

## **CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE WELSH HOCKEY UMPIRES' ASSOCIATION**

1. The Association shall be the WELSH HOCKEY UMPIRES ASSOCIATION (WHUA). The Association shall be affiliated to Hockey Wales as a member organisation under its Rules. The WHUA exists to support and develop umpires and technical officials for the good of the game in Wales. The WHUA operates within Wales and is an autonomous unincorporated members' organisation.
2. The WHUA will operate under the membership policy agreed by the WHUA Executive.
  - There will be individual members, life members and honorary life members.
  - Membership shall be for 12 months from the date of joining
  - Only WHUA members can receive appointments to any events and competitions.
  - Members of the WHUA are liable for its actions and any debts incurred
3. Any Regional Umpires Association set up in the geographical regions of Hockey Wales shall be appointed committees to the WHUA. Any such Regional Umpires committees shall be controlled by the WHUA where duties/roles are agreed and distributed accordingly. The WHUA Regional Committees shall not have separate constitutions. The WHUA Regional Committees are therefore not members of the WHUA and do not need to affiliate as they are governed by the WHUA rules and Executive Committee regulations.
4. The purpose of the Association shall be:
  - To improve the standard of umpiring and umpire coaching for both indoor and outdoor hockey
  - To appoint umpires / technical officials to matches as and when required
  - To provide a system of grading for umpires in partnership with Hockey Wales
  - To provide umpire coaching at all levels
  - To protect the interests of umpires and officials
5. The affairs of the Association shall be governed by an Executive Committee consisting of: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, one representative from EACH of the WHUA Regions and one external member nominated by the Hockey Wales Board. The Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, shall be elected by ballot at a General Meeting of the Association. The Chairperson shall be elected for a period of two years. The Treasurer, Secretary shall also be appointed for two years, all other appointments shall be annual. All shall be eligible for re-election. Regional representatives shall be elected or appointed by the relevant Regional committees for a one year term. The Hockey Wales representative will be appointed by Hockey Wales as required. The Executive may conduct its business in person or by electronic means.
6. The Executive Committee shall also form the Advisory Committee for umpiring and technical matters for Hockey Wales, as required.
7. Three members shall form a quorum at an Executive Committee meeting.
8. The Executive will draw up a strategic plan and allocate resources and appoint personnel so that the WHUA can carry out the objectives specified in section 4. The Executive Committee may make and change subordinate regulations. Subordinate regulations include, but are not limited to, the membership regulations, appointments policy and the action plan for the organisation. Such regulations cannot conflict with this constitution and must be for the good

of the organisation and its members. Any changes must not conflict with Hockey Wales strategy or policies.

9. The main rules and constitution belong to the members of the WHUA, the Executive Committee are guardians of them. Changes to the main rules can only be made at general meetings.
10. Any member deemed by the WHUA Executive Committee to have acted inappropriately or brought themselves or the association into disrepute shall be subject to sanctions as determined by the Executive and set out in the disciplinary policy. Any disciplinary actions must be reported to Hockey Wales.
11. The Treasurer will be responsible for all monies coming into the hands of the Association in respect of fees, donations or otherwise and hold them as the property of the Association. The funds of the Association shall be banked and the Treasurer shall have the power to pay the general expenses of the Association and any other expenses authorised by the Executive Committee.
12. The Annual Subscription of the Association shall be a sum approved at a General Meeting of the Association and shall be payable by all classes of membership EXCEPT Honorary Life Members and Life Members.
13. The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall usually be held on a date in the month of June each year or as near as possible either before or after, and at a venue and in a format to be determined by the Executive Committee. The meeting shall receive reports from officers of the association as appropriate, receive a verified statement of accounts, elect officers and transact any other business, which may be brought before it. Not less than 28 days' notice shall be given by email to each member. The financial year of the Association shall end on 31st March in each year. The quorum at a general meeting shall be 8.
14. A Special General Meeting of the Association shall be called by the Executive Committee at their discretion or on a written request signed by not less than eight members. The meeting will be arranged within 28 days of the receipt of such request. The purpose of the meeting must be stated in the request and in the notices to members and no other business shall be transacted. Not less than 14 days' notice shall be given to members.
15. All members shall be entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting.
16. Every motion at a General Meeting and at meetings of the Executive Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes, the Chairperson having a second and casting vote, except that the Constitution of the Association may be varied only with the support of two-thirds of the Members present and voting.
17. The Executive Committee shall have power to decide any matters concerning the affairs of the Association not specifically covered by these Rules and any such matter that has a material effect on the affairs of the Association shall be reported to the next Annual or Special General Meeting.
18. Any amendments properly made to these Rules shall not come into force until approval for such changes has been given by the Hockey Wales Board of Directors.

19. In the event that the Association is dissolved then all monies held in its bank account, after deduction of proper expenses, shall be distributed in such a manner as shall be determined by an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

Final

September 2013 and approved by the Hockey Wales Board of Directors on 2 October 2013.