BCGBA confirms Temporary Board appointments

The British Crown Green Bowling Association has confirmed the appointment of four members to its Temporary Board as part of the work to strengthen governance capacity and provide stability during the Association's current period of transition.

The appointments represent the next step in BCGBA's current transition in leadership. Following resignations and changes in Board membership, the Association has sought to restore sufficient governance capacity while the wider constitutional and leadership position is worked through with Member Associations. The four Temporary Board members will join Steve Cochrane, Interim Chair, and Dan Newton, Chief Executive Officer, in supporting the continued operation of the Association, providing appropriate scrutiny and oversight, and addressing immediate organisational priorities. Their appointments are temporary and are not intended to determine or pre-empt BCGBA's longer-term governance arrangements. Together, the group brings experience from within Crown Green Bowls and from governance, business, education, HR, mediation and other sports, providing additional capacity and expertise during an important period for the Association.

Jim Drain

Chris Lambert

Michelle Jones

Dominic Condello

Jim Drain

Jim brings extensive leadership, people and governance experience and has been involved in Crown Green Bowls for around 50 years. He is Chair of Warwick and Worcester and is a former HR Director, with significant experience in people management, organisational change and complex employment matters. Jim is also Chair of GBSA, the artistic roller skating division of British Roller Sports, and a Director of a Trust Academy, providing additional governance experience across sport and education. His approach places a strong emphasis on evidence-based decision-making, testing assumptions and separating organisational issues from personalities. He believes meaningful change requires people to step forward and take responsibility for helping shape the future.

Chris Lambert

Chris brings considerable commercial, operational and sports governance experience alongside approximately 35 years of involvement in Crown Green Bowls. He is a former Chairman of the Warwickshire and Worcestershire County Bowling Association, has held a range of positions within clubs and leagues and previously served as BCGBA Commercial Officer. Professionally, Chris is an Operations Director within the retail sector and has also held senior commercial and leadership roles within non-league football. Chris is particularly interested in helping BCGBA strengthen governance, communication, financial sustainability and relationships across Counties, leagues and clubs. He believes rebuilding confidence and bringing people together around a shared purpose will be important to the long-term future of the sport.

Michelle Jones

Michelle is an experienced governance and compliance professional with more than ten years' experience supporting Boards, trustees and senior leaders. She currently works within the education sector, advising on governance, compliance and strategic development across a multi-academy trust. She is a qualified Data Protection Officer and experienced Company Secretary, with extensive experience of governance frameworks, policy development, schemes of delegation, Board and committee support and regulatory compliance. Michelle is also an active Crown Green Bowler and has a strong personal

connection with the sport. Her approach is centred on integrity, accountability, openness and effective stewardship, and she is particularly interested in helping BCGBA develop clear, proportionate and sustainable governance arrangements.

Dominic Condello

Dominic joins the Temporary Board with extensive experience in sporting governance, mediation and business leadership. Based in Melbourne and preparing to relocate to the UK, Dominic is a Sessional Member of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and an accredited mediator. His work involves conducting hearings and mediations and helping parties navigate complex disagreements and reach practical outcomes. He has held senior roles within Australian athletics, including Interim President, Vice President and Director of the Victorian Athletic League, and is currently Vice President of Athletics Essendon. He also brings more than 30 years' experience from the construction industry, including more than 20 years running his own business. Dominic has no previous involvement in Crown Green Bowls and brings an intentionally independent external perspective. His approach places particular emphasis on early dialogue, listening, dispute avoidance and practical decision-making.

Role of the Temporary Board

The members have undertaken an induction programme covering the organisational and governance developments that have taken place since 2025, the current constitutional position and the principal issues requiring oversight. The Board's immediate focus will include organisational continuity, governance, finance and banking arrangements, people and employment matters, safeguarding and discipline, insurance, communications and the preparations required for the forthcoming Special General Meeting.

I believe that the immediate priority is to provide BCGBA with sufficient governance capacity to operate responsibly during what has been an extremely difficult period for the Association. The people joining the Temporary Board bring a valuable combination of experience from within Crown Green Bowls and from governance, HR, business, education, mediation and other sporting environments. Their role is not to join one side of the current disagreement. It is to bring independent judgement, constructive challenge and additional capacity while we work towards a clear and constitutionally appropriate way forward. I am grateful to each of them for being willing to step forward and support the Association.

Further information on the work of the Temporary Board and the arrangements for the forthcoming Special General Meeting will be shared with Member Associations and the wider Crown Green Bowling community as that work progresses

Update prepared by Dan Newton – 22 October 2026