

Sussex Hockey Umpires Association

Thursday 2nd July 2015

Community Centre Falmer

Present.

Ian Anguige, Paul Shackman, Mark Cranley, Richard Atkinson, John Murphy, Ann Quittenton, Tim Holt, Steve Cursons, Alan Grey, John Moss, David Thomson, Alan Grey, Andy Brookes, Max Coles, Barry Holmes, Marie Jarvis.

Apologies for absence.

Mark Lester, Peter Behrens, Alan Brundle, John Colban, Dave Carter, Jill Brotherton, Alan Ross, Andrew Hough, Peter Savage, Clive Wigglesworth, Kathy Sealy, Helen Woodcock-Downey, Sue Crake, Peter Horrobin, Fred Brotherton, Sam Aaron, Nigel Budden, Robin Lush, Tania Reyward, David Colbourne, Mike Acott, Dave Shields, Jill Brotherton, Andrea Catlow, Carol Peddlesden, David Sumpter, Frances Block, Glyn Crees, Peter Savage, John Moss, Alan Grey, George Deaves, Andy Brookes, Katy Sealy, Matthew Caulkin, Alan Ross, David Shields, Robin Lush.

Minutes of the previous AGM 19th June 2014.

Proposal, that the minutes presented are accepted as a true record of the last AGM.
Proposed; John Moss. Seconded; Tim Holt.

Matters arising.

No matters arising.

Adoption of new Constitution.

PS: Thanks to Ian Anguige for the hard work in relation to the constitution.

The old Constitution, the new Constitution and a summary of changes that the Committee wished to make were presented to members.

We can go through each change if the meeting so requires, or we can take a proposal to adopt the new constitution as detailed in the circulation to members.

John Moss proposed that the constitution changes be adopted. Seconded by; Andy Brookes.
All present were in favour.

Chairman's Report.

The introduction of radios has made this a very significant season and a huge stride forward for the association.

Massive congratulations to Frances Block for her award as Performance Umpire of the Season.

This is a wonderful achievement and congratulations come from all your colleagues within the county.
Frances continues to receive prestigious appointments to the major tournaments around the world.

Well done, also, to John Murphy on the award of the Level 2 Umpire's Coaching Badge.

We are very fortunate to have so many qualified coaches in the county and this will, I hope, lead to a continuing increase in the standards to which we all aspire.

The Bar West Trophy for services to ladies umpiring has been awarded to Mark Cranley and the Tom Russell Cup has gone to Arthur Graham.

In Memory

As many will know, this year we have lost Barbara (Bar) West, Liz Atkinson, John Fox and Ian Wright from our association. All well known and extremely well liked they leave the association poorer for their passing. Bar West passed away 5 days short of her 101st birthday. We also mourn the death of Judy Dear, Roger's wife. Our thoughts go to all family and friends.

Administration

Our website continues to develop and this year has seen the introduction of a section which has allowed us to mark the clubs both on their on pitch conduct and their hospitality.

On pitch conduct; Men: East Grinstead 3's. Women: Lewes 2's
Hospitality; Men: Lewes 2's and Penguin. Women: Lewes 2's.

We will be making presentations to these teams at the beginning of the new season

New Rules

We have offered and clubs have accepted a New Rules Evening, delivered by members of the association
One has already been delivered and more are scheduled for September.

Radios

This has been a major step taken by the association. Originally we were going to purchase a few sets to see how useful and what impact they would make to develop umpiring standards. The impact was so great that we quickly took the decision to equip all our active umpires with two way radios.

This was a major expenditure item for us and I gratefully acknowledge a generous contribution from Sussex HA
It is our intention to equip recent recruits to the association with radios for next season.

Committee

The committee has met on five occasions during the season and has done a huge amount of work to keep the association developing and progressing.

I take this opportunity to thank each member for their contribution and for the amount of time that they dedicate to the running of the association.

Appointments

Appointments are the most visible sign of the association and in Alan Filer and Tim Holt we have two of the very best appointment secretaries.

Between them they have made over six hundred appointments during the season which is an astonishing number of appointments taking up a major amount of their time.

I would like to thank John Murphy for stepping in whilst Alan recovered from his operation.

Every game that required appointments received them and that is an enviable achievement. It is still frustrating to find that some teams do not confirm arrangements with their umpires.

We can only rectify this if this is reported and it will then be followed up and clubs reminded of their responsibility.

Selection and Coaching

This has been our most successful season for a long time in respect of the number of coaching and assessment watchings that have taken place.

We have not yet achieved everything that we want to but are now well on the way having a good number of umpire coaches and assessors.

Level 1

Huge changes to the structure of umpiring and umpiring coaching have taken place during the last twelve months.

We have been very fortunate to have John Murphy, Ian Anguige and Alan Grey taking the responsibility for implementing these within the county.

We now have the new courses up and running thanks to their hard work.

Cup Finals

I have been fortunate in being able to attend both the men's and ladies finals.

Both events were extremely well run and I congratulate all our members who took such an active role in the running of these events.

They were most enjoyable days and ran with a smoothness that was a tribute to all who played a part.

We again held our buffet during the men's finals weekend and, whereas it was good to see many faces, we would like to encourage more of the membership to come along.

Junior Umpires

We are so fortunate to have Alan Grey to organize this aspect of our work.

Once again his production line of young umpires ran so smoothly and it is good to see that some of his unpires are beginning to come through to umpire at senior level.

Clubs

The link between the association and the clubs continues to develop with the offer of new rules evenings gratefully accepted by the clubs and hopefully by the awards that we are making to recognize both on pitch conduct and hospitality.

I really feel that this has been another season during which we have made real progress as an association and this has been driven by the huge amount of work that has been undertaken by the committee members.

It is not just a case of turning up for meetings but the amount and quality of what they do behind the scenes and I am very grateful for the huge efforts that they contribute to the running of the association.

Secretary's Report.

No report as such, other than to thank Ian Anguige for all his assistance throughout the year.

Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts.

Smart & Co. have audited the accounts as in past years.

I will now explain the figures in the accounts in more detail.

Membership

An analysis of our membership is as follows:

President	1	paying £20
Vice Presidents	18	paying £ 0
Voting members	64	paying £20
Non-voting members	155	paying £10 (includes new Level 1 free in year 1)
Young umpire non-voting members	97	paying £ 0
Total	335	

Income

Subscriptions are up due to again chasing individuals and clubs by email. Brighton, East Grinstead, Horsham and Crawley pay for their non-voting members. The subscription rates were increased in 2014, which also contributed to the increase.

Club fees are also higher by £1,060. There were 803 appointments charged compared to 797 in the previous year. The increase in income is predominantly down to the increase in fees charged to clubs increasing by £1 to £22 per appointment.

The club charge per appointment is £22 of which £18.22 covers umpiring costs with the balance contributing to the running costs of the Association.

Level 1 income this year is £900, being 6 courses at £150 each. There is actually no income from this source due to the Association, but the EH tutors from Sussex, being myself and John Murphy donate the fee paid by EH to the Association for courses run in Sussex.

There is some expenditure incurred relating to this being bibs, white boards/flip charts, additional paper pads and computer cables etc. All travelling is paid by EH.

Kit

The sale of kit should break even but there were still a few free shirts being handed out to umpires who had previously purchased the old style shirts. There was also a cost of £100 being a contribution towards the cost of the caps purchased this year, and kindly supported by John Moss. There are also a number of items held in stock.

Expenditure

Council members expenses are higher than last year, which reflects additional expenses, particularly in relation to the new shirts and other items of kit where numerous trips were needed to the supplier and, although most items were distributed by hand, a number of items had to be posted.

Umpires', Assessors' and Coaches' Claims are lower than the previous year. The average cost per appointment for this year is £18.22, compared to £18.82 in 2013/14, £16.93 in 2012/13 and £19.53 in 2011/12.

Insurance is paid in advance in May for the year commencing 1 June, and the treatment has been corrected this year, resulting in no charge in the year, although it has been paid.

Donations of £200 were paid in memory of members who passed away in the year.

Rule Books have been purchased from EH at a cost of £2.50 each, plus postage. 100 were purchased and will be distributed by hand. As agreed these will be given to active umpires only, so games should be logged on the website.

Website costs are consistent with last year and the following have been implemented in the year.

Coaching and assessment module, - allows reports to be entered and visible to umpires, coaches and assessors in their personal areas.

Radio Serial number recording - allows the radios issued to be recorded and controlled

Members' Shop - members can now purchase items of kit online, rather than the previous manual system, which had become error strewn.

Cancellation process – this allows games to be marked as cancelled by umpires and the Appointment Secretaries and simplifies this process.

Feedback on umpires by teams – this is being implemented for next season and all teams who take appointments are aware of what is expected of them on a weekly basis. It is possible that fines will be charged in the future for non-completion of the feedback, but not for next season.

Other Expenses of £1,395 are made up as follows

Catering for Rules Evening	£125
Laptop case	£ 7
Catering for buffet at Cup Final	£327
Engraving	£ 17
2 Laptops for Secretary and Chairman	£719
Screen for presentations	£100
Repairs to PC	£100

Bursary Fund

Member donations of £304 have been received and the major expense is the purchase of a further 36 radios. There are now 44 radios available to Sussex umpires with 3 umpires owning their own. Sussex HA contributed £1,700 towards the cost of these additional radios.

Balance Sheet

There is not a lot to say on the Balance Sheet apart from to highlight that only one club still owes for umpiring appointments for the second half of last season. This is due to the club treasurer having an operation and not yet in a position to make payment.

There is £8,737 in the bank account at 31 May 2015.

Subscriptions of £1,176 have been received in advance from Voting members.

Amounts due by the Association at 31 May are £302.50, which have now been paid and related to the audit fees and some expenses paid in early June.

Retained reserves remain healthy at £2,093 in the Bursary Fund and £5,755 in the General Fund.

Proposals for 2015/16

I am not proposing any changes for 2015/16

Club charge per appointment – remain at £22

Subscriptions
Voting members - £20
Non-voting members - £10

Proposal by Richard Atkinson to accept the accounts, remuneration to umpires and fees charged. This was seconded by John Murphy.

All present were in favour.

Young Umpires.

Commendation by Alan Grey for Josh House, Will Miles and James Gillespie, and thanks given for the umpires that help out the schools and South tournaments that have been held in Sussex.

1. Thanks to all umpires, both young and older, for their support this season. The county matches were all covered with only minor problems. Nine Y.U's umpired at least one triangular county match though only one was new.
2. I intend to carry out, at the start of next season; a survey of Y.U's who are helping their clubs. To do so I will need an update of contacts – both Umpire Coordinators and development league contacts.
The new Level 1 courses which qualify candidates who complete the course are fine for adults with more playing experience than juniors. However the number of Y.U's who then umpire seems to be limited. The old system of an assessment helped to determine those with the potential to advance.
Sussex will need new Y.U's at county Level next season and there are currently few coming through. I'm sure that there are Y.U's in clubs who have the ability to progress.
3. County fixtures 2016 – the programme is produced by the South Youth Committee and follows the EH plans as far as possible. The clash between Sussex Cup Finals and 3 triangulars may be difficult to resolve.
4. Mentors - John Murphy, Mark Lester, Ian Anguige and Alan Grey are currently mentors at Sussex games . We need 2 more who must be CRB checked for 2016. There are many senior umpires who help out with schools tournaments
5. Sussex Young Umpire 2015 Awarded this year to Arthur Graham of Worthing who umpired successfully 2 Sussex triangulars, the Development Shield Final and regularly at his club.

I would especially like to commend 4 young Umpires whose loyalty to Sussex has been gratefully received. As well as Arthur, James Gillespie has umpired County games and junior cup finals. Will Miles and Josh House have been a tremendous support to both me and to Sussex Hockey & Josh has umpired with success at EH Youth Cup Finals this season.
6. Level 1 Course for Y.U's - Scheduled for Oct half-term 2015. Details in September.

PS: On behalf of the Association thanks to Alan Grey for all the hard work and dedication over the years.

Election of officers and Council members.

There have been no additional nominations for Council member posts and all present incumbents are willing to continue in post for the year 2015/2016.

In view of this, the election of Council Officers and Council Members is proposed on bloc.
Proposed by David Thomson and Seconded by Max Coles.

President – Richard Atkinson
 Chair – Paul Shackman
 Secretary – Mark Cranley
 Treasurer – Ian Anguige
 Chair of selector Men – Tim Holt
 Chair of selector Women – Richard Atkinson
 Appointments Men – Tim Holt
 Appointments Women – Allen Filer
 Young Umpire Co-ordinator – Alan Gray
 Level 1 Co-ordinator- John Murphy
 Membership – Glyn Crees
 Welfare – Ian Anguige
 Committee member – Frances Block
 Committee member – Will Chetwood
 Committee member – John Moss

Election of honorary members.

It was proposed by Paul Shackman and seconded by Tim Holt that **Keith Novis** be elected as an Honorary Life member. All were in favour.

AOB.

Richard Atkinson – Trophies have been awarded to umpires and committee members, however the trophy that has yet to be awarded is the Paddy Selman Cup which is awarded to **Paul Shackman** for his outstanding service to the association.

Meeting closed at 2004hrs.