

PRINCIPLES OF MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

This statement of principles has been adopted by the Board in compliance with Rule 17.8 of the Club Rules which requires the Board to 'establish, maintain and make available to members a non-binding statement of principles it will follow in communicating with and consulting with Members'.

1. PETITION NOTIFICATION

Where a valid petition is received, the Board will notify Members within three working days and will include a Headline of the petition so that they are made aware of its subject matter. The text of the petition itself will be circulated to all Members as soon as the necessary checks have been completed, including confirmation of validity under the Rules, legal review for defamation and personal data, and operational preparation for postal-only Members.

2. SGM TIMING

- 2.1 The Board's aim will be to hold an SGM within 60 days of being requested where practicable.
- 2.2 The Board will, in any event, maintain the 90 day requirement under the Club Rules if venue constraints make it impossible to hold an SGM within 60 days of being requested.

3. CONSULTATION PROTOCOL

- 3.1 Members will be consulted on any proposed material changes to both the Men's and Women's domestic county structure or schedule. This will include:
 - 3.1.1 Any reduction in the number of county championship matches played or the number of scheduled days of championship cricket;
 - 3.1.2 The removal of any first XI county competitions;
- 3.2 In these cases the Board shall:
 - 3.2.1 Send all Members a document setting out the proposals and indicate the position it is minded to take on them;
 - 3.2.2 Arrange for a SGM to discuss the proposals and for an advisory vote of all eligible Members.
 - 3.2.3 If a group of no fewer than 100 voting members indicates by petition that it wishes to oppose the position the Board is minded to take, they may submit a statement of no more than 250 words setting out their views. If received at least 14 days prior to the SGM, this statement (subject to normal legal/factual review) will be made available electronically to all voting members in advance of the SGM.
- 3.3 If the initial consultation process is held on any matters other than those listed above and this leads to a significant level of member engagement or concern regarding the proposed changes, on the recommendation of the Membership Committee, the Club will hold an online vote of all eligible members on the proposed changes.
 - 3.3.1 In all cases, a Members' vote will provide a non-binding recommendation to the Board on how the Club should cast its vote.

3.3.2 Should the Board then vote contrary to the recommendation of members, it shall advise Members promptly of its decision and publish within seven working days an explanation of its decision, subject to any disclosure limitations imposed on the Club by ECB or other third parties.

3.4 For avoidance of doubt, no provision in this 'Statement of Principles' shall constrain the exercise of Members' rights, as set out in the Club Rules, to petition and to call a SGM on these or any other topics.

4. VOTING ANONYMITY

4.1 Any physical voting cards will display membership numbers only.

4.2 An independent scrutineer will be appointed to receive all votes and to manage the count.

5. HYBRID PARTICIPATION AND VOTING IMPROVEMENTS

The Club will in due course commission a feasibility study on real-time voting for hybrid meetings.

6. AMENDMENT OF 'PRINCIPLES'

6.1 If the Board wishes to amend these Principles it shall communicate its proposals to members and offer them the opportunity to comment on proposed changes.

6.2 Whenever this Statement is amended, it will be replaced on the club website with the amended version, and members will be notified of the amendments.

7. ADOPTION BY THE BOARD

7.1 This 'Statement of Principles' was adopted by the Board on 28 July 2026.

7.2 The Board agreed that the Statement should be communicated to members forthwith and placed in the Members' Hub on the Club website.