

## Welsh Hockey Umpires Association

### Sports Wales National Centre/Deeside Leisure Centre

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 17 June 2015

**PRESENT:** Jane Price, Christian Phillip Adams, Mike Cleverley, Mike Riches, Carolyn Llewellyn, Hilary Williams, Jen Barton, Karen Evans, Anne Mullin, Jaime Hindle, Sheila Morrow, Jane Wheeler, Bernie Wheeler, Chris Brewer, John Taylor, Abby MacArthur, Janet Millar, Jan Nelmes Thomas, James Davies, Claire Curtis, Sue Morley, Darren Lock, Nick Fackrell, John Sowerby, Marcus Powell, John A Thomas, Ian Wright, Ann Houlston, Alan Brookes, Philip Leach, Dave Leighton, Laura Houlston

- 1. Apologies:** Dino Willox, Maggie Smith, Michelle Johns, Judith Powell, Dawn Jones, Sue Legge, Jon McCall, Mary Bainbridge, Cath Foster, John Turton, Lynda Bennett, Sue Noakes LHC, Nick Pratt, Anthony Bridge, Kate Oultram, John Bowers, Pat Harrison, Jackie Shorte, Geraint Yorke, Tracy Wood, Jon Prince, Gareth Price, Jeff Lee, Nicci Ashcroft, Chloe Guy, Linda Treharne, Carolyn Moore, Jonathan Davies, Carol Brookes, Michelle Bowen, Joe Astley, Chris Harness, Linda Treharne

- 2. Minutes of last AGM (30 June 2014)**

Chris Brewer requested that reports are included in the minutes.

- 2.1 – Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

- 3. REPORTS**

- 3.1 Chairman's Report**

(As attached) The Chairman outlined WHUA's Vision. There was some concern about the lack of umpires at all levels. WHUA were working on increasing the level of mentoring and coaching. A very successful coaching course had been held which was attended by 9 people. These plus other experienced umpires had been allocated to mentor level 1 and prospective level 2 umpires. Some development could be done using the Summer mixed leagues which will start on 30 June 2015.

Dave Leighton was concerned that umpires were not completing their level 1. This was discussed at length by the meeting and a number of suggestions were put forward:-

- WHUA needed to be more proactive
- More mentoring
- Automated system after initial session to contact umpires
- Educator to inform candidates when they are to be assessed
- Set a date for assessment
- Use tournaments

Phil Leach was to look into the above.

- 3.2 Secretary's Report**

(As attached)

- 3.3 Treasurer's Report**

(As attached) WHUA to put some funding into development. Jaime to work with regions to plan how best to use funding for projects. Ann Houlston would like this to be completed by Christmas. Regions to meet and decide on their projects by mid August.

The meeting was very sorry that Ann was stepping down as Treasurer at this meeting and was extremely grateful for the professional and efficient way she has dealt with WHUA's accounts over many years.

### **3.4 Appointments**

(As attached)

### **3.5 Development**

(As attached). Phil Leach had outlined a development calendar to 1 April 2016. The Regions were planning their level 2 courses. South had held a Level 2 course in December at which 6 had attended with one pass already. The candidates had been assigned a mentor. North had held a level 2 course and passed 8 umpires. Both regions would be running another level 2 course before Christmas.

South District were holding a pre-season social get-together on 16 September 2015 at Bridgend, for all WHUA members with an invite to clubs also. North District would be holding two or three pre-season meetings early December. The new rules would be discussed. Marcus and John Taylor were working on a presentation together and this would also be distributed to PODs.

### **4. Hockey Wales Report**

Jaime had met with Helen to discuss working together, promoting and developing umpiring in Wales.

### **5. Election of Executive Officers**

The meeting agreed on re-election of current Executive Officers, proposed by Anne Mullin and seconded by Sheila Morrow. This was agreed by the meeting:-

Chairman – Jaime Hindle

Secretary – Carolyn Llewellyn

Ann Houlston was stepping down as Treasurer. On behalf of all present, Jaime thanked Ann for all the hard work she had put in over many years. WHUA would now be seeking nominations for Treasurer. This could be brought up at the Regions' pre-season meetings and advertised on the web site. Executive Officers' job descriptions would also be put on the website. Carolyn was willing to carry on as Secretary for 2015/16 season but advised that she would be stepping down at the 2016 AGM.

### **Any Other Business**

- Sheila advised that her and Karen had been asked by the FIH to deliver a TO class. Sheila recommended looking at an on-line education programme for umpires and TOs to advance at tournaments.
- Nick Fackrell asked about communication through England with other sports and Karen Evan suggested contacting Caroline Spanton (WRU) who might know who to approach.
- Abby MacArthur enquired about funding for umpires at international tournaments. Jaime replied that WHUA would be looking into this policy.
- Ian asked whether there was an umpires database which clubs could access to obtain an umpire. He was informed that there was but access was not encouraged due to data protection and also that clubs might be discouraged from putting their own umpires forward. Nick offered to set up a system which charts availability.
- Karen asked how the Level 2 umpires were going to be monitored at their games. John replied that this could be done with the mens games. Jen Barton would advise on the procedure with the women.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.