

BOARD BASKETBALL ENGLAND



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: 24th February 2025

Location: Maldron
Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Present:

Paul Blanchard (PB)
Born Barikor (BB)
Chris Walsh (CW)
Matt Newby (MNy)
Sadie Mason (SM) dial in
Joel Baynes (JB)
Brandie Deignan (BD) dial in
Sandy Gill (SG)
Katie Simmonds (KS) dial in
Paul Mundy-Castle (PMC)

Executives:

Stewart Kellett (SK)
Helen Penn (HP)
Marc Dring (MD) for item no.
Bud Johnston (BJ) for item no.

Apologies:

Egemen Onen (EO)

Note Taker: Karen Bailey (KB)

Item No. 1 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from EO.

Item No. 2- Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest that had not been previously disclosed.

Item No. 3 – Minutes & Action Tracker

The Board approved the minutes from the BE Board meetings held on 6th December 2025.

The meeting acknowledged the actions contained in the Action Tracker document which had not been updated.

Item No. 4 – Board Member Renewals and Recruitment

The Board approved the extension of a current Board Member's term through to the 2026 AGM and the reappointment of another member for a second three-year term.

Additionally, the Board approved the creation of two new "Associate Director" roles, aimed at engaging individuals aged 18-25. These roles will be developed and supported by the People Committee.

Item No. 5 – Strategy Implementation 2025-2029

The Board approved the four-year strategic goals, associated KPIs and priorities subject to the incorporation of the comments from the Board specifically on the focus on membership. The draft 2025/26 budget was approved, subject to further review by the AFR Committee. The implementation plan is designed to align operations, finance, partnerships, and reporting with strategic objectives.

Item No. 6 – CEO Update and Business Performance

The Board noted updates on business performance and key developments, including organisational health and changes to business risks. The Board also approved a new Vexatious Management Policy.

Item No. 7 – Digital Transformation Update

The Board acknowledged progress on the digital transformation project, including the appointment of 93ft as the preferred website supplier and ongoing work with PlayHQ. It was agreed that selected clubs will participate in system testing ahead of the June 2025 launch. A brand review group has also been established to provide recommendations by year-end.

Item No. 8 – NBL Division 1 (D1) Project Update

A phased approach will be undertaken, with designated Board members leading discussions and legal work. The Board reaffirmed its commitment to partnership with the clubs and requested urgent progress on league structure modelling and regulatory implications for 2025/26.

Item No. 9 – NBL Regulation Changes

This item was not discussed during the meeting.

Item No. 10 – Subcommittee Updates

EDI Committee

The Board noted progress in key areas including the Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP),

gender policy development, committee membership changes, and policy audits. A revised EDI structure is being developed to prioritise tasks and drive engagement, with the Board and leadership team committed to supporting this work.

People Committee

Covered under Item 4.

AFR Committee

An interim Board meeting will be scheduled before the end of March to address the 2025/26 budget in detail.

Commercial Committee

A review of commercial partnerships and opportunities was discussed. A detailed commercial proposal will be presented at the next Board meeting in April 2025.

Item No. 11 – Notes and Actions from Advisory Groups

The Board noted that the committees had not met since the last board meeting on the 6th of December 2025.

Item No. 12 – Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Item No. 13 – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 29th 2025, venue to be advised.

END OF MEETING AT 16:45