

British Baseball Federation

Board Meeting – 3 August 2026 (Zoom)

Minutes – Richmond Division 3 post-season ban

Board members present: Rod McCurdy, Rich Evans, Glen Robertson, Glenn Taylor, David Becker, Stu Taylor, Lee Manning

In attendance (Senior Leagues Committee): Chris Carter (SLC Commissioner), Joe O'Connell (left before the vote), Rhodri Theaker (left before the vote)

Chris attended as SLC Commissioner, not as a voting Board member. He remained in the meeting for the vote but did not vote.

1. Purpose

Richmond asked the Board to review the Senior Leagues Committee (SLC) decision to ban its Division 3 team from post-season play. The meeting was held for that review.

Richmond Baseball Club submitted a document to the Board before the meeting setting out the club's case.

2. SLC position

- Richmond's Division 2 team forfeited its season. The club was warned in June that forfeiting would bring a post-season ban.
- Players were moved between Division 2 and Division 3 in breach of the six-week handbook rule. The SLC treated this as deliberate misrepresentation, not a genuine error.
- The club had not complied with an earlier enforcement notice (December 2025) about its club structure. This affected four other teams.
- Barring Richmond from Division 2 would not deter the club, because it appears to prefer competing for lower-division titles.

3. Board discussion

- Members asked whether the penalty was proportionate and whether it unfairly hit players who were not responsible.
- It was noted that the December enforcement notice did not mention a possible post-season suspension.
- It was argued that a penalty applied mid-season came too late and could harm membership.
- It was confirmed that the constitution gives clubs no formal route to appeal league rules decisions.
- A balanced approach was suggested: penalise the breach while taking account of the impact on players and other teams.

4. Outcome

The Board upheld the SLC decision. Richmond's Division 3 team is barred from post-season play.

5. Actions

No.	Action	Owner
1	Draft a response to Richmond confirming the decision, and share it with Chris for comment before it is sent.	Rich Evans
2	Send the May and June Richmond correspondence to Lee Manning.	Joe O'Connell
3	Future club appeals or complaints about SLC decisions to go to the SLC first, not to individual Board members.	Chris Carter
4	Review the SLC's delegated authority and terms of reference.	Board
5	Review the rules on moving players between divisions and the minimum games for eligibility.	Board