



CHAIR

Applicant information pack



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INTRODUCTION

We are seeking an ambitious and knowledgeable Chairperson with strong networks and a deep understanding of cricket to lead our organisation into its next phase of growth and success.

Berkshire Cricket is a forward-looking and community-driven organisation at the heart of the recreational and representative game across the county. As a charitable incorporated organisation, its purpose is simple yet ambitious: to enable more people to play cricket in more places, ensuring the game is accessible to all regardless of age, background, or ability.

In recent years, Berkshire Cricket has demonstrated strong momentum and impact. Participation continues to grow, with over 1,500 junior matches played annually across boys' and girls' competitions, alongside expanding workforce development programmes supporting coaches, officials and volunteers. The organisation has also celebrated notable on-field success, including a Division One title in the inaugural women's domestic 50-over competition, and continued strength in its talent pathway, with multiple players progressing into professional academies and England age-group squads.

Off the field, Berkshire Cricket is building for the future. Recent partnerships focused

on strengthening grassroots sustainability and club funding models, alongside growing community programmes such as All Stars, Dynamos, disability cricket and urban initiatives, underline its commitment to broadening the game's reach and relevance. There is clear ambition: to build a sustainable, inclusive and high-performing cricket ecosystem across Berkshire – one that connects clubs, communities, pathways and performance.

The appointment of the next Chair represents an exciting opportunity to play a central role in ensuring the organisation continues to thrive; continuing strong governance, supporting long-term financial sustainability, and championing the values that underpin the game. Berkshire Cricket is seeking an individual who brings sound judgement, independence of thought, and a genuine commitment to the role. The successful candidate will work closely with the Board and executive team to shape strategy, support delivery across key priorities, and help create an environment in which players, volunteers, staff and communities can flourish.

The likely successful candidate will have proven Board leadership, be a strategic thinker with sound judgement and integrity and an influential leader, with independent judgement and strong ethical compass. The Chair must demonstrate genuine commitment to safeguarding, EDI, and game values, while fostering trust and strong relationships with stakeholders.

This is an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the future of cricket in Berkshire—supporting a game that plays a vital role in communities across the county while helping to shape a modern, inclusive and sustainable organisation.



JOB DESCRIPTION

CHAIR OF BERKSHIRE CRICKET

Purpose of the Role

The Chair provides strategic leadership to Berkshire Cricket, ensuring the organisation is well governed, financially sustainable and able to deliver high quality cricket and community impact across the county. The Chair leads the Board, supports the Executive, and represents Berkshire Cricket with credibility and integrity across the wider cricketing landscape.



Key responsibilities

1 Strategic Leadership

- Lead the Board in setting the strategic direction for Berkshire Cricket.
- Ensure the strategy is ambitious, evidence based and aligned with the needs of the game and the community.
- Create the conditions for constructive challenge, good decision making and long term sustainability.

2 Governance and Assurance

- Ensure Berkshire Cricket operates to high standards of governance, in line with the ECB's County Partnership Agreement (CPA2) and modern governance practice.
- Oversee the effectiveness of the Board, its committees and its governance framework.
- Ensure the organisation has appropriate risk management, financial oversight and safeguarding arrangements.
- Lead periodic reviews of the Rules, Regulations and Terms of Reference to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

3. Board Leadership

- Chair Board meetings effectively, ensuring inclusive, balanced and well informed discussion.
- Build a cohesive Board culture grounded in trust, respect and accountability.
- Ensure the Board has the right mix of skills, diversity and experience, and lead Board evaluation and succession planning.
- Support and hold to account the CEO and Executive team.

4 Relationship with the CEO and Executive

- Provide support, guidance and constructive challenge to the CEO.
- Maintain a clear distinction between governance and management while fostering a strong, collaborative working relationship.
- Ensure the Executive is empowered to deliver the strategy and held accountable for performance.

5. External Representation

- Act as an ambassador for Berkshire Cricket with the ECB, neighbouring counties, partners, sponsors and stakeholders.
- Represent the organisation at key events, meetings and forums.
- Build strong relationships across the cricket network to support the county's ambitions.

6 Culture and Values

- Model the values and behaviours expected across Berkshire Cricket.
- Promote an inclusive, respectful and positive culture across the Board and the organisation.
- Ensure safeguarding, EDI and welfare are embedded in all decision making.

JOB DESCRIPTION

CHAIR OF BERKSHIRE CRICKET

Time Commitment

- Approximately 2–3 days per month, including Board and committee meetings, stakeholder engagement and preparation.
- Additional time may be required during peak periods (e.g., strategic planning, major decisions, recruitment).

Accountability

The Chair is accountable to:

- The Board collectively
- Relevant regulatory and governance frameworks e.g. ECB county partnership agreements.
- Statutory charity law obligations

Term

Typically a three year term, renewable once, subject to Board approval and governance requirements.

Person Specification

Core Criteria

- Proven Board Leadership – strong understanding of governance, finance and organisational oversight.
- Strategic thinker with sound judgement and integrity.
- Influential leader, with independent judgement and strong ethical compass
- Ability to build trust and strong relationships with stakeholders.
- Values led and inclusive – committed to safeguarding, EDI and the values of the game.

Desirable

- Knowledge of the cricket landscape (professional or recreational).
- Experience of organisational change, culture development or strategic growth.
- Gravitas and credibility with diverse stakeholders
- Experience working with volunteers and community organisations.



HOW TO APPLY

If you want to be considered for the position, please contact Nigel Brewster (07758 112 002) nbrewster@mcbride-sport.com and supply the following:

- An up-to-date CV setting out your career history, with responsibilities and achievements and preferred contact details.
- A supporting statement outlining suitability for the role and the value that your expertise will add to the shareholder board.
- Details of two referees who can speak authoritatively about you together with a brief statement of the capacity and over what period they have known you. Referees will not be contacted without your prior consent.
- Proof of your eligibility to work in the UK.

Applicants whose CV reflects the requirements of the role will be invited to attend a preliminary discussion with McBride Sport.

The closing date for applications:
Friday 3rd July 2026.

For an informal and confidential discussion, please call our retained consultants at McBride Sport who will, of course, respect the privacy of any conversations regarding this role.

Please send your application to:
nbrewster@mcbride-sport.com



RECRUITMENT TIMETABLE

These dates are indicative and may be subject to change (except closing date). Please note that candidates will need to be available for preliminary and final panel interviews, if selected. McBride Sport will advise all candidates of outcomes at each stage of the process as soon as possible.

Closing date for applications:
Friday 3rd July 2026.

Interview date:
Tuesday 14th July 2026.

YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Your personal information will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018. You will not receive unsolicited paper or electronic mail because of sending us any personal information. No personal information will be passed on to third parties for commercial purposes.

Your personal information

When we ask you for personal information, we promise we will:

- Only ask for what we need and not collect too much or irrelevant information.
- Ensure that you know why we need it.
- Protect it and as far as is possible, make sure nobody has access to it who should not.
- Ensure that you know what choice you have about giving us information.
- Make sure we do not keep it longer than necessary.
- Use your information only for the purposes you have authorised.

We ask that you:

- Give us accurate information.
- Tell us as soon as possible of any changes.
- Tell us as soon as possible if you notice mistakes in the information we hold about you.
- If you apply for a post, we will share some of the information you provide with the Members of the Berkshire Cricket Board for the post to which you apply, so that your application form and CV can be assessed. These individuals will usually be identified in the information pack.



HOW WE WILL DEAL WITH YOUR APPLICATION

We will deal with your application as quickly as possible and will advise you of the likely timetable at each stage. After the closing date for applications:

- Candidates selected at long list will be invited for preliminary discussion by McBride Sport. From these interviews, McBride Sport will agree a shortlist of candidates that will be recommended to the Nominations Committee. All candidates interviewed will be contacted with feedback by McBride Sport.
- Where a candidate is unable to attend an interview on the set date, an alternative date will be offered only at the discretion of the Nominations Committee.
- Following interviews with the Berkshire Cricket Nominations Committee, a preferred candidate will be recommended to the Board.
- If successful, you will receive a letter confirming your appointment. If you are unsuccessful, you will be notified by McBride Sport and feedback will be offered.
- Both stages of interviews will be face-to-face.





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