

OHUA Committee meeting minutes

7pm on 30 Jan 2020

at OUP

Attendees: Ray Hipkin, James Bartrip, Lesley Potter, David Hughes, Bridget Midwinter, Mark Cumming, Hatty Wood, Les Cooke, Tim Dudgeon

Apologies: Andy Gwinn, Mike Vince

The minutes of the November meeting were approved. Actions ongoing were:

1. Updating umpiring panels (A, B, C, CQ, CNQ) on the web site. Colin Toms has stood down from the committee so this has not progressed. Mark will handle it with assistance from James and Ray [Action].
2. Updating the pre-match discussion card is still needed. Ray will review with Mark [Action].
3. Bank mandate is still ongoing [Action - Mike].

Interactions with clubs

We need to establish a process for the club umpire developer role. Ray stated that there were 3 stages:

- Umpire developer training
- Define the “machinery” and processes
- Establish what a candidate ready for L1 assessment looks like

Hatty suggested we need a SOP for this. Ray agreed to resurrect some flow charts that he has that covers much of this. Hatty agreed to assist. The aim is to have something to approve by the next committee meeting [Action - Ray, Hatty].

The L1 course at Brookes run by OHC was successful and fully subscribed. This suggests there might be demand for another course relatively soon. The best time might be shortly after Easter as that would lead into the summer hockey.

Umpire liaisons were to contact their clubs to establish the demand. When contacting the clubs the liaisons should also remind the club of the offer of “an umpire coach for the day”, and on the demand for an “introduction to umpiring” course. [Action - all club liaisons; to be completed by 14 FEB].

A new liaison is needed for Thame, and the situation with Bicester needs clarifying. [Action -- Tim].

Finance

Mike was not able to attend, but had notified us that sorting out the bank mandate was still work in progress.

Witney are claiming that they have not yet been invoiced from their membership fees. Mike will be asked to check on the status **[Action - Tim]**.

Coaching

Colin has stood down so a new chief coach is needed. Ray will step in as interim measure, but will need some support in the administration. The situation needs to be resolved at the AGM.

We need to reclaim any spare radios and the inventory list from Colin **[Action - Les]**.

SCHUA position

Ray is wanting to step down from being our representative at SCHUA due to pressure of work. It was agreed that we do not need a single person doing this and can instead rotate who attends. Mark, James and Tim indicated that they might be able to attend these meetings (normally held at Indian Gymkhana). The next SCHUA meeting is on 31 March.

Website

No issues.

England Hockey re-organisation plans

The timeline for the re-organisation of umpiring has been adjusted so that this now happens for the 2022/23 season, a year later than the leagues re-organisation. This timeline seems more reasonable.

The vote on the re-organisation proposal is on March 17th.

SCHUA has a meeting on 5th March to discuss the plans. Someone from OHUA should attend **[Action - volunteer needed]**.

Bridget gave an overview on the vision for umpiring. There now seems to be more flexibility coming from EH who seem to be listening to feedback.

OHUA does not have a vote on the plans (but see comments at the end) and so it felt that we should not have a formal for or against opinion on our position on the plans. Instead we agreed that the committee would service the game as best it can whatever way the vote goes.

AOB

James pointed out that the umpiring appointments were happening without any major problems.

The next committee meeting is targeted for mid March when Andy should be back in the UK.

The meeting closed at 9:10.

Activity subsequent to the meeting

In a discussion with John Dykes it became clear that whilst OHUA don't have a vote on the EH re-org plans OHA do, and we are part of OHA. This means that we have the opportunity to express an opinion through them on how to vote should we wish to.

It became clear that Thame were organising a L1 course on 9th Feb, but it seems that there were insufficient candidates subscribed. The fact that none of OHUA committee knew about this suggests that we still need to improve the communications with the clubs.

Rachael Hucker clarified that she was not able to attend committee meetings due to pressure of work. Tim will remain the liaison for Bicester. Rachael also mentioned that Bicester are having problems with umpires getting abuse, and that James and Mark have been assisting on this.

This means that we need to find someone else to be liaison for Thame as Tim was handling this as an interim measure. Hatty offered at the committee meeting, and Ray seems recently to have also offered (in a separate email thread). **[Action - Ray and Hatty to argue over this!]**.

The list of current club umpire developers and OHUA liaisons is listed below.

Club	Umpire Developer	OHUA liaison
Abingdon	Mark Cribben	Mark Cumming
Banbury	Lesley Potter	Mark Cumming
Bicester	Rachael Hucker	Tim Dudgeon
Hawks	Katie Sunderland	David Hughes
Henley	Georgie Metcalfe	Les Cooke
Kidlington	???	???
OHC	Tim Dudgeon	
Thame	Clare Seed	???

Wallingford	Hatty Wood	
Witney	James Bartrip	
Wychwood	James Bartrip	
Wychwood Badgers	???	???