

Herts & Beds Hockey Umpiring Association
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - RESUMED
 Thursday 19th January 2017 at 7:30pm
 Letchworth Hockey Club, Whitethorn Lane, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 2DN

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of Adjourned AGM on 30th June 2016
3. Matters arising
4. Update on England Hockey National Disciplinary Panel (EH NDP) and Appeal
5. Reports:
 - a) The HBHUA Council.
 - b) Appointments Secretary.
 - c) Young Umpires.
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Election of Officers & members of Council
8. Appointment of Examiner of Accounts
9. Any Other Business

OUTGOING COUNCIL OFFICE BEARERS

POSITION	June 2015 to March 2016	Interim Council (May 2016 to January 2017)
President	Neil Cherrill	Peter Halliday
Treasurer	Derek Green	Derek Green
Secretary	Quentin Keeling	David Eggleton
Appointments Secretary	Graham King	David Eggleton
Head Coach	Iain Fletcher	Dave Chatterjee
Assistant Head Coach	Dave Chatterjee	
Chair of Selectors	Neil Cherrill	
Club Liaison Officer	Andy Larkin	
Herts Representative	Dave Chatterjee	
Beds Representative	Dan Heydon	Dan Heydon
Membership Secretary	Lorraine Cherrill	
Webmaster	Rob Youngs	Rob Youngs
ERHUA Representative	Graham King	
H&B Young Umpire Action Group	Tony Rollins	Tony Rollins
Other Members		Tarsem Chagger Dave Hill Chris Perry Barry Smith

Note that the entire council elected in June 2015 resigned in protest at the EH NDP process

Minutes of the AGM resumed at Letchworth Hockey Club on Thursday 19th January 2017

ATTENDANCE LIST. The original is held on file. There were 30 members present.

Name	Club	Name	Club
Glen Seymour-Hall	Bedford	Anwar Yusuf	Luton Town
Quentin Keeling	St Albans	James Wallis	Luton Town
Dave Chatterjee	St Albans	Mason Wright	Independent
Chris Ryan	Blueharts	Graham King	Independent
David Eggleton	Shefford & Sandy	Liz Holderness	Berkhamsted
Chris Perry	WGC	Barry Smith	Independent
Imran Afzal	Vauxhall	Derek Green	Blueharts
Harris Mir	Vauxhall	Jo Fraser	St Albans
Vijay Patel	Harpenden	Tony Simpson	Blueharts
Ian Jackson	Stevenage	Dave Hill	Luton Town
David Hamid	Stevenage	Russell Nutter	Letchworth
Roger Barrett	Blueharts	Peter Goulton	Letchworth
Richard Adams	Bedford	James Jarrett	St Albans
Alan Smith	WGC	Iain Fletcher	Letchworth
Adam Genga	Broxbourne	Dan Heydon	Bedford

1. Apologies for Absence

Neil McAlister	Russell Barton	Ian Brown
Peter Karmali	Stefany Abson	Colin Harker
Trevor Crippen	David Earl	Mike Tomkys
Mark Crippen	Andrew Larkin	Nicola Griffiths
Tom Crippen	Tricia Murphy	Liana Griffiths
Stephen Mander	Jonathan Gillespie	David Griffiths
Tessa Chiswell	Lorraine Ellis	Alison Clifton
Gill Perry	Rebecca Ellis	Liam Booles
Richard Middleditch	Amanda Lawrence	Tony Rollins
Charles Michie	Tarsem Chegger	Roger Masters

2. Minutes of Adjourned AGM (30th June 2016)

The President apologised that these are not yet available, and undertook to have these completed in time for the June 2017 AGM. It is unclear who was asked to minute the meeting.

3. Matters Arising from June AGM

- Note that membership subscriptions were held at £8, but that the pool fee for clubs was increased from £270 to £370, with a likely further increase in June 2017. This is intended to make pool income & expenditure cost-neutral by then.
- The number of neutral pool umpires is a problem; this issue was deferred until after the Appeal against the England Hockey National Disciplinary Panel (EH NDP) had been completed.

4. **Update on EH NDP and Appeal**

The Interim President, Peter Halliday, reported as follows:

1. In April 2016, the NDP found against HBHUA on two counts; two others were dismissed.
 2. The HBHUA appealed against this. Had this appeal failed, the Association would probably have been wound up.
 3. The sanctions imposed by the NDP were (1) suspension for 12 months for all Council members in post between June 2013 and March 2016, and (2) mandatory training in inclusion and diversity for these people and any new council members thereafter.
 4. These sanctions would have impacted the livelihood of some council members.
 5. The impact could also have had wider repercussions on sports such as cricket.
 6. If HBHUA had ceased existence, EH would have had to take over managing the Herts & Beds pool commitments.
7. The Appeal was held in November 2016. The Appeal Panel findings were that:
- HBHUA was exonerated on all counts.
 - The complaints of detrimental discrimination were unjustified.
 - The NDP had mishandled the case and the process.
 - The EH Disciplinary Regulations & Procedures needed to be reviewed and revised
 - The training course required has yet to be available, but should be provided.
 - The questions on governance raised by Vauxhall HC were valid. These will be addressed by the Council, and will include policies and committee structures.
8. The President thanked a number of people, in particular:
- Tony Sampson (supported by Derek Green and Rob Youngs) in preparing the initial case for the NDP. This took significant effort and time
 - Chris Perry, in preparing the Appeal, and serving on the Interim Committee. Chris also represented the HBHUA at the Appeal Hearing, with complete success.
 - All serving members of the Interim Committee, who served rather longer than expected: Tarsem Chagger, David Eggleton, Dave Hill, Liz Holderness, & Barry Smith.
 - Those members of the previous committee who assisted once the original suspension was lifted: Dave Chatterjee, Iain Fletcher, Derek Green, & Rob Youngs.
 - The general membership for their understanding and supported.
 - (Prompted by Chris Perry) Gordon Nurse, chair of the Appeal Panel, for his forensic analysis of the appeal. The president noted that Gordon Nurse was both the EH National Disciplinary Officer (DO) and the FIH DO.
9. Representatives of Vauxhall HC noted:
- The Appeal Panel had found against the NDP process rather than the original complaint
 - All present should be vigilant on discrimination, whether against players, umpires, or the general public.
 - Members of Vauxhall HC had been asked to join the HBHUA Council, but none had been found with the time available, due to other hockey-related commitments.
10. During a brief Q&A session, the following was asked:
- Peter Leaton (President of East Hockey) congratulated the HBHUA on the outcome of the appeal. In response, the President confirmed that the HBHUA will be functional, subject to this AGM.
 - Was England Hockey asked for a refund of costs and reimbursement for the time & effort incurred? Ian Wilson of EH had been asked this before the hearing, and had effectively ruled out either party (EH & HBHUA) claiming costs from the other. Gordon Nurse also stated that no determination would have been made.
 - Vauxhall HC representatives pointed out that they had also incurred costs, including the use of the Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC).

5. Reports

1. HBHUA Council. Met four times, mostly related to the Appeal and other urgent business.
2. Appointments. David Eggleton reported that the Committee had worked effectively “hand to mouth” due to general shortages in neutral pool umpires, a failure by three clubs to provide umpires to match their league positions. Sundays had been a particular problem, although this should now reduce as subsequent cup games are appointed regionally and nationally.
3. Young Umpires. Dave Chatterjee (on behalf of Tony Rollins) noted that:
 - about 40 Young Umpire nominations had been received. Two have qualified at Level 1 Indoors (Adam Genga & James Rollins). “Young” in this context is under 23.
 - The only costs in setting up the Young Umpire scheme in HBHUA has been for the website additions. It was pointed out that the East league could be approached for funds raised through fines, as this was their policy.

Vauxhall HC asked how umpire candidates could get qualified and assessed. In response, it was acknowledged that this had been in abeyance, but that it may be possible to resume coaching and assessing later this season, and will be a priority in the 2017-18 season.

2017 AGM. The President asked the next AGM to recognise the efforts by Tony Sampson & Chris Perry.

6. Treasurer’s Report

1. The Treasurer (Derek Green) presented the audited accounts. In addition to the items in Matters Arising (above) he noted that the 2015 AGM had agreed to reduce the accumulated funds by actions including:
 - Buying more radio headsets,
 - Making donations to charities, &
 - Updating the website with agreed additions and changes.
2. The Treasurer then forecast that the end of year finances looked to be in good shape.

7. Election of Officers and Members of Council

POSITION	January to June 2017
President	Dave Chatterjee
Treasurer	Dave Hill
Secretary	Quentin Keeling (will step down in June 2018)
Appointments Secretary	Davis Eggleton (will step down in June 2017)
Compliance & Welfare Officer	Liz Holderness
League Coach	Iain Fletcher
Feedback & Club Coach	Dan Heydon
Chair of Selectors	
Club Liaison Officer	Andy Larkin
Herts Representative	Dave Chatterjee
Beds Representative	Dan Heydon
Membership Secretary	
Webmaster	Mason Wright
ERHUA Representative	Dave Hill
H&B Young Umpire Action Group	Tony Rollins
Non-Portfolio Members	Kevin Churchman, Tony Sampson

8. Appointment of “Auditor” (Examiner of Accounts)

Mrs Inger Cooper was reappointed. A donation to charity has been made in lieu of a fee

9. Any Other Business

- It was noted that HBHUA has 518 members, all of whom have paid. The number of “Active” members is ill-defined at present, but a database clean-up is planned.
- The new President stated the intention to invoke penalties on clubs that fail to provide neutral pool umpires to match their league positions. Specifically these are Men’s Divisions 1 & 2, and Women’s Division 1.
- Neutral Pool. It was confirmed that clubs not in these leagues can also supply umpires to the neutral pool. In this case, HBHUA will seek to provide a neutral umpire to these clubs, while providing coaching to the umpire(s).
- The trading of umpires for home games was recognised. The East League does not like this but does not ban it either. This matter is out of scope for the Association.
- Umpire Registration numbers. Members were advised to contact EH (or ask HBHUA) to get their number if this is unknown. Some members may have had new numbers assigned. This is part of the role of the membership secretary, whose position is not filled at present.
- Umpire Development. EH is generally aware of problems and is seeking input from County HUA. In HBHUA, this has been in abeyance due to the coaches & assessors filling gaps in the neutral pool. EH has created a new role, “Club Umpire Developer”.
- Pool Umpire shirts. There has been no progress in the last season on this
- James Jarrett for the Herts County HA thanked Peter Halliday for all his recent effort.
- Awards. Neither the Rhoda Gains Award nor the President’s Award were given
- The meeting closed at 21:04.

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