

**MINUTES OF YCBA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 13TH JUNE 2026 AT
THE CAIRN HOTEL, HARROGATE AND BY ZOOM VIDEO LINK, COMMENCING AT 10:00**

PRESENT: 26 members (17 in person and 9 online), including from the Management Board: David Guild (Chair), Nick Woolven (Co-Chair), Lesley Millet (Treasurer), Mark Ballantine (Secretary), Robin Jepson (Assistant Secretary), Pauline Stout, Ron Millet, Stephen Cordingley, Mark Dunkley, Ruth Kerr, Vanessa Jervis.

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies had been received from Steve Wilson, Bob Brown, Penny Joseph, Constance Heyes, Michael Robertson, Graham Jepson, John Brown, Luisa Heaton, Stuart Mills, Jane Fowler, Rosemary Page, Melanie Woodcock, Hilary Richards, Ian Newsholm and David Waxman.

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of YCBA on 28th June 2025 and matters arising.

The minutes were agreed as a true record and there were no matters arising.

3. Management Board report by David Guild (Chair)

David Guild presented a report on Management Board Issues for 2025-26. A transcript of this report has been uploaded onto the YCBA website on the Official Documents page.

4. Accounts presentation and Treasurer's report by Lesley Millet (Treasurer)

The accounts prepared by Brown Butler (Chartered Accountant, Leeds) for the year ended 31st March 2026 had been uploaded onto the YCBA website prior to the meeting on the Official Documents page. Additional copies were made available to attendees at the meeting. The Treasurer presented her report with additional information regarding the accounts.

5. Tournament Report by Main Board Co-Chair and Tournament Committee Chair - Nick Woolven

Nick Woolven presented his report to the meeting. A transcript of this report has been uploaded onto the YCBA website on the Official Documents page.

6. League Report by Yorkshire League Committee Chair - Mike Jackson

Mike Jackson presented his report to the meeting. A transcript of this report has been loaded onto the YCBA website on the Official Documents page.

7. Report by Chair of the Diversity, Inclusion and Equality Committee - Ruth Kerr

Ruth Kerr presented her report to the meeting. A transcript of this report has been loaded onto the YCBA website on the Official Documents page.

8. Members' Q & A

Some questions were raised earlier in the agenda but are grouped below for convenience.

- a) A question was raised by Richard Winter as to how Yorkshire receives playing fees from online competitions and whether anything could be done to maximise the amount received. It was noted that the Universal Membership System (UMS) would ensure

Yorkshire receives the appropriate amount from such competitions, provided the player is listed as a member of a Yorkshire club.

- b) In response to a question from Richard Winter, it was confirmed that YCBA has been actively seeking potential new members through the University of the Third Age.
- c) A question was raised by Richard Winer as to how to increase the number of teams competing in the Waddington Shield. It was explained that competitions are promoted through several channels, including website notices, Pianola emails, information sent to clubs and copies of posters. The Management Board agreed to continue improving event publicity, and clubs will continue to be strongly encouraged to place relevant information on their noticeboards.
- d) A concern was raised by Rebeca Pullan about the expense of entry fees for some face-to-face competitions. It was explained that food is often provided, representing a substantial cost, and that venue costs and tournament directors' fees also contribute significantly. It was confirmed that current entry fees are set close to break-even point.

9. Appointment of Officers and Management Board members for 2026-7

The Management Board comprises a maximum of 11 people, including officers. The following were duly nominated and are appointed for 2026-7:

Chair and Co-Chair - David Guild and Nick Woolven

Treasurer - Lesley Millet

Secretary - Mark Ballantine

Assistant Secretary - Robin Jepson

Board Members - Mark Dunkley, Pauline Stout, Ron Millet, Ruth Kerr, Vanessa Jervis and Stephen Cordingley

It was noted that Vanessa Jervis is elected as the Board member with special responsibility for women's interests. The interests of ethnic minorities are included in the outreach objectives of the Diversity Committee, and no individual Board member holds this brief.

10. Presentation of Trophies

Waddington Shield - Winter (Richard Winter, Brian Senior, Geoff Kenyon, Tony McNiff, Sandra Penfold)

Yorkshire Trophy - Wakefield Thornes (Alan Ardrone, David Donaldson, Dave Moules, Bryn Pick, Geoff Bowden)

The Waddington Shield was received and taken by Richard Winter. There was no one available to receive the Yorkshire Trophy, so it will be retained in the YCBA repository.

Yorkshire League (glass trophies awarded)

Division 1 York A

Division 2 Malton A

Division 3	Olicana B
Division 4	Halifax A
Division 5	Sheffield C
Division 6	Olicana D
Division 7	Leeds D

Online Summer League (glass trophies awarded)

Division 1	Leeds A
Division 2	Barnsley Aces

Online Winter League (glass trophies awarded)

Division 1	Leeds B
Division 2	Sheffield Falcons
Division 3	Scarborough

11. Other business

A question was raised by Alan Broskill as to whether blue points could be considered for the Teams of Eight League (Div 1), as similar-standard online leagues were issuing blue points. In response, it was stated that the EBU appeared to be relaxing the requirements for blue and green point events and that this should be considered. It was agreed that the Management Board would review the matter and, at a minimum, raise with the EBU the possibility of awarding blue points for Div 1. (Action - Mark Ballantine)

12. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 19th June 2027 at a venue to be decided by the Management Board.