



MINUTES OF THE 26th ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2025
AT THE COUNTY GROUND, THURSTON ROAD, LEYLAND PR25 2LF

Meeting began: 19:00

There were **15** Full Members present and entitled to vote representing:

Accrington & District JFL, AFC Blackpool, Blackburn & District Combination, Blackpool and Fylde Sunday Alliance, Blackpool FC, Central Lancashire JFL, Daisy Hill FC, East Lancashire Football Alliance, East Lancashire Football League, Lancaster Amateur League, Lytham St. Annes YMCA FC, Rochdale AFC, Southport Trinity, West Lancashire Football League, Wigan & District Youth League

Opening Words: Mr David Flory, Chair of Lancashire FA Board of Directors, provided opening words of welcome, introduced the presenters and updated the members on the following specific governance matters:

This year has seen a significant step forward as we launched our new ROSE membership platform, offering two options for our Clubs and Leagues: the free ROSE membership, providing a professional administration and rewards tool to our entire community, and the enhanced ROSE+ membership for our full legal members. This marks a move from our historic membership model to a more modern, inclusive structure that opens membership up across our community, supporting a safe, accessible and fair game with high standards through our Standards Framework, while delivering stronger benefits to members.

During the transition period to ROSE, and ahead of opening membership up to the community via the Standards Framework, we sought approval from our ROSE+ legal members for a temporary reduction of the AGM quorum from 20 to 5. The change was a practical measure to ensure the AGM could proceed lawfully and member business could be conducted properly at a time of reduced renewals, without altering governance principles or member rights. This special resolution was approved by 26 of 33 members - 79%, (minimum 75% approval threshold required), and the original quorum will be restored when membership levels return to 70, as written into the Articles and without requiring any further adjustments.

MINUTES

1 To approve the Minutes of the 25th Annual General Meeting held on 13th November 2024

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2024 were approved as a true record.

Proposer	John Brown - West Lancashire Football League
Secunder	Gareth Cross - Accrington & District J.F.L / Blackburn & District Combination

2 To receive from the Directors a full statement of account to 30th June 2025

On behalf of the Directors, Ms Katelyn Duton, Senior Statutory Auditor from the Association's Auditors, Sedulo Audit Limited, provided an overview of the audit process and confirmed that there were no issues, and a 'clean' audit report had been issued. Ms Duton provided an overview of the

Associations Accounts for 1st July 2024 – 30th June 2025, highlighting key figures and messages. No questions were raised by the membership requiring a response from Mrs Jane Wareing, the Association's Head of Finance.

3 To receive from the Directors the Annual Report for the 2024-25 Season and Forward View

4 Questions Received from the Membership

Items 3 and 4 were dealt with together. On behalf of the Directors, the Chief Executive, Mr Simon Gerrard, presented the Annual Report, outlining the key performance of the Association during the 2024-25 Season, provided an overview of the outlook for the 2025-26 Season.

To provide clarity on the questions raised by the membership ahead of the AGM, Lancashire FA circulated a 'Question and Answer' document. Mr Gerrard responded to additional questions raised by the membership. These included:

1. **Question:** Why Lancashire FA is introducing its own standards framework without coordination with the FA to provide a single set of standards for clubs and leagues, with the risk of duplication and concern from end users who may ask why extra requirements are needed.

Company response: Mr Gerrard explained that the ROSE+ Standards Framework replaces the old eligibility rules for full legal members. The aim is to raise standards across the whole community. Clubs and leagues only need to follow it if they want full legal membership. If the FA releases a national framework for Leagues, Lancashire FA will reflect this within ROSE+, avoiding duplication. Mr Gerrard reiterated the importance of local standards improving and that this work responds to requests from the Lancashire community, and Lancashire FA must act in the best interests of local football. **Action:** Lancashire FA to formally launch the Standards Framework on Thursday 20th November.

2. **Question:** Why Lancashire FA did not contribute to the FA's silent weekend initiative.

Company response

Mr Yates (Head of Safeguarding) explained that whilst we support the intentions behind silent weekends, previous research showed players largely opposed it. Lancashire FA supports the aim of improving touchline behaviour, and believes a different approach fits local needs, such as the #praisenotpressure initiative. **Action:** Lancashire FA will further explore silent weekends and pursue approaches that support the aim and intentions, and work well for our local participants.

3. **Comment:** The new safeguarding system appears to allow some clubs to circumvent processes, resulting in unapproved people appearing on the sidelines.

Company response

Mr Gerrard and Mr Yates explained that Lancashire FA are reliant on the FA's systems. They have already met the FA to report community and internal issues. They are acting if any loophole is used, suspending individuals or teams when needed as anyone on the touchline must meet the compliance rules. **Action:** The system has faults, and Lancashire FA will continue to push the FA for fixes and tighter controls, as well as enforce suspensions when clubs or individuals bypass safeguards.

5 To re-appoint the Auditors

It was agreed by the members present that Sedulo Audit Limited be re-appointed as the Association Auditors.

Thanks were given to Sedulo Audit Limited for all their work over the year.

Proposer	John Brown - West Lancashire Football League
Seconder	Michael Taylor - East Lancashire Football League

6 To note the terms of all Directors

The following terms were noted:

- Arshia Hashmi (Vice Chair/SID) - 5th September 2026 [Expiry of 3-year term 3 (of 3)]
- Craig Howard* – 27th November 2027 [Expiry of 3-year term 3 (of 3)]
- David Flory (Chair/FA Rep) - 30th June 2028 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of max 4)]
- Jackie Day- Garner - 11th May 2026 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of 3)]
- Mark Wild - 11th May 2026 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of 3)]
- Paul Newman - 20th June 2027 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of 3)]
- Priya Kohli - 20th June 2027 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of 3)]
- Rachel Brown-Finnis - 8th Sept 2027 [Expiry of 3-year term 1 (of 3)]
- Steve Daley - 18th Aug 2027 [Expiry of 3-year term 1 (of 3)]
- Stewart Kellett - 11th May 2026 [Expiry of 3-year term 2 (of 3)]

*member nominated

7 Any Other Business (submitted to the CEO 48 hours prior to the meeting)

None received prior to, or during, the meeting.

Closing Remarks

The Chair provided closing remarks and thanks were given to:

- Simon Gerrard (CEO) for his very comprehensive overview of both the previous season and forward view for the coming season.
- All the Lancashire Football Association Staff for their incredibly hard work.
- The Directors for their vast contributions to the governance of the Association.
- Sedulo Audit Limited for their work with us over the last four years.
- The Members of the Association present, as well as those unable to join, recognising the work carried out in clubs, leagues and the wider football community every weekend and throughout the year. With the game relying on motivated volunteers, whose commitment keeps football moving, sincere thanks were given for the fantastic contribution they make.

Meeting Ended: 20:02