



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 Potters Bar Hockey Club on 15th June 2010

1. Apologies for absence

Paula Beavis, Vanessa Smith, Ellen Baldwin, Martin Byers, Francis Treadgold, Danny Coupes, Kevin Smith, Dave Chatterjee, Derek Green, Michele Chapman, Andy Bowskill, Richard West, Henry Wanchoo, Philip Price, Jackie O'Sullivan, Sheila Miller, Duncan Pickering, Dave Blaxill, Graham Sparrey, Malcolm Carter, Tricia Murphy, Shirley Course, Bud Carthy, Mike Tipper, Amanda Lawrence, Vanessa Porter, Rosemary Bowen, Nikki Park, Samantha Bowen, Berl Goldbart, Mary Walsh, Jeremy Pearce, Mike Brown, Dan Heydon, Nick Slater, Gordon Hewlett, Ian Hammond.

Present

See attached attendance list in the PDF.

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

These were available on the website as a download a copy was made available at the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no comments or matters arising and deemed approved.

4. Reports

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

Jim McCubbine offered a vote of thanks to Neil, Iain and Brian for attending the club day held at Broxbourne.

The treasurer made 4 recommendations:

- 1) Membership should remain at £15 per annum.
- 2) The clubs rate for membership to the neutral pool should be £250 per annum.
- 3) The mileage rate should be 22p per mile, but will be monitored.
- 4) To accept the accounts.

Proposed: Mike Brown – Seconded: Brain Arnsby – Unanimously accepted.

On appointments Iain noted that we have 3 ladies in the pool and he is hoping this will rise to 4.

On the Level 1 courses it was agreed that if a club charges from room hire the cost will be charged on a pro-rata basis to the attendees to ensure the cost is covered.

5. HBHUA 'RESPECT' Initiative

Rob reported that there are 3 incidents early in the process of varying degrees of seriousness. The first was dealt with effectively by the CDA/RDA/League the other 2 were dealt with effectively by the clubs involved. Don Ward asked how improvements in behaviour can be benchmarked, which was agreed that it is very difficult. Rob pointed out that there had been no England Hockey Disrepute charges in our counties although the East Region has had a number. It was pointed out that umpires now have a clear understanding of how to handle incidents and pathway to support, something that was missing before. It was suggested that Rob should seek feedback via e-mail and that the RESPECT Campaign should be **emphasised** clearly during Level 1 courses.

6. Clothing and Charity support and Charity for 2010/2011 season

Rob reported that although the Association was supporting a very important charity, the level of donations from individual members was disappointing. The current amount of donations was £352.50 and thanks are passed to those who have donated. It was agreed unanimously that the Association will make a donation on behalf of the membership for £147.5 to meet the £500 target. On top of that a very generous member agreed to match that £500 total. The collection has now been concluded and the total raised was £1,267.95 (including £267.95 in Gift Aid)

Rob had received 2 nominations for next year's charity which were Macmillan Nurses and Herts Air Ambulance. Given the local nature of the Air Ambulance it was agreed this would be the chosen charity.

7. Umpire Grading

Iain briefly described his ideas that will probably be based on another county's method where the league the umpire is proficient at will be their grade. He strongly recommended that umpires log their games as this will be used to base the grading where the umpire's ability is unknown. Iain planned to complete this grading process by the beginning of the season.

8. Awards - Presidents Shield

Awarded to Dave Eggleton for his progress this season.

Awards - Rhoda Gains Award

Awarded to Alan Middleditch for the effort he has put in the last couple of years managing the pool umpire commitment for Blueharts, taking them from one of the weakest to strongest members.

9. Election of Officers

The committee has agreed to stand again on mass (no other volunteers) and Don Ward proposed this be adopted and it was carried unanimous.

President –Neil Cherrill

Secretary – Rob Youngs

Membership Secretary – Rob Youngs.

Treasurer- Mike Brown

Appointment Secretary- Iain Fletcher
Chair of selection and Chief Coach – Iain Fletcher.
Herts Rep - Dan Heydon
Beds Rep- Dan Heydon.
East Rep - Brian Arnsby
Level 1 Coordinator - Dan Heydon
Webmaster – Rob Youngs.
Newsletter Editor- Rob Youngs
Ladies representation – Mary Walsh and Paula Beavis

10. Any Other Business

Iain raised the tournament at Bishops Stortford on the 4th/5th September at Bishops Stortford club (details on the website). This would be the HBHUA own preseason “PLUM” weekend to allow umpires to be coached and assessed. This would be aimed at club’s 3rds and 4ths standard. Iain encouraged the clubs and umpires to embrace the weekend and to actively support it.

Russell Nutter mentioned the unfortunately passing of David Vincent, who had significant input into the development of the current hockey stick.

Brian Arnsby offered a vote of thanks to Neil, Iain and Rob for their continued efforts over the year.

The committee thanked Potters Bar for hosting the AGM and are happy to receive offers for next year’s venue.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9:05pm.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 15th June 2010 at 8:00pm

Venue: Potters Bar Hockey Club

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous Meeting (on website)
3. Matters arising
4. Reports
 - (a) President
 - (b) Treasurer
 - (c) Appointment Secretary
 - (d) Selection and Coaching
 - (e) Level 1
5. HBHUA 'RESPECT' initiative - 2009/2010 Season
6. Clothing and Charity support and Charity for 2010/11
7. Umpire Grading
8. Awards – Rhoda Gains and Presidents
9. Election of Officers
10. Any Other Business

Please let me know if you are coming.

R. Youngs, Hon. Secretary

ATTENDANCE LIST AGM 15/6/10

NAME	CLUB
RN UZZAR	LEITCHWORTH HC
JIM McCUBBINE	BROXBORNE H.C.
DEREK HENLEY	BROXBORNE H.C.
<u>Bill Felton</u>	
G. Seymour Hall	ROYSTON H.C.
Stephanie Coles	Neutral Pool
Quentin Keeling	ST ALBANS
NEIL CITERICE	
Richard Slater	
IAN FLETCHER	
RICHARD ARBY	
ROB YOUNG	
RAY PERRIS	W.G. CITY
CLIVE MAYNARD	ST ALBANS EXILES
Alan Smith	WELWYN
DON WARD	West Herts
BREAN ARNSBY	HARPENDEN
A LEWARD	LEITCHWORTH
Iona Clifton	Vauxhall Chiltern ladies Hockey section
Colin Meadows	Broxbourne
Andy Larkin	West Herts.
Yaseen Parkar	Vauxhall

President's Address

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

This is my Fourth year as President and I would again like to give my committee a big vote of thanks for it's support, without which, this association would not function.

Our RESPECT campaign which will be discussed during this AGM has proved to be a significant weapon in our armoury against bad player discipline and indeed has also focused on what we as umpires should be doing to alleviate some of the causes of player frustration and the subsequent ill-discipline that leads to umpire abuse.

We selected Prostate Cancer as our charity in the past year and we are well on the way to raising £1000, however although this is a significant amount it is a little disappointing that the number of umpires personally supporting the charity was so few.

The neutral pool and knockout competition appointments have operated with the same regular band of dedicated people run very successfully by Iain Fletcher. 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 again this year and we generally have a 100% pass rate on the theory. It is still 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%. And, we are still struggling to get people to commit to the neutral scheme.

If you know of any candidates that are awaiting assessment then by all means point them in the direction of Brian Arnsby who will make arrangements for them to be assessed. I would like to thank Dan Heydon and Brian Arnsby for their tireless efforts in this area. Please be aware that we will be unable to assess if the assessee is not a current member of the association AND has not logged sufficient games to the system.

The website continues to be operational and it has significantly improved our administrative efficiency. I would like to thank Rob Youngs again for his tireless efforts in keeping the database up to date.

The coming season sees the first, hopefully of many, pre season tournaments to be staged at Bishop's Stortford Hockey club on the weekend 4th/5th September 2010. This will provide an opportunity for umpires to get some practice in before the season really gets underway.

I wish you all well for the coming season.

Neil Cherrill
President HBHUA

Treasurers Report for Annual General Meeting held 15th June 2010

Firstly, I must apologise for not attending tonight, but I've been off work with a hacking cough.

As you can all see, the association is in a healthy position; however the split is not all that good.

The General Account

This is used solely for the members of the association and again this year has made an excess of over £3,000 of income over expenditure.

The Membership subscriptions are down from last year but that is due to the fact that last year it included the money paid in by the members for the kit there purchased.

This year I've netted off the money received for the kit with the money paid out for the kit, there is an element of money received in the Level 1 income.

Level One Course

This year we made a slight loss; this is due to Ian Fletcher spending a lot of last summer looking at Level 1 candidates.

Neutral Pool Scheme

This is used solely for refunding umpires expenses, as you can see this year we made a slightly less of a deficit than last year, Also, I think some clubs that have good connections with the association are getting a "free" umpire on an adhoc basis when we have surplus umpires and also we are covering some Sunday games where we are not getting any revenue, if this Sunday situation continues, we will have to seek recompense..

Recommendations

I am proposing that:

1. The membership should remain at £15 per annum.
2. We leave the mileage rate at the current 22p; we increased it last year when petrol prices were comparative to now.
3. The club fees should remain at £250 per team, this will then overcome problem I identified above with the clubs getting a "free" umpire.

Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Income and Expenditure Account
For the Year Ending 30th April 2010

General Account	2009/2010	2008/2009
Income		
Membership Subscriptions	6,908	9,685
Interest	2	36
	6,910	9,721
Expenditure		
Insurance	350	255
Officers Expenses	916	507
Kit	910	5,659
Rule Books	1,060	0
AGM Expenses	100	0
Website Expenditure	458	520
Excess of Income over Expenditure	3,117	2,780
	6,910	9,721
 Level One Courses		
Income	1,050	4,275
Expenditure	1,322	1,664
	(272)	2,611
 Neutral Umpires Pool Account		
Club Subscriptions	2,000	1,915
Expenses Paid	3,107	3,789
Website Expenditure		
Excess Expenditure to Income	(1,107)	(1,874)

Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Balance Sheet
As at 30th April 2010

	2010 £	2009 £
Balance for Year		
General Account	9,225	6,108
Level One Courses	5,367	5,639
Neutral Pool Account	<u>(2,606)</u>	<u>(1,499)</u>
	11,986	10,248
 Represented by:		
Cash at Bank		
Current Account	8,345	6,856
BPA Account	<u>5,491</u>	<u>5,489</u>
	13,836	12,345
 Debtors		
 Creditors		
	<u>1,850</u>	<u>2,097</u>
	11,986	10,248

_____ N.Cherrill

_____ 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 2010 are in accordance herewith.

_____ A.Jones

25th May 2010

*Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Creditors and Debtors
As at 30th April 2010*

	£
Creditors	
Contingency	1,500
BHHUA	350
	<hr/>
	1,850

Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire Hockey Umpires Association
Balance Sheet
As at 30th April 2010

	2010 £	2009 £
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Neil Cherrill

N. Cherrill

M. Brown

M. Brown

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A. Jones A. Jones

25th May 2010

Appointments Secretary Report 2009-2010

This hopefully will be a little bit shorter than my report of last year so I will begin.

Bare facts we appointed 276 umpires to league fixtures last season and we used 30 umpires, a change of 115 less appointments and also 14 less umpires used.

This may sound like we have a healthy pool and on the whole it is not too bad, but as I stated last year we are in need of more umpires at the top end of the pool, especially younger members. Because the following stat shows the problem with those figures, because 15 umpires (50%) did 75% of the games!

To put even that in context I had 3 umpires (10% of the pool) do 25% of the games. I will be looking to spread the load a bit more evenly and will need to as 1 of those umpires I will hopefully be losing to East early in the season.

Last season we had 8 teams with a mandatory appointment this season we will have 9, this increase of 1 should not cause a problem as long as umpires from HBHUA clubs needing appointing to are themselves available.

I would like to make a mention of lady umpires at this point, we currently have 3 in the neutral pool although none of them is a mandatory supply, I would like to hope all 3 will remain in the scheme and that I could pick up at least 1 more which would mean that at least on some occasions I can appoint all lady umpires to ladies games (what a novelty).

I do not wish to make this a long report so I will move on to Sundays

We appointed to 19 games this season and used 13 umpires to do so, as well as doing 2 JAC tournaments, a mention to Dave Eggleton, Glenn Seymour Hall and Stephanie Coles, who between them did over half the appointments, you will not be surprised to know they are the 3 umpires who did the most on Saturdays as well.

We need support on Sunday's as well as Saturdays so I would again ask that anyone who has the chance make themselves available for any dates they can,

we may not use you, but at least it gives me a good chance to cover anything I need to.

Lastly please remember that if you wish to change your availability please let me know first, do not arrange something during the week even if not appointed because things crop up and you may be needed and I do not want to appoint you only to have you ring me and say sorry I am doing our 4's, it is not a problem but I need to know you are not available.

To finish thank you for all of you who have done appointments this last season have a pleasant break and see you in September.

Iain Fletcher

Chief Coach and Chair of Assessment 2009-2010

Over the past winter we have had coaches out on numerous occasions; some qualified others like myself using our years of experience and seniority to help develop the umpires within the pool set up. I would like to thank my colleagues who have helped out in the role of coaches and offered their sage council to those who would listen.

I would like to make a special mention at this point of our very senior members who have when coming across colleagues at games have been willing to step in and offer some small words of encouragement and advice to help the umpire concerned possibly look at an aspect of their game that maybe they did not realise was hindering their efforts.

Coaching can only be done when there are umpires and games, in the winter this is easy as we have a schedule of games and we can appoint umpires and coaches (providing they are not umpiring) . This is easy for the pool set up and coaching is therefore a bit more available, at a lower level it is still viable as the games are set up and the umpires can be appointed by their clubs. However apart from occasions as mentioned above I have not actually been specifically asked to supply a coach for non pool umpires !

Summer coaching should be easier, the senior members of the association have more time on their side and an odd evening coaching can be a way of keeping your hand in. However this is the third summer we have offered our services to coach/assess and seem to be having it thrown back in our face.

The numbers game for last summer is there are approx 500 games between 4 leagues in our area, Broxbourne, Hitchin, Bedford, Southgate and we did about 12 coaching's and the same number of assessments, this is about 5% usage, this summer so far there has been over 180 games and we have done 3 coaching and 2 assessments, that is less than 3% usage. I am somewhat fed up with repeating the same rhetoric each year, if anyone complains about lack of opportunity for coaching/assessment I just quote these figures and then tell them to go forth and multiply!

Assessment

I have touched briefly on assessments above with regards to the summer numbers game, what I will say to finish off on that subject is last summer we had a 80% PASS rate, this is down to people finally heeding the advice of myself and my colleagues involved with coaching & assessment that there is no replacement for experience !

I would like to see more use of the summer leagues, however there is one problem with summer hockey and that is the standard of the games themselves, you can have everything from Premier Div players down to local club only players.

We use a lot of criteria for assessment of candidates and umpires looking for promotion, to start with level 1 candidates, we are looking for a consistent standard with regards to application of the rules, the positioning and movement during the game, the preparation before they start including their appearance and possibly most important the control of the game (this is where the standard of the game is a big factor).

Every assessor has their own way of judging at the end and may have another factor which can help in their decision making, personally my own benchmark is would I be happy to have the candidate umpire at the other end from myself.

I cannot again emphasize enough the need for practice, we currently have 15 candidates who are almost at the end of the 2 year timescale for passing level 1 from completing their theory to being assessed, I have 1 who is being assessed in another county, 1 who I have given dispensation because of injury, however on July 13th the rest will be removed from the database and be informed that they are no longer eligible to umpire under our auspices and need to retake their level 1. This is an England Hockey deadline and not an HBHUA one whatever anyone may think.

At this point I would like again to thank David Blowers for all the hard work he does with assessing level 1, going out in all weathers and watching games quite a few of us would regard with dread, to keep the process of assessment going forward and without which we would be drowning in a sea of candidates.

I keep being asked by people how they get to Level 2, the easy answer is hard work, lots of games and through HBHUA and the neutral pool, unless you are wonderfully gifted and played at a very high level (East Prem at least, exception Barry Smith).

I have spoken to ERHUA and they will talk to us first before taking anyone on, so there is no backdoor now to promotion whatever you have heard!

I would finally again like to thank all those who have helped with coaching and assessment this past year, I am just the figurehead and there are a lot of unsung hardworking people behind the scenes.

Iain Fletcher

Chief Coach & Chair of Selectors

LEVEL 1 REPORT

With the introduction of the new rules and the start of the season so the Level 1 course changed.

A DVD showing the rights and wrongs of appearance, application and signalling among other things was introduced, which has cut down slightly the length of the course. The exam too has changed instead of 1 ½ hours it is now an hour long, with the passmark changing from 75% to 66.67%.

Courses have been held at Broxbourne, West Herts and Harpenden with a total of 66 candidates taking the course and all passing the exam. They now have 2 years to umpire their required games before being assessed. There have been around 30 probationers who have been watched and passed for their Level 1, some from the above courses. The assessors, mainly Iain Fletcher and Dave Blowers, and Brian Arnsby, the assessment co-ordinator, are willing to watch for assessment or coaching purposes at the Summer Leagues but the candidate / club have to make the first move. Thanks go to all who have assessed during the past year.

Some of the more recent who have passed their assessment are waiting for the EHB to issue their Registration Number, there is a delay as the person who deals with all the Registration matters is heavily involved in the forthcoming Champions Trophy which is being held shortly in the UK. I spoke to her last week and she is going through the backlog whenever she has time. The lack of the Registration Number does not preclude those waiting from umpiring as a Level 1.

There is a Level 1 course this Sunday 20th June @ Bedford Hockey Centre starting at 9.30am and should finish around 3.00pm if not earlier, there are still places available so please contact me as soon as possible.

Should any Club want a course please let me know and I can arrange it, all that is required is a room to hold it and a minimum of 10 candidates. It will be advertised on the website and by EHB so we can get the numbers required.

DAN HEYDON

Level 1 Co-ordinator

15th June 2010