



H.B.H.U.A.

Secretary: Rob Youngs
53 Kenmore Avenue
Kenton
Harrow
Middlesex
HA3 8PA

President: Neil Cherrill
32 Railway Terrace,
Kings Langley
Hertfordshire
WD4 8JB

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Gosling Sports Centre, Welwyn on 15th
June 2007**

1. Apologies for absence

Glenn Seymour Hall, Sandra Turner, Don Ward, Bud Carthy, Richard Slater, Tom Godfrey, David Ross, Kevin Smith, Vanessa Porter, A Ross, Patrick Martin, Tricia Murphy, Graham Locker, Ann Bridge, Peter Kuipers, Trevor Humm, Sheila Miller, Sue Lord, Colin Campbell, Derek Henley, Ian Hammond, Helen Barratt.

Present

See Attached PDF (Iain Fletcher was also present)

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

These were distributed and Rob asked for any comments by the end of June.

3. Matters Arising

Post meeting note: There were no comments or matters arising.

4. Reports

The reports from the President, Treasurer, Saturday Appointment Secretary, Sunday Appointment Secretary and Level 1 coordinator are attached in a pdf format.

The President regrettably informed the passing of 3 members, Ron Puttock, Peter Martinez and Max Charnley. These were active members and will be missed by everyone.

The treasurer made 4 recommendations:

- 1) Membership should be raised to £15 per annum due to increased costs of insurance, rule books and website maintenance.
- 2) The clubs rate for membership to the neutral pool should be £50 per annum.
- 3) The mileage rate should be 17.5p per mile, but will be monitored.
- 4) To accept the accounts.

Proposed: Mike Brown – Seconded: Russell Nutter – Unanimous.

There was discussion about expenses claims not being paid. This was because umpires needed to click on the “submit claim” button. Mike will send an e-mail out about the process.

On appointments the committee stressed the importance of ensuring that clubs and umpires actually speak rather than rely on voicemail or unanswered e-mail.

On Sunday appointments Iain said that the HBHUA could not supply umpires for midweek games. Neil was going to contact Jane and inform her.

During the discussion on Level 1 course there was a lot of discussion about whether we should charge more, like other counties, and give a partial refund when candidates pass their practical exam. However it was agreed that the current arrangement is the best balance. There was also discussion on the standard of game the candidates should be assessed upon; the agreement was that it should be as high as possible and each would be treated on its own merits. Dan was asked to supply statistics of candidates attending courses and the number of umpires that had passed the practical. The Association will make watchers/coaches/assessors available during the summer.

5. Election of Officers

All the officers were unanimously voted in unopposed, proposed by Peter Simmons and seconded by Alan Smith.:

President –Neil Cherrill

Secretary – Rob Youngs

Membership Secretary – With Angela moving to Birmingham Rob has said he will stand in.

Treasurer- Mike Brown

Appointment Secretary Saturday - Mike Brown

Appointment Secretary Sunday- Iain Fletcher

Chair of selection – Neil has stood down and Iain Fletcher will take over.

Herts Rep - Dan Heydon

Beds Rep- Dan Heydon.

East Rep - Brian Arnsby

Level 1 Coordinator - Dan Heydon

Webmaster - With Angela moving to Birmingham Rob has said he will stand in.

Newsletter Editor- Rob Youngs

The usual request for new people to volunteer to the committee failed to show any new volunteers.

6. Awards - Presidents Shield

Awarded to Mike Brown for his continued remarkable contribution to the association.

Awards - Rhoda Gains Award

Awarded to Angela Buckley for her intense effort in getting the very successful website up and running.



Neil Cherrill with Mike and Angela

7. Any Other Business

Under AOB Russell Nutter led a lengthy discussion on the England Hockey decision to prohibit children under the age of 12 participating in Adult leagues. This is primarily based on a “protection philosophy” both as players and within the club environment. The meeting was in agreement that although the issues are recognised, this is seen a retrograde step, many a youngster who, who has gone on to high levels in hockey started their hockey life in the adult game whilst still under 12. Whilst there is little we can do as an Association, we will write to express our disappointment to Ros Marsh. Following the meeting the relevant article was located on the East website and the minimum age referred to is 13 – see link below.

<http://www.east-hockey.co.uk/east/U13s%20policy%20ERHA.htm>

Russell also mentioned that the league was concerned that there were 1160 cards given last season to players. They are changing the penalties for persistent offenders, where a third yellow gets a ban, the 4th a further ban, a 5th a double ban and so on.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:30pm.

ATTENDANCE

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLUB</u>
ROB YOUNGS	ST ALBANS EXILES
Michael Brown	West Herts
Neil Chemill	Neutral
Angela Buckley	Don't know.
Nick Gage	Leighton Buzzard
JOHN WIGENS	MERTFORD
RUSSELL NUTTER	LETCHEWORTH
DAN CLE (DAN)	BEDFORD
SUE OWEN	Welwyn
CRAIG ESSAM	LUTON
KELVIN SMITH.	NEUTRAL (BEDFORD?)
DAPHNE CHAPMAN	BISHOP'S STORTFORD
PETER SIMMONS	Heaton Don Officer
ALAN SMITH	Welwyn G C
Paula Masters	
DAVE BLAXILL	STEVENAGE
SIM MCCURRYNE	BROXBOROUGH
BREAN HANSON	MARSDEN
Andy Lennard	Letchworth

President's Address

I would like to welcome you all to the AGM of the HBHUA.

I regret to inform you of three deaths from within our ranks. Peter Martinez, Max Charnley and Ron Puttock. We extend our sympathies to their Families.

This is my first year as President and I would like to give my committee a big vote of thanks for it's support, without which, this association would not function. Everybody has worked hard to keep the association running and getting umpires on to the pitch.

The neutral pool and knockout competition appointments have operated with the same regular band of dedicated people run very successfully by Mike & Iain. There has been the odd hiccough but what association gets through a full year without one?

We have run a number of level one courses this year and we generally have a 100% pass rate on the theory. It is a source of concern that the number of candidates that we are able to see through to passing the practical part of the exam is NOT 100%. But, The main source of concern to me is however, that very few of these candidates make it as far as the neutral scheme. I am wondering where the next crop of level 2 and level 3 umpires are going to come from.

I would like to thank Dan Heydon and Brian Amsby for their tireless efforts on this.

The one plus point of the year is the advent of the new website I thank Angela Buckley in particular for her dedication to getting it up and running. Unfortunately Angela has decided to move north for a career opportunity so will be leaving the fold. Rob Youngs has kindly offered to take over the webmaster role.

Taking discipline as a topic, which my predecessor took to heart. We have had a number of incidents during the year and I believe the Association has dealt with these in a very steadfast manner. We hope that by taking a fairly tough stance on this we may show other associations that this malaise can be kept to a minimum.

I wish you all well for the coming season.

Neil Cherrill
President HBHUA

Treasurers Report for Annual General Meeting held 15th June 2007

As you can all see, the financial health of the association is again good, despite a big expenditure on the new website, which I have split between the General Account and the Neutral Umpires Pool Account as it benefits both parties.

The General Account, which is used solely for members of the association, has made a deficit of £ 2,445. We had a good response to our initial mailing to the members, which has led to an increase of membership subscriptions of £1,444 (an 86% increase on last year). The main expenditure that we had was the purchase of and subsequent running costs of the new website, this amounted to £ 3,798 for the General Account.

Level One Courses: This year we ran quite a few courses, but due to the fact that we had some stock of the Level One course material, we have made a surplus of £717; this is despite me having to pay out for course material for a course held at West Herts. and not receiving any funding; I have not made any provisions for receiving this money.

The Neutral Pool Scheme, which is solely used for the purpose of funding the expenses of those umpires that umpire in the neutral pool scheme.

As mentioned earlier, I have split the cost of the new website between this account and the General account and the expenditure of the website accounts for a vast majority of the deficit of £2,996

There are 2 main reasons why the expenses have fallen, that is because we now do not travel outside of the Hertfordshire/Bedfordshire borders unless we get a special request and again there are some umpires in this room tonight that just seem to want to umpire on Saturdays/Sundays and not bother to put in any expenses.

Despite me recommending that clubs had a "free" year last year we billed the clubs £25.00 per umpire used out of the pool.

Finally, I have put into the accounts a contingency of £900 for anybody who has not claimed for last season.

I cannot pay anybody's expenses unless they have been entered onto the website and you have then pressed the claimed button; if you do not wish to claim the expenses, you can then make a donation to the association, which then in effect claims the expenses for you.

I know that a few of you are awaiting cheques for last season and all I can do is apologise for the delay, I am having a few problems getting the information out of the website, Tex Solutions our website provider is aware of this and is working to get the matter resolved as quickly as possible.

Recommendations:

I am proposing the following:

1. The membership should rise to £15 per annum, this is for the annual maintenance of the new website

2. Subject to finding out from the other counties what they intend to do with their travelling arrangements for this coming season, I would recommend that the clubs fee goes up to £50.00 per side that uses the neutral pool

*Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Income and Expenditure Account
For the Year Ending 30th April 2007*

General Account	2006/2007	2005/2006
Income		
Membership Subscriptions	3,113	1,669
Interest	43	54
Donations	<u>0</u>	<u>25</u>
	3,156	1,748
Expenditure		
Insurance	199	121
Officers Expenses	670	384
E.H.A.Rule Books	763	0
AGM Expenses	172	148
Sundry Expenditure	0	165
Website Expenditure	3,798	0
Excess of Expenditure over Income	<u>(2,445)</u>	<u>930</u>
	3,156	1,748
Level One Courses		
Income	3,520	1,655
Expenditure	<u>2,803</u>	<u>1,668</u>
	717	(13)
Neutral Umpires Pool Account		
Club Subscriptions	325	0
Expenses Paid	1,269	1,428
Website Expenditure	<u>2,052</u>	<u>0</u>
Excess Income over Expenditure	(2,996)	(1,428)

*Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Balance Sheet
As at 30th April 2007*

	2007	2006
	£	£
Balance for Year		
General Account	1,152	3,597
Level One Courses	1,415	698
Neutral Pool Account	833	3,829
	3,400	8,124
 Represented by:		
Cash at Bank		
Current Account	2,959	3,895
BPA Account	1,923	5,181
	4,883	9,076
 Debtors	 325	
 Creditors	 1,808	 952
	3,400	8,124

Neil Cherrill

N Cherrill

M. Brown

M. Brown

Club Representative's Report

I have examined the books and records of the Herts & Beds H.U.A. and received further information from the treasurer.

I hereby confirm that the accounts for the year ended 30th April 2007 are in accordance herewith.

A.P. Cook

A.P. Cook

1st June 2007

Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Creditors and Debtors
As at 30th April 2007

Debtors	£
Bedford HC	25
Berkhamsted HC	25
Blueharts HC	25
Broxbourne HC	50
Hertford Hc	25
Letchworth HC	25
Luton Town HC	25
Royston HC	25
Shefford & Sandy HC	25
Stevenage HC	50
Vauxhall HC	25
	<hr/>
	325
Creditors	
J.W.Felton	18
Tex Solutions Ltd	120
G.S.Hall	170
C.Meadows	24
BHUA	199
C.Brown	85
D.Heydon	51
R.Perrin	78
M.Tomkys	162
Contingency	900
	<hr/>
	1,808

Appointment Secretary's Report for AGM held 15th June 2007

Again this year we as an association have struggled badly in fulfilling our weekly commitments.

I can only see the situation getting worse, we as an association had an incident last season where one of our senior umpires abandoned a game and it did not get replayed; this again was due to violence on the pitch.

Hopefully you have now seen our new website and are used to navigating your way round it; the initial period gave me more grey hairs than I wished, but I am now used to what needs to be done and the deadlines that I need to be aware of. I am not able to appoint anybody if you have not entered your availabilities onto the website, so the onus is on you now to go in and enter your availabilities for both Saturday and Sundays;

Again this year I am away for the 1st two games of the season, so will doing the appointments prior to going away; I will advise you later who the cry off secretary will be whilst I'm enjoying myself; so look on the website under the "News" section.

I am hoping to have the start times on the new website so you all know what time your game is, but do not take that as gospel, because as I found last season these times do differ; please wait until the team have confirmed you.

I again want to re-emphasise my statement of last year by Friday everything should be in place, the two teams know when the start time is, the umpire(s) know when the start time is, so I will not be accepting any phone calls on Friday night about that Saturday's game, the following weeks game can wait until Monday.

Finally, we as an association will only be covering those leagues which we are bound by East League rules to cover in the 2007/08 season. I might be able to cover the odd game where a team in a lower league regularly supplies the association with an umpire.

There are clubs that now fall into the associations obligation that do not currently have the requisite number of umpires belonging to the neutral pool scheme; if you think that your club is one of them, then please ensure that before the end of July, I know who you are intending to put into the pool for the coming season.

Non League Fixtures Secretary Report For HBHUA A.G.M on 15th June 2007

Another season has come and gone, we managed to get most of the Non League fixtures appointed. Hopefully this will be the last season of frantic e-mails and phone calls to find umpires to fill appointments.

We have done fairly well with number of appointments; there have been 24 games of varying standard from Prem HA cup, to Ladies Plate. Remember we have to cover them all. There have been a few problems as I said trying to get umpires out to cover various youth competitions, these unfortunately are our appointments as well, although according to England the Youth Umpire set up should appoint to these games.

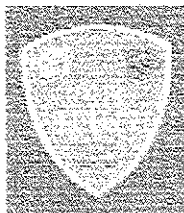
I have yet to come across this magic Youth set up. The moving of the Schools cup to midweek is becoming almost impossible to manage & I thank those who have taken the trouble to turn out for me on those Tuesdays & Wednesdays in Jan when it was very cold.

We will have to consider where we go with these fixtures and if we can appoint in future.

This brings me to the new saviour of my life the new website as of next season all non-league appointments will be shown & appointed on the site. You will be able to put your availability for all Sundays & midweek where appropriate on the web. I will then generate all appointments at least 1 week before the games hopefully longer. Short report this year and hopefully if the new appointment procedure works it will get shorter with just a few stats to report

On the course front there have been 3 Foundation courses and 8 Level I courses in Herts, Beds & Bucks with a further one set for July 15th. There have been 20 candidates who have passed their assessment and are qualified umpires. Those umpires who took the Foundation course are now following up passing that by taking the Level I course, these are generally young umpires under the age of 21 and as well as becoming members of the umpires association they are entered on the RYUAG group which appoint junior umpires to junior tournaments and aid in their progress. One such umpire went the National Festive in Nottingham, was passed for her Level I gone to France to umpire and is sitting on the National Youth Umpires Panel. Thanks to those senior umpires who have done watchins throughout the year especially Dave Blowers.

		Candidates	Passes
Aylesbury	May-06	10	4
St Albans	Jul-06	22	8
West Herts	Sep-06	20	1
Blueharts	Sep-06	13	0
Broxbourne	Oct-06	21	4
Letchworth	Jan-07	12	1
Tring	Feb-07	8	0
Luton	Apr-07	13	0



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 15th June 2007 at 8:00pm

**Venue: Club (formally Puma) Room,
Gosling Sports Park
Welwyn Garden City**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous Meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Reports
 - (a) President
 - (b) Treasurer
 - (c) Appointment Secretaries
 - (d) Selection and Coaching
 - (e) Level 1
5. Election of Officers
6. Awards
7. Any Other Business

The meeting will be followed by a free finger buffet – Please let me know if you are coming.

R. Youngs, Hon. Secretary