

OXFORDSHIRE HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

OUP S&S CLUB, JORDAN HILL, OXFORD

THURSDAY 14th JULY 2016

AGM

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: JJ Jeczalik, Andy Gwinn, Clive Briant, Neil Holdstock, Mark Cumming, D C Watson, Tim Gudgeon, John Dykes, Linda Billington, Lorna McCulloch, Rob McCulloch, Adrian Higgins, Colin Toms, Mike Tideswell, Dave Settle, James Boylan and Mike Vince.

Meeting opened by Chairman at 1930hrs

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Ray Hipkin, James Bartrip, Conrad Hall, Ben Hudson, Roger Addison, Lesley Potter, Stephen Moulder-Hurdsfield, Michael Power, Paul Wilson, Mark Thompson, Ashley Hurden, Adrian Higgins, Mark Richardson, Jim Patel, Zohair Maany, Ellen Schallig, Ben Hudson, Philip Stevens, Roger Addison, Ron Smith, Steve Howells and Kim O'Leary.

2. CHAIRMANS OPENING REMARKS

- JJ noted specific thanks to Andy Gwinn and the website etc. Thanks for coming

3. APPROVAL AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF 2015 AGM

- None
Suggest AG / Seconded
Carried

4. OFFICERS REPORTS

- **Appointments report – Andy Gwinn**

This has been a busy but fairly uneventful season, with just about enough umpires to cover our appointments. Despite the periodic issues that we have with the website (when polling for availability at the end of each month the system performance is woeful) we were extremely grateful for the benefits we get from it!! I did a count last

night and for League appointments alone, between Paul Stanley (Berks) and myself we appointed to 341 league games this season

We didn't really suffer from the weather, We also deployed a number of additional radio's out to those taking regular appointments and have just picked up another 10 sets so these will also be distributed, The general feedback from Umpires and players is that they enhance the quality of the decisions being made and the overall experience for the players.

- **Coaching report – Andy Gwinn**

Level 1 - This has been a mixed season for OHUA. The numbers of new candidates coming through level 1 courses has been up, but the numbers prepared to take the next step and actually try for qualification has been worse than almost any time in the past. I can only think that somehow we need to galvanise the clubs to follow up on their initial push to get people to take the courses and become umpires. We will be looking again to talk with PHA to try to set up an initiative and culture change otherwise we are in a downward spiral.

We have however mopped up quite a few of those who over the past 3 or 4 seasons have taken the course and can report that 10 umpires were successfully assessed under the new EH criteria since last years AGM (at least that is 50% more than last year)

As reported for the last few years; we have had no one specifically tasked with looking after our junior umpires, Steve carries on doing a great job appointing to JACS; but we as a group need to deal with this and if we could get someone willing to support this still large group of young umpires it would be good for us all. The young umpire we do have are all active and are doing their bit for their clubs.

Coaching has suffered this year mainly due to work commitments for both Ray and myself, plus the fact that I have had to umpire far more this season due to a shortage of senior Level 1 umpires (I'll talk about that again in the Appointments report) What we did manage to do outside of summer league has fallen almost totally to Ray; who gained his Level 2 Coaching status (again, ratified by South!!) so well done to him again. The Senior umpire team have been working in tandem with myself during summer league so many thanks for your

support to Martyn, Steve and this year to Colin who has enjoyed it so much he's now a L2 Coaching candidate. We would have seen more umpire this summer if more had been prepared to put themselves forwards another lost opportunity.

35 different umpires were watched during the season/summer (same as last year), this number will grow as we get through summer league.

The following Umpires reach Level 1 Accreditation since the last AGM:

- **Ben Hudson**
- **Francesca Howells**
- **Emma Whitehouse**
- **Graham Wasdall**
- **Ian Brown**
- **Philip Murray**
- **Russell Warner**
- **John Burdett**
- **Mark Crowley**
- **Robbie Scragg**

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 Colin, Martyn, and Steve and Bridget.

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.

- **Treasurers report – Clive Briant**
See attached.

Bridget Midwinter suggested that it would be good practice to get a second opinion on the accounts

Discussion point for the next committee meeting to chat about how and who does the accounts and whether we are getting our monies worth through the website / how depreciation is recorded.

5. No reason to change it. Proposed Mark, Seconded Tim.
6. JJ reported to the meeting that having failed Quorum at the last AGM the committee is suggesting that the Quorum is reduced from 10 to 6. A number of members of the meeting reported they had not received the first meeting notification.
Proposed by JJ and seconded. Majority voted against the change.
7. Election of Officers:
 - a. Bridget asked to be President again. She agreed.
 - b. JJ is retiring. Someone needs to become Chairman. Bridget suggested that members should've been notified there was a "calling notice 14/21 days ahead of the meeting". JJ will stay.
 - c. We're all staying.
8. Notices – none
9. AOB - discussion about young umpires come through going forward, as the problem of umpire numbers will not go away unless players and coaches all sing for the same hymn sheet.