

Blackpool & District Badminton Association

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 28th January 2026

Present: Mike Percy, Ant Cross, Fred Barnes, Nicky Percy, Trevor Bell, Steve Blackburn, Carol Howarth.

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Carole Booth, Nikki Wilford, Serena Hindle, and Jamie Sedgewick.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th October 2025 were accepted.

3. Matters Arising

The SSL Certificate has now been added to the website at an annual cost of £24.

Ant will liaise with Serena regarding the Levels' Cup Match Sheets.

4. 2025-2026 Season So Far

See Attachment 1 for Ant's Match Secretary Report.

Ant and Nicky will try to resolve the issue with the column heading on the Levels' League Tables (should read "L5" not "L8").

5. Safeguarding/Coaching

Trevor provided an update on the Blackpool Junior Coaching. There is still good attendance (33 last week) and lots of interest. Any queries to be directed to Trevor or Dave Greer.

Trevor has attended some of the Lightning C team matches and is continuing to tailor some of the coaching on a Saturday morning to match observations made in the matches.

Nicky had played against the Lightning Junior Team last week and commented on how well the juniors had conducted themselves and how well they are progressing. Also, Nicky advised that Carole Booth had advised a similar experience when Lids had played the team the previous week.

Carol advised that the Kirkham Junior Team is also doing well, with a positive attitude all round. There is also high interest in their junior team with some players coming from the Southport League.

Following feedback from one club, a discussion was held regarding parents filming their own children playing in matches to use, for example, as assessment for their GCSE work. To protect all players, regardless of age, it was decided to remind all clubs that extreme care must be taken in these circumstances and the following guidelines should be followed:

- Only the child's parent/legal guardian can undertake any filming or take any photographs.
- The consent of all team members on both teams must be obtained from either the individual adult players or, if an U18 player is playing, from their parent/legal guardian, before any filming takes place.
- Should the parent or guardian of an U18 player not be present to provide consent, then no filming should take place.
- Should any player not provide consent, then filming is not to be undertaken.
- No footage is to be shared on social media.

6. Gazette and Bridgewood Trophies

The handicaps and draws for the Gazette Trophy and Bridgewood Trophy are as detailed at Attachment 2.

All first-round matches to be played over the weeks commencing 30 March, 6 April and 13 April. Semi-finals to be played week commencing 20 April. The finals will take place on Tuesday 5 May at Preesall Sports Hall. *Action: Ant to arrange. Post meeting note: now confirmed.*

Top named team is the home team and is to contact their opponent with a date for the first-round match and semi-final, as required.

The away team is to pay the home team £30 to cover the cost of the venue and shuttles in these two rounds. The league will cover the cost of the venue and shuttles for the finals.

7. New Levels Cups

Ant proposed that we use the old Latus Cup as the Levels Division 1 Trophy and the Irene Latus Cup as the Levels Division 2 Trophy. All in agreement. *Action: Mike to speak with the Poulton Trophy shop to implement the required changes to the cups.*

Nicky has drafted an amendment to the Handicap Knockout Competition Rules to include the Latus Cup and Irene Latus Cup. Changes have been made to include the new Cups. We will also recommend that clubs accept the new timescale for submission of results – 24 hours instead of 72 hours. Council is happy with the amendments, so these will be put to clubs for agreement, as this change is being requested is outside of the AGM. *Action: Nicky to forward to all clubs to gain their acceptance prior to the commencement of the cup matches.*

The handicaps and draws for the Latus Cup and the Irene Latus Cup are as detailed at Attachment 3.

All first-round matches to be played over the weeks commencing 30 March, 6 April and 13 April. Semi-finals to be played week commencing 20 April. The location and date for the finals are to be decided. Date is possibly Thursday 7th or Friday 8th May with location as Blackpool and the Fylde College but TBC. *Action: Ant to arrange.*

Top named team is the home team and is to contact their opponent with a date for the first-round match and semi-final, as required.

The away team is to pay the home team £20 to cover the cost of the venue and shuttles in these two rounds. The league will cover the cost of the venue and shuttles for the finals.

8. Levels Mixed Competitions.

In the absence of Nikki, no update.

It was noted that the Filipino tournament will be taking place on 2nd May at Blackpool Sports Centre, should we be looking at an event in the future.

9. Social Update

In the absence of Serena, no update.

As far as we are aware, no location has been fixed for the Presentation Evening on 29th May. *Action Nicky – speak with Serena to progress and confirm at the next meeting.*

The awards structure for the presentation evening will be discussed in detail at the next meeting and specific award categories will be confirmed.

10. AOB

An email has been received from Clare Banfield at LCBA regarding the revival of the Accrington Cup for Inter Town League matches, with a specific competition to be held on 3rd May. Deadline for entry is Sunday 1st February. Clubs had been advised of this at the end of December; however, no interest has been received, therefore it was decided that no further action is required.

Post meeting note: Nikki has contacted Mike to advise that she has organised a team for this event and is looking at entering. Confirmed by Mike.

Carol advised that her and Mel, along with Liam all passed their Coaching Level 1 and again thanked Council for their support. Congratulations to all.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 24th March 2026 7:30pm start.

Attachment 1
Match Secretary Report – The Season So Far

Not a lot to add to the last Match Report due to Christmas & New Year break.

Unfortunately, after stating there had not been any walk overs, I must be a jinx! There have now been 2 walk overs:

Levels Div 1: Bloomfield A (away) conceded to Kirkham A (home). This is especially disappointing as Bloomfield do have a B team.

Mixed Div 1: Kingfisher B (away team) conceded to Fleetwood A (home team). Disappointing because this is the third year in a row Kingfisher B have conceded this fixture.

Also, teams have struggled to field a full side and have played with one less player.

Mixed Division 1:

Fleetwood A remain unbeaten. The next 3 places are close and as all the top 4 teams have still to play each other 2nd half then, all is still to play for.

Kirkham Charter A look to be safe and, the relegation battle continues between Poulton B, Stanley A and Kingfisher B.

Mixed Division 2:

Unbeaten Lightning B look to be clear favourites for the title and promotion but, the runners -up spot is still up for grabs as there is little between Lids, Stanley B and Fleetwood B.

Levels Division 1:

This division looks to be the most settled as I think the current positions will remain until the end of season. Lightning A seem uncatchable with Fleetwood A runners up. Lids A and Stanley look set for the drop.

Levels Division 2:

Lightning B lost their unbeaten record and now there are 3 teams fighting for the title and promotion: Lightning B, Bloomfield B and Kirkham B. Still all to play for.

Darren Bagley made a point about the Levels league table on the website. L8 should read L5 i.e. you get a point if you lose a Levels match and achieve 5, 6 or 4 games (1/3rd of total games, same as the Mixed league). There isn't any explanation on the website!

Attachment 2
Gazette Trophy and Bridgewood Trophy Competition Draws

GAZETTE TROPHY

Kingfisher B (Scr)
vs
Poulton A (-160)

Stanley A (Scr)
vs
Poulton B (Scr)

Kingfisher A (-180)
vs
Fleetwood A (-230)

Lightning A (-140)
vs
Kirkham Charter A (-30)

BRIDGEWOOD TROPHY

Stanley B (-50)
vs
Kirkham Charter B (Scr)

Lids (-50)
vs
Lightning C (+100)

Lightning B (-100)
vs
Stanley C (+60)

Fleetwood B (-50)
vs
Bye

Attachment 3
Latus Cup and Irene Latus Cup Competitions Draw

LATUS CUP

Bye
vs
Kirkham A (-50)

Bloomfield A (-50)
vs
Stanley (Scr)

Fleetwood A (-100)
vs
Lightning A (-100)

Lids A (-30)
vs
Bye

IRENE LATUS CUP

Kirkham Charter B (-100)
vs
Kirkham Charter C (Scr)

Bloomfield B (-100)
vs
Fleetwood B (Scr)

Lids B (Scr)
vs
Kirkham Charter Juniors (+60)

Lightning B (-100)
vs
Bye