Report of the General Members Meeting KNCB December 13, 2025 in Amstelveen, VRA Cricket, Nieuwe Kalfjeslaan 21b, starting at 11.00 am.

The attendance list was signed by:

Associations
Amsterdamsche C.C., Bijlmer C.C., C.C. Bloemendaal, C.C. Groenendaal, Cricket Vereniging Holland, C.T.C. de Flamingo's, D.S.V. Dosti United C.C., Excelsior '20, Groen & Wit Amsterdam C.C., C.C. Groen-Geel, HBS, HCC, Hercules, Hermes DVS, Hilversumsche C.C., Hoofddorp Jaguars C.C., SV Kampong Cricket, Koninklijke UD, Olympia G.C.C., Phoenix C.C.G., Punjab CCR, Qui Vive CC, Quick 1888, HV&CV Quick, HCC Rood en Wit 1881, SGS CC, Salland C.C., SGS, Sparta Cricket 1888, SV Royal Punjab, VOC, Voorburg CC, VRA, VVV, Zamigo's, Zwolle C.C.

Honorary members
M.B. Asselbergs, S. van Hoogstraten, S.W. Lubbers. Online presence: E.D. Ohm.

Members of Merit
L.W.G. Hartong, B.H.J. Timmer, W.E. Winckel. J.H. Wories. Online attendance: J.L. Mulder.

Board
Guido.Landheer (chairman), Willemijn.Vorderman (secretary), NitinPotdar (cricket development), Jacques van Zuydam (treasurer), Sybrand Engelbrecht (High Performance), Rashid Shah (Marketing, Sponsoring & Communication).

KNCB Federations Office
Lucas Hendrikse, Adriaan van den Dries, Pamela Mulder, Roland Lefebvre, Subir Shrestha, Patrick de Leede, Emil Buijs.

Committee members
H.P. van Arkel, A. Alim, A. Bernelot Moens, T. Sikkema. Online presence; R. Lyall.

Other attendees
B. Boissevain, I. van der Elst, B. de Jong, A. van Rietschote.

Authorizations were received from the associations:
Amsterdamsche C.C., Ajax S.C., Bijlmer C.C., C.C. Bloemendaal, C.C. Groenendaal, C.T.C. de Flamingo's, Excelsior '20, Groen & Wit Amsterdam C.C., C.C. Groen-Geel, HBS, HCC, Hercules, Hermes DVS, Hoofddorp Jaguars C.C., Koninklijke UD, GCC Olympia, Phoenix C.C.G., Punjab CCR, Qui Vive CC, Quick 1888, HV&CV Quick, HCC Rood en Wit 1881, SV Royal Punjab, Salland C.C., SGS, Sparta Cricket 1888, VOC, Voorburg CC, VRA, Zwolle C.C.

1. Opening

The chairman, **Guido Landheer**, opens the meeting at 11.00 am and welcomes those present.
The **chairman** especially welcomes the honorary members; Marc Asselbergs, Steven van Hoogstraten, Steven Lubbers and Duco Ohm and the members of merit; Louk Hartong, Hans Mulder, Betty Timmer, Willem Winckel and John Wories.
The following honorary members have cancelled; Ted Hartman, René van Ierschot, Rob Kemming, Amit Parulekar and Jeroen Smits.
The clubs that have cancelled are; Quick 1888, Gelre CC, Ajax S.C.
Cancellations of the committees that have come in are; Roeland Buijze (Rules Committee), Erik van der Vegt (Disciplinary Committee) Wim Neleman (Archives & Library).

The **chairman** names the deceased members and the meeting observes a minute of silence for them:
Diederik Dettmeijer, HCC, CCG.
Tine de Ruiter, Kampong
David Trist, Kon. Assistant professor

Jan van Oosterhout, Wanderers
Ed de Moura Correia, VOC, Bloemendaal, HCC, VRA.
Roelof Balk, ACC
Anton (Ton) Bakker, VOC
Dorith de Leede-van der Laan, VCC
Sieb Kummer, Hilversumsche CC
Ajoub Doekhie, Dosti

Steven van Hoogstraten points out to the KNCB that Kees Bakker of HCC is missing from this overview. The chairman asks for a short moment of silence, which everyone observes.

The **chairman** looks back on the summer of 2025 with a lot of positive energy and growth in the number of clubs and cricket players. He expresses his appreciation for the champions VRA (T20), and Kampong (50 overs), in the women's HCC (T20) and Quick (40 overs). In addition, he mentions the national women's team and their successful performance in the Emerging Nations Trophy, including the convincing victory over Scotland. In January, they will play the qualifying matches in Nepal, with a real chance of qualifying for the T20 World Cup 2026. The chairman is also proud of the Dutch men's team that has qualified for the T20 World Cup 2026 in India and Sri Lanka. Special achievements, made possible by the dedication and commitment of both the teams and the staff. The matches were attended by a large audience. He expresses his great appreciation for the youth, especially the boys and girls under 17 and under 19 years old, indicating that we will come back to the situation regarding the girls later in the meeting. The successes are in line with the ambition to further grow cricket in the Netherlands, with a focus on high performance and club development. Three pillars are crucial for this: financial stability, strong partnerships and a professional organization. Finally, the chairman emphasizes the importance of an open, respectful dialogue, focused on the content and not on the person.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Steven Lubbers (Salland) requests to add an extra agenda item about the KNCB competition structure 2026. The **chairman** replied that this topic was being discussed; it was included in the Presentation accompanying the 2026 annual plan. The agenda is determined below.

3. Documents received

The **chairman** reports that on December 11, 2025, a letter was received from René van Ierschot, in which he expresses his concerns; according to him, confidence in the cricket world has not been sufficiently restored. He mentions the lack of a good discussion about the (partial) professionalization of cricket in the Netherlands and high performance. In addition, he points to the financial dependence on the ICC and the unrealistic expectations surrounding sponsors. He refers to the comments that Betty Timmer has sent around to the club presidents; she has been less reserved than he is, but according to René her involvement is indisputable and she has often been right. He hopes that the House will take its comments into account. Finally, he emphasizes the importance of a strong board and agency and hopes that the board will take this into account when choosing a new CEO.
The **chairman** indicated that these items would be discussed in the coming agenda items and thanked René van Ierschot for his letter. **John Wories** (member of merit) indicates that he thinks that the passage about Betty Timmer has not been properly summarized, after which the chairman reads this paragraph verbatim and also indicates that he will add the letter to the minutes.

4. (Re)appointments KNCB board

a. The board proposes to appoint Mr. R. Shah as board member of Sponsoring, Marketing & Communication. The General Assembly approves his appointment.
b. The board proposes to appoint Mr. S.A. Engelbrecht as board member High Performance. The General Assembly approves his appointment.
c. In accordance with the schedule, secretary W.E. Vorderman is resigning. She is standing for re-election for a second term. The board proposes to reappoint her. The General Assembly approves her reappointment.

5. Reappointments Committees

a. Financial Committee: in accordance with the schedule, Mr. H.P. van Arkel is resigning. He is running for re-election for a second term. The board proposes to reappoint him. The General Assembly approves his reappointment.
b. Appeals Committee: in accordance with the schedule, Mr. E.A. van der Vegt is resigning. He is running for re-election for a second term. The board proposes to reappoint him. The General Assembly approves his reappointment.

6. Minutes of the General Members Meeting of 12 April 2025

Comments have been received on the draft minutes from Roeland Buijze and Betty Timmer.
Max de Bruin jr. (ACC) notes that he is not Max de Bruin senior; this is corrected.
Joost Bakker (ACC): Ekant Arunwal is not a member of ACC, but of Red and White; this will be adjusted.
Betty Timmer (member of merit) points out that on page 5 of the minutes it says: "*The KNCB is almost entirely dependent on the ICC for external funding. The ICC uses two scorecards with the possibility of receiving a qualification grant with which to work towards the World Cup*". She reads this as meaning that a *qualification grant* is mainly a *preparation grant*, while within the KNCB the costs incurred during the World Cup are also covered. What matters to her is that this has been said, but is not correct: the treasurer indicates that he will come back to this at the Finances.
Jaco van Giezen (Hermes DVS) indicates what he also mentioned in the April GMM that the working language is both Dutch and English and lacks unambiguity. The **chairman** acknowledges this and takes this point into account.
With these amendments, the minutes are adopted.

7. Announcements

The **chairman** reflects on the special merits of Ed de Moura Correia for the KNCB and Dutch cricket. He is praised for his broad commitment as a player, coach and administrator and for his sportsmanship, involvement and connecting role within the cricket community. In particular, his great significance for Dutch women's cricket is mentioned. From 2010 onwards, Ed made an important contribution to the development and success of the women's team as a national coach, both nationally and internationally. In addition, he was active as a mentor, connector and source of energy within various teams and initiatives, including the parliamentary cricket team and the national men's team as a video analyst. The board expresses great thanks and appreciation for everything that Ed de Moura Correia has meant to Dutch cricket. Because of his long-term and valuable commitment to the KNCB, the board has decided to nominate Ed de Moura Correia as a member of merit of the KNCB. Because the board assumed that this appointment would be ratified by the GMM and his medical condition was such that it was not possible to wait for this GMM the accompanying trophy was awarded to him, which touched him very much. The meeting ratifies this nomination posthumously with heartwarming applause.
The **chairman** would like to reflect on an icon who left the KNCB in October: Alex de la Mar has retired after 39 years of working at the KNCB. During this period he held various positions and was a 'walking encyclopedia' of the KNCB. There was a farewell in a small circle – as he wanted – and he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the ICC. The meeting also thanks Alex de la Mar for all his work with a hearty applause.
The **chairman** then reports that - as is known - Lucas Hendrikse will step down as interim CEO on 1 April. A selection committee has been set up for the recruitment of a new CEO, consisting of representatives of the board and Cees Bieren on behalf of the **associations**. Based on this procedure, **Huib van Walsem** has been selected as the new CEO. He will take office on March 1, so that a good transfer from Lucas can take place.
Huib van Walsem introduces himself. He started his cricket career with Rood en Wit and played in Groningen during his student days, then at Salland and Bloemendaal. He was chairman of Rood en Wit for a while until 2000. He also worked at national and international companies such as Coca-Cola. He is looking forward to working with the board, federation office, associations and volunteers to use his talents for the growth of cricket in the Netherlands in a guiding and connecting role, within a pleasant working environment.

8. Annual plan 2026, including update Taskforces

The **chairman** gives the floor to **Lucas Hendrikse** (CEO a.i.).
Lucas Hendrikse starts by indicating that he has worked towards a reflection between the management team and the board. As a result, the lines of communication are clearer. The organization works with two pillars: domestic cricket and high performance. Marketing, communication and sponsorship will be an

internal function, with additional freelance support where necessary. So a new board member will also start on this in 2025. External financial resources, outside the ICC, remain of great importance. Additional hands-on resources are being deployed to strengthen Operations and Cricket Development. The CEO succession has been completed. The vacancy for Director Domestic Cricket has now closed and the invitation of candidates is starting. The periodic consultation between the board and associations has started and will continue in 2026. The new organizational structure consists of a board of six people and a management within the KNCB. Ryan Cook is Director High Performance, Emil Buijs is now working as Office Manager and Pieter Seelaar will manage marketing and communication as of 1 January. With the filling of the position of Director Domestic Cricket, for which recruitment is currently underway, the organisation is fully mirrored and future-oriented.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that the previous strategic vision was aimed at a top 10 position in the world and 40% growth. The organisation is now starting to formulate a new mission and vision, which will be elaborated into concrete and strategic action plans. Free external support is used for this process. For domestic cricket, 2018 is the baseline measurement. The growth has mainly occurred among senior men and associations. The participation of women and girls has not grown and is a clear sore point. Where in the 80s about 40 women's teams were active, this number has fallen sharply. This is an important point of attention in the strategic plan. For the local competitions in 2025, additional support is needed, including in the field of umpires, depending on the available budget. In addition, the field occupation is under pressure: at a number of locations, clubs have to move to other fields from April to September. For new clubs, obtaining suitable accommodation is difficult due to competition for space with football and/or hockey clubs.
For 2026, a double main league will be used, after which a new structure will apply in 2027 in which 25% plays in the THE. The advice of the Taskforce 2025 is to stick to a competition format with four groups of eight teams. This structure is best suited to the current level of top cricket in the national league. Expansion to more than 32 teams is not recommended due to practical limitations, including the shortage of umpires and scorers, the use of second and third teams in the Topklasse, the high field occupancy of main fields and limitations in accommodations. With 40 teams, too many teams play at the highest level, which is undesirable.
Willem Winckel (member of merit) points to growth and strong teams in the fourth division and limited promotion opportunities. He proposes to improve the flow by expanding to four second classes and asks the task force to include this for 2027.
Steven Lubbers (Salland) states that the task force had the task of looking at the points system and the competition. He thinks there is no level playing field and points out that the top of the league is closed. The extra influx at associations takes place at the bottom. That is why a plan B has been proposed, about which he believes that limited consultation has taken place so far. He believes that there are creative solutions to prevent the flow of traffic from being blocked every time. He also indicates that teams from the lowest divisions do not feel heard.
Jaco van Giezen indicates that the 2025 Taskforce was set up with one goal: a sanity check on the plan that resulted from the 2024 Taskforce Competition and focused in particular on the Player Points System. He points out that expansion with extra first divisions drives the clubs to higher costs, partly due to more expensive umpires and balls. According to him, the task of this task force has now been completed and no further matters will be included. However, there is a variant with two first classes, which are then no longer referred to as 'top cricket'. He acknowledges that everyone feels the pain at new clubs when it comes to progression.
Steven Lubbers indicates that this is indeed an option: that you call the Top and Major League 'top cricket' and play 40 overs in the First Divisions, for example.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that there is indeed a flow, as ten teams from the fourth division move on every year. In 2026 - after the end of the competition - the pluses and minuses for 2028 can be looked at again. Steven **Lubbers** proposes to put plan B to a vote.
Joost Bakker (ACC) admits that it is not clear to him what plan B exactly entails, which would make him find putting this plan to a vote procedurally very strange.
The **chairman** indicates that the competition plans for 2026 and 2027 have been explained. All suggestions have been discussed before, with various other plans, including the so-called plan B; Salland was also represented in the first Taskforce in 2024: the proposal that came out of this Taskforce and that the board has adopted has been elaborated upon. The Points System Taskforce has now come up with advice that the board wants to follow towards 2026. In 2026, it will be possible to check again whether everything is going well. The task force has looked at fine-tuning and the points system and the chairman indicates that this decision will remain unchanged towards 2026.

Max de Bruin jr. (Chair Flamingos) indicates that the chair has made commitments about communication in previous meetings that would be included in the task force, but that this has only been done partially. Some associations feel insufficiently heard. He states that it is the primary task of the KNCB to organize the competition and emphasizes that being heard within the cooperation between associations, the KNCB organization and the federation board, can remove many of these types of complaints. His comment is not so much about the content of the decision, but about the process: he argues that more attention should be paid to the fact that associations sometimes feel too little heard.
The **chairman** indicates that he understands that not everyone is always satisfied with board decisions and that this seems completely impossible with regard to the competition with all the different wishes and interests. He gives the signal that clubs that were not in the Task Force should be better involved and that he should have started the digital townhall meetings in 2025 partly for this reason. The first took place in the fourth quarter of 2025; They will be organized periodically and he hopes that clubs will participate. In addition, he states that the competition has been discussed extensively with various clubs.
Lucas Hendrikse emphasizes that the task force finds the league format logical and that this decision has been made: the structure will not be adjusted before 2026; the federation office is of course willing to listen to ideas towards 2027.
Cees Bieren (Red and White) expects that if the plans lead to teams moving 'up', this will not be a problem, because clubs will accept promotion. He indicates that in April 2026 it should be clear what things will look like in 2027 in terms of promotion and relegation. Second, he points to the earlier point regarding the availability of umpires and argues for a broader discussion with more clubs.
Pieter Rijnbeek (HV&CV Quick) indicates that the discussion about THE and the competition has been going on for seasons now – there has even been a full Extraordinary GMM dedicated to it before. What is being introduced now should have been implemented last year. Now the same discussion is being started again, while complete unanimity on the subject of competition is not feasible. There is a system and advice to the board; He advises not to change this and to use it for three years to be able to assess the effects, because consistency is important. The different division of the competition per season is quite fed up with the boards of clubs and also players.
Kumaran Thirouda (Dosti) says that talented players do not get a chance to play in national teams and asks if the KNCB can help to promote all clubs and draw up a list of players for the national team. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that the KNCB does not decide for players where they play.
Willem Winckel (member of merit) points out that the growth of players at the bottom has grown by 25% and that the structure has not grown with it. He indicates that by 2027, the division at the bottom of the league must be better organized.
Nandan Patil (Hoofddorp Jaquars) believes that the quality of the umpires in the second division and the youth should be looked at, so that the level of cricket can improve.
The **chairman** concludes that the framework of the competition is in place and the decision has been made for the structure of 2026 and 2027.
Sander Helberg (Hercules) asks again whether the 2026 competition format will indeed not be voted on now. **Lucas Hendrikse** reiterates that the decision for the 2026 system has been taken and that any adjustments for 2027 will be considered.
John Wories thinks that the meeting is now being ignored, to which Lucas Hendrikse replies that this is not the case. The points system that is now being introduced was an explicit request from the General Members' Meeting and he indicates that the office wants to look at things towards 2027, but that it has now been decided and set up towards 2026 and that adjusting this is not feasible now.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that a player point system will be introduced in 2026, which was developed in collaboration with the Taskforce and communicated to all clubs. For the clubs in the THE, unfortunately, quite a few clubs did not participate in the online calls; A number of questions have emerged from the sessions that have been held, on the basis of which some additions are made. Matters relating to privacy are also further elaborated. In addition, a digital tool will be introduced to support the completion of team sheets at matches.
Cees Bieren (Red and White) adds that this is a phased approach. For the youth, there are minimum criteria to be allowed to play in the top class. **Lucas Hendrikse** confirms this.
Jelger Gustafsson (VRA) indicates that in addition to the player point system, many rules apply – for example around a dispensation application – and that his main objection is that this further increases the complexity. With many teams in different classes, it becomes almost impossible to implement and he asks if any thought has been given to simplifying.
Lucas Hendrikse acknowledges that the many rules make the whole complex and indicates that he agrees with Jelger Gustafsson that simplification of the rules should be looked at.

Steven van Hoogstraten asks if the points system can be explained in more detail. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that clubs must submit a list of players to the association every season, in which players are ranked: foreign players receive 7 or 8 points, own club players 1 point and transition players 2 points. A maximum of 28 points may be set up per match. **John Wories** thinks it's a strange plan and says that no country has this. **Lucas Hendrikse** answers that there is already a point system in Australia and that the GMM itself has asked for this system so that the number of foreign players is limited. This has been communicated with all clubs; in addition, there have been calls with THE clubs and a task force has been set up.
Betty Timmer indicates that according to her, the articles of association indicate that all documents must be sent three weeks before the meeting, so that the advisors can give their advice. According to her, no one has been able to prepare for the annual plan.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that the 'Women/Girls cricket' task force is working on strengthening women's and girls' cricket, which also requires the commitment of clubs. The task force comes up with ideas for this. There is a need for more support capacity for the competition, as this is now largely carried out by Bart Kroesen alone. Improved IT systems for communication with clubs about competition and results are being examined. Finally, it is being investigated how to deal with clubs that supply many internationals, who are often absent in the summer period because they are called up. In addition, bottlenecks are mentioned around the shortage of umpires, which also complicates disciplinary cases. Attention is paid to the training of umpires, coaches and scorers. He calls for cooperation with the clubs in this. Increasing the number of Level 1 coaches is an important goal, among other things by organizing ICC Coach Level 1 courses together with clubs with the aim of having at least 50 extra active coaches. In addition, efforts are being made to train approximately ten additional coaches at Level 2 level through an ICC Coach Level 2 course. On the initiative of Ryan Cook, two meetings were organized with KNCB coaches that focused on talent development.
Kumaran Thirouda (Dosti) asks for more support from the KNCB in training and deploying coaches. **Lucas Hendrikse** says that the focus of the KNCB is on more intensive club support by structurally engaging with clubs through regional and online meetings, accommodation days and a periodic newsletter. Clubs are supported in promotion and youth influx by using the ICC Criiio Program and their own initiatives. The clubs also receive support in improving accommodations in collaboration with the accommodation committee and in jointly organizing activities, including cricket programs at schools.
John Wories indicates that he has heard that the KNCB uses a ranking of grass wickets. **Lucas Hendrikse** confirms that this specifically refers to grass wickets and that during games, umpires and coaches are asked what the pitch is, from which a ranking follows. **John Wories** thinks it is arrogant that VOC is ranked in place 6 and states that this shows that the board is too distant from the clubs. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that €55,000 is spent annually on supporting grass wicket clubs and that the KNCB supports these clubs and uses national umpires and coaches for the assessment. **John Wories** argues that grass wicket clubs should seek more coordination with each other.
Cees Bieren (Red and White) makes a comment about the use of cricket balls. The Top Class, Major League and First Class play with KNCB balls, while other classes do not do this and the quality of the balls is perceived as insufficient. He asks what is being done about this and when all clubs will play with the same ball. Because clubs now buy balls themselves, there is a difference in quality. He proposes to buy balls centrally because of the price advantage. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that this is already happening for THE and promises to look into it.
Max de Bruin jr. asks what is done with the assessments of grass wickets and pitch feedback and how this is fed back to clubs. **Lucas Hendrikse** says that feedback is shared and that the ratings are also used in the allocation of international competitions. **Max de Bruin jr.** asks if the national coach determines this. **Lucas Hendrikse** answers that this responsibility lies with the joint management team.
Betty Timmer believes that an accommodation includes more than just the pitch, especially at international competitions. In the allocation, she says, it should also be looked at where associations can improve and this should preferably be discussed in conjunction with the associations. In addition, she notes that grass wicket associations are now being played off and that good mutual contact and consultation is important.
Floor van Assem (Groen-Geel) points out that the meeting consists mainly of men and wonders whether those present feel ownership of the problem surrounding girls' and women's cricket. She states that the KNCB can come up with as many initiatives as it wants, but that this must be adopted by the clubs. The growth must come from the current constituency and she asks the meeting whether and if so how they feel responsible to contribute to this. **Lucas Hendrikse** endorses this and indicates that the growth of girls' and women's cricket is indeed primarily due to the clubs.

Cees Bieren (Red and White) believes that in order to achieve this desired boost for the growth of girls' and women's cricket, obligations are needed and that consequences must be attached to this, for example through the points system. According to him, this applies not only to players, but also to umpires and coaches.
Joost Leemhuis (HCC) believes that the national team is an important stimulus for women's and girls' cricket. He points out that national coach Neal MacRae has said goodbye and that this came at an unfortunate time. He asks for clarification. **Lucas Hendrikse** explains that in March 2025 it was agreed with Neal to talk to each other in October 2025; that would be six months before the end of his contract and therefore a logical and also very timely moment. However, he came out in October with the rather surprising announcement that he had accepted another offer that really appealed to him and gives him long-term security. The KNCB is now looking at which profile is needed.
Sybrand Engelbrecht adds that internal resources that can be used for the bridging period before a new appointment is made have now been examined. People have been assigned to ensure that the team stays on track.
Kumaran Thirouda (Dosti) sees that there are new girls' teams this year and that there is uncertainty about this. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that the breadth is also being looked at and that regional teams are being considered to prevent girls from having to play in boys' teams. **Kumaran Thirouda** (Dosti) emphasizes that, if youth cricket is to be promoted, a clear platform must be created.
Betty Timmer asks if it is true that the KNCB did not have a budget for a women's national coach. **Lucas Hendrikse** replies that this is not true. **Betty Timmer** asks whether there is room for this in the new budget, which **is confirmed by** Lucas Hendrikse.
Betty Timmer draws attention to the fact that the ICC has used a dispensation scheme for the U19 ladies for the past two years and that in September/October it was announced that this scheme will end, making participation in qualifying events no longer possible. She believes that the board should have reported this to the clubs, asks about the consequences for the future of women's cricket and why the KNCB has not communicated this. The **chairman** indicates that the board was aware of signals about this, took them seriously and took steps, including by organizing events in Amsterdam and The Hague. He acknowledges that clubs should have been informed about this and indicates that actions have been taken to achieve additional growth.
Betty Timmer notes that the KNCB informed parents when the dispensation scheme was stopped, but not the clubs, which she thinks is unwise. In addition, she indicates that when compiling the women's cricket task force, no associations that have been active in women's cricket for a long time were approached.
Cees Bieren indicates that the past cannot be changed, but asks for clarity for the future about minimum criteria to be able to grow one level according to the ICC scorecard. **Lucas Hendrikse** responds that this requires, among other things, a girls' competition U19 with ten teams (100 – 150 playing girls), this will not be solved in 2026. The **chairman** gives as an example that a regional set-up has been discussed in the women's cricket task force, in which four teams play several matches against each other in different cities. **Lucas Hendrikse** adds that this is also in the interest of the ICC criteria, the ICC wants to see more league matches. The **chairman** indicates that the criteria are known, that they are being steered and that this will be explained more broadly in a subsequent townhall meeting, after which clubs will be informed. Finally, **Lucas Hendrikse** emphasizes that participation data is crucial for ICC funding. Not only competition, but also other cricket activities and events count; because these are declining, he calls on the clubs to actively provide input and help the KNCB with this.
Max de Bruin jr. indicates that all kinds of activities - for example a junior tournament - count, but that the way in which the KNCB requests this information does not help in the delivery: it is often not clear to clubs why this is requested. He asks if the KNCB can ask this differently.
Betty Timmer thinks the KNCB's answer is too easy and points out that last year the participation department was dismantled, as a result of which many activities were canceled, which could have consequences for the ICC scorecard. She argues that more stimulation and a more active attitude from the KNCB is needed. **Steven Lubbers** adds that the number of RDO students has also decreased. Lucas Hendrikse confirms that there are now 3, where there were 4.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that the KNCB wants to show more involvement in tapeball, which is growing strongly in several regions. It is expected that this will also lead to growth of hardball cricket. We are looking at how this can be promoted, including by organizing a tapeball championship on February 28.

Sybrand Engelbrecht briefly introduces himself and explains the High Performance programme. He discusses the perspective towards 2026 and the issues that are being worked on within the High Performance team. He discusses the international calendar for 2026. At the moment, no additional races

are included in the calendar, but with a view to further growth, he expresses the desire to expand the number of races in the future. Conversations with the women's team and Neil MacRae show that having a strong and well-designed system is of great importance. Steps are taken in various supporting components, including guidance from the staff, mental support and strength and conditioning training. The ambition is to grow to a position within the top 10. The biggest challenge with the T20 is that the countries that are currently above the Netherlands are very strong. In the coming period, the focus will mainly be on World Cup qualification, which will also look at possibilities for additional funding. The women's team is currently in position 13 (ODI) and 14 (T20) in the rankings. The aim is to limit stagnation in development by working from a top-down approach to the player pool and by ensuring sufficient available resources. In addition, further career opportunities are being considered. Some High Performance highlights are also shared.
Sybrand Engelbrecht reports with regard to the men's team that there is a good mindset and the goal is to further improve the quality and playing style of cricket. The average scores of the T20 World Cup in India are around 200 to 210 runs. In the coming period, coaching and education will be explicitly focused on these objectives. The men's team is better prepared for international cricket than ever before. The financial resources, the availability of players and the size of the player payment pool are important challenges. He explains the business model in which the focus is on guaranteeing quality and additional preconditions to ensure that participation in international competitions remains possible despite the limited resources available. In addition, he emphasizes that the public must be better addressed via social media, with specific attention to youth and with role models from cricket. We are looking at how this can be tackled better, for example by developing a format and using it commercially, so that the proceeds can be used to strengthen finances. The goal is to communicate the cricket style and the way of playing more efficiently to all clubs. This must be achieved through regional training hubs and youth cricket festivals, with the aim of creating energy and focusing on talent development. The programs for clubs, Lions and Lionesses will be carried out within this structure. The biggest challenge lies in the implementation and funding of the national cricket academy. In addition, there is a need for a suitable coach for the women's team. It is looking at how the existing resources can be used more broadly and effectively for the development of players in the age category of 17 to 23 years. Finally, he indicates that national players will be used for master classes, for example in the field of power hitting or wicketkeeping. The cricket academy focuses on further professionalization, with attention to more and better infrastructure, such as gyms at clubs and an improved quality of turf pitches. For talent development, the High Performance Director will work closely with the Domestic Cricket Director.
Sybrand Engelbrecht emphasizes that despite the limited resources, a lot is possible in women's cricket. With regard to the player payment pool, he indicates that he is convinced that it will be difficult to attract sponsors if insufficient funds are allocated for the remuneration of cricket players. He is proud of the fact that at the moment the first women have 'small contracts'. Compared to financially stronger cricket organizations abroad, this can be considered a positive and meaningful achievement.
Pieter Rijnbeek (HV&CV Quick) asks whether the women's team is at risk of being excluded from the international competition, because the qualification may not be achieved. **Sybrand Engelbrecht** emphasizes that the reality is that there has been insufficient investment in women's cricket in the past and that this must be restored. In addition, he indicates that the relationship with the ICC is good. According to him, it is important to make regional competitions and initiatives such as softball and tapeball cricket visible and to use them to underpin the development of women's cricket. It is not certain whether the ICC will grant dispensation, but the KNCB can develop and implement its own initiatives to improve the situation. **Rashid Shah** indicates that there is an ongoing dialogue with the ICC, with the aim of making the system more productive and effective.
Kumaran Thirouda asks about regional initiatives. **Sybrand Engelbrecht** indicates that a strong cricket academy can contribute to regional development and prevent the outflow of players from high performance. It is also important to select players of *national interest* . **Kumaran Thirouda** emphasizes that it is mainly about stimulating interest, especially among girls from the age of 11. **Rashid Shah** indicates that this must be tackled together.
Cees Bieren asks whether the current ICC level will be maintained if nothing changes, or whether there is a risk of relapse. **Sybrand Engelbrecht** indicates that in the absence of action, a negative spiral will arise, with not only the risk of a lower level, but also the risk that less funding will be received from the ICC in 2028, over which the association itself has no direct influence. **Jacques van Zuydam** adds that this is also related to the qualification criteria and the scorecard.
Lucas Hendrikse explains the state of affairs in the field of marketing, communication and sponsorship. A lot of work has been done on a more structured approach to sponsorship. Previously, there was no clear responsibility for this within the office and board; This has now been solved by the appointment of a

board member and a manager with this focus area. In addition, collaborations with partners for the longer term and specific financing options to generate additional income are being examined. A clear strategy has been drawn up to strengthen sponsorship and funding for both the national teams and grassroots cricket. The focus is on entering into multi-year, mutually beneficial partnerships that contribute to the growth of cricket in the Netherlands. The sponsorship focuses on three pillars: supporting major events such as World Cup campaigns, series and competitions, multi-year partnerships for structural growth and visibility and additional funding for inclusivity and growth, with a special focus on youth, women's and girls' cricket and minority group engagement. A dedicated sponsorship and marketing team has been set up within the KNCB. With the appointment of **Pieter Seelaar** as Marketing and Sponsor Manager and a permanent core team, we work according to a structured approach, including through agents on a no cure-no pay basis. The collaboration takes place through fixed consultation moments and a structural method has been developed for sponsor activation. Active contact has been made with Dutch and international companies, several introductory meetings have been held and tailor-made proposals have been worked out, and work is being done on a relationship database for multi-year collaborations. The bidding process for a World Cup sponsor and a sponsor for the women's team is ongoing, with the aim of closing in the short term. Contact has also been made with the company competition to explore further cooperation. The Q4 results of the sponsor team show that the structure has now been set up more clearly. Marketing and communication are strengthened through external parties and social media, with the use of cricketers for stronger content.
Lucas Hendrikse says that the necessary developments have also taken place at the office with the appointment of **Emil Buijs** as Office Manager. It is good to mention that for the first time in 4 years, the KNCB is 'green' when it comes to the test that NOC*NSF does on their - mandatory for associations - Minimum Quality Requirements (MKE) and that is used when awarding the annual contribution from NOC*NSF. This concerns work that often takes place behind the scenes around mandatory procedures, regulations and so on. It is positive that the KNCB now has a positive end result. Finally, Lucas says that the KNCB committees are being evaluated integrally to determine whether they are still doing what they were once founded for, if so: how is this going, etcetera. A review process is started for this. **Finally, Lucas Hendrikse** emphasizes that the KNCB often receives comments about how it communicates. However, he notices that at the necessary times when the KNCB invites clubs for dialogues on certain topics, quite a few clubs do not show up and regularly do not even respond. He emphasizes that communication is a mutual process and expressly invites clubs to actively participate in it.

9. Financial forecast 2025

Treasurer Jacques Zuydam explains the financial situation. He appreciates the feedback received in the financial question time prior to the GMM and the contribution of the Financial Committee and emphasizes that the work of the board and the federation office requires a great deal of effort. Constructive criticism is welcome, but negative and non-constructive criticism is demotivating; He calls for mutual cooperation. The financial figures have been adjusted based on feedback received. He also stresses that the ICC has explicitly emphasised that the ICC funding should not be used for domestic competitions, but is only intended for high performance development, as explicitly stated by the ICC. The budget for 2025 started from a difficult position with the expected end result being a deficit of €179,000. The year was characterised by cost volatility, limited commercial growth and continued risks, despite the positive impact of World Cup qualification. Within the forecast for 2025, exchange rate fluctuations, higher marketing expenditure and an underspend of around €100,000 on cricket development are important points of attention. Financial control has now been tightened again, with monthly reviews, quarterly forecasts and improved accountability. On the positive side, the qualification of the T20 men's team, which brings in extra ICC income. Negative effects include exchange rate risks, prolonged outages of the CEO, higher legal and insurance costs and payments from one sponsor that has not materialized so far. The expected result for 2025 is a deficit of approximately €190,000.
Pieter Rijnbeek asks about the underspending within cricket development and how it is ensured that these funds will still be used for development next year. **Lucas Hendrikse** indicates that the funds will be used for coach development and improvements to facilities for women's and girls' cricket, among other things. **Betty Timmer** does not find the underspending surprising now that there was no annual plan. She warns against being careful in the use of resources.
Jaco van Giezen notes that to his knowledge the articles of association state that the board may spend up to € 100,000 outside the budget independently, which is difficult to check and can lead to discussions about larger amounts **Jacques Zuydam** indicates that this provision is not exactly as it is and says he will come back to this. According to his current understanding, the World Cup scenario was a possible scenario and he sees the € 100,000 as an exception to a deviation within the budget.

Kumaran Thirouda emphasizes the importance of learning from challenges and mistakes made and indicates that the organization needs to be better prepared for this. According to **Lucas Hendrikse** , efforts are being made to strengthen the base and support around the competition.
Max de Bruin Jr. asks about the mechanism around underspending and overspending in 2025.
Jacques Zuydam explains that structural financial reviews have been started and that decisions about this are made at board level. The use of the World Cup funding has also been a board decision, with some limited adjustments. **Lucas Hendrikse** says that when drawing up the budget, it was decided to pay players until the World Cup, so that a significant part of the budget was spent on this. This choice was made by the board.
Max de Bruin Jr. indicates that in the long term, Dutch cricket should strive for a good balance between grassroots cricket and high performance and between boys' and girls' cricket. He asks why there is underspending on the one hand and overspending on the other.
Lucas Hendrikse indicates that the underspending and overspending is partly the result of conscious choices, with the Lions in particular being overspending. **Jacques Zuydam** explains that the financial figures are complex and that he has rearranged the statements to provide more insight; the presentation as it was up to and including 2025 created ambiguity and was non-transparent.
Sybrand Engelbrecht adds from a high performance perspective that there was an opportunity for the men to travel to Bangladesh in preparation for the World Cup. This was very valuable and led to improvements in the training. **Rashid Shah** points out that from a marketing perspective, these activities have also led to significant exposure.
Betty Timmer indicates that she finds it shocking that the previous figures are not experienced as reliable by the current treasurer. In addition, she notes that the NOC*NSF income is missing. **Jacques Zuydam** points out that this income is included in the figures.

10. Budget 2026
Jacques Zuydam explains the financial principles for 2026. It mainly concerns a change in the presentation form, to create clearer insight and more transparency. The budget has been built from scratch and carefully screened, partly in the context of accountability to the ICC. In addition, he indicates that those involved are indeed being listened to and that the contribution per player for 2026 will remain as previously decided, namely at € 10.
The 2026 budget includes three scenarios, the baseline scenario, the World Cup sponsor scenario and the upside scenario. **Jacques Zuydam** explains the content of the three scenarios.

Cees Bieren asks about the split between high performance and domestic cricket and indicates, based on the figures, that he suspects that not all costs have yet been included on the high performance side, such as support for grass wickets, marketing and event costs.
Jacques Zuydam says that the feedback on the grass wickets has been taken into account and that the costs for this are divided according to a 50/50 split. Staff costs are also split between domestic cricket and high performance, as are the costs for the CEO, marketing & sponsoring and the office administrator. He stresses that this approach has been taken in order not to complicate matters unnecessarily and not to give rise to a delay in the budgetary process. **Cees Bieren** notes that it seems as if the marketing costs are included under domestic cricket. **Jacques Zuydam** clarifies that this is not a staff cost. **Cees Bieren** asks for a specified overview of these costs.
Ewout Boendermaker indicates that during the townhall meeting it became clear that clubs are concerned that the financial resources are being shifted from domestic cricket to high performance and asks the board to take this into account.
Max de Bruin Jr. expresses its appreciation for the hard work done by the treasurer and CEO and underlines the invitation to the clubs to actively participate in the various consultations. In his view, the presentation with explanation could be clearer and he expects that the discussion about allocation will continue if the format remains as it is. **Jacques Zuydam** emphasizes that the format will indeed remain as it is and also indicates that this is the first step. The responsibility towards the members - the associations - is to guarantee the agreed result.
Jaco van Giezen would like to point out to the meeting that in the baseline scenario, items such as cricket development and the Women and Girls cricket Officer have been deleted and that this is worrying, especially given the state of women's cricket. **Jacques Zuydam** confirms that this vacancy has been moved to the World Cup sponsor scenario and indicates that if this scenario is realized, there will be room to include it. **Jaco van Giezen** argues in favor of including the vacancy around women's cricket in the budget of the baseline scenario and not waiting for a sponsor to make this possible, now that there is so much urgency on this. The meeting agrees.

Betty Timmer asks if there are any signed contracts around the Friends of Cricket. **Rashid Shah** indicates that a number have been signed, but not for the € 25,000 that is in the budget. **Betty Timmer** emphasizes that only signed contracts should be taken into account and advises the board to reconsider this. In addition, she asks for more insight into the resources and expenditure for women's cricket. The board indicates that it will follow this line - as with sponsor contracts.
Betty Timmer asks what the ICC competition grant is and which part is for women's cricket. **Jacques Zuydam** reports that the ICC competition grant amounts to USD 800,000 and that decisions on how to spend it have not yet been finalized. According to **Sybrand Engelbrecht** , the conversation with the ICC went well. **Betty Timmer** notes that she has heard that the ICC is dissatisfied. **Jacques van Zuydam** asks her to clarify and substantiate this statement.
Sulaiman Tariq (Punjab CC) asks why the high performance costs are rising, while in the baseline scenario all activities are included and the figures seem the same for the different World Cup scenarios. **Jacques Zuydam** explains that the World Cup scenario entails € 220,000 in extra costs. These costs are not included in the baseline scenario. If the World Cup scenario goes ahead, the program will continue with a corresponding adjusted total result. **Sybrand Engelbrecht** adds that the player payment pool is non-negotiable in the baseline scenario. In the event of qualification for the World Cup, additional facilities are added, such as physiotherapy.

The chairman gives the floor to **Hans Peter van Arkel** (chairman of the financial committee) who gives the advice of the Financial Committee with regard to this budget:
Financial management
The Financial Committee is of the opinion that the overall financial management, the cost allocation and the substantiation thereof are solid and detailed and that a lot of work will have been done on this subject by 2025. He expresses his appreciation on behalf of the Committee to the interim CEO, the treasurer and other stakeholders. There was pleasant cooperation in a difficult time and the KNCB had difficult choices to make. The Committee notes that the postponement of costs and the release of reserves make the result look more positive than it may have. whereby the Committee explicitly informs the GMM that this is partly a matter of incidental effects and therefore does not provide a complete structural picture. This has been explained transparently, but may mean that in the event of unfavourable scenarios, equity will fall below the standard, which requires administrative intervention, for example by limiting activities or adjusting personnel costs.
Contribution increaseThe proposed contribution increase to € 20 per individual member has been the subject of an extensive discussion between the treasurer and the Financial Committee, with the Financial Committee advising to implement it in phases and not to start in 2026. This gives clubs more time to anticipate this and the KNCB more time to arrange what is in return. The committee recommends an inflation correction of 4% and a limited, phased increase, (for this budget an increase to 10 euros) linked to clear and visible improvements for clubs. The Committee has indicated that the substantiation for an increase to €20 is currently insufficiently concrete, is not based on a comparison of the contributions at other sports associations. In the future, the Financial Committee advises to better substantiate future contribution increases on the basis of available benchmarks.
Cost allocation of high performance and domestic cricketIn addition, there was extensive discussion about high performance and domestic cricket and the distribution and allocation of costs, with the financial committee seeing this as a process that the KNCB is further developing. In the long run, this will lead to even more transparency and insight. For Domestic cricket, a target budget of approximately €950,000 is mentioned, with a focus on core tasks.
Strategic focus pointsThe Finance Committee expresses its concerns about the current structure of women's cricket in relation to the ICC's KPIs and the associated funding. It is advised to explicitly consider reserving part of future sponsorship income for club development. Extensive attention has also been paid to women's and girls' cricket, where it is important to operate at the right level, as (the development of) the number of women's and girls' members is very fragile and the ICC funding in this area is under pressure as a result.
Because the Board has followed the advice of the Financial Committee regarding the contribution, the Financial Committee advises the GMM to approve this budget.
Jacques Zuydam adds that the association reserve in the 2026 budget is still positive, but emphasizes that vigilance is indeed required.

The board asks the General Meeting to approve the 2026 budget as presented in the baseline scenario. In this scenario, the membership fee, as referred to in Article 5 paragraph 4c of the Internal Regulations, is € 10, in accordance with the decision of the General Meeting of 14 December 2024 and the vacancy for women's cricket has been included. The meeting agrees to this.

11. Approval of new auditor
Jacques Zuydam indicates that the previous auditor has indicated that he will terminate the cooperation with the KNCB. The KNCB has found a new one with good references from the KnWB (Wandelbond) and NOC*NSF. In accordance with Article 10 paragraph 14 of the Internal Regulations, he asks for approval of Van Ree Accountants as the new accountant of the KNCB. The meeting agrees to this.

12. W.V.T.T.K.
Joost Bakker (ACC) indicates that he is surprised that the budget has only been presented on the screen and argues for the meeting documents to be sent earlier. In addition, he requests that the question time be announced well in advance so that the agenda can be better anticipated technically. **Jacques Zuydam** endorses this, indicates that the changes compared to the budget that was included in the documents on time were limited and concludes by noting that last year was a continuous sprint to get all financial matters in order. He will take this into account on a future occasion.

13. Survey
There are no questions.

14. Closure
Cees Bieren thanks those present, the CEO and the board. He emphasizes that conversations about finances are always difficult, but he is happy with the simplification of the representation and notes that the situation is under control. The focus should be on development and growth, especially for women's and girls' cricket. He calls on everyone not to complicate things unnecessarily. In addition, he welcomes **Huib van Walsem** as the new CEO and thanks **Lucas Hendrikse** for his contribution as interim CEO in a crucial period. Finally, he wishes the national teams, both men and women, good luck in the coming period. He says he is delighted with the World Cup in India, with the opening match against Pakistan and wishes everyone a great cricket summer.

The **chairman** closed the meeting at 16.05.

Annex 1: *Slides GMM dated 13 December 2025.*
Annex 2: *Letter from Mr. René van Ierschot.*
Annex 3: *Action list*
Appendix 3 Action list

	Action	**Who?**	**When**
1	Adjusting draft minutes GMM of 12-4-2025	Secretary	January 31, 2026
2	Choice of English – Dutch in various (communication) channels and - coordinating KNCB bodies	Mr. President	Q1 2026
3	Investigate whether it is possible for all clubs/teams to play with the same cricket ball	Director	Q1 2026
4	Finding out how the statutory provision works for spending > € 100,000	Treasurer	January 31, 2026
5	Vacancy Women's and girls' cricket officer still included in baseline scenario budget 2026	Treasurer	December 31, 2025
6	Announce financial question time in good time	Treasurer	March 2026