

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



MINUTES

Present: Dik Skippings (DS)
Ross Anderson
Paul McCormick (PM)
Barrie Pollard (BP)
Alistair Copeland (AC)

1. Apologies:

Ellie Skippings, Mike Talbot, Richard Sykes, Gill Meachen, Julie Blogg

2. Approval of previous minutes.

The minutes of the 4th September 2018 were approved.

3. Matters Arising:

Although a wide range of people and clubs were contacted, no young umpires were available for the Wakefield event and so Paul McCormick organised umpires from his usual sources;

4. Chair's Report:

DS updated the meeting on the new shirts – 50 were ordered but only 49 had been delivered. He will follow up with the supplier;

It was agreed that to receive the YHUA shirts, an umpire must umpire at least 4 games in the neutral scheme; all recipients of shirts will be required to sign a form acknowledging receipt of the shirts.

5. Treasurers Report:

RA reported that the Association had approx. £17,500 in the current account and £6,500 in reserves at the end of October;

All clubs except Adel had paid their fees;

It was agreed that we should provide warm, waterproof jackets for YHUA coaches.

BP agreed to follow up with some suppliers and agree an order with the treasurer;

6. Secretary's Report:

England Hockey Governance Review -EH had confirmed the league structures for the 2019/20 season. There was no further update on the Governance review although it was understood that this was still proceeding according to the timetable with proposals to go before the Board in March 2019.

7. Selection

A number of new umpires had joined the neutral scheme and so YHUA is in a slightly better position than last season;

Making appointments to the Women's league remains a challenge with umpires frequently taken from women's matches to cover games in the men's leagues. After Christmas, if we are to support those umpires who want to gain their L2 accreditation through the women's game, then we should insist that these appointments are prioritised;

Paul McCormick announced that he would be retiring from umpiring at the end of the season. The committee thanked him for his significant contribution over many years and wished him a happy and active retirement!

8. Coaching Co-ordinator

- There seems to have been a good influx of new umpires to our Neutral Pool. My policy has been to always have a coach/mentor with them when they umpire their first game.
- Club Days– since September, the following Clubs will have benefitted greatly by having our coaches spend the day with their umpires & Club Developers – Slazengers, Leeds, Leeds Adel, Chapeltown & Brigg.
- Coaching: All Panel B (including our new umpires to the Neutral Pool) have been coached. Only 4 umpires will have been assessed before the Christmas break. I fully intend that all umpires will be assessed from January 2019 onwards, followed by extra coaching where necessary.
- I hope to organise a get-together of our coaches before the end of the season. No details as yet.
- With regard to Level 1 Assessments and Free 1 Year Membership, I have produced a printed instruction sheet that assessors will give to successful L1 Candidates on the day. The onus is then on the umpire to contact Julie.
- L1 Assessments and Club days have worked extremely well together. I must again congratulate our coaches/assessors for their willingness to spend long days (in terrible weather) helping out the Clubs. The Clubs do really appreciate the opportunity & efforts of YHUA coaches.
- The introduction of appointing umpires to Women's North Div.2 SE has had a few teething problems, mainly due to some Clubs not having experienced it before, and not understanding the system. I think the message is getting through to all Clubs now.
- Invitations have been given to Lincolnshire HUA to provide umpires to 4 matches. This was as a result of a request from LCHUA, in order to give their umpires experience on better games. This might also be extended to a NE Women's umpire, who has potential to be a L2 umpire. I have coached in Durham and Newcastle this season and was well looked after by Andrew Nix and Pete McLellan (at no cost to YHUA).

9. Membership

Membership - a trickle of forms has come in mostly from new L1 assessed and some returning umpires. All should be on our site shortly.

10. Young umpiring (ES)

No report

11. North HUA

- NHUA report - I asked about body cameras from the YHUA last meeting - the advice was this should be OK but umpires should tell the teams beforehand that they are wearing them. If there are junior players (Under 18) then this may cause a problem. Teams would have the right to ask to see the footage after the game - in the same way that umpires can ask for the footage from a videoed game.
- Plans for next season - in addition to requiring umpires, the new structure will also require coaches and assessors to be drawn up to support NPUA.
- GDPR - the data agreement to be signed by all teams will be uploaded to the website - this will be a requirement of their affiliation. Should we follow this lead?
- Under the new structure, TEX System will be going and a new OMS will be put in place. Which system is currently undecided but it is likely (not guaranteed) that the two systems will work in tandem at the start. It is unclear about costs and how YHUA would fit into this.
- As an idea - if attending the meetings is an issue, should we consider buying into the "Go to meeting" service - so we could "meet" remotely? It could be used at YHA and for selection. A potential idea - it may even be used for AGM and training events if people are struggling to get there. This was discussed by the committee but it was felt that at present not enough members were happy to use such a system. However, it was agreed that it did have potential and might be used for selection and other smaller meetings. Agreed to discuss at the next meeting when JB would be present.

12. Report from YHA (AC)

No report

13. Any other business.

- The new system for manging and issuing radios was working well;
- Appointing umpires for Yorkshire Youth Hockey events – PMcK would like to pass this on to someone else. Paul agreed to make a note of what is involved so that anyone taking over would have a clear outline of the role;
- The treasurer advised that an invoice had been received from North for the Champions Cup appointments. Agreed that he would pay and recharge YHA;

14. Date of next Meeting

Tuesday 15 January 2019 7.30 pm at Wakefield SC