

OXFORDSHIRE HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 12th 2009 7.30pm

KIDLINGTON FIRE STATION MEETING ROOM

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sarah Jones; Andy Gwinn; Gareth Evans; Jaypee Wentzel; Ian Cox; Ashley Hurden; Rory Bowden; Mark Jarvis; Bridget Midwinter.

1. APOLOGIES: Steve Curnock; Lesley Potter.
2. MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 10th 2009: These were approved and signed.
3. MATTERS ARISING: None.
4. FINANCE: Ashley reported that the accounts are now sorted and functioning as required. He has absorbed some of the course deposits from those candidates that have failed to complete their umpiring training into the general funds and has compiled a complete list of the deposits still being held. He would like the committee members to consider the fee charged for the Level 1 course in order to discuss it at the next meeting in February. Andy and Ashley would like to propose that the fee is increased from £40 of which £38 is costs. Other areas of finance that need reviewing are the amount of deposit charged to candidates and umpire expenses.

ACTION: All committee members.

5. SUBSCRIPTIONS/ MEMBERSHIP: There are a total of 100 members, 72 have paid and the others are juniors and candidates. A further 50 names are being contacted.
6. AFFILIATION TO EH: Sarah has received the necessary forms to complete in order for OHUA to affiliate to EH. It was agreed that they are completed.
7. WEB SITE: Following research into possible providers of a web site Ashley contacted David Lane of Tex Solutions and subsequently invited him to our meeting to outline the possibilities. He kindly agreed to attend and gave us a very detailed insight into the system his company provides. Tex Solutions presently run the web sites of 27 umpires association of which Buckinghamshire is one. After discussions David suggested 2 options: i) a go-alone OHUA web site that would involve considerable costs (£4000), ii) to join up with Bucks utilising the system already up and running but still having our own independent pages (£2-3000). At present Bucks do not have a finance package which could be added if required. The committee was very impressed with David's presentation and are extremely grateful to him for taking the time to attend our meeting. The next stage is for Oxon to discuss the situation with Bucks (Gareth will make initial contact) and Berkshire (Rory to discuss possibilities with Paul Stanley). Ideally, we are looking to implement a system for next season.

The Web site co-ordinators for OHUA will be Ashley, Jaypee, Rory and Andy.

8. RELATIONSHIP WITH BUCKS: This item will be included in the web site development.

9. YOUNG UMPIRE DEVELOPMENT: Mark has contacted some of the young umpires that Andy has on his list to ascertain their umpiring status. Some are keen to receive further coaching. A list of Oxon young umpires and their present standard has been forwarded to Dawn Bonner (SRYUAG)

Mark sent out a request to all clubs regarding their young umpires (copy in file). He has only received a reply from Thame HC.

John Dykes has requested a Foundation Course to be run at City HC.

10. ASSESSMENTS: Ian Cox has been awarded his level 1. Andy has several people awaiting assessment including Jenny Buchan, Tim Conlon and Greg Bristow.

11. COACHING: UMPIRE GRADING SYSTEM FOR OXON - The County Badge is no longer recognised by EH as a qualification so Oxon needs to adopt a system that rewards and encourages all our umpires. Several other counties use an A,B,C system where 1C is a newly qualified umpire that would be suitable to umpire the lower leagues; 1B would be the next stage and 1C umpires would be capable of umpiring south 3A and BBO prem games. A final decision on Oxon's grading system will be made by the coaching committee.

ACTION: Coaching committee

12. APPOINTMENTS; a) BBO league - All appointments have been fulfilled to date although they are grateful to a couple of umpires who are doubling up. Rory has Zohair and Roger as reserves in Oxon.

B) Other - School tournaments are a bit disorganised as the county is unclear about its requirements, but where we were involved in the U.16 schools tournament the feedback from Zoe Salter was very positive.

For the university matches Rory has a good pool of umpires and his thanks go to Martyn Shuttler for the considerable amount of coaching he has been able to do to support those umpires.

13. DISCIPLINE MATTERS: Gareth reported that a red card was issued to Rover men's 3rd XI player resulting in a 60 day ban. This is the 4th red card given to a rover player in 12 months. A letter has been sent to Rover from OHA insisting that they introduce an action plan to address their discipline issues. Henley HC is also being monitored as their discipline record is also bad.

14. CLUB MATTERS; in the men's leagues clubs must use qualified umpires down to division 2. Next season it will extend to division 3.

15. OHA MATTERS: None.

16. SOUTH MATTERS: Sarah reported that SCHUA have asked for all counties to nominate a county Indoor rep. Mark is prepared to represent Oxon.

17. KIT/EQUIPMENT: Ian now holds the stock of kit. The price charged does not fully cover the costs and after discussion it was decided that the present stock of shirts will be sold at £13.50 plus p&p (£1.50). It was proposed that we investigate the Mercian style shirts.

Mark will get some prices.

ACTION: MJ

18. CORRESPONDENCE: Grassroots Hockey - letter circulated to all committee members - no comments received. Notification of the arrival of an umpire from Netherlands to Oxford.

19. AOB: A Level 1 course is starting next week and will use the new course itinery. Andy reported that the Assessment day details are yet to be finalised.

20. DATE OF NEXT MEETING;

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 4Th 2010 at KIDLINGTON FIRE STATION