

# ASSOCIATION DES CLUBS DE CRICKET DU SUD-OUEST

*Siège social : Hôtel des Associations - 47160 DAMAZAN*

## Provisional Minutes of AGM

held at Damazan on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Published 20251207

### Present:

#### Committee, without vote:

- Peter Brown, president ("PB")

#### Clubs, with voting rights:

- **Catus: Apologies** from Peter Stirling ("PS") (President). Mandate given to Catus Treasurer Ken Sutton ("KS")
- **Damazan: Apologies** from Gagan Singh. Mandate given to Damazan Fixtures secretary John Ayling ("JA")
- **Eyliac:** Irfan Sheikh ("IS") (President)
- **Eymet:** Andrew Cardle ("AC") (President)
- **Saint Aulaye:** Peter Brown ("PB") (President) (no vote on questions relating to competitions)
- **Toulouse:** Philippe Fermanel ("PF") (President).

#### In attendance, without vote:

- Gary Stark ("GS"), Treasurer, Damazan
- Jeremy Bird ("JB"), VP, Eyliac
- Christophe Srikanth ("CS"), Vice-president, Toulouse
- Tithir Saha ("TS"), Secretary, Toulouse
- Mohammed Sameer ("MS"), Vice-secretary, Toulouse
- Peter Townsend ("PT"), Umpire training manager & Website administrator
- Colin Goodall ("CG"), Umpire co-ordinator.

#### Apologies for Absence:

- Hui Scheers ("HS"), ACCSO Secretary
- Mehul Dhorda ("MD"), ACCSO Treasurer.
- Bordeaux-Giscours: Apologies from Rupert Holderness (President).

### 1. Agenda Item 1: Registration/proxies/Quorum:

Quorum was confirmed at 11h00, with 6 of the 8 member clubs represented by their president, by mandate to another member of club or by proxy given to another club.

### 2. Agenda Item 2: Welcome:

PB welcomed those attending and thanked Sheila Ayling for reserving the conference room and for dealing with the local restaurant for our lunch.

### **3. Agenda Item 3: Apologies for absence:**

PB informed the meeting that the president of B-GCC would not be attending (proxy given to SAC) and advised that Nîmes would not be attending and had already given notice that they would not be renewing ACCSO membership for season 2026. PB also relayed the apologies of ACCSO Secretary Hui Scheers and ACCSO Treasurer Mehul Dhorda. **Noted.**

### **4. Agenda Item 4: Introductions:**

PB invited attendees to introduce themselves.

### **5. Agenda Item 5: Draft Minutes of EGM 11 March 2025:**

Document pre-published to clubs and on the website.

Approval of the Draft Minutes was proposed by Catus and seconded by Eymet. **Approved unanimously.**

### **6. Agenda Item 6: President's report and review of Season 2025:**

Document pre-published to clubs and on the website.

PB congratulated all clubs to the successful conclusion of a very demanding season and summarised the report. No questions were posed.

The President's Report 2025 was **noted** (not subject to vote).

### **7. Agenda Item 7: Treasurer's Report and Financial Statement 2025:**

Documents pre-published to clubs and on the website.

In the absence of ACCSO Treasurer Mehul Dhorda, PB noted that, as in previous years, ACCSO's assets are in good shape, enabling clubs to be members and play in several competitions, with balls provided, at very low rates. He confirmed that the sponsorship by Blevins Franks has now come to an end.

During discussion:

- CG suggested that it would be beneficial and prudent to move a sum (to be defined) from Cash to ACCSO's Livret A. **PB took note. Action by MD: Review and, as appropriate, execute.**
- PF asked for confirmation that Donations on the part of umpires and others are registered and processed according to fiscal regulations. **PB confirmed.**

Approval of Treasurer's Report & Financial Statement 2024: Proposed by Eymet; seconded by Catus. **Approved unanimously.**

### **8. Agenda Item 8: Budget proposal 2026:**

Document pre-published to clubs and on the website.

In the absence of ACCSO Treasurer Mehul Dhorda, PB invited comments.

Eymet conceded that, overall, the operating costs could increase if AGM approved Eymet's fixtures proposal (see Agenda Item 12.3).

PB invited AGM to approve the Budget proposal as-is and review at EGM early in 2026.

Proposed by Eymet; seconded by Eyliac. **Approved unanimously.**

### **9. Agenda item 9: Secretary's Report and Tournament Review 2025:**

Document pre-published to clubs and on the website.

PB relayed Hui Scheer's apologies for his absence and invited comments on his report/review.

PT joined PB in warmly praising HS's contributions during 2025. **Attendees approved.**

Specifically, PT suggested that it is to HS' credit that he should want to be able to produce a complete and universal picture of club and individuals' performances over the entire season.

But that it is completely unreasonable that he should spend his Sunday evenings in transcribing to Cricheroes the content of faxed/mailed copies of scorebooks from Damazan and Eymet. How can it be that nobody in DCC and ECC shares the enthusiasm for digital scoring that is manifest in all the other clubs? In the absence of a mandatory and exclusive use of Cricheroes, why cannot DCC and ECC players score digitally alongside the book-keeping of Jean-Claude Rieudebat and Colin Goodall?

Moreover, PT said that clubs' respect for their match reporting obligations was a disaster in 2025. Only 4 of the 7 teams were 100% compliant with the requirement to submit Match Reports; and not a single team was 100% compliant on Team Sheets (Catus close, with 8/9; Damazan and Eyliac 0 out of 8; TCC-Bears 3 out of 15....).

In discussion, MS and TS suggested that the obligation for both captains and any umpires to sign off the scores and team sheets (specifically, licence numbers) could be achieved if ACCSO were to subscribe to a "Lifetime" version of Cricheroes. It appears that this would enable the record of a match to be put on hold pending an electronic sign-off by both captains and umpires. Thus obviating the need for the submission of paper-based documents.

The cost of this licence (which also improves fixture management) is €260.

PB proposed that HS and CG work on this proposition and make a formal proposition to EGM early in 2026. **Approved unanimously.**

#### **10. Agenda item 10: Sub-committees proposed for 2026:**

PB informed AGM that the workload of a current-day ACCSO Secretary is now such that, between now and an EGM in early 2026, HS will develop a proposition which could see a division of functions between the Secretary and one or more sub-committee. **AGM took note.**

Pending that, and supported by PB and with the prior agreement of the individuals concerned, HS informed AGM that Colin Goodall will continue to manage the scheduling of the pool umpires plus the development of umpires and scoring within the clubs; with Peter Townsend managing the website. **AGM took note, with approval.**

#### **11: Agenda item 11: Elections:**

- **Treasurer:** PB reminded AGM that the current Treasurer, Mehul Dhorda, has come to the end of his mandate. MD's work and domestic obligations being what they are, he is willing to stand for re-election for a 1-year period but on condition that he gets help with the detail of transactions and recording. PB is prepared to do that. Such a sharing of workload does not conflict with the obligation to separate the functions of President and Treasurer.

There being no other candidates, PT invited AGM to vote on MD's renewal for 1 year. Saint Aulaye proposed; Eyliac seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

- **Vice-President:** PB reminded AGM that the current VP, Hui Scheers, has come to the end of his mandate. He is willing to stand for re-election.

There being no other candidates, PB invited AGM to vote on Hui's renewal. Saint Aulaye proposed. Eymet seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

For the record, Committee contact details remain as follows:

- Peter Brown – President - president@cricket-sw-france.org
- Hui Scheers – Vice President - VP@cricket-sw-france.org
- Mehul Dhorda – Treasurer - treasurer@cricket-sw-france.org
- Hui Scheers – Secretary - secretary@cricket-sw-france.org

## **12. Agenda Item 12: Planning for 2026 competitions:**

**12.1. How many clubs will enter 2026 competitions?** PB invited clubs to indicate their current intentions for 2026. A summary follows:

**B-GCC:** Not entering a side\*

**Catus:** 1 team in all competitions but aiming with confidence at 2 teams (to be confirmed post-club AGM January 2026).

**Damazan:** 1 team in all competitions.

**Eyliac:** Will enter 2 teams in all competitions.

**Eymet:** 1 team in all competitions. Warmly welcomes a further team in Pool North, in order to fill gaps in ECC's competitive schedule.

**Nîmes:** Not renewing ACCSO membership in 2026.

**Saint-Aulaye:** Not entering a side.

**Toulouse:** Two teams in all competitions, as in 2025.

\* AGM informed of tentative approaches from the club. **Action PB: Pose formal question to B-GCC.**

\*\* PF informed AGM of reports of initiatives at Rodez and in the Gers (possible resurrection of the pitch at Seissan (Armagnac-Bigorre's old ground)). **Action HS: Pursue, as appropriate.**

**12.2. How many teams will be entered?** Incorporated in 12.1, above.

**Lunch.**

## **12.3. Proposal from Eymet (Colin Goodall) on fixtures planning/management:**

Document pre-published to clubs and on the website.

PB invited CG to outline the proposition.

CG reminded clubs that the principal intention of the Eymet proposal is to increase the amount of cricket played. In an overview of the proposal, he highlighted the proposed treatment of forfeits, non-rescheduling of matches, etc. The goal would be to do a dummy-run, the results of which would be reviewed by clubs at EGM in early 2026.

PB invited clubs to comment.

- TCC suggested that April be avoided (unstable weather) In discussion, clubs opined that adverse weather conditions now occur throughout the season.

- TCC suggested that a break (ideally 3 weeks but 2 minimum?) be inserted in August (to take account of vacations).

- TCC do not want to see both sides scheduled away on the same day (notion supported by Eyliac and Catus for their fixtures).

- TCC are open to the negotiated scheduling of TCCvTCC fixtures at Sordelo on Saturdays.

- DCC confirmed that Moulineau could be made available to matches needing to be scheduled on neutral/intermediate grounds, with the 2 sides responsible for ground/pitch set-up/clear-up and food and drinks. PB noted need for Committee to address implications for ground-use fees at DCC and possibly elsewhere: **Action by Treasurer.**

- In passing, DCC mentioned already having 2026 dates for 5 visiting sides (ECC will have visitors but dates not yet visible).

**After some debate and with the approval of PB, PT suggested to AGM that the discussion pointed towards the following scenario for 2026 competitions:**

1. No Cup competition.
  2. League: 1 pool. No final phase.
  3. T20: 1 pool. Opposing sides to play home & away matches on same day. No final phase.
  4. HS and CG to Eyliac proposed; Toulouse seconded. **Approved, with 1 club dissenting.**
- Action by HS and CG: Do dummy-run and present conclusions and proposals to EGM in early 2026.**

**Post-AGM historical note by PT:** ACCSO member-clubs have played in a named Cup competition ever since ACCSO started, in 1993. As from 1995, it began to be sponsored by successive versions of the Franks organisation, most recently Blevins Franks, and for many years thanks to the personal commitment of Rupert Holderness.

### **13. Agenda item 13: Proposed affiliation of ACCSO to the ASPTT:**

PB informed AGM that recent developments within the ASPTT (to which all ACCSO full-member clubs are affiliated) suggest that it is now time to give serious consideration to affiliate the entity ACCSO to the ASPTT. This is particularly relevant now that the ASPTT has cricket members in the majority of French metropolitan regions and has set up a nationwide *Comité Technique*. PB invited PF – who is one of several ACCSO club members on that *Comité* (together with HS and Ruaridh Howells of TCC) – to say a few words on ASPTT developments.

PF informed AGM that ASPTT-HQ has contacted the Ministère des Sports with a view to being attributed the *délégation* for the management of cricket nationwide. This *délégation*, currently given to France Cricket via the FFBS, expires at the end of 2025. France Cricket's bid for the *délégation* appears not to be in good shape.

The ASPTT has also contacted the ICC with a view to gaining its recognition. The ICC reaction is not known at this stage.

As for the *Comité Technique*, PF shared with AGM the current draft of its *Axes Prioritaires de Développement du Cricket 2026-2028*, stressing that these are not yet confirmed.

Translation by PT:

1. Cricket in schools and the requisite TTT programmes (Teach the Teachers).
2. Infrastructures and playing areas (outdoor & indoor)
3. Structuring, support and accompaniment of the member-clubs
4. Development and harmonisation of regional competitions (see specific PF remark below).
5. Training & qualification of umpires, coaches, scorers, leaders and administrators.

PF told AGM that, in his opinion, the probability is that, rather than insist on regional separation, the ASPTT will be favourably inclined towards multi-region competitions (such as ours) - if only to reduce the number of such competitions nationwide in the first instance.

PB thanked PF and invited AGM to give approval in principle for Committee to open discussions with the ASPTT with a view to affiliation, reporting back to EGM early in 2026.

**Proposed by Eyliac; seconded by Toulouse. Approved, with 1 club abstaining.**  
**Action by Committee: Progress and present to EGM.**

#### **14. Agenda item 14: Amendments to the Règlement Intérieur:**

PB proposed that this subject be deferred to the EGM, to allow time for the full implications of ASPTT membership to be taken into account. **Approved unanimously.**

**Action by Committee: Develop and present to EGM.**

#### **15. Agenda item 15: Electronic scoring, match reporting and tournament**

**regulations:** See Agenda item 9 above (proposition to be made to EGM early in 2026).

#### **16. Agenda Item 16: Any other business:**

- GS raised the question of balls lost and the impact on match elapsed time. And not only at Sordelo - where 3h50 for a single innings (despite bowling from one end) is clearly unsustainable. He recommended that all clubs maintain a large stock of used balls, for immediate use whenever a ball-search is needed. **Noted by Committee for review of 2026 Tournament Regulations.**

- JB would very much like to see an initiative aimed at encouraging club members to acquire coaching qualifications. **Noted by Committee in the context of initiatives by the ASPTT** (see item 1, above).

- PF invited Committee and clubs to consider organising Indoor tournaments (teams of 6 or 8 players) at Eyliac and Toulouse in February/April, with a Finals day in May. **Noted by Committee: HS to pursue.**

- PF informed AGM that he has opened discussions with the mairie for the acquisition of an additional ground. **AGM took note, with pleasure.**

#### **17. Close:**

PB thanked all for attending and closed the AGM at 16h20.

**Published by ACCSO Secretary on behalf of Committee.**