



Executive Committee Minutes

Date: Friday 30 August 2013
Venue: Loughborough University

Apologies: Annika Midwinter (AM), Karen Evans (KE), Lili James (LJ)
Attendance: VS, RK, MT, SC, SE, HS

1. Minutes from the previous meeting

These were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Action: SE to take over ownership of Executive Committee (Exec) action tracking from HS and put improved process in place

2. Selection Committees

VS confirmed she has followed up and confirmed the recommendations of the Exec with the Outdoor Selectors for the EHUSP. For the next season they will be:

Paul Box-Grainger	Chairman
Liz Pelling	Women's Premier Panel
Dawn Henning (new)	Women's A* and A Panel
Suzanne Howard	Women's B, candidate and reserves
Geoff Blakeman	Men's Premier Panel
Tony Kelleher	Men's A* and A Panel
Rob Jenkins	Men's B, candidates and reserves

The Indoor Selectors were confirmed as:

David Lane	Chairman
Liz Pelling	Selector
David Ellcock (new)	Selector
Nick White (new)	Selector
Sarah Bush	Selector

It was agreed that the addition of Nick White was a good option given his current experience at the highest national and international levels. In addition, David Ellcock was also appointed as a result of his previous experience as an international indoor umpire and for his current knowledge of the indoor programme as a result of his role as tournament director for EHB, which poses no conflict with a role as a Selector.

It was also confirmed that David Ellcock would be the Exec rep to the EHUISP.

Action: MT to confirm with PBG who will be the liaison from and to the Exec for the EHUSP.

Action: VS to email all indoor selectors to confirm the offer of a position on the Panel

3. Watcher's convergence session

At a previous meeting a convergence session for watchers had been suggested. HS had taken the initiative to work with Jo Pennycook, who has kindly volunteered her time to help organise this event.

Jo Pennycook proposed several options for consideration at a variety of central venues during October, with a range of National Programme hockey on offer.



It was acknowledged that this had been turned around really quickly and the Exec Committee agreed to proceed with the most versatile of the options presented.

This will be at Futures Cup, Cannock on Saturday 2 November for all assessors and coaches, and any members aspiring to take up such a role. Although this will not be a compulsory session, it is **strongly recommended that all watchers attend**, which is why a non-league weekend was chosen so that no watcher or umpire has to miss a possible national league fixture.

This location was chosen as a result of:

- It's a central location
- We can afford to pay travel expenses to the event and home (but not overnight accommodation and members will be required to travel together wherever possible)
- Offers a variety of hockey, both men's and women's
- There will be a range of umpires to watch some Level 3 and others aspiring to be
- There is flexibility of venue, either at Cannock HC or at nearby facilities depending on our requirements of the event

The purpose of the event is to increase the consistency of the marking system across the national programme; provide advice and best practice on how to deliver feedback; encourage coaches and assessors to understand more about each others roles; to identify the qualities and skills of an umpire manager role which combines both assessing and coaching.

There are options to share resources with a possible NYUPL event or EHB's Technical Officiating session that may also take place over the same weekend.

Action: HS to advertise event on the website

Action: RK to work with Jo Pennycook on budget required

Action: Jo Pennycook to work with EHB to confirm venue; discuss ticket allocation and car parking dispensation.

Depending on the success of this event and the feedback from Conference 2013 on development in general, we could look to host others at the championships in April (women's 5/6th and men's 12/13th) or a second event during mid Feb or March.

4. Future Exec meetings

Depending on the new Exec elected on Saturday, it was suggested the 27 October for the next Exec meeting at Barns Hotel in Cannock.

Action: SE to contact Exec members and confirm agenda. RK to confirm venue.

5. Finances

RK provided a brief update on finances with a view to confirm the budget for assessing and coaching appointments.

£10,100 was spent in 2012/13, with 42% spent on coaching and 58% on assessing. RK proposed increasing this to £11,000, based on the average cost of an appointment and the expected number required throughout the season.

This budget was agreed and it was confirmed that the Chairman of EHUSP is accountable for delivery, with the support of the Coach and Assessor appointment coordinators. It was also confirmed that the budget would be split equally between coaching and assessing appointments.



Action: MT / RK to meet with PBG, Geoff Blakeman and John Litchfield to confirm the budget and policy for this season, at Conference 2013.

Regarding international development, asking each International Development Group (IDG) lead to submit a budget request for planned activity worked well last year.

Therefore, all leads are required to submit a proposal and accompanying budget for their 2013/14 activities for Exec review and approval.

Should opportunities arise after the initial budget application, the Exec requires 6 weeks' notice to approve an event.

Action: RK to liaison with IDG leads

The opportunity to send a group of umpires to the Los Reyes tournament is again an option for January 2014. We have an EHB funded budget of £1,200 for 6 umpires and 3 coaches, however, some of the costs are subsidized by the hosts.

It was proposed and agreed the budget would increase to £1,600 this year as a reflection of the cost of flights. However, the event would be subject to a critical review from all participants (a requirement of them accepting the appointment) for us to assess the benefit of the development event, with a view to making a decision regarding our involvement for 2015.

EHF Umpire Manager development conference

It is expected that another EHF development conference will be offered to all national UMs. EHF states it is the responsibility of the national association to assist any UMs who wish to attend. It was agreed we should encourage as many of our members to attend as possible and once the invitee list is published we should explore possible funding options.

These could include a contribution towards costs, possible prioritization of a smaller group who we could fund on a rotational basis each year, or hosting an event afterwards so that the one/two attendees we assist to attend share their knowledge on return.

6. Coaching Working Group

The Coaching Working Group consists of Dawn Henning, Dawn Bonner, Frances Block and John Litchfield, tasked with exploring and proposing new and innovative ways to improve coaching across the umpiring programme, for ratification by the Exec as appropriate.

Jane Nockolds has stepped down from this group due to work commitments and the Exec would like to thank her for her input and expertise.

It was suggested that Frances Block could be the liaison to the Exec if elected at Saturday's AGM. It was also suggested that we could look to expand the group with two additional contributors. It was also suggested this group could be asked to help develop the coaching content for next year's Conference 2014.

Action: MT / HS take away and approach / decide on make up

7. Graham Nash legacy

The Exec was honoured to learn that Graham Nash, who passed away in 2011, has bequeathed £10,000 to the NPUA to support excellence in umpiring, umpire coaching, development and umpire managing; and to establish an umpiring award. In 2011, NPUA dedicated the Outdoor Umpire of the Year award to Graham's memory.



The Exec would like to establish a small group of members to explore options for how this generous legacy could best be used in line with Graham's wishes. Anyone interested should contact Richard Kirk.

The money will be held in a separate account until a decision is made, and the Exec will continue to liaise with Graham's partner Tom to ensure that we use the funds in line with his wishes.

Action: SE to post a news item

Action: RK to speak to Tex Solutions or webmaster about creating a new profile on the website for another financial account

8. Conference 2013

SE provided a quick update on Conference 2013. The Exec thanked him for all his hard work.

Meeting closed at 20.10