

OXFORDSHIRE HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

OUP S&S CLUB, JORDAN HILL, OXFORD

THURSDAY JUNE 4th 2014 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sarah Jones, JJ Jeczalik, Clive Briant, Mark Cummings, Andy Gwinn, Linda Billington, James Boylan, Les Cooke, Neil Holdstock, Emma Forrester, Colin Toms, Ian Cox, Adrian Higgins, Richard Young, Steve Howells, Tim Dudgeon, Jacqui Barlow.

1. APOLOGIES: Mike Tideswell, Ray Hipkin, Jill Instone, Rick Green, Clive Watson, Paul Wilson, Val Woods, Jenny Nunneley, Andrew Clough, Andy Warne, Jerry Unsworth, Richard Bennett, George Bolton, Matthew Goldsworthy, Helen Tomlinson, Jim Chadbourne, Catherine Brown, Zohair Maany, Steve Curnock, Lesley Potter, David Shannon, Ann Hood, Ian Wild, Boo Touze(OU), Clifford Brown, John Dykes.

2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS: JJ welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

This has been a difficult season with the sad loss of 3 active members - Jenny Maughan, Allan Tydell and Gareth Evans.

Appointing to the leagues has been challenging this season but there are plans to work with the OHA to address the problems of getting more umpires to come out of their clubs to take neutral appointments.

The EH HUA Conference set out their plans for developing an umpire pathway. The new Level one course has been introduced and has prompted the committee to discuss the financial implications of the new arrangements - the organising county will no longer receive the fees directly for running courses and this could impact on the funds available for subsequent coaching of candidates.

We are keen to encourage a robust attitude to players and coaches and working in conjunction with OHA we hope to break down the barriers between players and umpires.

3. APPROVAL AND MATTERS ARISING FROM 2013 AGM.

These were approved and there were no matters arising.

4. OFFICERS REPORTS.

TREASURER: Sarah has, once again, been standing in as treasurer for the 2013/14 season and apologised to the meeting for her lack of understanding of the accounts. She explained that she has been using the accounts package on the website in to which she has entered all transactions. The package then automatically produces the accounts. A print out of the end of year accounts was available at the meeting. Question - The 'Stock' figure was questioned and it was agreed that this needed amending. It was proposed by Jim Boylan and seconded by Mark Cummings that the old stock should be written off. All agreed. Possible use of excess funds was discussed. Proposed uses were radios and shirts. To be discussed further by committee.

APPOINTMENTS:

LEAGUE: Andy reported that there were problems at the start of the season due to clubs not providing umpires into the pool. Fortunately, following several reminders, umpires were produced and no games were left unappointed. Next season will have a similar demand for weekend umpires so more umpires are encouraged to make themselves available for appointments.

Andy is hoping to arrange more 'switch' weekends with Hampshire to give our umpires some variation in the teams they officiate.

MID WEEK: Steve reported that there has been a small group of umpires taking mid-week appointments this season and he would welcome more to join them next season.

COACHING: Andy presented a report (attached).

Coaching Report 2013/2014 Season

This has been another successful season for OHUA. We once again addressed the concerns raised over the numbers of new candidates coming through; as we ran 3 level 1 courses, 1 to the old format, 1 to the pilot (transition) format and 1 to the new format. Adding a further 31 candidates into our membership. A word of caution however; the last course was run by us to the new EH system, whereby EH take the bookings and the money, the candidates sign up and therefore can come from anywhere (literally) - we had 2 from Wales!!, the big issue is in not managing the enrolment process we don't get an automatic membership of OHUA nor do we get the same club support necessarily and consequently those following up may be fewer. So far from 14 on the last course only 3 have joined OHUA. We did however gain 1 umpire from a course run in Rugby, so it does have some merits.

Both Ray and myself became EH tutors under the new regime, and Ray also became a Regional Trainer for EH, and he will help train umpire tutors for the future for EH, well done Ray!

We have also qualified 19 level 1 umpires since the last AGM (9 from the 3 courses this year) and I fully expect this to grow further over the summer league which is now in progress. This is almost our best (21 in 2009-2010) and takes us through the 100 mark to 113 new qualified Level 1's since I started counting in 2005-2006 season.

The other big issue is that since Jarvy moved away before last season we have had no one specifically tasked with looking after our junior umpires, Steve did a great job appointing to JACS. I would like to deal with this and if we could get someone willing to support this growing number of umpires it would be good for us all. All 3 of the umpires joining OHUA from the last course were Juniors, 5 of the 19 new level 1's for the season were also juniors.

Coaching has maintained its momentum again this season now that Ray and Zohair have been working in tandem with myself plus support from Sarah, Martyn and Steve more than 38 different umpires were watched during the season/summer, this number will grow as we get through summer league.

We have also had the following Umpires reach Level 1 Accreditation since the last AGM:

Emily Black (J)
Mike Roberts
Naveed Barakzai
Sophie Dawes
Steve Howells
Nadine Hunter
Clifford Brown

Lizzie Robbins (J)
Geoff Paver
Pete English
Seb Thompson (J)
Paul Scraggs
Mark Thompson
Doug Terry
John Corran (J)
John Arnott
James Bartrip (Rugby Course)
Callum Chapman
Lisa Scraggs

Well done to all of them.

As already mentioned we are now in the midst of summer league, which is thankfully only running into early July (and therefore more manageable). I am extremely grateful to those coaches who have turned out so far to support, especially Sarah, Martyn, and Steve.

We still need more coaches and umpires so please help us push the clubs and also help us by offering your assistance get more qualified coaches/assessors/advisors.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION.

Sarah Jones proposed that they remain at £10. Seconded JJ Jeczalik.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

President - Bridget Midwinter (Proposed: JJ, Seconded: Sarah Jones)

Chairman - JJ Jeczalik (Proposed: Clive Briant, Seconded: Linda Billington)

Secretary - Sarah Jones (Proposed: Andy Gwinn, Seconded: Mark Cumming)

Treasurer - Clive Briant (Proposed: Sarah Jones, Seconded JJ)

Appointments, League - Andy Gwinn (Proposed Jim Boylan, Seconded: Les Cooke)

Appointments, Mid-week/non-league - Steve Curnock (Prop:Colin Toms Sec: Clive)

Chief Coach - Andy Gwinn (Proposed: Ian Cox, Seconded: Mark Cumming)

Committee Members - Lesley Potter, Richard Young, Jim Boylan (Proposed: Clive Briant, Seconded: JJ)

There were no objections.

7. NOTICES.

WEB SITE; It was reported that a recent change of servers had caused many problems with the web site. Fixing them is taking some time and members were reminded to regularly check the website. It is believed that most counties and associations using Tex Solutions are having similar problems. The question of security of our information was raised and it was decided the committee would make enquiries.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 20.33.