Agenda: Badminton Wales Annual General Meeting
Date: 10th September 2026 – 18:30-19:30
Venue: Via TEAMs online

	TOPIC	Minutes
1	**WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**	

Staff In Attendance	Board In Attendance
Kelly Aston MBE OLY	Peter Hybart (Chair)
Dave Bendle	John Walsh (President)
Graham Hurrell	Jon Austin (Performance)
Bethan Chamberlain-Carter	Nick Ralph (Finance)
Donal OHalloran	Neil Cottrill (Coaching/Development Nth & Mid)
Genevieve Tyler	Ray Marley (Safeguarding)
Curtis Grant	Cath McCluskey (Coaching/Development Sth & West)
Josh Hart	Chris Egan (Strategy)
Shuvro Ghoshal	Adam Stewart (Income Generation)
Harriett Johnson	Meryl Randell-Jones (Marketing & Communications)

In Attendance – Competitive Clubs	Representative	Voters
Colwyn Badminton Club	Josh B	x
Abersychan Badminton Club	Matthew Luen	x
EROS Badminton Club	Shiela Palmer	x
Vale Badminton Club	Matthew Locke	x
Llanferres Badminton Club	Alexandra Mutch	x
Abergavenny	LOUISE CRUMP	x
Oakdale Badminton Club	Charles Dalton	x
Stella Maris Badminton Club	Mark Talbot	x
Penlan Badminton Club	Andy Edwards	x
Great Orme	Neil Cottrill	x
Reardon Smith Badminton Club	Richard Schmidt	
Bronllys Badminton Club	Ieuan Phillips	
Llanfairfechan Badminton Club	Chris Egan	
Ebbw Vale Junior Badminton Club	LOUISE CRUMP	

Invited	
Relationship Manager SW	Susie Osbourne
Colin Arnold	Finance Director designate

Apologies
Leanne Brown (EDI Director)

2	**DECLARATION OF INTEREST**	
	2.1	• No Declarations of Interest House Keeping • Meeting to be recorded for minute taking purpose.
3	**MINUTES OF LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**	
	3.1	Minutes circulated within the AGM papers.
Approved – Charles Dalton 2nd – Andy Edwards		
4	**CHAIR WELCOME**	
	•	• Welcome from BW Chair to Clubs | Staff | Directors • Progress has been made over the past 12 months o Finalising our strategy o Sub-committees are now well established o We have a clear annual cycle of business with sub-committees taking place before each board meeting o Strong attendance across all Directors o Progress in Masters and Senior Badminton o The Member consultation across Wales had strong support for the draft strategy • Chair thanked the directors, staff, and membership for their contributions to the sport in Wales during the year.
5	**ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTATION**	
	5.1	• Annual Report is available on the website • Key highlights of the past 12 months o 100% safeguarding officers throughout our club network – safer sport o Growth of Senior Badminton through the Graded series and the Masters events ▪ 150 entries at the Graded Series North ▪ 139 entries at the Masters National Championships o More visibility through Social Channels o Winning Awards at BWF & BEC awards evening for our 'Can You Manage' Campaign • Challenges through the past 12 months o Junior membership has been static o Junior Series entries haven't grown o Cancellation of the Junior Series events this year – running only 2 events • This coming year BW will run the Junior Series events to ensure that the events will take place • The 13 KPIs that measure and track progress show the 6-month point (June 2026) o Membership has grown by 65 o 6 additional clubs with Junior player / Junior section o Increased BWF Level 1 coaches and Community Coaches o 100% safeguarding officers in affiliated clubs o Diversity figures remain static o Key volunteers now tracked through Sport80 – 96 o Junior series event – average number dropped by 5 to 45 o Graded series entries increasing with Grades being split o 6 on BWPP (2 Rising Starts & 4 BWPP) o 1 on the GB World Class programme • Thank you to all who attended the Roadshows across the country

		Strategy The Strategy Director provided an overview of the draft Badminton Wales strategy to 2030. He explained that the strategy had been developed to help prioritise activity and guide decision-making over the next five years, particularly given limited resources. The two main strategic priorities are income generation and fan engagement, and junior development and coaching. It was noted that the strategy also covers wider areas of Badminton Wales work, including Masters, performance, seniors, members, non-discretionary national governing body responsibilities, and the important partnership with Sport Wales. The full strategy will be published on the Badminton Wales website following the AGM. Operational KPIs will now be developed by the CEO and team, with progress reviewed annually and reported to members. Any future changes to the strategy will be communicated to the membership. The staff, Board and members were thanked for their contribution through the roadshows and encouraged clubs and members to consider how their activity can support delivery of the strategy.
6	**2025-26 ACCOUNTS**	
	6.1	Financial Director presented the 2025–26 accounts, explaining that the main year-on-year difference related to Badminton Wales hosting the GB & Ireland International Para tournament. Excluding the Para tournament, income increased by approximately 3% and expenditure reduced by approximately 3%. Overall turnover increased by £221k, largely due to £206k of Para tournament funding from UK Sport, Welsh Government and entry fees. Expenditure increased by £216k, with £233k of this linked to the Para tournament. It was explained that Badminton Wales contributed £25k of staff time to the Para tournament and was reimbursed £37k for additional staff time, which contributed to a £16k surplus against a planned £17k budget deficit. After tax on interest income, £1,625 was transferred to reserves. On the balance sheet, the increase in debtors was mainly due to prepayments to the Welsh Sports Association for outsourced finance, administration and safeguarding services. Cash and creditors reduced, partly due to the use of previously deferred Sport Wales funding. Total reserves stood at £187,576, held in cash, slightly above the reserves policy, with a controlled reduction planned over the next few years. The accounts were prepared by Finance+ WSA, with the statutory financial statements prepared by Hodge Bakshi. They had been reviewed by the Finance Director, Audit and Risk Committee and Finance + WSA, and approved by the Board in July26. The Finance Director clarified that the staff costs line in the detailed income and expenditure account relates only to central administration staff. Coaching, development and performance staff costs are allocated within their respective departmental lines, with the majority included under development programmes, particularly the regional development team. Therefore, the staff costs figure should be read as central/admin staff costs rather than total organisational staffing costs.

7	**Article Changes**	
	7.1.1	Badminton and Independent Directors Currently Article 19.2 describes Badminton and Independent Directors thus: The business of the company shall be managed by the Board of Directors which shall consist of; - 1. up to eight Directors, from within the Sport, elected by the Members; 2. a non-voting President, from within the Sport, elected by the Members; 3. up to six Directors, independent of the Sport, appointed by the Board; 4. The CEO of the Company appointed through their position of employment Two of our current Independent Directors are independent of badminton in Wales but strictly are not 'independent of the Sport' as defined above, because they are connected to badminton in England. (It should be noted that if these Directors were regarded as Badminton Directors then BW has still been operating within the overall definition of its articles above) Following legal advice, it was therefore recommended to the Sept 2026 AGM that Article 19.2 is reworded to more accurately reflect how we operate. The new Article 19.2 introduces the term 'Associated with badminton in Wales to replace the term 'From within the Sport'. 'Associated' is a new definition within the 'Defined Terms' section of the Articles (Part 1, Paragraph 1) It was recommended that Article 19.2 be changed as follows: 19.2 The business of the company shall be managed by the Board of Directors which shall consist of; - 19.2.1 up to eight Directors Associated (as defined in Part 1 Paragraph 1 "Defined Terms") with badminton in Wales~~, from within the Sport~~, elected by the Members; 19.2.2 a non-voting President Associated with badminton in Wales,~~ from within the Sport,~~ elected by the Members; 19.2.3 up to six Independent Directors, that prior to their appointment have no material relationship with badminton in Wales~~independent of the Sport~~, appointed by the Board; 19.2.4 The CEO of the Company appointed through their position of employment. 19.2.5 3.2 It was also recommended that the Badminton Wales AGM on 10/9/2026 approves the introduction of the following definition of 'Associated' within the Defined Terms section of the Articles (Part 1, Paragraph 1): **"Associated"** means any person who, whether formally appointed or otherwise, by virtue of their

		involvement, relationship or connection with badminton in Wales (whether current or historical), may reasonably be perceived as having an interest in, influence over, or affiliation with it. This includes, without limitation, any individual who participates in, contributes to, or is engaged in the operations, governance, delivery, or support of badminton in Wales in either a professional or voluntary capacity and any person acting under the authority of Badminton Wales. For these purposes, an involvement, relationship or connection is material if it could reasonably be considered capable of affecting the person's objectivity, impartiality or independence in relation to badminton in Wales.
	7.1.2	Membership Removal and Refusal Currently BW Article 25.4 states: 'The Board of Directors acting reasonably following the Disciplinary Regulations of the Union may expel any member if it considers that it is inappropriate that membership should continue or if the conduct of the member (or members of it) shall bring the Union into disrepute' Within the past twelve months, in addition to updating its Disciplinary Regulations, Badminton Wales has updated its Safeguarding and Anti-Doping Policies, each of which include Membership removal as a potential sanction if breached. The wording of Article 25.4 therefore needs to be broadened. The opportunity is also being taken for it to be made more specific in terms of it applying to Membership removal, Membership non-renewal or Membership refusal. It was recommended to the AGM that Article 25.4 is reworded as follows: 25.4 ~~The Board of Directors acting reasonably following the Disciplinary Regulations of the Union may expel any member if it considers that it is inappropriate that membership should continue or if the conduct of the member (or members of it) shall bring the Union into disrepute.~~The Board of Directors may expel a member, refuse membership renewal or refuse a new member if it: a. Acts reasonably and invites representation from the member/prospective member before making a decision; and b. Determines that: i. it is inappropriate for the member's membership to continue; or ii. it is inappropriate for the prospective member to join Badminton Wales; or

		iii. the conduct of the member (or its members) has brought the Union into disrepute.

8	**Board of Directors**	
	8.1	Finance Director • The Chair welcomed Colin Arnold as Badminton Wales new Finance Director following the AGM. As an Independent Director appointment, this position was approved by the Board and did not require AGM approval. • Colin introduced himself and highlighted his extensive financial leadership experience across multiple sectors, his current role as a fractional Finance Director, and his voluntary sector governance experience, including serving as Treasurer of the Wales Council for Voluntary Action. • The Chair thanked outgoing Finance Director Nick Ralph for his contribution and welcomed Colin to the Board. Nick Ralph had been Board FD for four years during which time the financial management of BW had been significantly improved and active risk management introduced through the work of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) chaired by Nick. Strategy Director • Members were advised that Chris Egan's three-year term as Strategy Director had concluded and that he had applied for a further three-year term. • Following an interview process conducted by an independent nominations panel, the Board recommended Chris's reappointment to the AGM. • A vote was held - Chris Egan was duly reappointed as Strategy Director for a further three-year term.

Q&A

1. Members queried the voting structure, noting that affiliated clubs with fewer than 10 paid-up Badminton Wales members were not allocated a vote at the AGM despite being registered and affiliated clubs.

   Concerns were raised that this limited the ability of smaller clubs to participate in AGM decision-making and could discourage attendance.

The voting structure is defined in our Membership Regulations, which allocate votes based on membership numbers. While clubs with fewer than 10 members do not currently have a vote, their affiliation, participation and views remain important. The AGM provides an opportunity for all members to hear updates, ask questions and contribute to discussions. Feedback on the voting arrangements is noted and can be considered as part of any future review of the Memberhsip Regulations.

8	**CLOSE**
	The AGM closed at 19.27