



# HEREFORDSHIRE GLOUCESTERSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE HOCKEY UMPIRING ASSOCIATION

www.hgwhua.co.uk

## Minutes of the A.G.M. held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020 via Zoom

### 1. Apologies:

Sarah Bowen, Andy Connop, Richard Dunmore, George Elliott, John Hammond, Ian Harvey, James Howell, Ian Johnston, Dave Lennie, Tony Pierce.

### Present:

Anthony Bridge, Mike Buckland, Alison Cook, Terry Cook, John Cull, Simon Jackson, David Lillywhite, Andy Marson, Mark Readstone, Chris Tomlinson, Jerry Tranter, Matt Walker, Eric Watts, Tom Wilson, Mark Windsor.

### 2. Approval of 2019 EGM notes.

Proposed by Chris Tomlinson, seconded by John Cull and agreed by all present.

### 3. Reports:

- **Chairman**

Report tabled.

- **Secretary**

Report tabled.

- **Treasurer**

Accounts tabled. Acceptance proposed by Jerry Tranter, seconded Mike Buckland.

To be noted that all fees would remain the same as last season.

Mark Windsor (MW) advised the bank mandate details had been changed to reflect the revised signatory details and all paperwork was in the process of being transferred to Jerry Tranter, Chris Tomlinson proposed a vote of thanks to Mark for all his work over the past years. Terry Cook advised the meeting that Committee had agreed that Mark be made a Life Member which was supported unanimously.

- **Appointments Secretary**

Report tabled, no questions.

Chris Tomlinson said it was good to see new members coming through.

- **Chief Coach**

Report tabled, no questions. .

### 4. Election of Officers

Chairman – Terry Cook. Proposed by John Cull, seconded Mark Readstone.

Secretary – Alison Cook. Proposed by Chris Tomlinson, seconded Mike Buckland.

Treasurer – Jerry Tranter. Proposed by the Committee, seconded Mark Readstone.

Chief Coach - Dave Lennie. Proposed by John Cull, seconded Simon Jackson.  
Appointments Secretary – No nominees.

**5. Election of Lay Members**

Shaun Cullimore and Anthony Bridge were re-elected. Simon Jackson wished to stand down and Matt Walker was proposed by Alison Cook, seconded by Simon Jackson and so was elected as the third person.

**6. Any Other Business as permitted by the Chairman**

Mike Buckland asked about the appointment of West umpires to HGW games when they did not have a game. David Lillywhite advised plans have been put in place to let Counties know when West umpires were free. Terry Cook said that as the coming season, at least up to Christmas was going to be without Welsh teams, there would potentially be a surplus of umpires and it was hoped that appointments could be made to all Tier 3 and Tier 4 games.

John Cull asked if HGW had any views on the regionalisation of umpires. Answer was no and had not been discussed with HGW at any level.

There was a general discussion about Covid and the impact that was having around the area. Terry Cook said a guidance document would be sent out to all umpires prior to the start of the season.

Meeting closed at 20:18.

## REPORTS

### **Chairman's report to the 2020 HGWHUA AGM**

It is now just over a year and a half since I took over as HGWHUA Chair and what a period of time it has turned out to be! Hopefully, the next period of time will not be so eventful.

For obvious reasons, this AGM has had to be postponed from its' original date and moved to an online meeting, thanks to modern technology. I would like to express my thanks to Bridger for offering his Zoom account to us for the evening. I know a lot of you will be well used to such online meetings, but it is a very new experience to me, so expect the unexpected from me!! Hopefully, many more of you will be joining us than we normally get for meetings held in Cheltenham.

The 2019-2020 season started on a positive note, with a number of new umpires taking appointments after a marketing push to the membership, with some of those moving onto West appointments during the season. We always like to see new faces taking appointments and I think it's fair to say that we are a fully diverse organisation and will welcome umpires from any background. If you can umpire – you will find a warm welcome. I would especially like to welcome any female umpires that would like to do games for us, especially if they have a target of progressing to Level 2. We welcomed one last season and have another in the wings this coming season. We can offer coaching and other assistance to allow you all to achieve your goals.

Just as the season approached its' climax, all games and meetings had to be suspended with the onset of Covid-19 and we are still in an uncertain period moving into the new season. You will probably have seen the announcement from the Verde Recreo Hockey League that games against Welsh opponents have been suspended until the New Year. This will have an effect on the number of games we have to appoint to in some weeks. As part of "Back to Hockey", we have had to appoint a Covid officer, a position I have agreed to undertake to ensure all our appointed umpires have completed their Participation Agreements. I am delighted to say we have a 100% compliance record. I would like to remind members that when you umpire at a match, you are only there to umpire the rules of hockey. If there are any Covid related issues that arise, they should be taken up with the home side's Covid officer.

Away from the playing side, Mark Windsor has stepped down as treasurer after a number of seasons in post. I should like to publically thank Mark for all his efforts in keeping our accounts balanced during that time. We welcome on board Jerry Tranter as our new treasurer. Many of you will know Jerry both as an umpire, player and committee member of Cheltenham HC. We still do not have an appointments secretary, so if there is anyone interested in this role, please contact a committee member. Last season, appointments were handled by the selection committee with Alison doing a sterling effort in sorting out all the paperwork, however we really do need a new appointments secretary.

I hope you are looking forward to the new season and getting back onto the pitch. I am sure there are still some twists and turns to come over the forthcoming months, so keep an eye on the website for any pertinent updates. As ever, the committee are here to help you, so if you have any queries, please get in contact no matter how small you think the problem is. I look forward to meeting many of you during the season – I will be the one on the side of the pitch with a clipboard making furious notes!! – and I hope to see you in person for next year's AGM.

Terry Cook  
Chair  
October 2020.

### **Secretary's report to HGWHUA AGM – 15th October 2020**

I am never sure why I keep adding this report to the agenda as each year I say nothing to report as all I do is general administration to support the committee and the membership. However, as the Chairman has asked that everyone submits a written report to ensure the meeting runs smoothly I thought I had better do so.

Note to self that in future never take on a secretarial role when your partner is Chairman as you have to do what they say.

The secretarial side is very quiet and the majority of time is spent working on the membership renewals. It is a fine line between reminding those who haven't responded and becoming a nuisance that turns people off renewing. Hopefully I have found the right balance with associate members as the numbers stay relatively the same year on year.

In 2019/20 we had 37 full members, 65 associates and 14 life members. It should be said that full members include those taking West appointments as they have to be members of their local HUA in case you wonder why we weren't able to appoint to every game!

As an incentive HGW offers one year's free membership to newly qualified Level One unassessed umpires and last year there were 16. We also offer free membership to full time students.

I also took on the administrative duties to support the selection committee in the absence of an appointments secretary so life is never dull.

Alison Cook

7.10.20

## **HGWHUA - APPOINTMENTS REPORT** **SEASON 2019/2020**

During this season, there were a total of 201 individual appointments made, as opposed to 239 in the previous season. Appointments were not possible for 27 games, whilst 10 games had only one appointed umpire. As in the previous season, the only divisions that had appointed umpires were Conference North, DCM1 and Central 1.

The selection committee would like to express it's thanks to Alison for all the hard work she has put in to ensure the administration of appointments has gone, more or less, very smoothly.

There were a number of new umpires coming onto the circuit during the season – Chris Boulton, Kim Calland, Richard Dunmore, Gideon York, Nik Krykunivsky and Mike McCartney.

For the forthcoming season, there is at least two new umpires joining the ranks with the hope that more will follow. Selection would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in taking some appointments for the forthcoming season – coaching is available to help you along. Please contact the secretary if you are interested.

Once again, appointments will be made to Conference North, DCM1 and Central, plus West Wilts have been placed in Conference South, so there will be some new sides to umpire.

You will probably be aware of Covid restrictions in South Wales leading to the Verde Recreo League suspending all games involving Welsh clubs until at least the end of the year. This will mean some weeks will need less umpires than normal and early indications are that some of our West umpires will be released back to us. Appointments will be made accordingly.

If anyone is interested in taking over the role of appointments secretary, please contact a member of the committee.

Selection Committee  
October 2020

## **Chief Coaches Report Season 2019 -2020**

From a coaching perspective, last season was a great success, with all Umpires watched/coached at least once. Standard of Umpiring was very good across the board, with positive feedback from the majority of coaches. Consistency of Umpiring and decision making is rising which is appreciated by all.

This season is going to be hard for all of us, especially as some venues may not allow coaches pitchside, I feel sure we will work around that somehow. As a coaching team, we will continue to support all of the

umpires to the best of our ability. It will be interesting to see how the lack of Changing facilities/ hospitality will affect all of us. Expect initially a very brief Post match review socially distanced at pitchside, followed by a full report by email, remember we are all approachable and willing to listen.  
May I request any Umpires with aspirations to progress to Level 2 please let us know so we can plan appointments/ coaching accordingly.

Have a good season one and all.