

LEVANTE LAWN BOWLS (LLB)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th December 2025 AT MONTE MAR BOWLING CLUB

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: Anthony James CPBC, Bob Donnelly, Peter Matthews, June Jones SLBC, Steve WailesCBBC, Dave Hard CBC

President (Delegado): Bob Donnelly	Benitachell	Y	Monte Mar	Y
Vice President (Chair): Keith Longshaw	Bonalba	Y	Quesada	Y
Secretary: Kevin Storey	Calpe Paseo	N	San Luis	N
Treasurer: Lisa Bonsor	Calpe BC	N	San Miguel	Y
Membership secretary: Gail Willshire	Country Bowls	Y	Vistabella	Y
Membership treasurer: Lynn Greenland	El CID	Y		
Winter League Co-ordinator: Peter Bonsor	El Rancho	Y		
Northern League Co-ordinator: Peter Matthews	Emerald Isle	Y		
Southern League co-ordinator Temp: Mel Ward	Greenlands	Y		
SA Co-ordinator Winter: John O'Brian	La Marina	Y		
SA Co-ordinator Summer: Mel Ward	Phoenix	Y		
Associate Co-ordinator: VACANCY Temp Peter Matthews				
Tour Co-ordinator: Steve Hibberd				

Total Number of Clubs: 16 Number of Clubs Represented: 12

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The Minutes of the previous meeting & EGM held on 21st October 2025 were accepted.

Proposer: Steve Hibberd Quesada, Seconder: Stanley Dibble Vistabella

3. Matters Arising.

None

4. President – Delegado Bob Donnelly.

Bob sent his apologies he had nothing to report

5. Secretary Kevin Storey.

Kevin explained he had circulated the proposal from Pete Bonsor ref the re-distribution of Valencian prize money in good time to be voted on today (5 weeks and 1 day. John O'Brien had seconded the proposal by E-mail but Kevin had not added his name to the document before distributing it. Two clubs said if the seconder was not on the document then they felt the proposal was not legal and should not be voted on.

Kevin asked the meeting if they wished to defer the vote to the February meeting knowing it would still be in plenty of time to be written into law if it was passed before the Valencian finals next September. He added that one of the clubs who had expressed concern could not send a representative to the meeting but had indicated they wished to vote for the proposal. A vote was held and the meeting voted unanimously to allow the EGM to go ahead at the end of the meeting and a vote to take place re the proposal

6. Treasurer Lisa Bonsor

Lisa was unable to attend the meeting but sent through her financial report. Current LLB bank balance 14,820.19 Euros. This includes income from all of the entries for 2026 competitions and is minus all of the competition expenses from 2025 such as Engraving and Umpiring fees.

7 Membership Secretary Gail Willshire.

Gail confirmed 1018 members federated at this moment in time. This time last year we had 1084 so slightly down. She confirmed that as yet she has not been informed of any change in the Federation fees so 12 Euros is being taken from all Bowlers until she is advised otherwise. As no changes have been proposed the 3 Euros supplement paid on behalf of each bowler to reduce the fee from 15 Euros will remain in place.

Gail announced to the meeting that she will be stepping down from the position of Membership Secretary at the AGM on March 17th 2026.

Kevin thanked her on behalf of the LLB for the many hours of hard work she has put in on behalf of the organisation and for the help she has given him personally since he took over the role of Secretary. There was a round of applause from the delegates present to acknowledge this and to thank Gail.

Can all clubs please petition their membership to see if there are any people who are willing to volunteer and nominate for the role. Their nominations would be discussed and hopefully ratified at the AGM on 17th March 2026.

8 Membership Treasurer Lynn Greenland.

Lynn reminded all clubs that the Federation fees need to be paid into the number 2 account before the deadline. She also reminded clubs to send proof of payment to both her and Gail to ensure they are aware of the payments being made.

Lynn announced to the meeting that she will be stepping down from the position of Membership Treasurer at the AGM on March 17th 2026.

Kevin thanked her on behalf of the LLB for the many hours of hard work she has put in on behalf of the organisation and for the help she has given him personally since he took over the role of Secretary. There was a round of applause from the delegates present to acknowledge this and to thank Lynnl.

Can all clubs please petition their membership to see if there are any people who are willing to volunteer and nominate for the role. Their nominations would be discussed and hopefully ratified at the AGM on 17th March 2026.

9 Correspondence Kevin Storey.

None

10 Winter league Peter Bonsor.

Winter league is at the halfway stage and all is running fine. We have had one incident where a club has asked for an extension. Peter thought that everything was amicable in relation to this incident but now understands it may not be as amicable as first thought. He is expecting this to be brought up in AOB so said no more on the issue at this point in the meeting. Competition is going fine.

Valencians going well only a very few forfeits have occurred. 1 extension has been granted and this is Dave Morrison who due to his commitments in Cyprus playing for Spain was unable to fit in 1 tie with Vistabella. Bonalba have offered to be the host club for the finals, as yet no other clubs have come forward to act as hosts. The finals are now clashing with two international events where some players who are representing Spain will be missing, provided they make it through to the finals that is. This may result in the finals event being moved forward slightly until dates earlier in September.

11 Northern League Peter Matthews.

Nothing of note to report

12. Southern League Co-ordinator Mel Ward.

Similar to Peter Mel has one issue which has cropped up and he is expecting it to be raised in AOB so will cover it off when it is raised later. Everything else appears to be going well.

13. SA Co-Ordinator Winter John O'Brien.

John Visited Phoenix new facilities at Campasol. However, at the time of his visit the wind was so strong he was unable to provide a meaningful assessment as to the suitability of the playing surface. At this moment in time Phoenix will not be playing any games at home due to an issue they have identified with their new green. To accommodate this John has re-jigged the fixtures and they will play their home

games at their opponents premises. This is possible for all fixtures apart from 2 and John asked if these games could be hosted by Country Bowls on a Monday afternoon. Kevin feels this should be ok. John has undertaken to supply the revamped schedule to all concerned. Should the issues be rectified the schedule will revert back to the original schedule as soon as the green is fit for play. Gail asked for an explanation of what the issue was that was causing a problem with the new carpet. Ed Lambert gave an explanation of the issues Phoenix have identified which they are unhappy with relating to the quality of the Concrete pad which has been specifically laid to accommodate the green. It has not been finished to a high enough quality leading to interference with the bowls due to the ridges remaining. When Dales came to fit the Carpet, which is the old Carpet from La Siesta the issue was noted but Dales elected to proceed despite concerns raised. They are now in a situation where they need to have the Carpet lifted have the base re-surfaced to a higher standard and then re-fit the Carpet. They are trying to identify companies in Spain who have the capabilities to complete this work for them. Ed asked for contacts or Companies known to the Delegates present? Some names were put forward in the conversation. The delegates gave an undertaking to supply Ed with any company details they or their members may have that may be in a position to help.

14 SA Co-Ordinator Summer Mel Ward .

Nothing to report

15 Associate Co-Ordinator Peter Matthews.

Nothing to report

16 Tours co-ordinator Steve Hibberd.

Steve confirmed the two tours went off very well and the teams (Jersey and Roker Marine) have had a great time. One of the players from Jersey enjoyed the hospitality of Emerald Isle a little too much and fell broke a few ribs and missed his flight home.

17 AOB.

The following points were raised by John O'Brien and led to an extensive debate regarding the issues raised:

I am very concerned re the interpretation of the generic rules by certain people and clubs, this is in relation to Rule 8. Game anomalies.

As per the generic rules:

In the discovery division on December 1st San Luis Treckers could not field a full team, as a consequence they had to concede 2 points and 10 shots. In the Voyager Division El Rancho were unable to field a team against San Miguel Marlins, this resulted in the Marlins being awarded the full 12 points and 50 shots. Both of these outcomes were achieved by following the generic rules that cover all LLB matches.

However on 21st November the match between Greenlands Oaks and Quesada Swallows was postponed due to swallows not being able to field a full side. Then on 26th November in the Winter League the match between Emerald Isle Emperors and Quesada was also postponed as Quesada could not field a full team. Both of these matches broke the rules.

Quesada should not be allowed to break the rules, the generic rules were updated in 2023 to remove some of the penalties and to update the rules in general.

The rule regarding postponed matches only applies A) due to adverse weather conditions or B) if the green to be used is unplayable. This was not the case on 21st November as a match took place on the Green in the afternoon. The green was also playable on the date of the Winter league game.

Furthermore, the Winter League game has been re-scheduled for Saturday 17th January 2026 which is more than 7 weeks after the original date.

It has been said to me that this is at the discretion of the league co-ordinator, there are many things that a league co-ordinator can do, but blatantly ignoring the rules as they stand is not one of them, especially as it was done to give Quesada an unfair advantage.

As a co-ordinator I consider one of my tasks is to ensure fair play and not to allow any team to change the rules to suit themselves. Quesada were the instigators in both of these instances and I feel they should be held responsible. If not this would effectively tell all clubs in the leagues that they can do whatever they like.

This was thrown open to the floor for discussion.

John added that he felt this had been done because Quesada were unable to field their strongest teams in these fixtures. Quesada has 88 federated members. The normal league commitments on a Friday requires 45 players to ensure they can fulfil their league commitments. If they had 10 players who were sick etc that makes 55 and therefore it would leave over 30 players who could be called upon to support the Swallows team. He added there is nothing at all in the rules allowing for the postponement of a game except for the two reasons stated and definitely not due to players not being available.

Gail stated that exceptional circumstances can also be considered and these cover issues such as Funerals, Covid and Club tours where a massive percentage of the squad are unavailable due to attending the named event. **JO'B** replied even if granted the game has to be replayed within 14 days not 7 weeks later.

Colin Lindgren gave an example where one of their members had collapsed and died on their green and the funeral was on the same day as a future league game. They were made to play the game and attend the funeral afterwards which upset many of their players and some were subsequently unavailable for the league game.

Stanley Dibble Vistabella stated that he feels rules are rules and teams cannot be allowed to break the rules to suit themselves.

JO'B feels that because the games have not been played Quesada should be penalised. 10 points and 40 shots in the Winter League and 12 points 50 shots in the Friday league. **Gail** feels that some responsibility must be taken by the league co-ordinators as Quesada have asked if they can postpone these games for the reasons as explained and the co-ordinators have said yes they can. They obviously should have said no. **Mel Ward** is the Captain of the Quesada team but was also the co-ordinator involved. He did not understand the rules extensively as he is new to the role and as his team were 9 players down he asked the opposition Captain if he was happy to postpone the fixture, the Greenlands Captain was happy to agree in the spirit of Sportsmanship. **MW** understands rules are rules but feels there should be some flexibility. He had asked players from other Quesada squads and had no positive response so felt asking the opposition Captain was the only option open to him. As Co-ordinator Mel accepts the responsibility comes down to him. He is considering his position as co-ordinator as a result of the lack of flexibility available.

Peter Bonsor then explained the circumstances regarding the postponement of the Winter League fixture between Quesada and Emerald Isle. Scott, Quesadas Captain, contacted him and explained the extent of their unavailability issues and that they were unable to field a team. Peter gave permission to discuss a postponement with Emerald Isle provided the fixture could be re-arranged and played before the fixtures re-commence in the New Year. It later became apparent that agreement with Emerald Isle had not been gained so Peter said the game must therefore go ahead.

PB then was contacted by Norman from EI stating they had agreed to play the game in the New Year. But it then became apparent EI would be unable to play in the New Year as they were now struggling for bodies on the dates discussed. The fact that Quesada managed to field three teams on the Monday between the Friday and the Wednesday where they could not field a team has left a sour taste. **MW** stated that the make up of the squads is different which was accepted but it was stated that flexibility by those players could have prevented these issues and that flexibility must work both ways.

Fred Willshire feels we must say that rules are rules and co-ordinators must follow the rules as they stand also he feels it is unfair that one team Captain should contact another teams Captain and put him in this position where he feels in the interest of Sportsmanship, he must agree to break the rules, that is simply unfair.

Kevin added regardless of why a fixture is postponed it must always be arranged and replayed within the time frame stipulated by the LLB which is 14 days and in both of these cases this was not the case. **MW** agreed and stated that was down to him as due to being new he wasn't clear on that rule. **SD Vistabella** stated it is difficult to allow Flexibility as different people want different things and will interpret things differently. If you don't like the rules we should change the rules. It was suggested that we review the rules and if required we need a proposal for the AGM. **GW** reminded us of the group of co-ordinators, (Match Committee), that have the power to get together to discuss issues, make decisions, and then bring proposals to the meeting to discuss and ratify. Gail also said she feels a points penalty against Quesada of 4 points seems much fairer and the games are then played on the re-arranged dates. The full penalty as previously stated seems OTT. Gail added that the last thing we wanted was to lose any teams from the leagues and the same goes for the Co-ordinators

Clarification was sought within the delegates in the room that the 4 point penalty for both the Winter League and the Friday league should be applied that the last thing and that both games will be played. It was proposed by **David Hayne** of El Rancho that the Co-ordinators get together to discuss the rules for the future and bring recommendations back to the AGM. **Gail** added Going forward if exceptional circumstances are claimed by a club all of the co-ordinators will get together to decide on how to deal with the issue. If one of the co-ordinators is a member of one of the clubs involved he should step away and perhaps a committee member from an un-involved club could come in as part of the debate.

The meeting voted and agreed that things will remain as they are for the remainder of the season and a four point penalty will be imposed on Quesada for both Competitions. 6 for 3 against 1 abstention.

PB pointed out The Champion of Champions needs a venue to be allocated for it and also needs a co-Ordinator to oversee it.

PB asked Kevin as Secretary to contact Bob to ask for clarification re the position of Delgado. It has been made clear to the committee by Bob he is stepping down at the end of his term in office in April 2026. We need clarification of the process for appointing his successor and this will need to be understood in good time for the AGM in March 2026. Bob attended a meeting at the end of last month which involved the President of the FEB and the 3 Delgado's. One of the things discussed

was the formation of a Nationals Committee to ensure National matters for Spain could be managed correctly. Disappointment was expressed that a report from the meeting was not forthcoming but Kevin will contact Bob for clarity regarding the process to elect a replacement. The position of President of the LLB has to be occupied to ensure we can legally operate going forward.

18. Date and Venue of the next meeting.

All meeting dates are in the Agenda Document roughly mirroring what we have done in 2025 this will allow all delegates to pre plan the year. The only meeting which may need to be moved is 13th August. Kevin explained his daughter is getting married back in the UK on 15th so he will be spending most of October back in the UK. He is happy for it to go ahead on the planned date as long as we get a volunteer for taking the minutes.

PB asked if we are able to host the meetings in this room at the Bowls Club going forward. The guys from Monte Mar will discuss with the bar management and if ok we will host future meetings in the same room.

Gail proposed that we consider using Zoom for future meetings for people who cannot attend, she asked if someone would be able to investigate that on behalf of the LLB. Kevin asked if Gail would look into it before her term of office comes to a close as he is very knowledgeable about technology etc.

Future meeting dates are as follows:

17th February, March 17th (including AGM), April 14th, June 16th, August 18th, October 13th*, December 8th

Next meeting will be on 17th February 2026

The meeting closed at 11.40am

An EGM then took place to vote on 1 item the distribution of Prize money for the Valencians.