



## **Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Pembroke Wanderers HC on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 12:45pm**

**Present:** Chairman - Warren McCully (WMcC), Robert Johnston (RJ), Graham Hohn (GH), Tom Goode (TG) Peter Murphy (PM) Gillian Johnston (GJ) & Aisling Keogh (AK).

**Apologies:** Geoff Conn (GC), Eamonn McFerran (EMcF)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

### **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and agreed by everyone present. No amendments. WMcC thanked RJ for producing these minutes.

### **Matters Arising**

2. WMcC obtained previous meeting and AGM minutes from Simon O'Connor – **complete**
3. WMcC sent letter to Gillian Garrett re FIH badge – **complete**
4. Ray O'Connor to take EYHL Club Briefing Session on behalf of IHUA - **complete**
5. National Umpires Briefing 80% prepared. To be uploaded onto Irish Portal and sent to Provinces to for similar uploading. - **ongoing**
6. WMcC raised issue of players urinating at side of pitch with IUDWG Chair, Richard Kendrick. To be taken to Hockey Ireland. – **complete awaiting response.**
7. EYHL Briefing and Fitness Test to be prepared and conducted by Tom Goode - **ongoing**
8. WMcC completed 'easy guide' for Irish Umpire Nomination requirement – sent to Hockey Ireland and now present on their website. Issued to all clubs – **complete**
9. WMcC confirmed that Andrew Groves had been contacted re current kit and sponsorship – **complete**
10. WMcC to discussed IHUA inclusion in EYHL sponsorship package. IHUA not included within the sponsorship package - complete. However, discussions on-going with Mike Heskin re possible alternative sponsorship package – **on-going.**
11. RJ contacted 'Who's the Umpire' and sent them a very nice thank you email re their services to IHUA for the last few years – **complete.**

12. WMcC sent an email to Tony Kelleher (TK), UM, for his contribution to the Young Umpires Workshop run in conjunction with the EuroHockey Championships at Three Rock Rovers in May 2015. TK acknowledged email - **complete**
13. Criteria for accrediting Umpire Assessor's awaiting consideration and finalisation - **pending at present.**
14. GH to produce an IHUA budget / financial plan for season 2015/16. Graham awaits input from WMcC re strategic direction and discussions with Hockey Ireland etc. GH to update next meeting - **on-going.**
15. TG appointed to the U16 Ireland v Scotland (girls matches). WMcC thanked him in the absence of a Womens Co-ordinator at that time - **complete**
16. TG reported the tournament in Netherlands was subsequently umpired by 'home' umpires. Therefore, no Irish umpire was sent/required - **complete**
17. Letters sent to Sarah Gray and Kieran Bolger re EHF list. EMcF not present at meeting - no update re Dan Clarke re future plans - **on-going.**
18. WMcC has submitted UM application re Robert Johnston nomination. WMcC replied to follow-up email from EHF - **complete.**
19. WMcC has asked AK to act as the Equipment Officer re UmpireTalk radios. AK has agreed - **complete.**
20. WMcC confirmed that 30 UmpireTalk radios have been delivered. WMcC re-iterated that Hockey Ireland has funded 20 radios to date and IHUA has funded the additional 10 radios due to the overall shortage. Hockey Ireland to refund IHUA 1 Year 2 of EYHL as agreed - **complete.**
21. AK has taken responsibility for all radios and has prepared a Terms and Conditions document for their use and 'hire'. All umpires to sign out their radio and pay fee - **complete.**
22. WMcC raised issue of abuse towards umpires with IUDWG Chair, Richard Kendrick. To be taken to Hockey Ireland - **complete awaiting response.**

### **Correspondence**

23. Kris Cholewa sent in letter asked if he would to be considered/adopted as an Irish Umpire re his personal desire. Unanimously agreed by the committee. **ACTION - WMcC to inform Kris of our decision and confirm if Kris has spoken to the Polish Association regarding same.**
24. Ian Hamilton contacted regarding umpiring this season. Response received that he is not umpiring this season.
25. Robin Peacock contacted IHUA and advised that he is not available this season for appointment.

### **Finance**

26. GH provided the current financial position following the recent Introductory Umpire Courses. €4,000 is currently in the bank account with some more monies from courses to be lodged. However, some bills remain outstanding for payment re course expenditure.

27. Ulster currently owe €200 for Young Umpire Workshop and Hockey Ireland to be contact re €400 grant re same, as per pre-agreement. **ACTION: GH to invoice Ulster Hockey for payment and contact Hockey Ireland.**
28. Our bank account will be changed to AIB as it has easier access to internet banking. GH has also made enquiries into opening a sterling account to save on internal charges and additional charges incurred by Committee members. The annual charge for this is approximately €250 but the benefits will far outweigh the costs involved. **ACTION: GH Financial Plan / Account Changes / UmpireTalk Radio Rental**

### **Hockey Ireland Communications**

29. **Sponsorship** - Mike Heskin has spoken to OSAKA Hockey as a possible umpire sponsor for the EY Hockey League. However, he awaits a response. **ACTION: WMcC is to re-contact Mike Heskin re OSAKA Hockey**
30. GC will take on the sponsorship and clothing role. GH will assist re finance aspect.
31. **Disciplinary Procedures** - WMcC has requested that Hockey Ireland review the current Code of Conduct Procedures as IHUA feel the current procedure does not sufficiently support umpiring. Hockey Ireland also asked to introduce a '20 minute cool off' period after all Irish matches to prevent attacks on umpires at the end of matches.
32. **Umpires Courses** – WMcC acknowledged the support work provided by Hockey Ireland staff regarding the administration of the umpire courses.
33. **EYHL** – IHUA has received an invitation from the EYHL Working Group and address all umpire related issues for the EYHL Club Briefing. **ACTION: WMcC / TG to ask Ray O'Connor to attend the EYHL Club Briefing next Sunday.** Anyone who is also interested in attending is to let WMcC know in advance.

### **Umpire Development Working Group**

34. No meetings since last season. **ACTION: WMcC to ask UDWG Chair, Richard Kendrick to set-up a meeting with all provinces to discuss umpiring issues and umpire development for the current season.**

### **Tex Solutions – Umpire 'Family' Website and Appointments System**

35. Ulster Umpires already set-up. MHUA has paid for system. No news from LHUA at present.
36. Connacht Umpires to also consider using the system however they have no funds for same. IHUA have offered a loan of money if need be. **ACTION: AK to speak with Connacht Committee**
37. TG stated the IHUA system is going well (following testing) and that the first appointments would be issued shortly.
38. PM asked that Committee E-mail Addresses are built into the system. WMcC advised that this has been discussed previously with Tex solutions previously but requires quite a bit of work to link email accounts with personal email accounts etc. WMcC advised that it was possible but we would need to re-contact Tex Solutions at a less busy time to discuss further.

## Umpire Development

39. **Introductory Courses** - WMcC advised that it expected that over 100 will have registered for the introductory courses once they are fully completed. An extra course will take place in Munster and another two courses will be held in Leinster on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015.
40. WMcC thanked PM for his huge amount of work as the Course Co-ordinator as well as the umpires who had helped conducted the local courses to date. WMcC also thanked RJ for his work in finalizing the course and arrangements in his absence. GJ was also thanked for organising the Leinster courses.
41. WMcC advised that the plan is firmly to integrate the Introductory Umpire Course into the provincial associations. Both IHUA and the provincial associations should financially benefit from the course and this money should fed directly back into umpiring development.
42. **Umpire Nominations** - WMcC is currently liaising with Hockey Ireland to ensure the umpire nominations/registrations process runs as smoothly as possible.
43. **Umpire assessor Course** – WMcC advised that an umpire assessor course is possible for October 2015 but the course will take place in Ulster. **ACTION: WMcC to finalise course date**
44. **Umpire Coaching** - a new umpire coaching course will be considered after Christmas; a first of its kind for umpiring in Ireland!
45. **EHF Umpire and Umpire Coaching Course (Glasgow in September)** – Richard Cowan will attend as the nominated umpire. Julie Beamish will attend as the nominated umpire coach. Both will receive full EHF and IHUA financial assistance. Zenia Howe will also attend as an umpire coach; IHUA have agreed to provide financial assistance up to €150 but Zenia will need to cover all remaining costs incurred. **ACTION: WMcC to inform Zenia of proposal.**

## Umpire Grading/Selection/Fitness

46. **Appointment Co-ordinator** - EMcF will take over the role of Women's Appointment Co-ordinator following no further interest or nominations to the post. EMcF welcomed to the role.
47. **Fitness** - WMcC stated that all fitness tests must be completed by those who could not attend the EYHL Umpires Briefing and Fitness Session on 29 August 2015 (due to other pre-arranged commitments) – should be completed within two weeks. It remains the umpire's responsibility to ensure there fitness test to arranged within the required time. WMcC continued to be encouraged by the fitness levels of its umpires and the continued success of the fitness policy. **Appointment Co-ordinators advised that no umpire should be appointed until they have successfully completed a fitness test. ACTION: WMcC to amend fitness policy in line with competition changes**
48. **Umpire Radios** – IHUA to review the rental system for umpire radios next season. IHUA also to consider additional radios for this season to ensure as many umpires as possible on the EYHL Panel have a radio. Any umpire who does not complete a fitness test will not be given a radio.

## Any Other Business

49. Carol Metchette has advised that UDP forms will be issued shortly and IHUA should consider putting some of umpires forward. WMcC advised that this would continue to be dependent on monies available as in recent seasons this was a prohibitive factor for IHUA.

**ACTION – WMcC to liaise with Hockey Ireland re UDP forms.**

50. IHUA Committee members were delighted at Ireland's historic win over England in the European Championships. WMcC apologised for the bad timing of the meeting!

**Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting likely to be late October/early November. Time and venue to be confirmed nearer the time. WMcC closed by thanking everyone for their attendance.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 3.25pm.

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*Minutes prepared by*

**Aisling Keogh**

22 September 2015

### **Summary of Agreed Actions**

<b>Para Ref</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>
23.	<b>Inform Kris Cholewa</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
27.	<b>Invoice Ulster Hockey for payment and contact Hockey Ireland</b>	<b>GRAHAM HOHN</b>
28.	<b>Financial Plan/ Account change / Sponsorship</b>	<b>GRAHAM HOHN</b>
29.	<b>Re-contact CEO Mike Heskin re OSAKA Hockey</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
33.	<b>Ask Ray O Connor to attend the EYHL Club Briefing</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY &amp; TOM GOODE</b>
34.	<b>Contact UDWG Chair, Richard Kendrick re provincial meeting</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
36.	<b>Contact Connacht Hockey re Tex Solutions</b>	<b>AISLING KEOGH</b>
43.	<b>Umpire Assessor Course Date</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
45.	<b>Contact Zenia Howe re financial assistance</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
47.	<b>Amend Fitness Policy</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>
49.	<b>Liase with Hockey Ireland re UDP forms.</b>	<b>WARREN McCULLY</b>