

**Meeting of the Yorkshire Hockey Umpiring Association Committee held at
7:30 pm on Tuesday 13th March 2018 at Wakefield Hockey Club**



MINUTES

Present: Dik Skippings (DS)
Julie Blogg (JB)
Paul McCormick (PM)
Richard Sykes (RS)
Ross Anderson (RA)
Barrie Pollard (BP)
Alistair Copeland (AC)
Ellie Skippings (ES)
Gill Meachen (GM)

1. Apologies:

Christine Renshaw

2. Approval of previous minutes.

The minutes of the 14th November 2017 and January 2018 were approved.

3. Matters Arising:

- a. PMcC was progressing the retirement gift for John Waddington
- b. AC confirmed that a letter had been sent to John Moss thanking him for his contribution to YHUA activity
- c. Pin badges – JB to establish cost and supplier
- d. It was agreed that the approved minutes should in future be made available through the YHUA website, redacted where necessary to ensure confidentiality of personal and financial information;

4. Presidents Report:

JB welcomed Ellie Skippings to the role of Young umpire liaison

5. Treasurers Report:

- a) Electronic banking is in hand, and we are now able to pay claims by electronic transfer;
- b) The association has a healthy account balance; now have audited accounts for the 2016/17 season, ready for the AGM;

6. Secretary's Report:

- a) Website – AC now able to upload news items to the website;
- b) Rule books –the first batch was sent out before Christmas to all paid up members and certain other categories of member. A second batch has recently been sent to members who have paid since Christmas and new members;
- c) Role descriptions– draft role descriptions for Secretary, Representative to the YHA and Coaching coordinator were circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that further role descriptions for Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Representative to the NHUA, Selection Panel chair and Elected Members should be drafted. In view of the England Hockey review of umpiring structures and the ongoing review of governance of the sport, this would not be formally signed off but would be ready to put in place once the new arrangements were confirmed. **JB, RS, PMcC, CR, RA**
- d) Data protection - guidance from England Hockey and the SRA was circulated. **JB** would raise concerns about the North HUA database that YHUA used with NHUA and work with them to ensure that any shortcomings were rectified so that YHUA could be confident that we are operating in line with the revised procedures;
- e) Complaints - now that responsibilities for dealing with complaints had been clarified with YHA, it was agreed that guidance on this should be circulated and posted on both websites. (**AC**)
- f) A copy of the **NHUA Code of conduct for umpires** was circulated and it was agreed that YHUA should adopt this - modified to take account of YHUA role. This should also be supported by a disciplinary panel so that any formal complaints that we have to deal with can be managed in an open and fair way. **AC** agree to provide a draft YHUA Code of Conduct for the next meeting. **JB and RS** to draw up brief structure and terms of reference for the Disciplinary Panel.

7. Selection

- a) RS provided a short update.
- b) Next season it is likely that there will be seven Northumberland and Durham teams in the Division 2 NE league. Following an initial meeting with the N and D HUA, it had been agreed that the two associations should explore the opportunities for more joint appointments. For example, YHUA could consider making appointments to games in the wider Yorkshire area, including Richmond, Stokesley and Marton Furness. In some cases these would be joint appointments so that the two associations could work to deliver more consistent umpiring across all Div.2 NE games. **RS** to progress once promotion and relegations issues have been sorted.

8. Coaching Co-ordinator

- a) BP provided a short written report – main points to note are:

- b) Plan to use the Yorkshire Cup Finals on 21st and 22nd April for the development of our coaches and an opportunity for Club Developers to be invited. This was welcomed and agreed; **BP** to progress and advise Club Umpire Developers;
- c) L1 assessments – happy with the new process for arranging assessments. However, still need to ensure that a record is kept of successful candidates and that they are made aware of the free YHUA membership that we provide. This was agreed to be as for the current year if the candidate passed before Christmas; for the following season if the assessment was after Christmas;
- d) Visits to clubs have continued in the second half of the season and these continue to be well received.

9. Membership

All new members have been added to the website;

10. Young umpiring

- a. ES would be contacting all YHA clubs to build up a database of contacts for Young Umpires;
- b. It was noted that there would be opportunities to work with young umpires at YYH League events and BP agreed that it would be possible to send a coach to some events. **BP** and **ES** to liaise with the Youth League on this;

11. North HUA

- a. England Hockey Governance Review is not yet complete;
- b. Chris Todd is leading an initiative on Junior umpires in the North West;
- c. England Hockey have asked NHUA to draw up a forward plan;

12. Report from YHA

- a. AC provided a short report;
- b. YHA happy to have a short presentation of YHUA at the Club's meeting in June to promote umpiring, encourage all clubs to have at least one Club Umpire Developer in place;
- c.

13. Any other business.

- a. The next meeting would be the AGM. **AC** to post notice on the website and email the notification and agenda to all members by the required date;
- b. All current post holders indicated a willingness to stand for re-election;
- c. It was agreed that more Club Umpire Developer courses were needed and that both YHUA and YHA needed to do more to promote the role and support the existing CUDs. **AC** to raise at the next YHA Exec meeting;

14. Date of next Meeting

Thursday 16 April 2018 (AGM) Wakefield SC