

REGIONAL SPORTS CENTRE (RSC), COCHIN

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) held on 20th September, 2025

Meeting: Annual General Body Meeting of the members of Regional Sports Centre, Cochin.

Members present: 167 members

Required Quorum: 100 members

Period under review: 28th August 2024 to 27th August 2025 (Executive Committee's Report presented by Adv. S.A.S. Navaz, IRS (Retd.), Honorary Secretary)

Accounts for the period: Financial Year 2024-2025

Budget period: October 2025 to September 2026

Chair: Smt.G. Priyanka, IAS, Chairperson, RSC (District Collector, Ernakulam, ex-officio) - for the initial part of the meeting; thereafter Vice President Dr. Sunil K. Mathai in the Chair

Proceedings: Secretary (conducted proceedings with permission from Chair) and Treasurer (Mr. Thomas Joseph - presented budget and accounts

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The Chairperson (District Collector, Ernakulam), who had recently assumed charge and, with it, the position of Chairperson of RSC, welcomed all members to the Annual General Body Meeting.

1 & 2. Silent Prayers

In keeping with a custom decided at an earlier general body meeting, all members stood in silence for a moment in memory of departed members/souls immediately after the 'Silent Prayer' listed in the beginning of the Agenda of the AGM.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

3.1 Minutes of the AGM held on 21 September 2024

The minutes, previously circulated by email, were taken up for confirmation. No clarifications were raised by members.

Proposed by	Seconded by	Resolution
JP Alexander (Life Member No.L0173)	Dr. Ganesh (Membership No. L2413-T1)	Minutes of the AGM dated 21 September 2024 confirmed.

3.2 Minutes of the Extraordinary General Body Meeting (Budget EGM) held on 7 March 2025

The Secretary clarified that this EGM for passing the budget for one year, is convened annually, within three months of the elections, during the election year, and along with the agenda in the present AGM. The minutes, previously circulated, were taken up for confirmation with no clarifications raised.

Proposed by	Seconded by	Resolution
Rajesh Nair (Membership No. L5536)	M.R. Jayaprakash (Membership No.L1592)	Minutes of the Budget EGM dated 7 March 2025 confirmed.

4. Report of the Executive Committee (28 August 2024 – 27 August 2025)

The Executive Committee's annual report, circulated earlier by email and WhatsApp with hard copies also made available, was taken up for discussion.

4.1 Corrections noted by the Secretary

- A typographical error was acknowledged: the report listed Mr. Kapil Dev's visit as "26.10.2025"; the visit, in fact, took place in October of the previous year. The date will be corrected.
- The report had omitted the names of RSC's academies (RSC has 20 academies across various games, most performing well). Prominent academies to be added: RSC S&J Badminton Academy, RSC Starting Five Elite Basketball Academy, RSC Swimming Academy, and RSC Tennis Academy.

4.2 Members' queries

- Mr. Sen George (L4896) asked how many new members had been added in the past year. The Secretary explained that queries requiring data retrieval from the books could not be answered on the floor as the cut-off for submitting such questions in advance had been 18th of the month; had the question been submitted earlier, the figure could have been retrieved and announced. He clarified that the number of new members appearing in the budget (5) is a projection for the coming year, not a report of new admissions in the past year, and advised members to obtain exact membership figures from the office.
- A member queried a figure on page 12 of the report regarding an amount of approximately ₹8,40,000. The Secretary confirmed the figure is reflected in the accounts, noting that budgeted figures may differ from actuals and offering to share further detail the next day.
- A member (regarding capital reduction of approximately ₹15 lakh as on 24 March) was informed this point would be addressed later under the Balance Sheet/Accounts item.

4.3 Adoption

Proposed by Joseph John (Membership No. L3971)	Seconded by Bharat Kumar (Membership No. 0997)	Resolution Report of the Executive Committee for the period 28-8-2024 to 27-8-2025 adopted
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5. Budget for the Period October 2025 – September 2026

The Treasurer presented the budget for the coming year:

- Gross revenue income (estimated): ₹613 lakh
- Expenditure (estimated): ₹519 lakh
- Revenue surplus: ₹94 lakh
- Capital account – source of funds (estimated): ₹175 lakh
- Capital account – application of funds (estimated): ₹240 lakh
- Capital account deficit: ₹65 lakh
- Capital account income is expected principally from new membership fees and life-membership transfer fees.

5.1 Discussion

- Commander Krishnan (L1755) queried the "other income" line and the assumption of only 5 new members in the budget. The Treasurer explained that many prospective members had already taken membership before a fee increase (to ₹8 lakh), so only about 5 new members are expected in the coming year; this also will reflect on the 24-month instalment scheme.
- Jos K. Mathew (L5697) asked about the composition of "other income," noting the revenue trend. The Treasurer explained this comprises non-recurring items such as small sponsorships and kiosk/hoarding income, typically ₹10–15 lakh per year, which is not separately projected.
- Jos K. Mathew raised a broader point on revenue diversification and optimal utilisation of RSC's assets, urging the Committee to look beyond membership income. He suggested: (a) permitting use of currently under-utilised facilities (e.g., the football ground) by outside institutions/professionals in the evenings, given the changing lifestyle of younger (Gen Z/IT-sector) residents in Kochi; and (b) organising inter-institutional/corporate sports tournaments (e.g., "IT games," "hospital games") to attract corporate sponsorship, citing TCS's large local workforce as an example, and proposed a dedicated committee focus on revenue generation. He clarified the suggestions were offered constructively and not as criticism of the Committee's existing efforts.
- The Secretary responded on each point:
 - On extended facility use: RSC's football ground uses 6 floodlight masts of 12 lights each (72 lights total), unlike smaller private grounds that use 6–8 lights, making per-hour charging economics unfavourable; electricity costs have risen from about ₹3 lakh to about ₹5 lakh; extended hours would also raise security concerns and require closing down other activities; RSC, having ex-officio leadership (Chairperson: District Collector; President: City Police Commissioner), faces added scrutiny and cannot function purely as a commercial venue in the way a private facility might.
 - On revenue already being generated from assets: the LED wall/hoarding (installed at a cost of ₹12.85 lakh) has recovered more than double its cost; a contract has been awarded for the restaurant and shop spaces (door numbers now received), expected to yield a minimum guaranteed ₹15 lakh per year; the western-side rooms, under renovation, are expected to be ready within about two months and will be an additional revenue source. The Secretary noted that if generation of revenue is sufficient, RSC may even consider reducing user fees.
 - On general public/institutional use after 9:30 PM: this would raise safety concerns and complaints have already been received about activity continuing that late; for the welfare and safety of the institution it is preferable to close by 9:30.
- Jos K. Mathew acknowledged the constraints but pressed that RSC should look at approaching specific institutions (rather than the general public) and pricing appropriately as a premium facility, and reiterated that a revenue-focused solution is needed given rising costs.
- The Chairperson added a personal perspective on health and sleep, citing circadian-rhythm considerations (recommending sleep between 11:00 PM and 4:00 AM) and noted that current regulations in any event require such facilities to close by 10:00 PM due to concerns such as light and noise pollution.
- Resolution: A Finance Committee will be constituted to evaluate these and other revenue-generation suggestions. Jos K. Mathew was asked to submit his suggestions in writing for the Committee's consideration.
- Mr. Sen George (L4896) raised a query on the increase in the Repairs and Maintenance (Building) budget line; this was deferred to the Accounts discussion later in the meeting.

5.2 Adoption

Proposed by Jos K. Mathew (Membership No. L5697)	Seconded by Arun Xavier (Membership No. L5552)	Resolution Budget for October 2025 – September 2026 adopted.
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5.3 Further queries following adoption

- Arun Xavier (L5552) sought clarification on the "Sponsorships / Grant from the Government" line (₹50 lakh) — whether this related to private sponsorship or a government grant, and the channel of receipt. The Secretary clarified this is a combined/proposed line: RSC is not confident of receiving government funds (none expected from the State Government), but may receive support from the Central Government, whose Sports Ministry officials have appreciated RSC's functioning and may extend support for specific academies; the amount is primarily expected from private sponsorship. He confirmed RSC had previously received ₹50 lakh from the Central Government as a "Centre of Excellence" grant in 2006, during the tenure of Chairperson Mr. Mohammed Anish.
- Commander Krishnan (L1755) asked whether RSC receives any funding through corporates' CSR programmes. The Secretary responded that RSC intends to pursue CSR funding but has not secured a firm commitment; the budgeted figure remains a projection.

Remarks by the Chairperson

Owing to a prior engagement with the Hon'ble Chief Secretary and Hon'ble Chief Minister at Bolgatty, the Chairperson made brief closing remarks before departing:

- Commended the current Executive Committee and all members for the excellent standard of RSC's facilities, drawing a contrast with her previous posting as District Collector, Palakkad, where a decentralised sports-centre-of-excellence initiative (supported in part by a ₹1.6 crore contribution from BPCL) was still being developed, given that a facility of this scale typically requires ₹50–60 crore and 5–6 years to establish.
- Proposed — as an idea already discussed at the last two Executive Committee meetings — that RSC's academies work towards becoming "Centres of Excellence," on the model of talent-identification programmes such as "Super 30/Super 50," identifying promising children aged 10–15 and training them intensively over a minimum of three years, with active involvement of parents (drawing comparisons to the family support behind young chess champions Gukesh and Praggnanandhaa).
- Noted the Executive Committee has agreed to constitute a sub-committee to take this initiative forward and requested members' support in identifying and nurturing sporting talent.
- Reaffirmed that the question of increasing income would be addressed through a sub-committee, as agreed under the budget discussion.

Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) / Urban Canal Rejuvenation Matter

Before the felicitation function, the Secretary raised, on behalf of two resident members from a neighbouring apartment complex, a request regarding extension of a proposed city sewage-treatment-plant (STP) line.

- Dr. P.C. Menon (Membership No. L3952) explained that this issue has gained prominence due to ongoing urban rejuvenation of the Perandoor Canal, adjoining both RSC and the neighbouring flat. A central STP scheme for the city (currently serving 5 MLD, proposed to be expanded to 17 MLD)

is planned, with the line currently proposed to run only up to the Lions Club/fire-station area. He requested that the line be extended to also cover RSC, the neighbouring residential complex, and GCDA, which would help RSC avoid significant independent investment in sewage/sullage treatment.

- The Chairperson identified this as falling under the broader Integrated Urban Regional Water and (Waste water) Treatment System (IURWTS) project — a ₹3,000 crore scheme currently at the conception/planning stage, to be implemented jointly by the Kerala Water Authority and Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) — and advised that, as the plan is still under preparation, this is the appropriate time for RSC to submit a formal written proposal for inclusion.
- The Secretary requested that the details be forwarded to him for onward submission to the Chairperson, given time constraints in the meeting.

Felicitation of Octogenarian Players

RSC felicitated its members who have crossed 80 years of age and continue to actively play: 4 tennis players, 1 basketball player, 1 badminton player, and 1 squash player. The Chairperson presented mementoes (ponnada and RSC's own 100 gms. silver coin) to each honouree, assisted by committee members.

- **Tennis:** Dr. P.A. George, Mr. J.P. Alexander, Mr. K. Gopalan & Mr. Mohammed Yacoob – all four were felicitated.
- **Basketball:** P.T. Xavier, a former state-level player representing the Customs Department, was felicitated
- **Badminton:** Mr. V.R. Nair, belonging to the 5.30 Club, a group who commence their game at 5.30 am everyday, was felicitated.
- **Squash:** Thomas Parackal, noted for his regular early-morning (5:00–5:30 AM) play, was felicitated.

6. Audited Statement of Accounts, Financial Year 2024–2025

The Treasurer presented the audited financial statements together with the independent auditors' report, noting there were no adverse comments/qualifications from the auditors.

6.1 Members' queries

- Percy Joseph (Membership No. 1505), a retired banker, raised detailed queries on the Balance Sheet:
- Capital Fund (Owners' Funds) had reduced from ₹10.51 crore to ₹10.36 crore, while a footnote elsewhere showed an increase of about ₹12.6 lakh (from 52 to 67, as referenced) — he sought reconciliation of this apparent inconsistency.
- The Treasurer explained that the Capital Fund had in fact increased by roughly ₹1 crore during the year (comprising about ₹39 lakh in entrance fees and about ₹66 lakh in membership-transfer fees), but this increase was more than offset by a book loss of about ₹1.2 crore (arising mainly from depreciation of about ₹1.5 crore, a non-cash charge), resulting in a net reduction to ₹10.36 crore. He confirmed this is detailed in Schedule 2 to the balance sheet.
- Long-term loans and advances (asset side) had increased from about ₹66.59 lakh to about ₹68.15 lakh (Mr. Joseph's figures referenced 66 to 68), with only ₹35,000 shown as adjusted/reduced — he queried the absence of a clear breakup of fresh advances and observed that, viewed as a banker, this pattern would be flagged as a concern.
- The Treasurer clarified that this represents a capital advance for acquisition of a capital asset (not a regular loan): the prior year's advance of about ₹57 lakh was fully adjusted during the year, and a

fresh capital advance of about ₹60 lakh was made; a balance sheet reflects the position as on the closing date and does not itemise all in-year transactions.

- Mr. Joseph maintained that such movements (fresh advances taken and prior advances adjusted) should be disclosed by way of a footnote/note to the accounts for clarity, and that this was not done. The Treasurer offered to share further account details the following day.
- The Treasurer separately noted that membership fee income had increased by about ₹30 lakh, corresponding to roughly 8 new members during the year.
- Mr. Sen George (L4896) queried the increase in Repairs and Maintenance (Building) expenditure (reported in the meeting as increasing to ₹50.6 lakh from a prior-year figure stated at two different points in the discussion as ₹3.6 lakh and ₹34.6 lakh — the recording is inconsistent on the exact prior-year figure). The Treasurer explained that the entire suite of rooms (18 rooms, western side) was renovated during the year; new items such as electrical fittings and TVs were capitalised as new assets, while expenditure on the existing civil structure was written off in full as no new asset was created, this write-off being the major component of the ₹50.6 lakh figure. The Secretary added that the eastern-side rooms had already been completed to a high standard and the western-side rooms are being finished to the same standard.

6.2 Adoption

Proposed by	Seconded by	Resolution
Saji Chacko (Membership No. L3753)	Dinesh Prabhu (Membership No. L1350)	Audited Statement of Accounts for FY 2024–2025 adopted.

7. Appointment of Auditors for 2025–2026 and Fixation of Emoluments

The Treasurer recommended continuation of the incumbent auditors, M/s. G. Joseph & Associates, who have served for the past two years and performed well. Mr. Jomon K. George (Membership No. L2233) noted that, in the absence of any motion to change the auditors, the meeting could resolve to reappoint them.

Resolved: M/s. G. Joseph & Associates were reappointed as auditors for the year 2025–2026 on the same emoluments as the previous year.

Change of Chair

The Chairperson having departed for a prior engagement, Vice President Dr. Sunil K. Mathai assumed the Chair for the remaining period of the meeting.

8. Discussion on Points Submitted in Writing by Members

The Secretary stated that no points had been submitted in writing in advance of the meeting. With the Chair's permission, the floor was open for members to raise any other matters, with the caveat that queries requiring retrieval of specific records could not be fully answered on the spot.

9. Any Other Matters

- Mr. Raju P.K. (Membership No. 4631) suggested making provision for a card room (e.g., for games such as bridge, 28, and 56 — excluding rummy) as beneficial for senior members, including for cognitive health. The Secretary responded that RSC has no spare space, and that, in any event, card rooms carry a risk of evolving into games such as poker and gambling, which could harm the

institution's reputation; the Committee prefers to focus on physical games, and non-card indoor games such as chess, carrom, and snooker are already available. The suggestion was accordingly not accepted.

- Commander Krishnan/Padmaraj (Membership No. L1755) suggested pursuing more affiliations with other clubs (RSC currently has 58 affiliated clubs), citing new clubs such as those coming up at CIAL, to give members access to a wider range of facilities (e.g., golf, where RSC currently has only a practice net) without additional capital expenditure. The Secretary clarified that affiliation with clubs within the same city is not permitted (as it would effectively grant multi-club access on a single membership) but affiliation with clubs outside the city, and abroad, is actively being pursued. He noted RSC is finalising a new, automated website (a review meeting with experts and a software committee was scheduled for Tuesday) that will enable mobile bookings, payments, and receipts, and is expected to make RSC more attractive to prospective affiliate clubs. He cited an approach to Khar Gymkhana, Mumbai (membership fee of about ₹80 lakh) that had not been refused but not yet concluded, and noted that international affiliations, previously costing about US\$100 per club, now cost about US\$2,500 per club and would be considered once funds permit.
- Ajith (Membership No. L4847) asked why RSC does not invest in solar power, given rising electricity costs (from about ₹3 lakh to about ₹5 lakh) and citing the positive return already achieved on the LED-wall/hoarding investment (₹12.85 lakh). The Secretary responded that solar power has been under consideration for the past 3–4 years, and that RSC had deliberately not proceeded earlier as equipment costs have since halved; however, current signals from the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB) suggest that net-metering/grid arrangements may become less favourable (RSC would generate during non-peak hours but consume mostly during peak hours, 6:00–10:00 PM), and KSEB has not yet issued a clear policy. RSC will proceed once a clearer policy is announced.
- Commander Krishnan suggested that solar (CAPEX) investment could be pursued through CSR funding from corporates. The Secretary acknowledged the suggestion.

Summary of Resolutions Passed

- Minutes of the AGM dated 21 September 2024 — confirmed.
- Minutes of the Budget EGM dated 7 March 2025 — confirmed.
- Report of the Executive Committee (28-8-2024 to 27-8-2025) — adopted.
- Budget for October 2025 – September 2026 — adopted.
- Audited Statement of Accounts for FY 2024–2025 — adopted.
- M/s. G. Joseph & Associates reappointed as auditors for 2025–2026 on the same emoluments.
- A Finance Committee to be constituted to evaluate revenue-generation proposals.
- A sub-committee to be constituted to develop the "Centre of Excellence" talent-development proposal for RSC academies.

THE END