

2025-26 BUCS BASKETBALL SAG - MEETING 4 - MINUTES

Date Monday 8th June 2026
Time 10:00-12:00
Location Microsoft Teams

ATTENDEES

Johnathan MacLeod
 Iain Molyneux
 Dan Cox (BE)
 Sten Mayunga
 Kevin Coleman

Callum Jones
 Nick Burley (BUCS)
 Hannah Underhill
 Rob Fairley

Item	Action
1. Apologies / Welcome	
2. Minutes and Matters Arising (Meeting '3' 2025-26)	All matters covered in agenda
3. BUCS Update Team Entries 2026-27 - Men's basketball entries increased to 234 teams (+9). - Women's basketball entries increased to 129 teams (+2). - Growth viewed positively across both programmes. 3x3 Basketball - Launch delayed until next academic year. - Competition to be run by Ball Out. - Integration with points systems for participants competing in other leagues is planned. - Recent 3x3 event cancelled due to weather. Competition Evolution Review - Regional roadshows and webinars completed. - Feedback will be presented at the BUCS Conference in July. - Any major structural changes would affect 2027-28, not 2026-27. - Decision taken to pause further work on the National League proposal until outcomes of the wider review are known. Governance Review - BUCS is reviewing governance structures and stakeholder groups. - No immediate changes for next season, but future adjustments to group structure and support mechanisms are being considered.	
4. Regulations and Competitions Proposed Regulation Changes	

The following proposals will be circulated for wider consultation: Evo NXT Ball ○ Proposal to extend current Premier requirement across the wider programme for consistency. Scoresheets ○ Clarification that: ▪ Running scoresheets are preferred. ▪ Traditional scoresheets remain acceptable. ○ Intended to clarify what constitutes an official scoresheet. Disciplinary Process ○ Greater transparency around disciplinary procedures. ○ Move away from disciplinary points toward a clearer suspension-based system. ○ Repeat offences would attract additional automatic suspensions. ○ Group broadly supported the proposal. Match Official Requirements • Proposal to reduce Tier 1 officiating requirements in England and Wales: ○ Crew Chief: Level 3 → Level 2. ○ Umpire remains Level 2. • Discussion highlighted: ○ Ongoing shortage of Level 3 officials. ○ Existing practice often already operates under this arrangement. ○ Alignment of regulations with operational reality. • SAG members generally supported the proposal, subject to wider consultation. League Structures • Provisional league structures and competition dates due for release later that day. • Institution feedback window open until 26 June 2026. • Positive discussion regarding returning and new team entries.	HU/JM
Future Developments BE Programme, Officials Survey, League MOS... Officials Survey Purpose To gather evidence on: • Referee and table official costs. • Recruitment and retention challenges. • Institutional approaches to appointing officials.	JM,

Discussion Points

- Split cost questions into separate categories:
 - Referees
 - Table officials
 - Statisticians
- Add question on support for BUCS-mandated officiating rates.
- Include reassurance that survey responses will not be used for disciplinary purposes.
- Survey should primarily be completed by institutional staff (IAs), with input from basketball programmes where appropriate.
- Suggested deadline: **1 August 2026**.

Additional Data Collection

Members discussed adding questions on:

- Live statistics provision.
- Game filming and streaming.
- Existing technology and resource capability.

Actions

- Johnathan to liaise with BE and BUCS regarding survey development.
- Hannah to assist with creation and distribution if required.
- Survey to be circulated through BUCS channels.

Minimum Operating Standards (MOS)

Key Themes

Discussion focused on improving visibility and professionalism of the BUCS basketball programme.

Video Recording

- Strong support for uploading game footage as a standard expectation.
- Benefits:
 - Coaching and player development.
 - Recruitment.
 - Public visibility of university basketball.

Live Statistics / Digital Scoresheets

- PlayHQ highlighted as a potential tool.
- Live scoring seen as a realistic step forward.
- Recognition that implementation and monitoring would require resources.

Huddle Partnership

- Potential opportunity to support video capture and analysis.
- Members noted that success depends on:
 - Consistent filming standards.
 - Appropriate infrastructure.

○ Institutional buy-in. Agreed Direction • Consider recommendations first before any mandatory requirements. • Develop proposals during 2026–27 with a view to future regulation changes. World University Games / University Representation • Discussion around recent activity relating to a prospective university squad. • Clarification that no formal BUCS process has yet been approved. • Future involvement of the SAG expected if the initiative progresses.	
Season Review & Priorities for 2026–27 Big BUCS Wednesday Positive feedback overall: • Inclusion of wheelchair basketball welcomed. • Event delivery considered strong. Areas for improvement: • Commentary and game presentation. • Match-day entertainment and engagement. • Contingency planning for major disruptions (e.g., fire alarms). Conference Finals • No formal operating standards currently exist beyond hosting requirements. • Discussion around recommending live streaming for finals events. Strategic Priorities Identified 1. Officiating workforce development (primary priority). 2. Improving visibility and exposure of university basketball. 3. Development of live stats and video infrastructure. 4. Progression of National League discussions following Competition Evolution outcomes. 5. Continued work on women's officiating initiatives in conjunction with BE, agree next steps and data collection.	
5. A.O.B.	

Dates and times of meetings for 2025-26 season.