

# Sussex Hockey Umpires Association

AGM 7:30pm - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Prior to the meeting a presentation was made by Alan Grey of the Tom Russell Trophy to **Jacob Taplin**.

## Present.

Alan Grey, Julia Shorrocks, Sue Crake, Max Coles, Ann Quittenton, Di Tipping, Robin Lush, Barry Holmes, John Beales, Trevor Burchill, Michael Acott, Jon Bell, David Colbourne, Steve Cursons, Glyn Crees, Andy Brookes, Richard Atkinson, Jonathan Scott, John Moss, John Murphy, Will Champness, Tim Clay, Mark Cranley, Paul Shackman.

## Apologies for absence.

Dusty Miller, Kevin Burge, Frances Block, Carol Peddlesden, Sue Thomas, John Colban, Karen Peters, Sam Aaron, Dave Carter, Jeremy Bunday, Nigel Cannon, Wendy Caddy, Pat Simmonds, Barry Mackay, Dave Whatley, Allen Filer, Peter Klein, Fred Brotherton, Ian Anguige, Mark Lester, Clive Wigglesworth, Chris Wadman.

## Minutes of the previous AGM .

Proposal, that the minutes of the previous AGM, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2015, are accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Alan Grey and Seconded by Richard Atkinson.

## Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

## Chairman's Report.

*The Chairman's report (as below) was distributed electronically to all members prior to the meeting.*

### In Memory

Very sadly this year marked the passing of Keith Novis, our first Life Member. Our thoughts go to all of Keith's family and friends

### Congratulations

We are delighted to offer our congratulations to the following members:

Frances Block who has, yet again, been England Hockey's leading lady umpire with prestigious appointments to the world's leading indoor and outdoor tournaments.

Will Champness for promotion to the Men's National League Premier Panel

Andy Brookes for receiving his NPUA badge. A well-deserved recognition for consistent performances in the South

Kieran Jones for promotion to the NP Development Panel

Josh House and George Deaves for receiving their Level 2 awards

### Administration

Our website continues to be developed and we have just started to populate the "Awards" section.

This is a nice way in which to pay tribute to all our award winners and is a great way in which to share this information..

The administration of the association continues to run extremely smoothly with Mark Cranley, Secretary, and Ian Anguige, Treasurer taking on the bulk of the day to day work and ensuring that every aspect of the association is both run efficiently and is up to date.

## New Rules

A small team did some fantastic work at the beginning of the last season by visiting most of the hockey clubs in Sussex to deliver a presentation and take a question and answer session on the new rules.

These sessions were very well attended and were extremely well received

## Appointments

These are, of course, at the centre of what we do and the association is very fortunate to have Allen Filer and Tim Holt as the two Appointments Secretaries.

Having made some 560 appointments between them, this is a considerable task and so much of their work goes unrecorded and unrewarded but the association would not be held in such high esteem without their huge efforts.

Not only do they appoint to the league programmes and cup competitions but also to national and regional cup competitions. Having Alan Grey as our Junior Umpire Co-coordinator ensures a stream of highly talented junior umpires coming through the ranks with some of them stepping up to umpire at senior hockey level.

## Level 1

Thanks to the work of Ian Anguige, Alan Grey and John Murphy, courses at both junior and senior levels are run, thus ensuring that clubs have sufficient numbers to adequately umpire their games and to provide a basis for some of them to step up and join the county panel.

## Radios

We have continued to add to our stock of radios so that all umpires who umpire regularly have access to one.

Some people have experienced difficulties with headsets that they have purchased., such as the Jabra. This is because the adapters that are supplied are proving unreliable and the radio supplier advises that the headset provided with the radio is the best option.

## Selection and Coaching

This has been another successful season which has been mainly down to the huge efforts of Trevor Burchell and Barry Mackay who have undertaken the vast majority of the assessments and coachings and kept the system working.

We do have a good number of assessors and coaches but, unfortunately, most of these are required to umpire every weekend and so are unable to offer the additional coachings and assessments.

A key advantage to recruiting additional umpires will be the ability to free these people to supplement those already working in the coaching and assessment programme.

## Cup Finals

I was very fortunate to attend both the men's and ladies cup finals.

Both events were organized extremely well and I congratulate all our members who assumed such an active role in the organization of these events.

It was pleasing to see many of our members at the buffet, held on the Sunday of the men's finals weekend and we hope that these numbers will swell in the coming years.

It was good to welcome, as our guest, David Elworthy from England Hockey, who has assumed the role of Officiating Officer and who works closely with the county umpiring associations.

## Clubs

We continue to grow and strengthen our links with the clubs.

The season started well with the new rules presentation to many of the hockey clubs within the county and we are to offer a question and answer session to any club who would like us to attend prior to the forthcoming season.

The Sussex Open league are really supporting us next season by requiring all Sussex division one men's clubs to place an umpire in to the county pool for every team that receives appointments.

We hope that this will develop and grow the number of umpires available for appointments on a weekly basis.

It is to be hoped that none of our existing umpires will accept nomination from a club as this will simply re-label them rather than us gaining new members.

Our Club/Team of the Year Awards go to: Brighton Mens 3rds & East Grinstead Womens 2nds.

### Sponsorship

This has been a new development for us this year.

Thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm of John Moss we have established a fund raising operation that is designed to encourage and support the development of promising young umpires.

John has worked very hard to raise nearly £1000, which will allow us to offer help to umpires young umpires with travel and other costs which they would otherwise find difficult to meet or be reliant on funding from their families.

### Sussex HUA Awards

We have changed the awards to recognize that we are one association and that our awards should mirror this.

The award categories and this year's winners are:

Most Promising Newcomer

Most Promising Junior Umpire

Umpire that has achieved most Progress

Merit Award for Outstanding Achievement

Services to the Association

We have also introduced an award to recognise all members who reach the milestone of 200 appointments following the introduction of the website.

We are delighted to announce **John Moss** as the first recipient of this award.

### Awards and Training Evening

This is planned for Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at Crawley Hockey club.

The evening will start at 7.30 with the awards and then the Introduction to the New Season will be led by Kevin Burge

The Junior Umpire Award goes to **Jacob Taplin**

Most Promising Newcomer is **Dianne Tipping**

The Most Improved Umpire Award goes to **Sue Crake**

The Achievement Award is presented to **Andy Brookes** for gaining his National Badge

The award for Services to the Association goes to **Alan Grey** for the wonderful work that he has done in encouraging and developing young umpires

### Conclusion

This has been another year of solid development and progress, which has been driven by the dedication and hard work of the committee.

It is not simply a matter of turning up for meetings but the quantity and quality of the work that is done behind the scenes.

I am extremely grateful for all the efforts that they put in so that the association can thrive and progress.

### Secretary's Report.

No report however the Secretary offered his apologies for the mix up and confusion of the date of the meeting (AGM).

### Treasurer's Report and adoption of accounts.

Smart & Co have not yet completed the audit of the accounts, but if there any changes they will be advised to the membership.

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	73		paying £20
Non-voting members		170	paying £10 (includes new Level 1 free in year 1)
Young umpire non-voting members	89		paying £ 0
<b>Total</b>		<b>335</b>	

### Income

**Subscriptions** are up again slightly. Brighton, Crowborough, East Grinstead, Horsham and Crawley pay for their non-voting members.

**Club fees** are also higher by £1,210 due to more appointments.

**Level 1** income this year is £600, being 4 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 white boards/flip charts and projector.. All travelling is paid by EH.

### Kit

The sale of kit should break even, but there are a small number of items held in stock.

### Expenditure

**Council member's expenses** are lower than last year,

**Umpires', Assessors' and Coaches' Claims** are higher than the previous year. The average cost per umpire appointment for this year is £16.88, compared to £16.73 in 2014/15,

**Insurance** is paid in advance in May for the year commencing 1 June, and shows as prepaid at the year end for next season.

**Donations** of £50 were paid in memory of members who passed away in the year.

**Website costs** are substantially lower than last year and the following have been implemented in the year.

Emails can now be sent to the membership direct from the website.

An awards section on the public pages has been implemented.

Feedback by umpires on their assessors/coaches can be given from next season

**Other Expenses of £509** are lower than last year and made up as follows

Catering for buffet at Cup Final		£303
DBS (CRB) charges	£ 6	
Projector for new rules presentations	£190	
Spares for radios	£ 10	

### Bursary Fund

Member donations of £272 have been received and the only expense is the purchase of further radios of £665.

### Sponsorship Fund

Donations of £800 have been received during the year.

### Balance Sheet

There is not a lot to say on the Balance Sheet. Outstanding fees of £44 have now been received.

There is £12,683 in the bank account at 31 May 2016.

Subscriptions of £958 have been received in advance from full members.

Amounts due by the Association at 31 May are £816, made up as follows

Due to clubs for appointment fees on cancelled games	£198	
Appointment fees not yet claimed and paid	£ 29	
Catering for Men's finals		£303
Trophies	£ 22	
Audit fees	£264	

Retained reserves remain healthy at £1,693 in the Bursary Fund, £800 in the Sponsorship Fund and £8,628 in the General Fund.

### Proposals for 2015/16

I am not proposing any changes for 2016/17

Club charge per appointment – remain at £22

Subscriptions

Voting members - £20

Non-voting members - £10

## 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 2016/17.

In view of this, the election of Council Officers and Council Members is proposed en-bloc.  
Proposed by Jonathon Scott and Seconded by John Moss.

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 Grey  
Level 1 Co-ordinator- John Murphy  
Membership – Glyn Crees  
Welfare – Ian Anguige  
Committee member – Frances Block  
Committee member – Will Chetwood  
Committee member – John Moss

## AOB.

### John Murphy - Club Umpire Developers and their role

Last Sunday I represented Sussex at the Annual Umpiring Conference, this followed a Level 1 Tutors Training Day on the Saturday, both events were held at Warwick University.

So in this quick report I would just like to bring a few things to your notice and show how we in Sussex compare with other County HUA's around the Country.

The Conference this year concentrated on looking at a whole raft of data collected from participant's who have completed the Level 1 Umpires Course in the last 2 years.

The District Commissioner for Scouting in the Lincolnshire Area, Robin Wright gave a thought provoking presentation on "Flexible Volunteering" with ideas about how to recruit and keep volunteers.

We also looked at the whole demographic as to who appoints umpires to matches, there are 3734 umpiring appointment made every Saturday in England throughout the season, of these 954 are appointed by NPUA and HUA's, the remaining 2780 are appointed by clubs. These are combined figures for both men and women.

We discussed at length how support can be raised for the clubs to improve the overall standard of umpiring in England.

On most of the ideas raised, Sussex are in the top 10% in implanting these ideas, as a couple of examples, we do offer 1 years free Associate Membership for all participants from Sussex Clubs attending Level 1 courses, increased to free membership up to 18 for Junior members. We have held meetings with clubs when major amendments are made to the rules.

One of the areas we all need to improve on is communication with the umpires operating at club level, we do of course communicate directly with clubs but we need to have a closer relationship with the actual umpires.

To this end E.H. has introduced the role of Club Umpire Developers; these volunteers will operate in clubs supporting and improving their club umpires and will also have direct communication with the County HUA for advice and support.

There has been some suspicion from clubs that is just a back door plan to recruit their umpires onto the County HUA appointment list, this is not the aim of the plan however we must recognise that this maybe a by-product of umpires being better trained and feeling the need to expand their umpiring horizons.

So who can be a Club Umpire Developer, well anyone with an interest in improving the umpires within their club can attend a 3 hour course where they will be shown techniques in training and communicating areas to work on with umpires. They will also be required to pass the online rules test which can be found on the Hockey Hub on the England Hockey website. (<http://hockeyhub.englishhockey.co.uk>)

Sussex is planning to hold a course for anyone who is interested in early October 2016. The Committee have decided that this will be a free course to all Sussex Club and HUA members who attend. Details will be available in the next couple of weeks and will be on the Sussex HUA website and I will write directly to those people who have already expressed an interest. If anyone wishes to be sent details please contact me directly.

Finally I challenge us as a County HUA and Sussex Clubs to try and establish a CUD in the majority of Sussex Clubs by the end of this season. **Let's make it happen please!**

There was no other business.

Meeting closed at 19:51rs.