AGM PACK

2026

2026 AGM PACK CHANGELOG

2006 AGM PACK - v1.pdf	-	Initial Release
2006 AGM PACK - v2.pdf	-	Removal of motion 10. Subsequent motions renumbered
2006 AGM PACK - v3.pdf	-	Update to 2027 budget

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VENUE

The British Baseball Federation Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Congress will be held on Saturday 21st and Sunday 22 November 2026 at The Holiday Inn, 129 St Nicholas Circle, Leicester, LE1 5LX.



Address of the Annual General Meeting:
The Holiday Inn, 129 St Nicholas Circle, Leicester, LE1 5LX

Date & Time:
BBF Congress: Saturday 21st November from 13:00
BBF AGM: Sunday 22nd November at 10:00

CODE OF CONDUCT

Attendees

All attendees to our AGM should conduct themselves in a way which does not damage or undermine the reputation of the British Baseball Federation (BBF).

A speaker should declare his or her conflict of interest at the beginning of his or her time to speak e.g., commercial, to another league, organisation, etc.

Non-compliance

Any comments, statements or actions that disrupt the AGM, will not be tolerated. Any person who persists with causing such disturbances may be asked to leave the AGM. Disturbances or actions by any attendee that bring the AGM into disrepute could be subject to formal disciplinary action by the BBF.

ABOUT THE BBF

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The British Baseball Federation (BBF) is dedicated to high standards and best business practice in managing its operations. It is not incorporated, is an all-volunteer organisation and is governed by its constitution, policies, rules and procedures. It is termed a “non-profit National Governing Body (NGB).”

We are recognised as the National Governing Body of baseball by Sport England, Little League, Pony Baseball, WBSC Europe, and the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), etc.
Objectives (per BBF constitution - section 3)

- To organise, promote and develop baseball in Great Britain on behalf of its membership.
- To ensure the operational running of baseball is dealt with satisfactorily.
- To administer a national teams programme to represent the country in international baseball.
- To carry out any other duties as the National Governing Body of baseball.

The BBF board is made up of elected persons. The Board draws on the experience of the below non-paid (volunteer) individuals to manage the affairs of the BBF.

Current BBF Board members:

President: Richard Evans
Secretary: Vacant
Treasurer : Paul Auchterlounie (co-opted)
Seniors Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner: Chris Carter
National Teams Programme Official: Glen Robertson
Officials Commissioner: Dave Becker
Development Official: Lee Manning
Youth Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner : Glenn Taylor
Coaches Commissioner: Vacant
Marketing and Communications Official : Stu Taylor

AGENDA

SUNDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

Arrival Time: 09:45am

1. **AGM Registration (10.00)**
2. **AGM Opens (10.15)**
3. **Welcome from the Chair**
4. **Roll call of voting members present**
5. **Apologies for Absence**
6. **Appointment of Tally Keepers**
7. **Approval of minutes of the previous AGM and EGMs**
8. **Approval of 2024 Accounts and 2025 Budget**
9. **Board Reports**
10. **Constitutional Amendments and Motions to the Annual General Meeting**
11. **Election of Officers**
12. **Close of Meeting**

2025 AGM MINUTES

Date: 16 November 2025
Location: Holiday Inn St Nicholas Circle Leicester
Meeting Start Time: 10:00

1. AGM Registration
Registration of delegates and voting members took place prior to the meeting opening.

2. Opening of the AGM
The meeting was declared open.

3. Welcome from the Chair
BBF President Richard Evans (RE) welcomed all attendees to the 2025 AGM.

4. Roll Call of Voting Members Present
Board Members Present
Richard Evans (RE) – President
Earl Dix (ED) – Secretary
Oona Ylinen (OY) – Treasurer
Chris Carter (CC) – Seniors Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner
Glen Robertson (GR) – National Teams Programme Official
Lee Manning (LM) – Development Official
Glenn Taylor (GT) – Youth Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner
Stu Taylor (ST) – Marketing & Communications (Co-opted)
Voting Member Clubs Present
Belles Baseball, Birmingham Baseball Club, Bracknell Baseball & Softball Club, Brighton Baseball Club, Bristol Baseball Club, Cambridge Baseball Club, County Durham Spartans, Croydon Pirates, Essex Baseball Club, Greenwich Giants, Guildford Baseball Club, Herts Baseball Club, Kent Baseball Club, Leeds Locos, Leicester Blue Sox, Liverpool Trojans, London Archers, London Mets, London Monarchs, Long Eaton Storm, LYBL, Manchester Baseball Club, Milton Keynes Bucks, New Forest Baseball, Newcastle Nighthawks, Newton Abbot Brewers, Northants Centurions, Richmond Baseball Club, Sheffield Bruins, South West Serpents, Taunton Baseball Club, Wragby Warhammers.
A small number of observers were also present.

5. Apologies for Absence
Cornish Claycutters
Yeovil Whirlwinds

6. Appointment of Tally Keepers
Joe O'Connell
Mark Harrison

7. Approval of Minutes of the Previous AGM and EGMs
The minutes were approved, with one vote against (LYBL).

8. Approval of 2024 Accounts and 2025 Budget

Presentation of 2024 Accounts

OY noted that the constitution requires an audit but, following historical precedent, suggested suspending the audit due to cost (£3,000–£5,000).

LYBL objected, stating an audit should be conducted.

Key discussion points:

Legal fees of £7,600 were explained by OY.

Overspending on tournaments and first aid due to additional first aiders and weather-related rescheduling.

Concerns raised regarding financial transparency and missing funds.

Discussion of previous audits: last audit was in 2021.

Suggestion made that a member of the Financial Committee (BV) could audit the accounts.

Write-offs related to unpaid club fees.

Various clubs questioned youth national teams' fees, development fees, and the financial year.

Following debate, the accounts were put to a vote:

Vote: Approval of 2024 Accounts

In Favour: 73

Against: 31

Abstain: 0

Result: Passed

Post-vote, clubs suggested a constitutional amendment regarding audits and asked for clarity on Sport England funding, which RE stated the BBF does not receive.

2025 Budget Presentation

OY presented the proposed budget.

Key discussion points:

Mets questioned IPR and rising league fees.

Concerns about BBF travel costs for international events, including WBSC gatherings.

Birmingham, Milton Keynes, Sheffield, and others raised issues regarding costs, return on investment, and uncertainty in league structures.

Several clubs emphasised importance of international representation, while others questioned the value and location.

Board accountability for international event spending was requested.

Vote: Approval of 2025 Budget

In Favour: 48

Against: 45

Abstain: 11

Result: Passed

9. Board Reports

RE asked for questions; none were raised.

A break was taken.

10. Constitutional Amendments and Motions

Motion 1: Return Authority of GB National Teams to the BBF
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: London Monarchs
Motion sought to terminate the 2024 Delegation of Authority to BSUK concerning the GB Senior and U23 teams.
Discussion: RE provided context.
Vote:
In Favour: 10
Against: 70
Abstain: 24
Result: Motion Defeated

Motion 2: Mandatory Financial Statement Submission for All Affiliated Clubs
Mover: Plymouth Outlaws | Seconder: Newton Abbot Brewers
Motion fell as mover was not present.

Motion 3: Transparency on WBC/MLB Payments
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: Kent Hurricanes
Discussion: Clarifications requested regarding MLB funds, Development Fund, and communications.
Vote:
In Favour: 48
Against: 54
Abstain: 2
Result: Motion Defeated

Motion 4: Short-Term KPIs for BBF Governance
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: Kent Hurricanes
RE supported the concept; LM noted the “Our Future” plan will be reviewed.
Vote:
In Favour: 67
Against: 33
Abstain: 4
Result: Motion Passed

Motion 5: Reduction of Board Term Limits
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: Sheffield Bruins
Proposed reduction of term limits from 8 to 4 years.
Discussion: Concerns raised about volunteer shortages and immediate board impact.
Vote:
In Favour: 6
Against: 98
Abstain: 0
Result: Motion Defeated

Motion 6: Limiting Candidates to One Role per AGM
Withdrawn.

Motion 7: Safeguarding Protections – Suspension of Volunteers
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: Sheffield Bruins
Proposal required BBF to enforce BSUK safeguarding suspensions across all BBF activities.
Discussion: Broad consensus, though ED noted the need for panel decision flexibility.
Vote:
In Favour: 100
Against: 4
Abstain: 0
Result: Motion Passed

Motion 8: Reporting of UK Sport Investment
Withdrawn.

Motion 9: Publishing Accounts of GB National Teams
Mover: LYBL | Seconder: Sheffield Bruins
Discussion acknowledged past practice and need for transparency.
Vote:
In Favour: 104
Against: 0
Abstain: 0
Result: Motion Passed

11. Board Elections
RE proposed foregoing formal elections due to all positions being uncontested.
A show of hands agreed, with one abstention (County Durham).
Elected Officers (Unopposed)
Treasurer: Oona Ylinen
Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner: Chris Carter
Development Official: Lee Manning
Marketing & Communications Official: Stu Taylor

12. Close of Meeting
The meeting was formally closed at [time not specified].

2026 EGM MINUTES

MINUTES OF EGM HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER 2026

ONLINE VIA TEAMS 7.30PM

Present ; Richard Evans (President and Chair), Rod McCurdy (Secretary), Glenn Taylor (part), Lee Manning and Dave Becker, Stu Taylor (part) as Board Members

Senior Leagues Committee : Chris Carter, Joe O'Connell and Rhodri Theaker

Clubs Present : BC Vetra, Baseball Gwalia, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Bracknell, Brighton, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Cornwall, County Durham, Croydon, Essex, Exeter, Greenwich, Guildford, Herts, Hurricanes, Kent, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London Mets, London Monarchs, Long Eaton, LYBL, Manchester, Milton Keynes, New Forest, Newcastle, Newton Abbott, Northants, Norwich, Oxford Kings, Plymouth Outlaws, Richmond, Sheffield Bladerunners, Sheffield Bruins, Taunton, Bognor Regis, Tonbridge, Wellington, Weston, Wragby and Yeovil.

Apologies : Plymouth Mariners

1. **Welcome and Introduction**

   The President welcomed members to the EGM and explained the procedure for the meeting. Kevin Anderson and Jim Rea were appointed as tellers for the meeting with Elizabeth Yates managing the electronic voting system.

   The Secretary confirmed the meeting was valid against the requirements set out in Clause 6.5 of the Constitution and was quorate.

   Background Papers and Motions in Full : https://britishbaseball.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/BBF_EGM_Motions_23Sept2026.pdf

   The President opened the meeting.

2. **Demonstration and Trial of the Ballot Process**

   The Secretary explained how the electronic ballot would work and those present took part in a trial to validate it.

3. **Motion One**

   Constitutional Amendment: Removal of BBF Officials by Voting Members at General Meetings (Proposed by County Durham Spartans - Oriana Frame)

   Questions were raised about whether the motions should be allowed because of perceived conflicts with the constitution. After discussion the President ruled that they should proceed.

   Following the presentation by the proposer and discussion across the floor, the motion was put to the vote. The result was validated by the tellers.

   For : 90
   Against : 45
   Abstain : 11

   Motion One was carried

4. **Motion Two**

   Constitutional Amendment: Election Following Removal by Resolution by Voting Members, Removal by the Board, or Resignation (Proposed by Richmond Baseball Club - Jared Thornley)

Following the presentation by the proposer and discussion across the floor, the motion was put to the vote. The result was validated by the tellers.

For : 98
Against : 35
Abstain : 13

Motion Two was carried

5. **Motion Three A**

Removal of the Senior Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner and Issuance of Binding Mandate to the Board to Remove Specified Members of the Senior Leagues Committee (Proposed by Richmond Baseball Club - Paul Schulper)

Following the presentation by the proposer, Chris Carter responded to the motion having circulated the Senior Leagues Committee's response to the motion.

Following discussion and questions from the floor the motion was put to the vote. The result was validated by the tellers.

For : 59
Against : 60
Abstain : 27

Motion Three A was lost

As a result of Motion Three A being rejected by the meeting, Motion Three B automatically fell.

6. **Motion Four**

Constitutional Amendment and Reform of the Voting Model (Proposed by Croydon Pirates Baseball Club - Mark Bonney)

Following the presentation by the proposer and discussion from the present, the motion was put to the vote and validated by the tellers.

For : 79
Against : 52
Abstain : 4
No vote : 11

Motion Four was carried

7. **Summary**

Following the results of the voting, the President confirmed that the changes to the constitution would come into effect immediately and that the Board would update the document and publish on the BBF website.

The President thanked all those attending and closed the meeting at 22.50.

QUORUM & VOTING

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The AGM will be quorate if at least **33.3%** of the Voting Members are present.

To be quorate at this AGM, there must be at least **22** Voting Members present.
The motions (resolutions) considered at this AGM shall each be separately voted upon. Each resolution shall be voted by a Member as 'Yes', 'No' or 'Abstain'. For a motion (resolution) to be approved, the number of 'Yes' votes must exceed the total of 'No' votes that are cast.

The total number of votes for voting members is subject to change prior to the AGM. In line with 6.18. of the BBF Constitution, any members that are deemed unfinancial will be informed of their status 14 days prior to the AGM.

VOTING MEMBERS 2026

CLUB / MEMBER	VOTES	SENIOR COMMISSIONER	YOUTH COMMISSIONER
Alderley Edge Baseball	1	—	1
Baseball Softball Gwalia	1	—	—
BC VETRA	1	—	—
Birmingham Baseball Club	4	2	2
Bournemouth Bears	1	1	—
Bracknell Baseball and Softball Club	3	3	—
Brighton Baseball Club	5	3	2
Bristol Baseball Club	5	4	1
British Blind Baseball	1	—	—
Broughton Astley Black Sox	1	—	1
Cambridge Baseball Club	5	3	3
Cardiff Merlins	2	2	—
Cornwall Baseball Club	2	2	—
County Durham Spartans Baseball Club	1	1	—
Croydon Pirates Baseball Club	5	3	2
East London Latin Boys	1	1	—
Edinburgh Baseball Club	1	—	—
Edinburgh Rays Baseball Club	1	—	—
Essex Baseball Club	5	5	2
Exeter Baseball Club	2	2	—
Glasgow Baseball Association	1	—	1
Greenwich Giants Baseball Club	2	—	2
Guildford Baseball Club	4	2	2

CLUB / MEMBER	VOTES	SENIOR COMMISSIONER	YOUTH COMMISSIONER
Harwich Town Bay Area Blues Baseball Club	1	1	—
Hastings Pirates Baseball Club	1	1	—
Herts Baseball Club	5	5	3
Hildenborough Hurricanes Baseball Club	3	2	1
Hull Scorpions	1	1	—
Kent Baseball Club	2	2	—
Leeds Locos Baseball Club	3	2	1
Leicester Blue Sox	3	2	1
Liverpool Trojans Baseball Club	3	3	—
London Archers Baseball	4	—	4
London Mets Baseball and Softball Club	5	5	1
London Monarchs	4	—	4
Long Eaton Baseball Club	2	1	1
LYBL	5	1	5
Manchester Baseball Club	3	3	—
Middlesex Baseball Club	1	1	—
Milton Keynes Bucks	2	3	
New Forest Baseball	2	2	—
Newark Nationals Baseball Club	1	1	—
Newcastle Nighthawks	1	1	—
Newton Abbot Brewers	1	1	—
Northants Centurions	3	2	1
Norwich Iceni Baseball Club	2	2	—
Oxford Kings Baseball Club	2	1	1
Plymouth Mariners Baseball Club	1	1	—

CLUB / MEMBER	VOTES	SENIOR COMMISSIONER	YOUTH COMMISSIONER
Plymouth Outlaws	2	2	—
Richmond Baseball Club	5	5	1
Scotland Werewolves	1	—	—
Sheffield Bladerunners Baseball Club	2	2	—
Sheffield Bruins Baseball Club	3	2	1
South West Serpents	1	1	—
Taunton Baseball Club	2	2	—
The Bognor Regis Baseball Club CIO	1	1	—
Tiverton Baseball Club	1	—	—
Tonbridge Baseball Club	2	2	—
Torrington Riptides Baseball Club	1	1	—
Wakefield Crows	1	—	—
Wellington Khaki Sox	1	1	—
Weston Jets Baseball Club	1	1	—
Wragby Warhammers Baseball Club	1	1	—
Yeovil Whirlwinds Baseball Club	1	1	—
Kevin Macadam – Life Member	1	—	—
Michael Harrold – Life Member	1	—	—

BUDGET AND FINANCIALS

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2025 /26 ACTUAL VS BUDGET

Club income	Fee	Quantity	Actual	Budget	Variance - fav/(adv)
Seniors - Tier 1	£150	94	£18,895	£14,100	£4,795
Seniors - Tier 2	£75	8	£325	£600	(£275)
Womens	£75	8	£0	£600	(£600) ^1
Youth - Super League	£100	25	£2,820	£2,500	£320
Youth - Mix and Match	£50	15	£750	£750	£0
			£22,790	£18,550	£4,240
Individual player registration	**Fee**	**Quantity**			
Adult	£25	2000		£50,000	(£50,000)
Student	£12.50	150		£1,875	(£1,875)
Youth	£12.50	500		£6,250	(£6,250)
			£58,510	£58,125	£385 ^2
Events					
Summer Cup			£5,100	£6,000	(£900)
Coaching events				£2,000	(£2,000)
Over-45s tournament			£34	£1,500	(£1,466) ^3
			£5,134	£9,500	(£4,366)
Other income					
National teams (insurance & admin)			£52,028	£4,000	£48,028
Sponsorship				£5,000	(£5,000)
Fines			£1,095	£1,000	£95
Umpire shirt sales			£2,525	£1,000	£1,525
			£55,648	£11,000	£44,648
Non Budgeted Income					
Youth U16 league			£900		£900
EPP			£14,365		£14,365
GB shop sales			£985		£985
Other miscellaneous			£6,943		£6,943
WBC award			£113,824		£113,824
Total income			£279,099	£97,175	£181,924
Ringfenced funds					
WBC development fund			£6,584	£9,464	£2,880
GB travel insurance				£2,500	£2,500
Girls in baseball grant			£218	£1,923	£1,705
Baseball5 grant				£1,752	£1,752
			£6,801	£15,639	£8,838

Admin expenses			
Combined liability insurance	£26,259	£8,000	(£18,259)
Personal accident insurance		£3,300	£3,300
International relations (inc. WBC26)	£3,226	£9,500	£6,274
Board expenses	£2,205	£2,500	£295
AGM	£906	£2,000	£1,094
National teams admin	£64,800	£1,500	(£63,300)
International affiliations	£500	£500	
European cup support	£1,235	£1,000	(£235)
WBSC registration platform	£1,800	£1,750	(£50)
Comms, media, and marketing	£812	£1,800	£988
Accounting & Bank Charges	£777	£600	(£177)
Disciplinary and enforcement boards		£500	£500
Bad debt write-off		£500	£500
	£102,521	£33,450	(£69,071)
Seniors postseason			
Fields	£7,500	£7,500	£0 ^4
Officials	£4,972	£5,000	£28
Media	£3,475	£4,800	£1,325
First Aid	£775	£2,500	£1,725
Trophies		£500	£500
Balls		£500	£500
	£16,722	£20,800	£4,078
August regional tournaments and YNBCs			
Venues	£6,098	£2,400	(£3,698)
Officials	£746	£2,000	£1,254
First aid		£2,000	£2,000
Balls	£435	£600	£165
Trophies		£500	£500
	£7,279	£7,500	£221
Other events			
Summer Cup	£8,931	£5,000	(£3,931) ^5
Over-45s	£685	£1,000	£315
	£9,615	£6,000	(£3,615)
Development funds			
Youth development		£5,000	£5,000

Officials development	£4,722	£5,000	£278
Coaches development		£4,000	£4,000
National teams development	£385	£4,000	£3,615
	£5,108	£18,000	£12,892

Non Budgeted Expenses		
Field Development	£1,000	(£1,000)
EPP	£18,418	(£18,418)
Youth U-16 league	£1,261	(£1,261)
Legal Fees	£16,741	(£16,741)
Umpire Shirts	£4,500	(£4,500)
Other (incl prior FY expenses)	£3,738	(£3,738)
	£45,658	(£45,658)

Total expenses	£193,704	£101,389	(£92,315)
Surplus / deficit	£85,396	(£4,214)	£89,610
Reserves at start of budget year	£15,827	£15,827	£0
Future forecast	£101,223	£11,613	£89,610

^1 - Women's club income included within Tier 1 / Tier 2 income
^2 - SAGE does not separate the IPR fees
^3 - timing elements; income received Oct 25, accounted for in 2024 / 25 accounts
^4 - expenditure accrued - awaiting invoices
^5 - expenditure includes 4,528 for officials

BALANCE SHEET REPORT

ASSETS		
Fixed Assets		
	Total Fixed Assets	£0.00
Current Assets		
0020 - British Baseball Federation	111,634.18	
0090 - BBF - GB Baseball	22,877.70	
0100 - BBF - Little League	2,361.48	
0110 - BBF - GB Seniors Men	605.44	
0120 - BBF - GB U12s	5,715.17	
0130 - BBF - GB U15s	7,883.14	
0140 - BBF - GB U18s	635.69	
0150 - BBF - GB U23s	27,044.46	
0160 - BBF - GB Seniors Women	26,518.40	
8800 - Trade Debtors	11,551.75	
	Total Current Assets	£216,827.41
	TOTAL ASSETS	£216,827.41

LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
8810 - Trade Creditors	6,098.00	
8940 - Accrued Expenses	15,864.62	
	Total Current Liabilities	£21,962.62

Future Liabilities		
	Total Future Liabilities	£0.00
	TOTAL LIABILITIES	£21,962.62
	TOTAL NET ASSETS	£194,864.79

EQUITY		
9997 - GB Bank account Op Bals	93,641.48	
Net Profit / Loss	101,223.31	
Net Profit / Loss (current year)	101,223.31	
	TOTAL EQUITY	£194,864.79

PROFIT AND LOSS REPORT

Sales		
0040 - Refunded payments (incoming)	841.49	
2000 - Adult team fees - Tier 1	18,895.00	
2010 - Adult team fees - Tier 2	325.00	
2020 - Youth league team fees	2,900.00	
2021 - Youth U16 league	900.00	
2030 - Youth registration - basic provision	750.00	
2040 - Fee discounts (pro-rata or upgrade)	-80.00	
2050 - GB shop sales	985.15	
2060 - Umpire shirt sales	2,525.00	
2070 - Over-45s	34.00	
2080 - Fines	1,095.00	
2100 - IPR	58,510.01	
3000 - EPP	14,365.34	
3200 - National teams admin - income	52,027.80	
3400 - Summer Cup - income	5,100.00	
7640 - Travel insurance	306.34	
7650 - Legal fees reimbursement	5,795.35	
9000 - WBC	113,823.91	
	Total Sales	£279,099.39

Direct Expenses	
0050 - Refunded payments (outgoing)	315.00
1110 - Board expenses	2,204.59
1120 - AGM	906.00
1130 - International affiliations	500.00
1140 - International relations	3,226.12
1150 - MyWBSC registration platform	1,800.00
3100 - EPP - expenditure	18,418.09
3210 - National teams admin - expenditure	64,800.28
3220 - WBC award spend	6,583.75
3300 - European Cup support	1,235.00
3401 - Summer Cup - expenditure	4,402.27

5010 - Venues	14,373.00	
5020 - Officials	12,759.99	
5030 - Media	3,474.99	
5040 - Balls	434.99	
5100 - Over-45s tournament	684.68	
6000 - Unallocated purchases	689.20	
6001 - Girls in Baseball Festivals	217.62	
7001 - Teamo	219.96	
7002 - Officials development	4,722.37	
7003 - National Teams development	385.20	
7004 - Field development	1,000.00	
7005 - Umpire shirts purchase	4,500.00	
	Total Direct Expenses	£147,853.10
	GROSS PROFIT / LOSS	£131,246.29
Overheads		
5200 - U16 league - expenditure	1,260.50	
7000 - Marketing, communication, and media	812.40	
7600 - Legal Fees	16,741.00	
7610 - Accountancy Fees	721.20	
7630 - Combined liability insurance	26,259.46	
7900 - Bank Charges	55.95	
9998 - Opening Balance	-15,827.53	
	Total Overheads	£30,022.98
	NET PROFIT / LOSS	£101,223.31

2027 BUDGET

Club income		Fee	Quantity	
	Seniors - Tier 1	£150	125	£18750
	Seniors - Tier 2	£75	10	£750
	Womens	£75	10	£750
	Youth - Super League	£100	25	£2500
	Youth - Mix and Match	£50	40	£2000
				£24750
Individual player registration		**Fee**	**Quantity**	
	Adult	£25	2500	£62500
	Student	£12,50	200	£2500
	Youth	£12,50	1000	£12500
				£77500
Events				
	Summer Cup			£9000
	Coaching events			£2000
	Over-45s tournament			£2000
				£13000
Other income				
	National teams (insurance & admin)			£4000
	WBC Legacy Fund			
	EPP 2027			£25000
	Sponsorship			£10000
	Fines			£1000
	Umpire shirt sales			£1000
				£41000
Total income				£156250
Ringfenced funds				
	WBC Legacy Fund			
	GB travel insurance			£2500
	Girls in baseball grant			£1923
	Baseball5 grant			£1752
				£6175

Admin expenses		
	Combined liability insurance	£30000
	Personal accident insurance	£3300
	International relations (inc. WBC26)	£3000
	Board expenses	£2500
	AGM	£2000
	Audit Fee (subject to motion being carried)	£3000
	National teams admin	£1500
	International affiliations	£500
	WBSC European cup support	£1500
	WBSC registration platform	£1750
	Comms, media, and marketing	£2000
	Accounting	£600
	Disciplinary and enforcement boards	£500
	Bad debt write-off	£500
		£52650
Seniors postseason		
	Fields	£7500
	Officials	£5000
	Media	£4800
	First Aid	£2500
	Trophies	£500
	Balls	£500
		£20800
August regional tournaments and YNBCs		
	Venues	£7000
	Officials	£5000
	First aid	£2000
	Balls	£600
	Trophies	£500
		£15100
Other events		
	Summer Cup	£9000
	Over-45s	£1000
		£10000

Development funds		
	Youth development	£25000
	Officials development	£5000
	Coaches development	£4000
	National teams development	£4000
		£38000
Total expenses		£142725
Surplus / deficit		£13525
Reserves at start of budget year		£101233
Budget reserves end of year		£114748

BOARD OFFICIAL REPORTS

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P35 - President - Richard Evans

P39 - Interim Treasurer's Report - Paul Auchterlounie (co-opted)

P42 - Secretary

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P46 - National Teams Programme Official - Glen Robertson

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P51 - Youth Commissioner - Glenn Taylor

P52 - Officials Commissioner - Dave Becker

P55 - Marketing & Communications - Stu Taylor

PRESIDENTS REPORT

As I write my report for the 2026 AGM, it is with the knowledge that this will be my final report as President of the British Baseball Federation. I will not be seeking re-election when my two-year term concludes at this AGM.

It has been a privilege to serve as President and, while there have undoubtedly been challenges during the past two years, I believe the Federation and British baseball are in a stronger position in a number of important areas. Equally, it would be wrong for this report simply to catalogue successes. There are areas where we have not achieved everything we wanted, where relationships have at times been difficult, and where the next Board will need to continue the work of improving how the Federation operates and communicates with its members.

The 2026 Domestic Season

The most important measure of the health of the Federation remains the baseball played and officiated every week by our clubs, players, coaches, officials and volunteers.

More than 100 senior teams, a record, were involved in the structure planned for the 2026 season, and once again an enormous number of games were organised and played across the country. This depends on club officials preparing fields, arranging travel, finding coaches and umpires, administering teams and dealing with the countless practical issues involved in putting baseball onto the field every weekend.

The season concluded with competitive playoffs across all five senior divisions. London Mets won the National Baseball League championship, Brighton Brewers took the Division Two title, and Milton Keynes Bucks, Herts Hawks and London Mastodons won their respective championships as the remaining divisions concluded at Farnham Park. Congratulations go not only to those champions but to every club that completed the season.

The introduction of Division Five was a great success allowing new players the opportunity to compete on a much more level playing field.
There remain challenges within the senior game. The geographic spread of British baseball creates considerable travelling demands; umpire availability and development continue to require attention; and there are significant differences between our largest established clubs and smaller or developing clubs. We must continue finding the right balance between competitive baseball at the highest domestic level and sustainable competition that allows developing clubs and teams to survive and grow.

Youth Baseball

Youth baseball has been one of the most encouraging areas of development during 2026. Forty-four youth programmes registered for the season, representing a substantial increase on the previous year. The Youth National Baseball League continued to develop and, importantly, the Federation introduced an inaugural U16 competition in partnership with the GB National Teams programme.

That initiative addresses an important gap. Players progressing through youth baseball need meaningful competition and development opportunities before moving fully into senior baseball. Creating a stronger connection between our clubs, youth programmes and the GB pathway should remain a priority.
The Margaret Borley Youth National Championships again provided an excellent conclusion to the youth

season, with national competitions at U10, U12 and U14 level. Growth now needs to translate into sustained player numbers, more coaches, better facilities and a pathway that keeps young players in baseball as they become teenagers and young adults.

Women's Baseball

The Women's Baseball programme continued in 2026 through the Mix & Match format, providing a flexible and welcoming environment in which women and girls can participate without necessarily committing immediately to a conventional full-season league structure.

Women's and girls' baseball has considerable potential but requires further development. We need more players, more sustainable local opportunities and stronger pathways from participation into regular competition. The next phase should be judged not simply by the number of events organised but by whether we create lasting opportunities for women and girls to play baseball throughout Great Britain.

Great Britain Baseball

Internationally, 2026 has been another significant year. The Senior National Team competed at the World Baseball Classic in Houston against some of the strongest baseball nations in the world. Although GB did not progress from the group, the 8-1 victory over Brazil secured automatic qualification for the next World Baseball Classic.

That is an important achievement. Great Britain is no longer simply seeking occasional qualification for major international tournaments; there is now an expectation that we should compete regularly on that stage.

There is also the added bonus of the WBC prize money which is going to support the grassroots development through the Legacy Programme as well as supporting GB U23s, the age groups and Women's National Team.

Next weekend, Great Britain will participate in the WBSC Premier12 qualifying tournament in Zhongshan, China. GB's inclusion is another indication of how far the senior programme has progressed internationally. We should also recognise Great Britain's bronze medal at the Blind Baseball International Cup.

We also can't forget the achievements of the GB U23s who are European champions and are competing in their second successive World Cup.

It was also a ground breaking season for the Women's National Team who as European champions competed in the WBSC World Cup Qualifier in Taiwan. Horrendous weather severely hampered the games but the team performed extremely well against formidable opposition.

The progress of GB Baseball brings opportunities but also challenges.

International baseball is increasingly expensive and complex. We need transparent governance, sustainable funding and clear accountability between the Federation, the performance programme and the funding partners. Success at national-team level must also benefit the domestic game, creating a genuine pathway from a local British club to representing Great Britain on the world stage.

Governance and the Federation

The Board has worked hard to improve the governance and transparency of the Federation. Board minutes and financial information are published, policies have been reviewed and updated, and work has continued to clarify responsibilities within the Federation. We have also sought to improve the resources available to clubs through the Members Hub and other Federation material.

However, governance is not simply about having the right documents. The Federation experienced disagreements during 2026 and an EGM was requested by more than 40% of Voting Members and held in September. Whatever individual views may have been about the issues involved, when that number of clubs requests a General Meeting, the Board has a responsibility to listen.
There have been occasions when communication between the Federation and clubs could have been better. There have also been occasions when decisions taken in good faith by the Board have not been sufficiently well explained or understood. That is something from which the Federation should learn.

There will always be disagreement in a member-led sporting organisation. The test is whether those disagreements can be dealt with openly, respectfully and through the democratic structures of the Federation. The relationship between the Board and member clubs must remain central to the way the BBF operates.

The Future Structure of Baseball and Softball
One of the most important issues facing the incoming Board will be the proposed creation of a single National Governing Body bringing together the BBF, British Softball Federation and BaseballSoftballUK. The three organisations are working through the OneOrg process, with a target of establishing the new structure by 31 March 2027.

There are strong arguments for a single organisation, including the potential advantages of bringing governance, development and performance together. But there are also legitimate questions that must be answered. Any new organisation must protect the interests and identity of baseball, provide proper representation for our clubs, safeguard GB Baseball, establish transparent financial arrangements and ensure that the people who actually play and deliver the sport retain a meaningful voice.

Most importantly, this is not a decision that the BBF Board can or should make alone. Under the Federation's Constitution, fundamental decisions concerning merger, transfer of the BBF's NGB authority and transfer of the National Team programmes require the approval of the Voting Members. The Board should therefore continue to engage positively in OneOrg, but the final proposition must be put before our clubs with sufficient information for them to make an informed decision.

What We Still Need to Improve
British baseball has made progress, but we should not exaggerate where we are. We still need more and better facilities; more umpires and officials and a sustainable structure for recruiting, training and retaining them; continued improvement in coach education; a stronger relationship between domestic baseball and the GB programme; and a way to turn encouraging youth growth into long-term adult participation.
We also need to develop women's and girls' baseball much further and improve communication and trust across the Federation.

Without doubt, the Federation has grown in size over the past five or six years and has become more complex from governance and financial perspectives.

Perhaps most importantly, we need more people prepared to volunteer. A relatively small number of people continue to carry a very substantial workload at club, league and national level. That is neither fair nor sustainable indefinitely.

Closing Remarks

When I became President two years ago, I knew that the role would not always be straightforward. British baseball is a relatively small sporting community, but it contains people with enormous passion for the game and, inevitably, strongly held opinions about how it should be run. That passion is one of our greatest strengths.

During my term there have been decisions that have been popular and others that have not. There are things that, with hindsight, I would undoubtedly approach differently. But every significant decision I have taken as President has been taken because I believed it was in the best interests of the Federation and British baseball.

I am particularly encouraged by the growth of youth baseball, the continued strength and breadth of our senior leagues, the progress of GB Baseball on the international stage and the increasing recognition that the Federation must operate transparently and professionally. I am also conscious that significant decisions lie immediately ahead, particularly around OneOrg and the future governance of baseball in Great Britain.

I hope the incoming President and Board will approach those decisions positively but independently, and that member clubs will remain fully involved in determining the future of their Federation.

Finally, I want to thank my fellow Board members, Commissioners, committee members, club officials, coaches, umpires, scorers, volunteers, parents and everyone else who has given their time to British baseball during the past two years. Most of all, I want to thank our clubs and players. The Federation exists for you.

I will leave the Presidency realistic about what remains to be done, and confident that British baseball has considerable potential if we continue to work together.

Richard Evans

INTERIM TREASURER'S REPORT

Scope: this report is based on my period as Interim Treasurer following the resignation of Oona Ylinen, Treasurer, in August 2026. My knowledge of the transactions up to that date is non existent. I was co-opted to the board as Treasurer on 14th September running until the AGM with a brief primarily to update all transactions to the end of the financial year and also to prepare this oversight report.

Background: I am a qualified accountant with over 20 years' experience gained in industry in senior positions, reporting to directors / owners on financial performance.

BBF financial position for year end 30th September 2026
The profit & loss (P&L) for the federation has been predominantly prepared on a cash basis. There were a number of payments made in October that relate to the 2026 post season so I have included these as expenses within the P&L for the current year rather than in the 2026/27 financial year if it were prepared on a cash basis.

Performance Actual Vs Budget
Per the Summary in appendix 1 the federation had a surplus for the year 85,396 vs a budget deficit of (4,214), a favourable variance of 89,610.

INCOME
Income from clubs is broadly in line with budget - a small favourable variance of 4,240.

Individual player registrations - overall in line with budget. Whilst budget is separated by player age, the receipts are not analysed in this manner when received into the bank, so a like-for-like comparison of income is not readily available.

Individual event income shows a shortfall in the year however it is my belief that this is simply due to timing of income receipts. For the Over-45s, the income received in October 2025 appears to have been accounted for in the 2024 / 25 accounts; the income received in October 2026 for the same event has not been included in the 2025 / 26 accounts as the event occurs in the 2026 / 27 financial year.

Other budgeted Income received significant funds in, relating to the National Teams, although no Sponsorship Income was generated.

Other Additional Income that was not anticipated and not included in the Budget = 137,018, primarily due to an award for the WBC of 113,824

Overall Actual Income exceeds Budget Income by 181,924

EXPENDITURE
Admin expenses was heavily adverse to budget due to Combined liability insurance. This may be as a result of changes in the overall insurance market at the time of renewal.

National Teams admin heavily overspent vs budget although this is partially offset by significant funds received in relation to NT's as mentioned above.

Seniors Postseason - the venue costs appear not to have been invoiced yet at the time of preparing this report for the members, so the costs have been accrued to budget expecting these invoices to be received post year end. Media and first aid costs favourable to budget.

Youth regionals and NBC's - venue costs significantly higher than budget, per invoice from BSUK for the weekend at Farnham.
Other Events - officials (umpires and scorers) at the Summer Cup attributed to the adverse variance to budget.

Savings were made in development expenditure and Non Budgeted Expenditure included some high

value expenses. Emerging Player Program (EPP) incurred a loss of (4,053), with players paying to attend the various camps held across the year.

Significant Legal Fees expenses of 16,741 were offset by a reimbursement of 5,795, a net expense of 10,946

RESERVES
The BBF main bank account stands at a balance of 111,634 at the end of the financial year.
As stated above, buoyed by the WBC contribution of 113,824 received during the year.
One team fee remained outstanding as at the year end. This is being followed up and chased for payment by the board.

As at the year end the BBF owed 6,098 in outstanding invoices received – these expenses are included in the financial year. This 6,048 is owed to BSUK for hire of Farnham Park for Youth NBCs

OTHER NOTES
There are additional funds of which the members need to be made aware.
The BBF also has responsibility for running a number of other bank accounts, for specific areas of baseball. These are:

- BBF Little League – Balance at 30th September 2,361
- BBF GB Baseball – Balance at 30th September 22,878
- BBF GB Seniors (Men) – Balance at 30th September 605
- BBF GB U12s – Balance at 30th September 5,715
- BBF GB U15s – Balance at 30th September 7,883
- BBF GB U18s – Balance at 30th September 636
- BBF GB U23s – Balance at 30th September 27,044
- BBF GB Womens National Team – Balance at 30th September 26,518

Total of additional funds under control of BBF = 93,640

These balances are now reflected in the Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2026 however there are no transactions included in the P&L for the year. Adding in the accounts allows the membership to see the total of all the assets under control of the BBF board.

Going forward the accounts can then be split across the various age groups for GB baseball providing greater visibility of the BBF remit and operations.

The BBF also operates foreign currency accounts using Wise, to more easily facilitate receipts and payments when required in USD, EUR or CAD. These balances are small and any payments / receipts are transferred out of / into the current account(s) prior to being made. This is done to minimise FX impacts, the rates being generally more favourable when compared to the retail current account(s). There are restrictions to FX transactions in SAGE that currently prevent these balances being reflected in the accounts.

Interim Treasurer explanation and recommendations:
The BBF has chosen to utilise SAGE for Accountants as a package to record the financial transactions within the BBF. There are small fees associated with managing this package.

The growth of baseball over the past years has resulted in a federation that requires much more than admin of games played on a Sunday. It has become a more complex organisation, due in part to the development pathways of the youth players across the country, as reflected in the managing of funds highlighted above.

With the additional 8 bank accounts to monitor and reconcile across a financial year the burden on whomever takes on the role of Treasurer becomes quite substantial in terms of time required. I would estimate, based even on my relatively short time in post, that adding in those additional accounts the amount of time taken to manage / reconcile everything, along with all the other admin associated with the post (invoicing, chasing payment of invoices, logging payments etc.) could well end up becoming 15-20

hours per week.

It would therefore be my second recommendation that the incoming BBF board seriously consider the engagement of professional bookkeeping services, even at the additional cost.
The role of Treasurer would then become an oversight role for those services and a conduit between the service provider and the board / members.

APPENDIX 1 – Actual vs Budget Summary P&L - see page 23
APPENDIX 2 – Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2026 - see page 27

Note:
Accrued Expenses balance of 15,864.62 made up of the following:

Post Season officials costs, paid post yr end	3,464.26
Post Season Venue costs, invoices not received	7,500.00
NBC media costs, paid post yr end	1,475.00
EPP camp expenses paid post yr end	3,219.86
GB U12 expenses	205.50

SECRETARY'S REPORT

This report provides an overview of the Federation's governance and administrative work during the reporting period. It has been prepared on behalf of the British Baseball Federation (BBF) Board for consideration by member clubs at the November 2026 Annual General Meeting. It is intended to complement the President's report and other papers presented to the AGM.

Board and secretariat

Rod McCurdy was co-opted to the BBF Board in early 2026 and served during the year before resigning in early October 2026. The Board records its thanks to Rod for the time and contribution he made during his period of service. Following his resignation, the Board has taken collective responsibility for the preparation of this Secretary's report. The Federation continues to rely substantially on the commitment of volunteer directors, officers and others who support its governance and administration.
Governance and constitutional matters

During the year, the Board has continued to address its responsibilities for the oversight of the Federation, including the application of its constitution, the operation of Board processes and the implementation of revised policies and procedures relevant to member clubs and national programmes. The importance of clear decision-making, proper records, accountability and fair procedures has remained central to this work. The Board recognises that effective governance depends not only on the existence of policies but also on their consistent application and periodic review.

Engagement with member clubs

Member clubs are the foundation of the Federation and have an essential role in its democratic governance. The Board has sought to keep clubs informed of matters requiring consultation or formal decision, while recognising the need for timely information and opportunities to scrutinise significant proposals. The AGM provides an important occasion for clubs to receive reports, ask questions and exercise their constitutional rights.

National governing body structure

A significant strategic matter during the reporting period has been discussion of a potential single national governing body bringing together the functions of the BBF, the British Softball Federation and BaseballSoftballUK. These discussions have implications for constitutional arrangements, representation, governance, staffing and the future delivery of baseball and softball. The Board recognises that member clubs must receive sufficient information to assess any formal proposal. Any decision requiring the approval of BBF members will be taken through the applicable constitutional process; discussions alone do not constitute approval of a new structure.

Administration and priorities

The Federation's administrative priorities continue to include maintaining clear records and communications, supporting orderly meetings and elections, ensuring that governance documents remain fit for purpose, and providing an appropriate framework for complaints, conduct and welfare matters.
The Board also recognises the need to ensure that responsibilities between the BBF, GB Baseball programmes and partner organisations are clearly understood and documented.

Looking ahead

The period ahead will require continued attention to good governance, continuity in Board and officer roles, effective engagement with clubs, and careful consideration of any proposal for organisational change. The Board's priority should remain the protection of the Federation's responsibilities and the interests of its member clubs, players, officials and volunteers.

Acknowledgements

The Board thanks member clubs, directors, committee members, league administrators, coaches, officials and volunteers for their work during the year. Their contribution remains vital to the effective operation and development of baseball in Great Britain.

Prepared by the BBF Board for approval and inclusion in the AGM papers.

SENIOR LEAGUES

2026 was the year the BBF moved from stability to structural reform. Building on the foundations laid in 2025, the League Committee delivered two of the most ambitious changes to the senior league pyramid in recent memory: splitting the NBL into North and South divisions, and replacing Single-A with a new Division 5.

Both changes were bold, and both largely worked. Competitive balance improved at the top and bottom of the pyramid, and new players entered the sport through a far better first experience. The challenge for 2027 is to protect those gains by addressing the structural risks that remain in how clubs are run and how players move between them.

What Worked in 2026

NBL North and South divisions. Splitting the NBL created far better parity across the top flight.

Previously, the strongest northern players tended to consolidate into a single club, which became a de facto regional all-star team and made the northern end of the league uncompetitive. Regional divisions have spread that talent more evenly, produced closer games, and given more clubs a realistic route to contending. They have also reduced travel burden, which matters for volunteer-run clubs.

Division 5. The creation of Division 5 has been one of the most positive changes of the season.

Under the old single Single-A league, mismatches were frequent and often one-sided. That had knock-on effects across the pyramid: established teams avoided Single-A because they did not want to play the weakest sides, yet were not strong enough to compete in Double-A. Division 5 has given new and developing teams a level where games are genuinely competitive, and has given new players a much better first experience of the sport. That is the foundation of long-term growth. These were big, ambitious changes. Thank you to every club that engaged with them, adapted, and gave feedback through the season.

Challenges & Areas for Improvement

• **Movement of player groups between clubs:** The departure of a large group of players at once is now one of the biggest risks to club sustainability. A club can lose a core of its roster in a single offseason, undermining its ability to field teams, honour league commitments and plan ahead.

There is currently no mechanism to manage or mitigate this. The Committee will consult on options that protect clubs' planning certainty while respecting players' freedom to move. That consultation will run through an expanded Senior League Committee of 11 members, drawn from a diverse group across the wider baseball community. This builds on the 2025 player movement trial, where feedback from member clubs remains essential.

• **Club organisation standards:** Our expectations of how clubs are organised and governed remain well below those of comparable European federations. Raising them has met resistance, and we understand why: most clubs are volunteer-run and stretched. But stronger governance, continuity planning and dministration are what allow clubs to survive leadership changes, retain players and grow. Higher standards should be seen as an investment in clubs' futures, not a burden placed on them.

• **Club growth and promotion ambition:** The new structure only delivers if teams aim upwards.

We continue to encourage clubs to play for promotion rather than settle at a comfortable level, so that players are developed and the pyramid strengthens from the bottom up.

Looking Ahead to 2027

The offseason will again be busy. Our volunteers will review the NBL North/South and Division 5 structures against this season's results, develop proposals on player group movement and club organisation standards, and prepare league and pool forecasts for 2027 ahead of team registration and scheduling.

I'm proud of what the League Committee delivered this year. Changes of this scale are never easy, and they would not have worked without the commitment of clubs and volunteers across the country.

With the right follow-through, 2027 can be the year these reforms become the platform for sustained growth.

NATIONAL TEAMS

Recap of 2026.

2026 has been a packed & rewarding year for Great Britain (GB) Baseball, and there is still more to come! The seniors cemented their place with the world elite by securing automatic qualification to the next installment of the World Baseball Classic (WBC) expected to be held in 2030. The team performed admirably in Houston taking on and competing against the world's best players.

In addition, the Women's National Team (WNT) took their place on the global stage by competing in their 1st ever world cup hosted by Taiwan. Pietro Sollecito leading the team on the field. Whilst they were unable to secure a win, they played hard and made the opposition fight for every run and every out. In November, the 23U team, skippered once again by Jonathon Cramman competed in their 2nd successive World cup, hosted by the Nicaraguan Baseball federation. This has not taken place at the time of this report so further insight will be provided at the AGM.

At 12u and 18u age groups we had debutant head coaches. Lee Manning & Matt Moran led the teams to their respective European tournaments and competed at a high enough standard to retain their spots in the next instalment. The outcome is that for the 2nd year running GB Baseball will be represented at the A pool of European Championships in every division available.

John Eaton and his staff coached GB blind baseball to another medal. Adding to their 2025 silver in the European championship, by securing an incredible 3rd place & bronze medal in the international cup hosted by Italy. In addition, the 15U team once again led by Ian Griebenow toured Sweden racking up a series win as part of their 2027 development plans.

Lastly the senior team play a Premier 12 qualifier in China during late November. A top 2 finish will see them qualify for the 2027 Premier 12. which apart from being an Olympic qualifier will see GB face the worlds best teams such as USA, Japan, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic.

On behalf on the board of the British Baseball Federation, we would like to thank all of the Coaches & athletes for representing our sport and our country.

Practice & Development.

GB Baseball is more than a tournament team, we spend the Autumn, winter and spring developing the staff and athletes to be conditioned to face the challenges of the next season.

We have already held our staff training day, where the focus was on collaborating our knowledge and experiences across the programme. Winter practice has also commenced, and the preparation of our athletes is the central focus right now.

The year ahead.

There is no let up in the participation for GB Baseball in 2027. There is a crucial year ahead as it will determine if we achieve our 4-year plan as set out by the Performance Management Group (PMG) and qualify for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic games.

- 12U European Championship.
- 15U European Championship
- 18U Tour (TBD)

- 23U European Championship (Defending Champions)
- WNT European Championship (Defending Champions)
- Blind Baseball European Championship (TBD)
- Seniors European Championship (Regensburg)
- Premier 12 (If successful in qualifier)
- Olympic qualifier (If not already qualified and dependent on European Championship finish)

Closing remarks

None of the above is possible without the support of the Baseball family. On behalf of the British Baseball Federation, we would like to thank the coaching staff for giving their time and knowledge to make others be the best they can. The athletes for having the will and the fight for wanting to be the best they can. The family and friends of the athletes for having the belief in our athletes that they can be the best.

None of what has been achieved in 2026, and what we aim to deliver in 2027 can be achieved without the operations team led so brilliantly by Craig Savage. These guys are the unsung heroes and heroines who do not get to wear a uniform or their name called out in the line up or sometimes not even noted on the roster. Yet they work tirelessly all year around ensuring the communications, arranging facilities, logistics and countless other tasks that do not make the box scores. I am pleased to say that all of the staff, Paul Stodart, Beth Moran, Jon Baxendale, Richard Galvin, Luc Chignell & Ian Marchment have remained with the staff through 26/27.

DEVELOPMENT

Five Years, Several Hats and a Few Surprises

After five years serving as the BBF Development Official, I have decided that the time has come to step down from the Board.

When I joined in November 2021, I had plenty of ideas about developing British baseball, strengthening our clubs and creating more opportunities for players.

What I hadn't anticipated was just how many different hats I would end up wearing along the way!

In addition to Development Official, I've found myself covering Youth Commissioner, Anti-Doping Officer, assisting with GB programmes and, for a brief period, even stepping into the role of Interim Presiding Officer. I think it's fair to say the original job description was somewhat flexible!

Looking back, it's been an incredibly rewarding experience. There have been successes, frustrations, difficult conversations and probably more Zoom meetings than I care to remember. Above all, I've had the privilege of working alongside some remarkable people who give so much of their time to the sport we all love.

Building for the Future

One of my priorities when joining the Board was to look beyond individual seasons and consider how we could create a stronger, more sustainable future for British baseball.

Establishing the Development Committee was an important first step, bringing together people with different experiences and ideas who shared the ambition of moving our sport forward.

That work helped shape Our Future 2035, our long-term development strategy. While strategies and documents alone don't develop baseball, having a shared direction gives us something to work towards and, occasionally, something to remind us why we started in the first place.

Another area I'm particularly pleased to have been involved in is the Development Fund. Establishing a mechanism through which the Federation could directly support clubs and development projects was something I felt strongly about.
More recently, I've developed the framework for the WBC Legacy Fund, which I hope will provide meaningful support to clubs and communities across British baseball for years to come.

Delivery of this fund will now sit with the incoming Development Official, and I genuinely look forward to seeing the opportunities it creates.

Of course, none of these initiatives would have been possible without the support, ideas and hard work of fellow volunteers and colleagues. Development has always been a team effort.

Creating Opportunities

Youth baseball has occupied a considerable amount of my time during these five years, sometimes by design and sometimes because there was simply a job that needed doing!

Covering the Youth Commissioner position for three years gave me a greater appreciation of the challenges faced by clubs, coaches and families trying to provide opportunities for young players.

It reinforced something I've always believed: if we want British baseball to grow, we must invest in the next generation.

I've been pleased to support youth competitions, player pathways and initiatives encouraging senior clubs to play a greater role in developing young players.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of my time on the Board has been working with Major League Baseball through the London Legacy Committee. Helping create opportunities for British players to receive coaching from former MLB professionals and participate in events surrounding the London Series has been particularly rewarding.

Seeing the excitement on those young players' faces is a reminder of why we volunteer our time.

I've also enjoyed working with BaseballSoftballUK and other organisations to strengthen cooperation across the sport. Supporting BSUK's work on the Coaching Playbook is one example of what can be achieved when organisations work towards shared objectives.

British baseball is a relatively small community, and I firmly believe we achieve far more by working together than operating in isolation.

The Reality of Volunteering

I would be doing everyone a disservice if I suggested the last five years had been plain sailing.

Serving on the Board of a volunteer-led national governing body comes with its challenges. Competing priorities, differing opinions, limited resources and occasionally some rather lively discussions!

Not every idea has worked, not every ambition has been achieved, and there are certainly things I would approach differently if given the opportunity again.

I also recognise that my final year hasn't been my most productive as Development Official. My commitments to the Great Britain U12 programme have required considerable time and attention, inevitably affecting my availability for Board responsibilities.

While I would have liked to achieve more during this final year, I'm proud of my contribution over the five years as a whole.

One thing this experience has taught me is that progress rarely happens as quickly as we'd like. Sometimes a relatively simple idea can take an extraordinary amount of time, discussion and patience to become reality.

I've also gained a much greater appreciation of the challenges of governing a volunteer-led sport. It's easy to identify what needs improving from the outside. Finding practical solutions that work for everyone is rather different!

The People Behind the Game

If there's one thing I'll take away from my time on the Board, it's the people.

British baseball is fortunate to have extraordinary individuals who dedicate their evenings, weekends and often their own money to keeping the sport alive.

From coaches helping children take their first swings to volunteers preparing fields, organising competitions, umpiring games and managing clubs, these are the people who form the backbone of our sport.

I want to thank my fellow Board members, past and present, along with the committees, clubs and organisations I've worked alongside.
We haven't always agreed on everything, and I'm sure I've tested a few people's patience! But I've always appreciated the commitment and passion people bring to British baseball.

When I wrote my first report in 2022, I mentioned the rather unusual experience of attending Zoom meetings where someone had to leave to take a call from one of my favourite MLB catchers from the 1990s, while another featured the owner of the Savannah Bananas dressed in his famous yellow banana suit and top hat.
Five years later, the Zoom meetings haven't stopped, but I can safely say British baseball has introduced me to some interesting characters!

Looking Ahead
Although my time on the BBF Board is coming to an end, my involvement in British baseball certainly isn't.

I'll continue working with the Great Britain U12 programme, helping develop young players and hopefully playing a small part in preparing the next generation to represent their country.

I believe British baseball has tremendous potential, but realising it will require continued cooperation, patience and a willingness to put the long-term interests of the sport first.

To the incoming Development Official, I wish you every success. There is plenty of work still to be done, but also some fantastic opportunities ahead. I hope you enjoy the role as much as I have, although I'd recommend checking exactly how many additional job titles come with it!

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported me, challenged me and worked alongside me over these five years.

It's been a privilege to serve the Federation. I leave with fantastic memories, a few more grey hairs and a greater appreciation of the people who make British baseball what it is.

I'm not disappearing from baseball. I'll still be spending my weekends on baseball fields, coaching the GB U12s and helping develop the next generation of British baseball players.

I'm simply swapping Board meetings for batting practice — and that's a trade I'm quite happy to make!

YOUTH COMMISSIONER

Thank you to coaches, families, umpires, and volunteers for making 2026 a great year for youth.

2026 saw another big step up in youth – in numbers of players, clubs, and teams, and in what we aspire to achieve.

Season recap

Youth saw great growth again in 2026, with 856 registered youth players (+87% vs. 2024), including 492 under 13 (+72% vs. 2024). We welcomed 7 new youth programmes in 2026 – from Cornwall through the South and into the North.

2026 saw the youth requirement expand from NBL to include Division 2 as well. We began laying groundwork for this with clubs in the autumn of 2025. We saw very good compliance with the requirement and thank all the clubs who took it seriously; more importantly, clubs generally embraced youth as an important and rewarding initiative rather than solely fulfilling the requirement.

We made a big change in 2026 by de-emphasising mix & match and pushing to more league play. Mix & match had served an important purpose since its re-introduction in 2023, and we will continue to use it in some instances. But 2026 was an important point for us to normalise regular club vs. club game play. We re-branded the Super League (which had an intimidating sound to it) as the Youth National Baseball League (YNBL) and ran Central and Southeast divisions. The league featured 9 clubs and 20 teams, vs. 4 and 10, respectively, in 2024. We already have line of sight on a bigger league for 2027. What was a very participation-driven youth environment two years ago grew into a formidable league in 2026 and, frankly, the league's ambition and scale outgrew its management structure in 2026. We'll tighten important aspects of league ops in 2027 like scheduling, standings, and rules and work to minimise the travel burden of a growing league on families.

We also trialled a U16 draft league after running a club-based U16 in 2025. The league attracted great interest, with 50 registered players. We have had requests to continue to push for more opportunities for older youth players and also listened to feedback about how the league can run better.

Our national championships expanded to a 2-weekend qualifying and finals format. The Margaret Borley Youth National Baseball Championships 2026 took place over the last 2 weekends of September, with U10, U12, and U14 teams battling through tough brackets. The first weekend filled brackets for our final semi-final and finals championship weekend which saw Cambridge capture the U10 crown, with LYBL successfully defending its U12 and U14 titles. Congratulations to all who took part and to our champions.

On the international scene – our travel teams hosted tournaments at home and competed abroad, London Little League represented the UK at the Europe / Africa Qualifier in Kutno after winning a growing Little League UK Qualifier tournament, and BBF Lions and London Archers both competed in the Babe Ruth 13-16 World Series in the US.

A big thank you again to the entire youth community for all that you do.

OFFICIALS COMMISSIONER

The season in which qualification became the standard, rather than the exception.

87.8%	17	310	68.6%
games with a qualified umpire	Level 6 courses delivered	recorded Level 6 test passes	scores Submitted

At a glance: league compliance workbook; 2026 Level 6 training tracker; raw Zoho export (12 April–20 September 2026).

Overview

When I first took on this role, my priorities were to increase the number of qualified umpires, provide a genuine development pathway, and make sure officials received proper support. The first two years have moved us a long way towards those aims. The programme now has national course delivery, regular assessments, clearer club responsibilities and better information about what happens on the field.

The major change in 2026 was the requirement for Level 6-qualified umpires to officiate at BBF games. It was a significant step, particularly for clubs that had previously depended on whoever was available. Our figures show real progress. They also show where support and enforcement must improve.

Training, standards and progression

The 2026 training tracker records 17 completed Level 6 courses, 395 registrations and 310 candidates who took and passed the test. That is a 78.5% test participation rate against registrations. Courses reached clubs and regions across England, including established baseball areas and places where access to training has been more limited.

For comparison, the 2025 AGM report recorded ten Level 6 courses in the spring training programme and 86 newly qualified Level 6 umpires. The detailed 2026 tracker now records 310 test passes. These are separate reporting snapshots, but they demonstrate the scale at which delivery has expanded.

A course is only the starting point. The programme has strengthened its assessment pathway, supported progression towards Levels 5 and 4, and introduced a £500 European development bursary. I also had the opportunity to present the training structure and our direction of travel to Cris Jones, MLB Umpire Coordinator, who endorsed the approach. That recognition matters, but the greatest test is whether British baseball can rely on these officials every weekend.

Qualified umpire coverage

Across 1,150 senior leagues games recorded as played, 1,010 had a qualified umpire: 87.8% coverage. The workbook records an identified umpire for every fixture, but identification is not the same as qualification. The 140 fixtures not recorded as having a qualified umpire are the clearest operational gap for 2027.

Division	Played games	Qualified umpire	Coverage
NBL	110	110	**100.0%**
Division 2	79	79	**100.0%**
Division 3	300	238	79.3%
Division 4	369	319	86.4%
Division 5	265	247	93.2%
Development League	27	17	63.0%
All divisions	**1,150**	**1,010**	**87.8%**

Source: Compliance Analysis, "Total Stats". Percentages are games recorded with at least one qualified umpire; 80 forfeits are listed separately and excluded from the 1,150 played-game denominator.

NBL and Division 2 achieved full recorded coverage. The priority is now to bring Division 3, Division 4 and the Development League up to the same expectation, while maintaining the progress in Division 5. That means qualifying more than one club member wherever possible, improving pre-season planning, and intervening early when clubs struggle to identify a suitable official.

Scorecards: accountability and development

The compliance workbook contains 1,577 plate-score entries against 2,300 potential team-by-game returns, giving a mapped entry rate of 68.6%. The scorecard export contains 863 actual form submissions. These are different counts: the workbook is a game-level mapping, while the export is a submission-level record.

Scorecard return rates remain an area for improvement. Our priority is to make completion routine for both teams and reconcile the forms received against fixture records so that clubs and the Officials team have a reliable picture of compliance. The Zoho forms also contained 396 second-umpire assessments, providing 1,259 individual umpire ratings in total.

Across those 1,259 assessments, the average overall score was 80.0 out of 100. Looking at the first umpire assessment in each form, conduct scored highest at 8.44 out of 10; consistency and judgement was lowest at 7.67. These are subjective club ratings, not independently observed performance measures, but they give the Umpire Director and his team useful themes for coaching, feedback and further assessment.

Scoring and further development

Umpiring is only half of the Officials portfolio. Working with Scoring Director Jason Toms, we continued pre-season scorer education and began developing a more formal training and accreditation pathway. The 2026 budget tracker records six scoring clinics with 190 registrations: 120 for introductory sessions and 70 for the "Tricky Bits" series.

The longer-term objective is a recognised domestic scoring pathway, with a route towards European competition for those who want to progress. The same principle applies to umpires: recruit, train, assess, support and provide opportunities beyond the domestic league.

Respect, retention and welfare

No training programme can succeed if officials feel that poor behaviour is simply part of the job. The RESPECT campaign was introduced by me to set expectations for players, coaches and spectators, online and at the field. One public incident of abuse was reported in 2025 and addressed. At the time of this

report, no public incidents had been reported to the programme in 2026. That is a positive sign, although it is a count of reports received, not proof that unacceptable conduct no longer occurs.

Our approach remains straightforward: make reporting accessible, take complaints seriously, deal with problems promptly and make sure officials know that they will be supported. It is particularly important for new umpires who are still building confidence.

Programme investment and value

The training budget shows that substantial delivery has been achieved within a controlled allocation. The following are the recorded amounts, rather than an estimate of all volunteer time or the full economic cost of the programme.

Recorded 2026 item	Amount
Level 6 instructor fees and expenses	£3,415.93
Level 4/5 assessments – BUCS	£869.00
Level 4/5 assessments – Summer Cup	£1,804.18
European development grant allocation	£500.00
Recorded programme and grant outlays	£6,589.11

Level 6 teaching and instructor expenses equated to approximately £11.02 per recorded test pass, excluding costs not captured in that line. The budget sheet starts with £5,000, adds £2,310 in jersey receipts, deducts £208.25 postage and the outlays above, and records £512.64 remaining. It is a useful indication of cost control, not a complete audited financial statement.

Priorities for 2027

- Close the qualification gap in Division 3, Division 4 and the Development League, while protecting full NBL and Division 2 coverage.
- Make scorecard submission routine for both teams after every game, with reliable reconciliation between forms and league records.
- Continue Level 6 delivery in underserved areas and develop more assessors and higher-level progression opportunities.
- Complete the scorer training and certification pathway, including preparation for European appointments.
- Keep the RESPECT standard visible and provide prompt, practical support whenever an official reports concerns.

Closing remarks

I want to thank Mike Shepard, the Assistant Umpire Directors, our instructors and assessors, Jason Toms and the scoring community, and all the clubs that hosted training or encouraged their members to qualify. This work depends on volunteers giving their time and taking the responsibility seriously.

Two years ago we were talking about the need for a wider umpire base and a clear pathway. We now have both. The next step is not another headline initiative: it is making those standards consistent, week after week, in every division. That is where the programme will make its greatest difference.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

It's been a busy year on the marketing side, from designing and creating sponsorship decks for the GB Women's team and helping with the launch of the EPP, with thanks to Jess Horton for her work, to writing reports for the YNBCs.

Unfortunately, due to some personal issues over the past 12 months, I haven't been able to commit as much time to the role as I would have liked.

Website

Further work has been carried out on the website over the past 12 months to ensure it remains technically up to date. Enhancements have been made to the team finder database, alongside improvements to the admin area to make it easier for any board member to upload and publish meeting minutes, ensuring continuity should I step away from the role or be replaced in the future.

There is still more work to be done, but we are in a far better position with the current website than we were with its previous iteration.

The website has seen a significant increase in traffic, with usage up 273%, attracting over 101,000 visitors and generating 229,000 page views.

Social Media

Our BBF Facebook statistics have declined this year. On average, our posts are reaching only around 10% of our followers as Facebook continues to change how it distributes content and users' habits evolve.

With social media increasingly shifting towards short-form video content, this presents a challenge in how we consistently engage with our audience, particularly given our lack of regular, high-quality video content.

Thanks in large part to the World Baseball Classic, GB Baseball's social media channels saw significant growth, with followers increasing by 72%, engagement rising by 49% to 73,000, and views increasing by 79% to 1,087,833. Strong engagement with our WBC content helped extend our reach considerably.

NBL Finals Coverage

The team from Journey Sports once again provided coverage of the NBL Finals, with both games broadcast on their YouTube channel. The two games attracted just under 7,000 views combined.

Great Britain National Teams

It was another busy year covering the GB teams.

We kicked off with the World Baseball Classic in Houston, with Chris Knoblock providing coverage on the ground throughout the tournament.

Ahead of the competition, Chris produced a significant amount of content, with assistance from BBF member clubs, aimed at introducing potential new followers to the rules of baseball and its history in Britain.

Given the global platform provided by the tournament, this generated some of our most viewed and highly engaged-with content of the year. A flag featuring all BBF member teams was also proudly

displayed in the GB dugout in Houston.

With the help of GB staff providing updates, alongside WBSC scoring data, we were able to report on the U-15s' visit to Sweden, the U-12 European Championships in France, the U-18 European Championships, the Women's World Cup qualifiers and, most recently, the Blind Baseball tournament in Italy.

This November, the U-23 squad will compete in the World Cup in Nicaragua, while the senior team will take part in the Premier12 tournament in China, with a place at the 2028 Olympic Games potentially up for grabs.

Chris will be covering both tournaments, with myself providing support through graphics, website updates and digital content.

2027

Looking ahead to the next year, similar to covering GB, I will be aiming to setup a team of volunteers whom can help with some of the coverage for our member teams so we can grow our marketing and promotion of the sport beyond our membership

MOTIONS TO THE AGM

10

MOTION 1

Motion: Constitutional Corrections, Housekeeping and Consolidation

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 3.2, 4.1, 4.3, 4.5, 4.9, 5.3, 5.4, 5.9, 5.14 to 5.17, 5.21, 6.2, 6.8, 6.9, 6.20, 6.21, 6.23, 6.29, 7.4, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2, 9.2, 9.3, 9.10, 9.14, 9.16 to 9.18, 10.1, 10.2, 11.1 to 11.4, Addendum One, and associated footnotes.

Resolution

That the Constitution be amended to correct grammatical, typographical and numbering errors; repair incomplete or internally defective provisions; correct inaccurate internal cross-references; remove obsolete explanatory material; and express existing provisions in clear and consistent language, without changing substantive Federation policy except where an existing provision is incomplete, contradictory or incapable of sensible application.

Following determination of all constitutional motions at the General Meeting, the Secretary shall be authorised to make strictly consequential changes to clause numbering, headings and internal cross-references required to consolidate the amendments approved by the Voting Members, provided that no substantive provision is altered.

Proposed constitutional wording

1. Clause 3.2 – terminology

In clause 3.2, replace “For the purposes of this Article” with “For the purposes of this clause”.

2. Clause 4.1 – defined terms

Replace clause 4.1 with: “4.1. The Voting Members and Members shall be collectively known as the ‘Membership’.”

3. Clause 4.3 – Affiliated Clubs

Replace the opening sentence of clause 4.3 with: “4.3. An Affiliated Club may comprise one or more baseball teams, whether senior, youth or both, and those teams may or may not be entered into BBF leagues as the Affiliated Club sees fit.”

4. Clauses 4.5 and 4.9 – participant records

In clauses 4.5 and 4.9, replace “in the current and immediately preceding season” with “in the current season and the immediately preceding season”.

5. Clause 5.3 – number of Board Officials

In clause 5.3, replace “up to nine (9) Officials” with “up to ten (10) Officials”. This corrects the present inconsistency between the stated maximum and the ten roles already listed at clauses 5.3.1 to 5.3.10.

6. Clause 5.4 – punctuation

Delete the duplicated full stop at the end of clause 5.4.

7. Clauses 5.9, 5.14, 5.15 and 5.16 – Official roles

In clause 5.9, replace "more than one Officials role" with "more than one Official role".

In clause 5.14, replace each reference to an "Officials role" with "Official role".

Replace clause 5.15 with: "5.15. An Official role filled by co-option shall automatically become vacant immediately before the next AGM, unless another provision of this Constitution provides otherwise. The person previously co-opted may seek nomination and election to that role, subject to clause 5.14, or to any other Official role."

Replace clause 5.16 with: "5.16. Any Official role that is vacant at the time of an AGM shall be subject to election."

8. Clause 5.17 – Committees

In clause 5.17, replace "Each Committee must have a minimum three (3) people serve on them, including the chair" with "Each Committee must comprise a minimum of three (3) people, including the chair".

In clause 5.17.1, replace "which may be the Treasurer" with "who may be the Treasurer".

9. Clause 5.21 – Board Meeting quorum

Replace clause 5.21 with: "5.21. A Board Meeting shall be quorate where at least fifty per cent (50%) of the current Board Officials are present."

10. Obsolete Board Meeting footnotes

Delete footnotes 6 and 7 beneath clause 5.23.

11. Clause 6.2 – Official roles

In clauses 6.2.1, 6.2.12 and 6.2.14, replace "Board Officials roles" with "Board Official roles".

12. Clause 6.8 – quorum at General Meetings

Replace clause 6.8 with: "6.8. A General Meeting shall be quorate where more than 33.3 per cent of the total number of Voting Members entitled to vote at that General Meeting are represented at the meeting."

13. Clause 6.9 – loss of quorum and adjournment

Replace clause 6.9 with: "6.9. If a General Meeting is not quorate forty-five (45) minutes after its published start time, or ceases to be quorate after proceedings have commenced, the Board Officials present, or in their absence the chair of the General Meeting, may adjourn the meeting. The adjourned meeting shall be reconvened no later than seven (7) days after the date of the original meeting."

14. Clause 6.20 – Board Officials casting club votes

Replace clause 6.20 with: "6.20. Wherever possible, a Board Official shall not cast a vote on behalf of an Affiliated Club with which that Official is associated where another Authorised Participant of that Affiliated Club is present and able to cast the vote."

15. Clause 6.21 – multiple votes

Replace clause 6.21 with: “6.21. An Affiliated Club holding multiple votes may authorise one or more Authorised Participants to cast those votes.”

16. Clause 6.23 – decisions of Voting Members

Replace clause 6.23 with: “6.23. A vote shall be taken among the Voting Members on any motion, Board election or other matter requiring a decision of the Voting Members.”

17. Clause 6.29 – cross-reference

In clause 6.29, replace “The voting for Officials shall be conducted one Officials role at a time” with “The voting for Officials shall be conducted one Official role at a time”.

In clause 6.29, replace “Officials listed in clause 5” with “Official roles listed in clause 5.3”.

18. Obsolete voting-system footnote

Delete footnote 8 beneath clause 6.30.

19. Clause 7.4 – Motion of Removal wording

In clause 7.4, replace “the grounds relied upon or, otherwise, the reasons for the loss of confidence” with “the grounds relied upon or, where no such grounds are relied upon, the reasons for the loss of confidence”.

20. Clause 7.6 – cross-reference

In clause 7.6, replace “a Motion of Removal under clause 7.4” with “a Motion of Removal under clause 7.3”.

21. Clause 8.1 – incomplete and misnumbered provisions

Replace clauses 8.1.2 to 8.1.9 with:

8.1.2. A Complaints Procedure based on best practice within the UK voluntary sector.

8.1.3. A Discipline and Grievance Procedure to deal with alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct and other relevant issues, based on best practice within UK sport.

8.1.4. A Whistleblowing Policy based on best practice within the UK voluntary sector.

8.1.5. A child protection policy.

8.1.6. An anti-harassment policy.

8.1.7. A diversity policy.

8.1.8. An anti-doping policy.

22. Clause 8.2 – Handbook

Replace clause 8.2 with: “8.2. The Board shall ensure that a Handbook is produced before the start of each season containing all relevant rules and regulations for adult and youth play.”

23. Clause 9.2 – fundraising

In clause 9.2, replace “The BBF may employ any legal activity to raise funds” with “The BBF may undertake any lawful fundraising activity”.

24. Clause 9.3.3 – annual accounts

Replace clause 9.3.3 with: "9.3.3. annual audited accounts, or draft annual accounts where the audit has not yet been completed."

25. Clause 9.10 – authorised bank signatories

Replace clause 9.10 with: "9.10. The Treasurer, or the Official responsible for the Treasurer's duties where that role is vacant, shall promptly notify the relevant bank of any change to the authorised signatories approved under clause 9.6."

26. Clause 9.14 – punctuation

Add the missing full stop at the end of clause 9.14.

27. Clause 9.16 – auditor recommendations

Replace clause 9.16 with: "9.16. The Board shall consider the auditor's recommendations and act upon those it considers to be in the best interests of the BBF. At the AGM, the Board shall report which recommendations it has adopted and which it has not adopted, giving reasons for any recommendation not adopted."

28. Clause 9.17 – terminology

In clause 9.17, replace "Nothing within this article" with "Nothing within this clause".

29. Clause 9.18 – temporary suspension of audit requirements

Replace clause 9.18 with: "9.18. The Board may recommend to the Voting Members at a General Meeting that the audit requirements in this Constitution be temporarily suspended. Any such suspension must be approved by the Voting Members and, if it is to continue, must be approved again at each subsequent AGM."

30. Clauses 10.1 and 10.2 – dissolution

In clause 10.1, replace "or recognised body as designated by the Voting Members in a General Meeting" with "or another recognised body designated by the Voting Members at a General Meeting".

In clause 10.2, replace "among the then Membership of the BBF" with "among the Membership of the BBF as constituted at the date of dissolution".

31. Clause 11.1 – disciplinary jurisdiction

Replace the opening sentence of clause 11.1 with: "11.1. The Board shall have power to discipline, in such manner as it considers appropriate under this Constitution and the BBF Rules and Regulations, any Voting Member or Member who is found guilty of conduct considered by the Board to be disgraceful or in breach of the Rules and Regulations made under this Constitution."

32. Clause 11.2 – disciplinary finding

Replace clause 11.2 with: "11.2. The Disciplinary Committee shall establish the facts of the matter so far as it is able and determine whether the alleged conduct occurred and, if so, whether that conduct constitutes a disciplinary offence and the nature of any disciplinary action to be applied to the Voting Member or

Member."

33. Clause 11.3 – appeals

In clause 11.3, replace "thirty(30)" with "thirty (30)".

Replace the sentence beginning "Appeals outside this time limit" with: "An appeal submitted outside that period shall be invalid unless the Board unanimously agrees, at the next Board Meeting following receipt of the appeal request, to permit the appeal to proceed notwithstanding the expiry of the time limit."

34. Clause 11.4 – Appeal Committee decision

In clause 11.4, replace "substitute therefore any other decision" with "substitute any other decision in its place".

35. Addendum One – replacement drafting

Replace the existing text of Addendum One, including footnote 9, with:

ADDENDUM ONE – RESERVED MATTERS

A1.1. The Board has authority to manage the affairs of the BBF in accordance with this Constitution, but shall not dispose of, transfer or delegate the material interests, rights or constitutional authority of the BBF or its Membership except where expressly authorised by the Voting Members in accordance with this Addendum.

A1.2. The prior approval of a simple majority of the votes validly cast by Voting Members entitled to vote at an AGM or EGM shall be required before the BBF may:

a. merge with another organisation;

b. assign or transfer one hundred per cent (100%) of its authority or status as the National Governing Body for baseball to another body;

c. dissolve the BBF;

d. change the voting rights of its Voting Members, except through an amendment to this Constitution approved in accordance with its provisions; or

e. transfer ownership or control of the BBF National Teams Programme.

A1.3. The Board shall not circumvent clause A1.2 by delegating to another body a power which the Board could not itself exercise without the approval of the Voting Members.

A1.4. Nothing in this Addendum shall override any other provision of this Constitution which requires a higher voting threshold or an additional approval requirement.

36. Consequential consolidation

After all constitutional motions at the General Meeting have been determined, the Secretary may correct clause numbering, subclause numbering, headings and internal cross-references solely where necessary as a direct consequence of amendments approved by the Voting Members. This authority shall not be used to alter the substantive meaning of any provision.

Rationale

The Constitution has been amended on a number of occasions and now contains grammatical errors, inconsistent terminology, incomplete provisions, inaccurate cross-references and obsolete explanatory notes.

Some are cosmetic; others create genuine uncertainty as to how a provision should operate. This motion establishes a clean and internally coherent baseline before the substantive amendments in the later motions are considered.

The expression “not less than” is deliberately retained for minimum notice periods and thresholds. It is conventional legal drafting and is not treated as an error merely because the relevant noun is countable. Clauses 5.19, 9.11 and 9.12 are deliberately left unchanged by this housekeeping motion because any attempt to resolve their present ambiguity could alter substantive policy rather than merely correct drafting.

MOTION 2

Motion: Creation of a Women's Commissioner and Commercial Officer

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5 and 5.6.

Resolution

That the Constitution be amended to create the Board roles of Women's Commissioner and Commercial Officer, increasing the maximum number of Board Officials from ten (10) to twelve (12).

Proposed constitutional wording

Replace clause 5.3 in its entirety with:

5.3. The Board shall consist of up to twelve (12) Officials:

5.3.1. President.

5.3.2. Secretary.

5.3.3. Treasurer.

5.3.4. Development Official.

5.3.5. National Teams Programme Official.

5.3.6. Officials Commissioner.

5.3.7. Coaches Commissioner.

5.3.8. Senior Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner.

5.3.9. Youth Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner.

5.3.10. Marketing and Communications Official.

5.3.11. Women's Commissioner.

5.3.12. Commercial Officer.

Replace clause 5.4 with:

5.4. The Officials at clauses 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.5, 5.3.10 and 5.3.12 shall be collectively termed "Officers". The Officials at clauses 5.3.6, 5.3.7 and 5.3.11 shall be collectively termed "Commissioners". The Officials at clauses 5.3.8 and 5.3.9 shall be collectively termed "League Commissioners".

Replace clause 5.5 with:

5.5. The Officers at clauses 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.10 and 5.3.12 shall be directly elected by Voting Members at a General Meeting. The Officer at clause 5.3.5 shall be appointed by the elected Board members.

Replace clause 5.6 with:

5.6. The Commissioners shall be directly elected by Voting Members at a General Meeting.

Add the following clauses after clause 5.6:

5.6.1. The Women's Commissioner shall oversee the Women's League and shall lead the development and promotion of opportunities for women to participate, develop and progress throughout British baseball.

5.6.2. The Commercial Officer shall lead the development of sponsorship, commercial partnerships and other revenue-generating opportunities for grassroots British baseball.

5.6.3. The Commercial Officer's responsibilities shall include developing commercial opportunities connected with the National Baseball Championships, Youth National Baseball Championships, Summer Cup, Over 45s competition and any other BBF competition, tournament or event designated by the Board.

5.6.4. The Board shall prepare detailed role descriptions for the Women's Commissioner and Commercial Officer and present them to the Voting Members for approval in accordance with clause 5.1.

Rationale

The Women's Commissioner would establish clear Board-level responsibility for the Women's League and for improving opportunities for women across British baseball. The Commercial Officer would establish dedicated responsibility for sponsorship, commercial partnerships and sustainable revenue generation from BBF competitions and events for the benefit of grassroots baseball.

MOTION 3

Motion: Consistent Titles for Officers and Commissioners

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion

Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6 and 5.17.2.

Resolution

That the Development Official be renamed Development Officer, the Marketing and Communications Official be renamed Marketing and Communications Officer, and the National Teams Programme Official be renamed National Teams Programme Commissioner, abbreviated to NTPC.

Proposed constitutional wording

Throughout the Constitution:

a. "Development Official" shall be replaced with "Development Officer";

b. "Marketing and Communications Official" shall be replaced with "Marketing and Communications Officer"; and

c. "National Teams Programme Official" shall be replaced with "National Teams Programme Commissioner".

In clause 5.4, remove the reference to clause 5.3.5 from the category of "Officers" and insert clause 5.3.5 into the category of "Commissioners". All other classifications in clause 5.4 shall remain unchanged.

In clause 5.5, replace the second sentence with: "The National Teams Programme Commissioner at clause 5.3.5 shall be appointed by the elected Board members."

Replace clause 5.6 with:

5.6. The Commissioners, other than the National Teams Programme Commissioner at clause 5.3.5, shall be directly elected by Voting Members at a General Meeting. The National Teams Programme Commissioner shall be appointed by the elected Board members in accordance with clause 5.5.

For the avoidance of doubt, any subclauses inserted after clause 5.6 by an earlier motion at the same General Meeting shall remain in force.

Rationale

"Official" is the constitutional umbrella term for Board members. "Officer", "Commissioner" and "League Commissioner" are the defined categories of role. The revised titles make the terminology internally consistent. The National Teams Programme role remains appointed by the elected Board members; only its title and classification change.

Following adoption, the National Teams Programme Commissioner may be referred to as the NTPC.

MOTION 4

Motion: Fixed Staggered Election Cycle for Board Officials

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion

Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 5.10A.5, 5.11 to 5.16.

Resolution

That directly elected Board Official roles be placed on a fixed two-year staggered election cycle, with specified roles elected at AGMs held in even-numbered calendar years and the remaining specified roles elected at AGMs held in odd-numbered calendar years. An election or co-option to fill a vacancy shall not alter the ordinary election year allocated to the role.

Proposed constitutional wording

Replace clause 5.10A.5 with:

5.10A.5. A person elected pursuant to this clause shall take office immediately upon declaration of the result and shall serve until immediately before the next scheduled election for that Official role under clauses 5.13B or 5.13C. An election held pursuant to clause 5.10A shall not alter the ordinary election cycle allocated to that role.

Insert the following clauses after clause 5.13:

5.13A. Ordinary elections for directly elected Board Officials shall be conducted on a fixed two-year cycle determined by the calendar year in which the AGM is held.

5.13B. At an AGM held in an even-numbered calendar year, elections shall be held for the Official roles at clauses 5.3.1 (President), 5.3.3 (Treasurer), 5.3.7 (Coaches Commissioner), 5.3.6 (Officials Commissioner), 5.3.12 (Commercial Officer) and 5.3.9 (Youth Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner).

5.13C. At an AGM held in an odd-numbered calendar year, elections shall be held for the Official roles at clauses 5.3.2 (Secretary), 5.3.8 (Senior Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner), 5.3.4 (Development Officer), 5.3.10 (Marketing and Communications Officer) and 5.3.11 (Women's Commissioner).

5.13D. Each Official elected at the scheduled election for that role shall serve until immediately before the scheduled election for that role at the AGM held two calendar years later.

5.13E. A person elected at an EGM or co-opted to fill a vacancy shall serve only until immediately before the next AGM at which that role is scheduled for election under clause 5.13B or 5.13C.

5.13F. An election or co-option arising from a vacancy shall not alter the ordinary election cycle allocated to the role.

Replace clause 5.15 with:

5.15. A person co-opted to an Official role shall vacate that role immediately before the next AGM at which that role is scheduled for election under clause 5.13B or 5.13C. An intervening AGM at which the role is not scheduled for election shall not cause the co-opted person to vacate the role. The person may seek nomination and election to the role, subject to clause 5.14.

Replace clause 5.16 with:

5.16. Only the directly elected Official roles scheduled under clause 5.13B or 5.13C shall ordinarily be subject to election at an AGM. This does not prevent an election being held at an EGM where this Constitution permits or requires one. A person elected outside the ordinary cycle shall serve only until the next scheduled election for that role.

5.16.1. At the first AGM following adoption of this amendment, the roles allocated to the calendar year in which that AGM is held shall be subject to election.

5.16.2. To establish the fixed cycle, an existing term may be shortened or extended once, but no existing term shall be extended by more than one year solely for this purpose.

5.16.3. If either or both of the Women's Commissioner and Commercial Officer roles have not been created, any reference in clauses 5.13B or 5.13C to an uncreated role shall have no effect. The remaining election cycle shall continue to operate.

5.16.4. If a role title referred to in clauses 5.13B or 5.13C has not been renamed, the clause number shall determine the role to which the election cycle applies.

Rationale

A fixed staggered cycle protects continuity and institutional knowledge by preventing a large proportion of the Board from becoming subject to election at the same AGM merely because vacancies were previously filled by co-option. A vacancy is filled only for the remainder of the role's established cycle, so neither co-option nor an interim election can cause the election timetable to drift.

This amendment also aligns the new removal provisions introduced at the September 2026 EGM with the staggered cycle. A replacement elected following a Motion of Removal serves to the role's next scheduled election rather than automatically triggering another election at the very next AGM.

MOTION 5

Motion: Election of Unopposed Board Officials En Bloc

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion

Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 5.9, 6.27, 6.29 and 6.30.

Resolution

That clause 6.29 be amended to permit two or more unopposed nominees to be elected through a single en bloc secret ballot, provided that each nominee has been nominated for one Board Official role only.

Proposed constitutional wording

Replace clause 6.29 with:

6.29. Voting for Board Officials shall ordinarily be conducted one Official role at a time, with the result declared after each election. The order of voting shall be the order in which the Official roles are listed in clause 5.3.

6.29.1. The chair may conduct a single en bloc ballot for two or more Official roles where:

a. there is only one valid nominee for each role included in the ballot;

b. each nominee included in the ballot has been nominated for one Official role only; and

c. no Voting Member requests that a nominee or role be voted upon separately.

6.29.2. An en bloc ballot shall be conducted as a secret ballot in accordance with clause 6.27. Voting Members shall vote to approve or reject the nominees included in the ballot as a group.

6.29.3. If the en bloc ballot is approved by a simple majority of the votes cast, each nominee included in it shall be declared elected to the relevant role.

6.29.4. If the en bloc ballot is not approved, or if a separate vote is requested under clause 6.29.1(c), the relevant election or elections shall be conducted separately in accordance with clause 6.29.

Rationale

The present Constitution requires every Official role to be voted upon separately, even where all nominees are unopposed. The amendment shortens uncontested elections while preserving the secret ballot and the right of any Voting Member to require a separate vote.

Contested elections, candidates nominated for more than one role and any election for which a separate ballot is requested continue to be conducted one role at a time.

MOTION 6

Motion: Secure Electronic Voting at General Meetings
Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 6.22, 6.25, 6.26, 6.27 and 6.30.

Resolution

That the Constitution be amended to permit a secure electronic voting system to be used at General Meetings in place of physical voting cards and paper ballots, while preserving the number and weighting of votes held by each Voting Member.

Proposed constitutional wording

Replace clause 6.22 with:

6.22. Each Voting Member or its Authorised Participants shall be allocated the number of votes to which that Voting Member is entitled under clauses 6.12 to 6.15. Votes may be administered using secure electronic voting credentials instead of physical voting cards.

Replace clause 6.25 with:

6.25. The President, or in the President's absence the chair of the General Meeting, shall appoint two tally keepers at the start of proceedings. The tally keepers shall oversee, verify and cross-check the allocation and counting of votes, including any result produced by an electronic voting system.

Replace clause 6.26 with:

6.26. Voting may be conducted through a secure electronic voting system approved by the Board. The chair may authorise a paper contingency process where a material technical failure prevents use of the electronic system.

6.26.1. An electronic voting system used at a General Meeting must:

a. allocate to each Voting Member the correct number of votes under clauses 6.12 to 6.15;

b. allow an Affiliated Club's votes to be cast together or separately by its Authorised Participants;

c. authenticate the person authorised to cast each vote;

d. prevent any allocated vote from being cast more than once;

e. preserve the secrecy of a secret ballot;

f. produce an auditable record of the number of votes allocated and cast, without revealing how an individual voted in a secret ballot; and

g. permit the result to be verified by the tally keepers and reported immediately to the General Meeting.

Replace clause 6.27 with:

6.27. If requested by a Voting Member and seconded by another Voting Member, any vote may be conducted by secret ballot. Elections for Board Officials shall always be conducted by secret ballot. A secret ballot may be conducted electronically provided that the identity of an individual voter cannot be connected with the vote cast.

Add the following clause after clause 6.30:

6.30.1. The use of electronic voting does not, of itself, create a right to attend or vote remotely. Attendance shall be governed by the provisions applying to the format of the relevant General Meeting.

Rationale

The existing voting process is based on physical voting cards and written ballots. A secure electronic system would make voting faster and easier to administer while preserving weighted voting entitlements, secret-ballot requirements and independent verification by tally keepers.

MOTION 7

Motion: Online Extraordinary General Meetings

Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion

Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clauses 6.2, 6.6 to 6.9 and associated voting provisions.

Resolution

That the Constitution be amended to permit an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held either entirely in person or entirely online, while requiring the Annual General Meeting to remain an in-person event at a physical venue. Neither an AGM nor an EGM may be conducted as a hybrid meeting.

Proposed constitutional wording

Replace the opening sentence of clause 6.2 with:

6.2. An AGM shall be held as an in-person meeting at a specified physical venue. Notification of the date, time and physical venue shall be posted or emailed to all Voting Members not less than forty-five (45) days before the AGM and shall also be published on the official BBF website.

Replace the first sentence of clause 6.6 with:

6.6. Subject to any longer notice period expressly required elsewhere in this Constitution, an EGM shall be convened by providing Voting Members with at least seven (7) days' notice by post or email of the date, time, meeting format, physical venue or online access arrangements, and purpose of the EGM. The same details shall also be published on the official BBF website.

Replace clause 6.7 with:

6.7. Collectively, AGMs and EGMs shall be called General Meetings. The Membership shall be entitled to attend General Meetings in the manner permitted for the relevant meeting. Observers shall be welcome at the sole discretion of the President, or in the President's absence the chair, subject to the physical or technological capacity of the meeting.

Add the following clauses after clause 6.7:

6.7.1. An AGM must be held entirely in person at a specified physical venue.

6.7.2. A Voting Member or Authorised Participant must attend the physical venue to be treated as present at an AGM and to exercise voting rights at that AGM.

6.7.3. The Board may provide a broadcast or remote viewing facility for an AGM, but remote viewing shall not constitute attendance and shall not confer voting or speaking rights.

6.7.4. An EGM may be held either entirely in person at a specified physical venue or entirely online using a suitable real-time electronic meeting platform.

6.7.5. A General Meeting shall not be conducted as a hybrid meeting. All Voting Members and Authorised Participants attending an EGM must participate through the meeting format stated in the notice.

6.7.6. A Voting Member or Authorised Participant attending an online EGM shall be treated as present for attendance, participation, quorum and voting where that person: (a) has been authenticated as a Voting Member, or as an Authorised Participant entitled to represent a Voting Member; (b) can hear the

proceedings in real time; (c) can address the meeting or communicate with the chair in real time; and (d) can exercise the relevant Voting Member's voting rights through the voting method provided.

6.7.7. For an online EGM, the electronic meeting platform and access arrangements stated in the notice shall constitute the venue for the purposes of this Constitution.

6.7.8. Voting at an online EGM shall be conducted in accordance with clauses 6.22 to 6.28. Where those clauses do not otherwise authorise electronic voting, a secure electronic voting system may nevertheless be used at an online EGM provided that it: (a) preserves the number and weighting of votes held by each Voting Member; (b) authenticates each person authorised to cast a vote; (c) prevents duplicate voting; (d) preserves the secrecy of any secret ballot; and (e) allows the tally keepers to verify and report the result.

Replace clause 6.8 with:

6.8. A General Meeting shall be quorate where more than 33.3 per cent of the total number of Voting Members entitled to vote at that General Meeting are represented at the meeting. A Voting Member participating electronically in accordance with clause 6.7.6 shall be treated as represented at an online EGM.

Add the following clause after clause 6.9:

6.9.1. Where a material technological failure prevents the effective conduct of an online EGM, the chair may pause or adjourn the meeting in accordance with clause 6.9. A minor or isolated technological failure affecting one participant shall not invalidate the meeting where reasonable arrangements were made to facilitate participation.

Rationale

Online EGMs would improve access to urgent or single-purpose meetings for a geographically dispersed national membership. The AGM would remain an in-person event as the Federation's principal annual governance meeting.

The amendment expressly excludes hybrid meetings so that all participants in an EGM use the same method of attendance and have the same practical access to the proceedings. Clause 7.5 continues to require at least fourteen days' notice where a Motion of Removal is to be considered.

MOTION 8

Motion: Protection Following an Unsuccessful Motion of Removal
Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: BBF Board

Constitutional provisions affected

Clause 7.8.

Resolution

That the Constitution be amended so that where a Board Official is subject to a Motion of Removal under clause 7.3 and that motion is put to a vote but is not carried, that Official may not be subjected to a further Motion of Removal under clause 7.3 during the remainder of that Official's current term of office.

Proposed constitutional wording

Insert the following clauses after clause 7.8:

7.8A. Where a Motion of Removal under clause 7.3 concerning a Board Official is put to a vote and is not carried, no further Motion of Removal under clause 7.3 concerning that Official may be submitted, included within a Letter of Request for an EGM, considered or voted upon during the remainder of that Official's current continuous term of office.

7.8A.1. The restriction in clause 7.8A shall apply irrespective of whether a subsequent proposed Motion of Removal relies upon the same, substantially similar, additional or different grounds or reasons for loss of confidence.

7.8A.2. For the purposes of this clause, a new term of office commencing following a subsequent election to that Official role shall constitute a new term, whether or not the same person is re-elected.

7.8A.3. Nothing in this clause shall restrict the powers of the Board under clause 7.1, or the right of an Official to resign under clause 7.2.

7.8A.4. Where a Motion of Removal concerns more than one Official and is not carried, this clause shall apply separately to each Official named in that motion.

Rationale

The Constitution now gives Voting Members a clear mechanism to remove a Board Official through a Motion of Removal, including where the basis is simply a loss of confidence. That power should be balanced by finality once the membership has considered the question and made its decision.
Where a Motion of Removal is properly brought, debated and voted upon but is not carried, the Official should be protected from further Motions of Removal for the remainder of the current term. Without that protection, repeated Motions of Removal could be brought against the same Official until a different result was eventually obtained.
The protection applies only to repeated membership-led Motions of Removal under clause 7.3. It does not prevent the Board from exercising its separate removal powers under clause 7.1 if circumstances subsequently justify doing so.

MOTION 9

Motion: One Org Discussions
Proposer: BBF Board

The BBF Board will continue to engage positively with the British Softball Federation and BSUK on the One Org discussions with a target date for an EGM for member decision in Q1 of 2027.

The board will further create a window before the EGM during which members may submit other areas about which they would like the board's balanced view

As part of the EGM, the BBF board will provide its members with a balanced assessment, highlighting strengths and concerns on the areas highlighted below.

Governance & Finance

- Clarification of the proposed organisational structure for the new organisation and, in particular, clarification of BSUK's ability to take on NGB responsibilities as part of the new organisation
- Assessment of proposed board and governance provisions and protections of BBF Members' interests and recognition of BBF and BBF Members' contributions (e.g. BBF clubs and club facilities, club registration fees and IPR, prize money and development awards such as WBC)
- Financial plan evidencing the feasibility of the Strategic Plan, with headroom
- Approved 2027 /28 budget, with headroom
- Agreed contingency budget planning for funding scenario outcomes
- Description of contracted and highly likely funding amounts from UK Sport and Sport England
- Analysis of outcomes and remedies available in case Sport England funding is not obtained
- Description of long-term financial arrangements and in particular where funds will be pooled or ring-fenced
- Outcome of any other points arising from due diligence (e.g. legal, financial, etc.)
- Assessment of performance against issues and remedies raised in the BDO report, including current BSUK board

Development

- Approved five-year Strategic Plan, with agreed short and long-term targets
- Coach development and coaching certification
- Opportunities to develop fastpitch softball in conjunction with youth
- GB Baseball, Talent Pathway and EPP

Great Britain Baseball

- GB management, staff, finance and structures
- Talent Pathway and EPP

Other

- Analysis of Farnham Park review and outlook
- Re-branding of BSUK

MOTION 10

Procedure for Member-Requisitioned Extraordinary General Meetings
Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: London Mets Baseball Club
Seconder: Bristol Baseball Club

The Motion
This AGM resolves to amend the BBF Constitution by deleting clause 6.5 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

6.5 Member-Requisitioned Extraordinary General Meetings.

6.5.1 Notice of Request. A Voting Member (or Voting Members) wishing to requisition an EGM shall first submit a written request (a "Notice of Request") to the Secretary. The Notice of Request must state the purpose of the meeting and the full text of any motions to be put to the EGM, and must be signed by a representative of each Voting Member submitting it. It shall be accompanied by a declaration, signed by a representative of each submitting Voting Member:
(a) confirming that it has complied with clause 6.5.2; and
(b) listing every Voting Member consulted in preparing the request.

6.5.2 No prior solicitation. Before a Members' Communication is issued, no Voting Member or person acting on its behalf shall solicit any other Voting Member to sign, pledge to sign, or commit to support a request for an EGM. Nothing in this clause restricts the discussion of any matter of concern between Members.

6.5.3 Members' Communication. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice of Request, the Secretary shall issue a communication (the "Members' Communication") to all Voting Members simultaneously by email, and publish it on the BBF website on the same day. The Members' Communication shall:
(a) reproduce the Notice of Request in full, without amendment or commentary;
(b) identify the Voting Member(s) who submitted it and reproduce the list of Voting Members consulted under clause 6.5.1(b); and
(c) include the form or method by which Voting Members may sign in support, and state the date and time at which the Signature Period closes.

6.5.4 Right of reply. Any Board Official or Member who is the subject of, or materially affected by, the request may submit a written response to the Secretary within seven (7) days of the Members' Communication. The Secretary shall circulate it to all Voting Members simultaneously within two (2) days of receipt.

6.5.5 Signature Period. A requisition shall be valid only if signed by a representative of not less than forty percent (40%) of the Voting Members within twenty-one (21) days of the date on which the Members' Communication is issued (the "Signature Period"). In determining whether this threshold is met:
(a) only signatures given after the Members' Communication has been issued and before the close of the Signature Period shall count;
(b) signatures shall be valid only if submitted through the form or method issued by the Secretary with the Members' Communication, by the Voting Member's representative notified to the Secretary under clause 6.16;
(c) signatures of the Voting Member(s) who submitted the Notice of Request shall count, provided they are confirmed in accordance with (a) and (b); and

(d) a Voting Member may withdraw its signature by written notice to the Secretary at any time before the close of the Signature Period.

6.5.6 Confirmation. Within five (5) days of the close of the Signature Period, the Secretary shall notify all Voting Members simultaneously whether the threshold in clause 6.5.5 has been met, stating the number of valid signatures received.

6.5.7 Convening. Where the threshold is met, an EGM shall be convened within forty-five (45) days of the close of the Signature Period, on notice in accordance with clause 6.6. Where the threshold is not met, the request shall lapse.

6.5.8 Default. If the Secretary is unable to act, has a conflict of interest in the subject matter of the request, or fails to issue the Members' Communication within the period in clause 6.5.3, the Secretary's duties under this clause shall pass to the President or, failing the President, to any other Board Official, who shall issue the Members' Communication within five (5) days.

6.5.9 Breach. Where the Board, acting without any Official who is a party to or the subject of the request, determines that clause 6.5.2 has been breached or a declaration under clause 6.5.1 is materially false, the request shall be void. No request on substantially the same matter may be submitted by the same Voting Member(s) for ninety (90) days. The matter may also be referred under Section 11.

6.5.10 Interpretation. For the purposes of this clause, "days" means calendar days, and a Notice of Request is received on the date it is emailed to the Secretary's published BBF address.

Transitional provision. This amendment takes effect at the close of this AGM. Any request received by the Secretary before that time shall be dealt with under clause 6.5 as previously in force.
Rationale

Under the current clause 6.5, an EGM requisition can be organised privately, with signatures gathered from some clubs before others know a request exists. This motion keeps the 40% threshold and every Member's right to requisition an EGM. It adds that all Voting Members learn of a request at the same time, on the same terms, and have the same opportunity to read the motions, hear any reply, and decide whether to sign.

Clubs remain free to discuss any concern with each other. What the motion prevents is collecting commitments before the membership as a whole has been told. It also sets a published timetable and a fallback if the Secretary cannot act, so no single office can delay a valid request.

MOTION 11

Motion: To Revise the BBF's Financial Governance Framework Updated
Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: LYBL
Seconder: Croydon Baseball Club

The purpose of this Motion is for the adoption of Policy: the modification of elements of Section 7 of the BBF's latest version of its 'Financial Governance Framework' that is currently denoted on the BBF website as v. 1.4.The membership is asked to vote in favour of adding the following sub-sections to Section 7 of the Financial Governance Framework:
Section 7.9 ReportingEach set of annual accounts included in the AGM documents as stated in Section 9.15 of the BBF Constitution shall include a note in the accounts that details the distribution to the Voting Members:
Subsection 7.9.1 Third Party Payments – Provide an accounting of all payments made to third parties for services relating to BBF (including GB Baseball) activities and programs that total more than £1,000 as a single payment, or a series of payments to the same third party for a total that exceeds £1,000 shall be itemised in this note. Reporting should be provided for all payments made towards BBF-controlled programmes – including GB Baseball – even if funds were provided by a third party.
The name of the third party that received payment(s) shall be disclosed, and the amount(s) paid to third party(ies) shall be detailed. This requirement applies to amounts paid in accordance with the approved budget, as well as to amounts paid outside of budgets approved by the Voting Members.
Subsection 7.9.2 Payments Related to Insurance Claims – Provide an accounting of all payments made to third parties by the BBF's insurance providers which are in response to any successful financial claim by a third party that is covered by the relevant BBF insurance policy. In such a case, the BBF would report the amount of excess paid by the BBF to the insurance provider under any of its policies, as well as the amounts paid by the insurance provider to the successful claimant. The concept for which the insurance claim was successful shall be stated.
Subsection 7.9.3 Accounting of WBC Award – Federation Allocation Provide an accounting of income on the usage of this income related to the WBC Award that was and will be paid by MLB to the BBF. As of 1 October 2022, the BBF will provide a detailed account of the amount of funds received from MLB (or its affiliate) that corresponds to Great Britain's qualification for and participation in the World Baseball Classic (WBC). Regarding the use of this allocation of MLB/MLB Affiliate funds to the BBF, there will be an itemised description of how/where these funds were allocated by the BBF (with identification of each recipient) for each financial year up to 30 September 2026. For any funds that were distributed as "development grants" (or similar), the BBF shall publish the names of the entities that received any such grant, aswell as the amount that was paid to the recipient. All allocated amounts that have yet to be spent as at 30 September 2026 shall be reported. If approved, this Motion will require that the BBF publishes this information in a report for the period 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2026, which is a report to be submitted to the Voting Members by no later than 22 January 2027.
Thereafter, this information shall be included in the annual AGM documentation. We realise that going back 3 years may not be possible, so for the period of 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2025, we request the treasurer follow best endeavours and if incomplete a written explanation as to why they are not complete.

MOTION 12

Motion: BBF Audit Obligations
Type: Constitutional Amendment Motion
Proposer: LYBL
Seconder: Croydon Baseball Club

The purpose of this Motion is for the adoption of Policy: that the BBF adhere to the requirements stated in the latest version of the BBF Constitution (23 September 2026) in respect of its obligations found under 'Audit' on page 10.

As per Section 9.14 of the Constitution, the membership is asked to vote in favour of requiring the BBF to adhere to its obligation to appoint a suitably qualified external auditor to prepare annual audited accounts. These accounts shall be in respect of the monies held in the bank accounts of the BBF for its operations, as well as for any other bank accounts opened by the BBF for the benefit of GB Baseball.

If approved, this Motion will require that the BBF undertakes its constitutional obligations and, at minimum, the following audited financial statements that have yet to be distributed shall be distributed to the Voting Members by no later than 12 February 2027:

Financial statements for the year beginning 1 October 2025 and ending 30 September 2026.

Thereafter, this information shall be included in the annual AGM documentation.

Should the above information be included in full in the 2026 AGM Pack, then this Motion will be withdrawn.

MOTION 13

Member Vote on the "One Organisation" Proposals
Action: Submit an Ordinary Motion.
Proposer: Greenwich Giants Baseball Club
Seconder: Birmingham Baseball Club, London Archers and London Mets

The Motion:
This AGM resolves that:
(a) The Board shall convene an Extraordinary General Meeting under clause 6.4, to be held no later than 28 February 2027, at which the Voting Members shall vote on the One Organisation proposals.

(b) The resolutions put to that EGM shall cover every matter reserved to the Voting Members by Addendum One that the One Organisation proposals involve, including any merger, the assignment of the BBF's authority as National Governing Body, the transfer of the National Teams programmes, and any change to the voting rights of Voting Members. The Board may put these as a single resolution or as linked resolutions, provided the notice of the EGM explains how they depend on one another.

(c) No later than twenty-one (21) days before the EGM, the Board shall send to all Voting Members, and publish on the official BBF website:

(i) the One Organisation proposals in the form to be voted on, including the proposed constitution or articles of the new body;
(ii) the written funding conditions set by Sport England and UK Sport that relate to the One Organisation proposals; and
(iii) a summary of any other correspondence with Sport England or UK Sport that is relevant to the vote.

Where a funder requires a document to remain confidential, the Board shall state that it has been withheld and publish a summary instead.

(d) If any document listed in (c) is not final by that date, the Board shall publish the latest draft and identify the parts still subject to change. This alone shall not be grounds to hold the EGM after 28 February 2027.

(e) If notice of the EGM has not been given by 7 February 2027, the President or the Secretary shall give that notice on behalf of the Board.

(f) Nothing in this motion directs how any Voting Member should vote."

Rationale: Moving to a single organisation is the most significant decision BBF members will make about the future of the sport. The last formal update to the membership was at Congress in November 2025. Sport England and UK Sport have said that continued funding depends on a single, unified governing body being in place by 31 March 2027.

Addendum One of the Constitution already requires a vote of the Voting Members before the BBF can

merge, hand over its authority as National Governing Body, or transfer the National Teams programmes. This motion does not create that right. It sets a date for the vote so that it takes place before the funding deadline, and it makes sure members see the proposals and the funders' conditions in good time. It does not ask members to vote for or against the proposals.

Under clause 6.1 only one AGM may be held between October and March, so the vote has to take place at an EGM.

MOTION 14

Board Member Limits per Club
Action: Submit a Constitutional Amendment Motion.
Proposer: Greenwich Giants Baseball Club
Seconder: Birmingham Baseball Club, London Archers and London Mets

The Motion:
"This AGM resolves to amend Section 5 of the Constitution (BBF Board) by inserting the following new clause after clause 5.9, and renumbering the clauses that follow and any cross-references to them:

5.10 Club representation on the Board

5.10.1 No more than two (2) Officials may at any one time be associated with the same Affiliated Club. A person is associated with an Affiliated Club if they are a Participant of that club (clause 4.4) or a member of its committee. A person associated with more than one Affiliated Club counts towards the limit for each of them.

5.10.2 The limit applies to all Officials, whether elected, co-opted or appointed.

5.10.3 Each candidate for election shall declare their Affiliated Club associations with their nomination, and the Secretary shall publish these with the list of nominations under clause 6.2.12.

5.10.4 Elections for Officials roles shall continue to be held one role at a time in the order set by clause 6.29**.** A candidate shall not be declared elected to a role if this would breach 5.10.1. In that case, the candidate with the next highest number of votes who would not breach 5.10.1 shall be declared elected. If no such candidate remains, the role shall be treated as vacant.

5.10.5 The Board shall not co-opt or appoint any person as an Official if this would breach 5.10.1.

5.10.6 An Official who becomes associated with a further Affiliated Club during their term, so that 5.10.1 is breached, shall notify the Secretary within fourteen (14) days. The Official may complete their current term, and the matter shall be reported to the next General Meeting.

5.10.7 This clause takes effect immediately on adoption and applies to any election held after it is adopted, including elections later in the same General Meeting. Officials already in post may complete their current terms."

Rationale: There is currently no limit on how many Board Officials can come from one Affiliated Club. With around sixty clubs and a Board of up to ten, a limit of two keeps the Board representative of the wider membership and avoids any one club holding disproportionate influence.

The clause works with the existing election process. Roles are still voted on one at a time in the order set by clause 6.29, and a declared result is never reversed. A club with more than two candidates will know in advance how the limit applies, and its candidates may withdraw before voting on a role begins (clause 6.29). The limit also covers co-option and appointment so that it cannot be bypassed.

MOTION 15

Board Conflicts of Interest

Action: Submit a Constitutional Amendment Motion (with an instruction to the Board).

Proposer: Greenwich Giants Baseball Club

Seconder: Birmingham Baseball Club, London Archers and London Mets

This AGM resolves:

(a) To amend clause 8.1 by adding: "8.1.10 A Conflicts of Interest Policy for Board Officials, including a register of interests published on the official BBF website."

(b) To amend clause 6.2.12 so that it reads: "A list of nominations for Board Officials roles, including candidate statements, where provided, and each candidate's declaration of interests."

(c) To instruct the Board to adopt and publish the policy at (a) no later than 31 January 2027. The policy shall be at least as rigorous as the GB Baseball Coaches and Programme Staff Conflicts of Interest Policy v1.0 and consistent with the Code for Sports Governance, and shall as a minimum require that:

(i) each Official completes a written declaration of interests within twenty-eight (28) days of being elected, co-opted or appointed, and updates it within twenty-eight (28) days of any change;

(ii) declarations cover roles, paid or unpaid, with any Affiliated Club or other club or team (including independent, travel-ball and National Teams), with BaseballSoftballUK, the British Softball Federation or any other sports body, and with any commercial organisation that deals with the BBF or its members, together with any other interest that could reasonably be seen to influence an Official's decisions;

(iii) the register of interests is published on the official BBF website and included in the AGM documents;

(iv) interests relevant to any agenda item are declared at the start of each Board Meeting and recorded in the minutes;

(v) an Official with a material interest in a decision takes no part in the discussion or vote on it, and this is recorded in the minutes; and (vi) if recusals would leave a Board Meeting inquorate on an item, the item is deferred or referred to a General Meeting."

Rationale: Coaches and staff in the GB Baseball programme already work under a standalone conflicts of interest policy. The Board itself does not, and clause 8.1 does not list one among the policies the Board must maintain. The only current provision, clause 6.20, applies to voting at General Meetings.

Placing the policy in the Constitution means it binds future Boards, not only the Board elected at this AGM. Publishing candidates' declarations with the nominations lets members know about relevant affiliations before they vote. Recusal is limited to decisions in which an Official has a material interest, so that ordinary club affiliations do not prevent the Board from functioning. Aligning the policy with the Code for Sports Governance means it can carry across to any successor body.

Intentionally blank

BOARD ELECTIONS

CANDIDATES AND STATEMENTS

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PRESIDENT NOMINATION - Alex Musil

Nominated - Essex Baseball Club

Seconded - LYBL

My name is Alex Musil and I'm asking for your support as BBF President.

I spent my career as a tech executive, from startups to Microsoft, Meta and Google. Most recently I was the General Manager for a 250+ person engineering unit at Google supporting a multi-billion dollar a year business. I also sat on the board for Google's UK-regulated payment entity.

As lifelong baseball fans who moved to the UK over 16 years ago, my wife and I were delighted to find baseball being played at Wormwood Scrubs through the sheer will of volunteers who loved the game and teaching it to kids. My two boys grew up playing for London Sports, LYBL and internationally for GB baseball after our family became British citizens. Most recently, in 2024, I cofounded the London Monarchs, a selective youth baseball academy and travel club.

In my time leading the Monarchs, I've gotten closer to many of the problems plaguing baseball in this country. Chronic underinvestment in fields and training centres. A shortage of great coaches. A lack of investment in our next generation of players. Punitive as opposed to growth mindsets. Whilst seeing my sons also play BBF adult baseball, I have been saddened to see the same problems in the adult baseball community.

Unfortunately, the BBF Board is doing little to improve on these areas. They are disorganized and lack proper leadership to pull in a common direction. Basic governance standards are not met. Major safeguarding cases have been mismanaged. There is minimal transparency and poor communication with the membership. Individuals are well intentioned, but as a collective, they are quite simply failing.

I see three focus areas:
The first order of business will be to improve the way the board operates. I have both the experience and time needed to invest in helping our volunteers be more effective and communicate more clearly with the BBF members. The tone must shift from punitive to supportive. We must be humble and learn from other successful federations.
Second, assess and engage with BSUK on "One Org". In principle it makes sense to have a unified body responsible and accountable for the sport; we need BBF Board members who are capable of engaging and negotiating this complicated topic in the best interest of you, the membership.
Third, improve financial management, accountability, and transparency. At the last AGM several financial motions passed with a commitment to do a third party audit with no follow through. We must ensure our precious funding resources are used with the utmost care and consideration.

I've had the pleasure of meeting many of you over the years and I know you have passion to make this sport a better experience in the near term and for the next generation. It would be an honour to work with you to move our sport forward. Thank you for your consideration.

PRESIDENT NOMINATION - Michael Hayward

Nominated - London Mets Baseball Club

Seconded - Greenwich Giants Baseball Club

Did you know that Rounders has around 20,000 members.

That's what a well-run governing body can build from a game most of us last played at school.

We have roughly 3,500 members, yet baseball is one of the most recognised sports in the world, with MLB in London and the Olympics in 2028.

Imagine what we could do with our house in order.

I've spent over fifteen years in this sport. I've run teams, run a club and chaired a league. I've been BBF Coaches Commissioner, I'm BSF Coaching Officer, and this year I was elected Chair of the OneOrg Integration Committee. I've seen the sport from every angle.

We're about to make the biggest decision I've seen in this sport. Volunteers built British baseball. For decades they have run our clubs, leagues, umpiring and national teams, often with little thanks, and none of what we have today would exist without them. Now it's time for us to mature and evolve into a more professional model, so that the sport can grow.

That means leaving the petty politics behind and putting our energy into the sport itself.

This is a real opportunity, but not a done deal. Any new model has to earn members' trust. It must keep the knowledge and passion of our clubs at its heart, and it must be clearly better for the people who play, coach and volunteer.

As President I would make sure that:

- Members have a real voice, with the right balance between the membership and any professional team.
- A long-term plan for the sport, with clubs, leagues coaching and pathways aligned behind a shared purpose rather than working in silos.
- Those tasked with developing the sport are held to account and supported to deliver work that serves the community.
- Youth is treated as the backbone of our sport. We need a model that brings young people in at scale, helps clubs and coaches develop them to a good standard, keeps them safe and gives them proper competition. Not everyone will chase the GB dream, and that's fine, but the pathway should be open to anyone with the drive to test themselves and see how far they can go.
- Our leagues work for clubs. They haven't always run as well as they should. I'd work with the board to build a league system that is fair, well organised and designed to help the sport grow.
- Funding is protected and whatever model we choose is strong and sustainable.
- The hard questions get asked. My job would be to represent BBF members, not to sell them anything.

This would be a transitional role: making sure any change is done properly and in the community's interest, then handing over to the next generation of leadership.

If elected, I will step down from my current positions so there is no conflict of interest. If other strong candidates share this ambition, I'll gladly step aside and back them. What matters is the sport.

SECRETARY NOMINATION - Mark Harrison

Nominated - Bristol Baseball Club, London Mets Baseball Club

Seconded - Co Durham Spartans Baseball Club

I am pleased to stand for election as Secretary of the British Baseball Federation. I believe my experience in club leadership, league administration and officiating, combined with substantial organisational experience outside baseball, would allow me to make a positive contribution to the BBF Executive and the wider baseball community.

Having served as both Secretary and Chair of Leeds Locos Baseball Club, I understand the work involved in keeping a club running. These responsibilities have included administration, communication, supporting volunteers and dealing with the practical challenges that arise throughout a season. They have also shown me how important it is that national administration understands the realities faced by clubs, particularly those relying on volunteers who already give so much of their time.

My recent involvement assisting the BBF Senior League Committee and as a member of the handbook committee has given me a broader perspective on the organisation of the sport. Working alongside others with different responsibilities and viewpoints has reinforced the importance of constructive discussion, clear decisions and consistent communication. I appreciate that decisions made nationally can have a significant impact locally, and that clubs deserve to understand not only what has been decided, but why. As an Umpire, I see the game from another perspective. Officiating requires impartiality, sound judgement, a detailed understanding of regulations and the confidence to make decisions under pressure. It also means regular contact with players, coaches and club officials. These experiences have strengthened my belief that rules and procedures should be clear, fair and applied consistently, with everyone treated respectfully.

Outside baseball, I have previously managed the event desk with a team of 20 staff for festival events involving approximately 2,500 attendees. This is a demanding administrative role requiring careful preparation, accurate information, effective record-keeping and the ability to respond quickly when circumstances change. It involves handling enquiries, coordinating with different people and resolving issues calmly in a busy environment. I believe these are directly transferable skills for a Federation Secretary, where attention to detail, reliability and follow-through are essential.

If elected, I would work to ensure that meetings are well organised, minutes and records are accurate, agreed actions are followed up and correspondence is handled promptly. I would also support clearer communication between the Executive, committees and member clubs, so that information is accessible, and decisions are properly recorded and understood.

I do not see the Secretary's role as simply taking minutes or managing paperwork. It is an important part of good governance: helping the Executive operate effectively, maintaining continuity and ensuring that commitments are not lost between meetings. I would bring a practical, organised and approachable attitude to that responsibility.

Above all, I care about the future of British baseball. I want a Federation that listens to its members, supports its volunteers and provides the dependable administration our clubs deserve. I would welcome the opportunity to help deliver that as BBF Secretary.

TREASURER NOMINATION - Elizabeth Carroll

Nominated - Essex Baseball Club

Seconded - Harwich Town Bay Area Blues Baseball Club

I would like to put myself forward for the position of Treasurer of the British Baseball Federation.

I've played for the Essex Redbacks Division 5 team for the past two years and managed the team during the previous season. I've also spent a year managing the club's social media. These experiences have given me a real appreciation for the people, volunteers and clubs that keep baseball going in this country.

Professionally, I work as a Programme and Delivery Lead, managing complex technology programmes for Accenture, including multimillion-pound budgets. My responsibilities include financial management, budgeting, forecasting, reporting and governance, with a strong focus on accountability, efficiency and continuous improvement.

I'd like to bring that experience to the BBF, alongside a fresh perspective and a practical, hands-on approach.

If elected, my priorities would be to maintain accurate financial records, provide clear and regular reporting to the Board and membership, and support effective budgeting and financial planning. I'd also look for opportunities to improve existing processes, simplify administration and increase financial visibility, making it easier for the Board to make informed decisions and plan for the future.

I believe good financial management should be straightforward, transparent and focused on making the best use of the resources available.

DEVELOPMENT NOMINATION - Mark Bonney

Nominated - Croydon Pirates Baseball Club

Seconded - Bracknell Baseball Club

What fundamentally motivates me to stand for Development Official is what I've seen baseball bring to people's lives: friendship, excitement, positive challenge, and the opportunity to be part of something they genuinely care about. This sport has given me a great deal, and I want to help others get as much out of it as I have.

Baseball is played in over 60% of countries worldwide. It has broad, proven appeal. There is nothing about the sport itself that should limit its growth in this country. We need to put domestic baseball development at the centre of our efforts, with renewed emphasis on serving clubs. Other federations in Europe have demonstrated how a thriving domestic game can underpin international success, which in turn inspires further participation.

Seven years ago, I restarted a club, serving first as head coach and then as general manager to lead its expansion, which included the creation of youth and beginners programmes and the construction of a youth diamond. The point is, I know firsthand the considerable challenges clubs face. Our clubs are the engines of the sport's growth, but need greater support and resources.

My priorities would be to:

Strengthen existing clubs and encourage new ones: Help clubs establish additional teams, develop volunteer capacity and establish youth programmes that secure their future. Support motivated individuals to build new clubs and bring baseball to new communities.

Coaching development: Teams need capable managers, and sufficient coaches to deliver regular, high-quality training. We need accessible coaching courses and other upskilling opportunities to support club expansion.

Develop and improve facilities: Participation cannot flourish without enough diamonds. This starts with more local fields, but in parallel we need to make progress towards building strategically-located complexes. We need to identify suitable sites and work with local authorities to secure permissions. In addition, existing facilities need investment in fencing, floodlighting, batting cages and playing surfaces. Respond to rising costs: Costs are rising faster than clubs can raise fees. The BBF can support by securing preferential supplier rates, on balls, bats, field dirt, to name a few examples.

Increase funding: We all know that one of the key barriers to developing the sport is funding. My professional background includes nonprofit fundraising, experience I would draw upon to develop additional funding streams, with the longer-term goal of establishing an endowment for the sport.

I'm reassured that the membership has recently received more information on OneOrg, which has the potential to deliver great value. I'm optimistic that OneOrg will serve the interests of baseball and its participants. Ultimately, the Voting Members will make that determination when we see the final proposal. I see the Development Official as someone who serves the clubs and people who make baseball happen. I would bring dedication, practical experience and a collaborative approach, listening to clubs, identifying where support is most needed, and turning our shared ambition for the sport into tangible progress.

YOUTH NOMINATION - Glenn Taylor

Nominated - Brighton Baseball Club

Seconded - Birmingham Baseball Club

I am standing for re-election as Youth Commissioner, and I would be grateful for your support.

I joined the board in 2024 with a simple aim: to bring more youth players into our game and provide them with more baseball opportunities. I have worked hard to listen to and understand our youth clubs and their needs and to grow the youth game together.

What we have achieved together

I could not be prouder of what the youth community – athletes, coaches, parents, umpires, and other volunteers – has accomplished in the last 2 years, including:

- Participation: 856 registered players under 18 in 2026, up 87% on 2024
- Younger participation: 492 registered players under 13 in 2026, up 72% on 2024
- Games: broader league play in 2026, with 9 clubs and 20 teams (vs. 4 and 10 in 2024) – this has meant many many more opportunities for our youth athletes to play baseball. Think back just one year – we relied heavily on mix and match events, and we had to stretch to fill some rosters for YNBCs. In 2026, game play and a full YNBC roster now feel like the norm
- Girls in Baseball Festivals: our 2025 programme, sponsored by Little League and WBSC Europe, brought 6 events across the country and introduced 110 girls to the game
- Partnerships: stronger links with Little League, PONY and Babe Ruth
- New youth clubs in 2026: 7 clubs opened youth sections in 2026, including 3 under the NBL / D2 youth requirement

Looking ahead

We have great momentum – and can and should build on what we have achieved so far:

- Help clubs form, grow and prosper: Continue to help new programmes get started, support growing clubs with things like assistant coach training, and push forward on the initiatives below for all clubs
- Build the base with T-ball: Several clubs adopted T-ball in 2026, and we had the largest YNBC T-Rex T-Ball event to date in 2026. Work to add and grow T-ball programmes, as this builds out the base of the pyramid
- More – additive – opportunities for older players: Continue to support youth opportunities for players beyond age 14 – as additive to what they are doing in our adult leagues
- Improve the league. The league will grow next year – existing league clubs are already adding age divisions, and 5 others have expressed interest in joining in 2027. We will tighten league operations, especially around scheduling, and work to minimise the travel burden on families
- Summer events: Build regional summer events, either one-off festivals or regional championships on top of YNBCs
- Media: Enhance our media footprint with more game / in-season updates and more photos

Youth is in a great place – and there is still so much we can do – for the benefit of the youth of today, who are also our future senior league players, coaches, umpires, scorers, and GB stars.
I would be honoured to continue as Youth Commissioner and would appreciate your vote. Thank you for reading and for everything you do for youth baseball.

OFFICIALS NOMINATION - Dave Becker

Nominated - Cornish Claycutters Baseball Club

Seconded - Taunton Baseball Club

When I first stood for Officials Commissioner, my priorities were clear: increase the number of qualified umpires, improve training and development, and raise standards across the game.
The year before I took over, there were three Level 6 umpire courses. The year before that, there had been one. At the same time, umpires were being abused by clubs, players and supporters, both in person and online, with little obvious support when it happened.

Since taking on the role, with the help of clubs willing to host courses, we have delivered 27 Level 6 umpire courses across England and Scotland and qualified more than 500 new Level 6 umpires. More than 150 have progressed to Level 5, and more than 40 to Level 4.

That has given us something we previously lacked: a genuine development pathway.

I also had the opportunity to meet Cris Jones, MLB Umpire Coordinator, and present our training programme, the thinking behind it and our direction of travel. He endorsed both the programme and the direction we are taking.

For umpires who want to progress further, I introduced a £500 bursary to help them attend the WBSC European training programme, part of the pathway towards officiating in European competition.

I introduced the Umpire Scorecard to give us meaningful information about officiating across the leagues. It helps us identify trends, recognise strong performances and spot where further development may be needed, while also giving us evidence when concerns are raised rather than relying on anecdote.

Alongside that, I introduced the RESPECT campaign and clearer expectations around how officials should be treated, both in person and online.

Last season there was one identified incident of public umpire abuse, which was dealt with quickly. This season there have been none.

I also pushed for qualified umpires to become mandatory in Senior League baseball. Crucially, we invested in training before introducing that requirement.

This season, 1,010 of 1,150 Senior League games have been officiated by qualified umpires. That is 87.83% of all games played.

Scoring also sits within my remit. We have held regular scorer training sessions before each of the last two seasons, and I am working with the Scoring Director on a formal training and certification pathway, with the aim of giving our best scorers the same opportunity to progress towards European competition.

I have also taken on work outside my formal remit, including an awards and merits scheme focused on club governance, team management and player management, as well as work to improve the link between our membership and team rostering systems.

The progress over the last two seasons is measurable, but there is still more to do.

If you want umpiring and scoring standards to continue improving, stronger development pathways for

officials, and better governance across the game, I would be grateful for your vote to continue as Officials Commissioner.

OFFICIALS NOMINATION - Chris Deacon

Nominated - Birmingham Baseball Club

Seconded - Bracknell Baseball Club

Baseball Background & Experience - I have been in involved in British baseball for 18 years and have held various roles on the BBF and BSUK boards, including being Officials Commissioner twice before. I have played, umpired and scored games as well as organised tournaments (such as the Summer Cup) so I am very familiar with the requirements of officials at many levels, including internationally. Being a keen sports person, understanding the laws and management of the game is of keen interest to me whether I am participating or watching.

Over this time, I have gained more experience and knowledge of baseball and sports administration as well as building relationships inside and outside of our sport, including relationships with officials' executives in other professional and amateur sports. This helps to gain a much broader understanding of the challenges and opportunities that officials face, including development, recognition and retention. I would look to continue to build on the growth of umpiring and scoring clinics of the last four years to ensure we enhance the experience of the British baseball community and further ensure our officials can take their careers as far as they aspire; we currently have a growing number of officials who have participated in international tournaments up to WBSC Premier 12 Qualifiers.

Objectives -:

1. All games have qualified umpires with aim of having assigned, independent umpires where possible.
2. Accurate scoring is achievable for all clubs/teams supported by on demand online instructional modules and all game-day statistics are easily accessible.
3. Technical commissioners become the norm for tournaments and championships with applicable requirements made transferable to regular season games.
4. Establishment of a Technical Commission to ensure standards are set and maintained.

To achieve the above objectives, I will foster open engagement with our community, utilising effective and easy communications to ensure feedback both ways is taken on board and factored in.

It will also take the combined efforts of clubs, players, supporters and officials to support and contribute to the preparation and execution of the agreed plans to meet the wider objectives of 'Our Future', British baseball's long-term plan. Given the proposed single NGB for both baseball and softball, clearly there will also be workstreams to incorporate baseball officials' requirements into any new organisational structure and I will ensure this is done effectively and seamlessly.

Credentials – in addition to my previous roles with the BBF and BSUK, my professional background is in senior operational and administrative roles in the Royal Navy and financial services companies that necessitate the attributes of a proficient organiser, communicator and leader, as well as having a comprehensive understanding of regulatory frameworks and the procedures and processes designed to operate within these frameworks. These attributes enable me to engage at all levels (e.g. youth/adult, experience, knowledge, complexity) to meet the above objectives, especially with the expected single NGB 'OneOrg' changes to be implemented starting in 2027.

OFFICIALS NOMINATION - David Mazzocco

Nominated - Croydon Pirates Baseball Club

Seconded - Essex Baseball Club

As Officials Commissioner, I will enforce the ethics held close by the highest standard, Major League Baseball Umpires. Every decision and all umpire training will use the following guidelines. I'll expect my umpires to hold these standards during games.

- Integrity and Honesty
- Impartiality
- Prohibition of Threats
- Avoiding Familiarity

Managing the game is just as important.
Umpires will be trained to include these guiding principles.

- Decisiveness and Demeanor
- Discretionary Ejections
- No Proactive Officiating

Regarding training, I will ask that domestic professionals hold trainings after receiving guidance from myself. They will report back with evaluations.

- Interpreting Rules
- Mechanics
- Game Management
- Judgement & Accuracy

Scoring at games will need to be verified between the home plate umpire and both score books at the end of each half inning. Should a discrepancy occur, all three will confer.

COACHING NOMINATION - Bob Rowe

Nominated - Birmingham Baseball Club

Seconded - Greenwich Giants Baseball Club

I am standing for election as Coach Commissioner because I believe one of the most important factors in the continued growth of baseball in this country is the implementation of consistent, structured coaching at every level of the game. From grassroots tee ball and youth development programmes through to the GB National Programme, coaches should have access to the tools, training, and resources they need to develop players effectively.

Many other sports have well-established coaching pathways, and I believe baseball must adopt the same approach if we are to continue growing participation and raising standards. Strong coaching not only helps identify and develop players for the national programme, but also improves the overall quality and competiveness of the sport at every level. Better player development leads to more enjoyable and competitive games, which can attract new participants, strengthen existing clubs, and encourage the formation of new ones. One of my key goals in this role would be to ensure that all coaches have access to coaching qualifications, educational resources, and ongoing development opportunities so they are equipped to make a meaningful impact within their clubs and communities.

My coaching journey began when I was 16 years old. A friend and I volunteered to coach a tee ball team in our town because the club needed coaches and his younger brother played on the team. It was an incredibly rewarding experience, but it also highlighted the challenges involved in supporting players who are just beginning their baseball journey. Since then, I have coached across a wide range of levels, including adult teams from Single A through to Triple A, domestic and international U12 teams, a baseball development academy, and, to this day, I still coach tee ball.

Through these experiences, I have seen first-hand the positive impact that knowledgeable and well supported coaches can have on players, teams, and clubs. My desire to take on the role of Coach Commissioner stems from a belief that providing coaches with the right guidance, education, and resources can have a lasting effect across the game.
As volunteers, we all give our time because we care about baseball, and by supporting one another we can build stronger, more sustainable clubs and create better experiences for players at every level.

I currently serve as a tutor and assessor for BSUK's CORE Coaching Qualification Programme. This role has been particularly rewarding, allowing me to help deliver coaching qualifications and support the development of coaches across the UK. If elected as BBF Coaching Commissioner, I will work closely with BSUK to ensure these courses continue to be delivered and expanded, benefiting clubs throughout the federation and strengthening coaching standards from grassroots basebal through to the national programme.
Ultimately, my goal is simple: to help create a coaching framework that supports volunteers, develops players, strengthens clubs, and provides clear pathway for the continued growth of baseball in the UK.

COACHES NOMINATION - Dave Jesshop

Nominated - Harwich Town Bay Area Blues Baseball Club

Seconded - Essex Baseball Club

I have been involved with british baseball for over 30 years. I started with the Essex Arrows, then the Essex Redbacks , and now i am with Harwich baseball club.

During my time with these teams i always tried to help out in any capacity i could, and i have been coaching the Harwich team since their formation.

Last year i became a qualified umpire and have worked with the other qualified umpires at my team to improve the standards we have at Harwich for making baseball fun as well as competitive.

In previous seasons whilst we were in the development leagues i have always tried to help out with both my own team and opposition teams (always with consent, and sometimes to the disdain of my own team) as my philosophy is that, the more equally matched the teams the better the game is, I think that with the coaching commissioner role i could help improve the overall standard of baseball in the UK with a view to getting players moving through the levels and within the next few years having home grown players in the GB team.

Umpiring last season improved markedly, with the qualification requirement, and i feel there is scope to improve coaching in a similar way by encouraging an attitude within clubs to develop players with coaching, instead of practicing at lower levels of play, also encouraging engagement by letting players play. No matter what their standard is, because i believe that the only real way to get people engaged in playing is to let the earn experience on the field rather than being sidelined because of their perceived lack of ability. If players aren't improving in their team they need more guidance not sidelining.

LIFE MEMBER NOMINATION - Amanda Hocking

Nominated - Plymouth Mariners Baseball Club

CONGRESS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

The Annual BBF Congress provides members with an opportunity to discuss issues affecting the British game and hear about various projects and activities, including GB Baseball, that could help develop the sport further.

12:00	Doors Open	Registration
12:30 - 12:45	Welcome and Introductions	Richard Evans
12:45 - 14:45	One Org	One Org Integration Committee (BSUK, BBF & BSF)
14:45 - 15:15	Break	
15:15 - 15:45	Great Britain Baseball	Gary Anderson & Glen Robertson
15:45 - 16:15	Officials	David Becker
16:15 - 16:45	Senior Leagues and WBL	Senior Leagues Committee
16:45 - 17:30	Youth and Development	Glenn Taylor & Lee Manning

2026 AGM REGISTRATION

The British Baseball Federation has announced the venue and date of the 2026 Annual General Meeting of the Membership. The Congresses and AGM will be taking place on November 21st and 22nd 2026 at the Holiday Inn Leicester.

Registration to attend the 2026 British Baseball Federation Annual General Meeting is now open.

Each BBF member club/association will be entitled to send two official mandated delegates to take part in the AGM. As well, up to, two club observers may attend subject to space availability.

You can register by filling out the form here. Registration closes 11.59pm on November 16th 2026

Register online via

agm.britishbaseball.org.uk