistant.