

OHU Committee 3rd Feb 2021

Attendees: Tim Dudgeon, Lesley Potter, Bridget Midwinter, Ray Hipkin, Mark Cumming, James Bartrip, Mike Vince, Hatty Wood

Apologies: David Hughes

Took place using Zoom.

Approve minutes of last meeting

The following points from the minutes were discussed:

- The new radios have been distributed. Clothing is due by end Feb.
- Club Liaisons and/or Developers are asked to provide a list of active umpires to Ray
- Mike is still to provide statement regarding safeguarding related to the terms of our insurance [Action: Mike]
- We are now in contact with the Club Umpire Developer at Henley HC.

The minutes were approved.

Finance & Membership

- Mike reported that we have ~£15.5K in the bank with expenses having been paid.
- Will probably need to organise a meeting around April to notify members of what changes are happening. We may want to combine this with the AGM if the timing is appropriate.
- The impact on membership of the EH re-organisation is still unclear, but some clarity should appear during the next 2 months. County HUA membership may remain for 21/22 season
- Mike will create a summary of which clubs have paid appointment fees so that we are in a position to provide refunds should that be necessary.

Interactions with Clubs

- We received a complaint from Thame HC about a member umpire. James reviewed this and provided Thame a full and comprehensive response. Thame have not acknowledged receipt of the report.
- We still have no engagement from Kidlington, but Mike has a contact who we'll try to get in touch with [Action: Mike].
- Tim attended the Oxfordshire HA committee meeting. Nothing of note to report.
- Ray to contact clubs and remind them to keep all club contacts up to date [Action: Ray].

Return to hockey

- There is currently no clarity on when hockey will return
- Hawks are aiming to run the Ladies summer league if that's possible, starting in June.

Umpire coaching

- We have achieved a lot despite the Covid-19 situation
- All planned sessions (both face to face and zoom) have been delivered. This has put us in touch with ~48 umpires we would not normally have seen. All sessions were well received. Clubs feel that umpires are more confident having been through these sessions.
- Ray and Mark are working on an updated version of these sessions.
- Providing coaching feedback through zoom has been very productive and is planned to continue after covid restrictions are lifted.
- An umpire developers part 2 course, building on the first session, is being planned for late Feb. We also aim to repeat the part 1 developer course for new people or those who missed out on the first session. The part 1 course is an official EH course and needs their approval. The part 2 course does not.
- A potential course is planned around mid-March for county level umpires as well as a potential (around mid-March) for young umpires.
- Also considering courses for L2 progression and for schools.
- James Thompson approved as a county developer and assessor (unanimously approved)
- Umpire mentors are to be selected to support less experienced umpires in appointed matches
- Ray proposed to purchase a 20 pack FH Umpires subscription at a cost of ~£400/year (unanimously approved). Mark will coordinate this [Action: Mark].
- The committee owes a huge vote of thanks to Ray and Mark for handling this.

EH re-org

- It has been difficult to get clarification from EH what the transition groups are being required to do. In the last few weeks a more pragmatic approach has been evolving.
- The reorganisation of umpiring is now expected for the 21/22 season, not 22/23 as previously announced.
- Following discussion with EH, SCHUA will have representation at the 3 working groups that will replace the south region, having previously been excluded from this.
- Umpiring resources (coaches, assessors) are unlikely to be evenly distributed between the different areas.

Website

- Some cosmetic changes have been made by Tex Solutions, but with no apparent functional changes
- The new OMS will only handle appointments, not membership etc. We may need to use both systems during the 21/22 season.

AOB

No items were raised.

Meeting closed at 20:57