



Minutes of AGM 5 September 2009, at Loughborough University

In the absence of the Chairman the Treasurer opened the meeting.

1. Minutes from AGM 2008

The minutes of the AGM 2008 were accepted as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Alastair Clarke and seconded by Raj Khanna.

2. Officers report

- a. Chairman's report was read by the Treasurer of the NPUA
- b. Financial report and accounts

The floor was opened to questions:

Terry Lees asked why the last line on the balance sheet does not match the last line on England Hockey records. This proposed change will be taken up with Auditors. [Action: Richard Kirk]

Val Sassall asked a question concerning the BUSA and Varsity appointments. It was clarified that the NPUA does not invoice administration charges, only the appointment cost. It was suggested this may be considered for review. [Action: Richard Kirk and Dave Dowdall]

Raj Khanna asked why the bills have increased in comparison to 2008.

David Ellcock seconded proposed change to Accounts.

3. Election of Officers

- a. Chairman – Dave Dowdall

Proposed by Andy Mair and seconded by Paul Box-Grainger. Membership approved Chairman's appointment.

- b. Secretary – Hannah Sanders

Proposed by Martin Stott and seconded by Andy Burnette. Membership approved Secretary's appointment. Membership wanted to thank the outgoing secretary, Dino Willox, for all her hard work and efforts.

- c. Treasurer – Richard Kirk

Proposed by Simon Gillett and seconded by Andy Higgins. Membership approved Treasurer's appointment unanimously

- d. Expenses Administrator – Richard Wood

Proposed by Richard Kirk and seconded by Nick Padget. Membership approved Expenses Administrator's appointment.

4. Election of Executive Committee

- a. Sarah Chapman - Membership approved officer's re-election.
- b. Martin Twist - Membership approved officer's re-election.

- c. Tim Benford - Membership approved officer's re-election.
- d. Rob Jenkins - Membership approved officer's re-election.
- e. Karen Evans – Nominated by Hannah Sanders, seconded by Anne Bartley. Membership approved officer's election.

5. Proposed change to NPUA Constitution change

To amend the Constitution in respect of the number of members elected without portfolio from the membership:

The following change to Paragraph 7.1 was proposed:

“The Association shall be managed by an Executive Committee comprising the Officer of the Association, the Chairman (or representative) of the England Hockey Umpire Selection Panel (EHUSP), the Coaching and Development Manager and a minimum of four Executive Committee members without portfolio elected from the membership.”

Question from Margaret McLoughlin whether people having a role on the Executive Committee need to be an officer of the committee. Dave Dowdall responded clarifying the roles of elected officers with portfolios and those officers without portfolios

Simon Gillett asked if inserting the word ‘minimum’ will cause a restriction to future Exec committee sizes.

Three proposals were excepted:

- Proposal as suggested by AGM Agenda (as above).
- Proposal to remove the word “minimum of four” and replacing with “a number” of members’
- Proposal to set a minimum (4) and maximum (6) number of executive officers

Following voting from the membership, the proposal to insert “a number” was accepted by the membership.

As a result of the constitutional change the proposal of additional officers was opened to the floor. Two proposals were made:

Election of Officers:

Lili James was nominated by Janice Tasho seconded by Sarah Bush, membership voted to accept Lili onto the Executive.

David Thirsk was proposed by Brian Linfield seconded by Chris Chambers, the membership voted to accept David onto the Executive.

6. Proposed Subscription for 2008/09

- a. Full members £120
- b. Indoor members only £50
- c. Young members £30
- d. Young umpire £5
- e. Associate members £5

Two new subscription categories were proposed:

- f. Assessor/selector £30
- g. Coach £70

The subscription categories were discussed and the membership asked for clarification on the reasons for the changes.

Proposal as in the AGM agenda – this was rejected.

Proposal by Jane Nockolds – (1) associate membership increases to £10 (2) Coaching and assessors in same category of £50 – this was rejected.

Proposal by Paul Box Grainger (seconded: Bruce Bale) to remove proposed changes to subscriptions with a remit to the Executive Committee to review and bring back to the membership in line with our rules – this was accepted by the membership. Due to the strength of concern this issue raised, it was agreed that the Executive Committee would discuss the issue further and report back to the membership the following morning at 9.30am. For this reason the AGM would be adjourned and not closed until the following day.

It was also suggested that clarity would be needed on voting of proposals for the following morning and reviewed for AGM 2010. [Action: Dave Dowdall]

Proposal by Dan Barstow to remove young umpire category as they are one of the groups who benefit most from the membership of the NPUA, and should therefore pay a full membership subscription: this proposal was rejected by the membership.

7. Proposed change to NPUA constitution:

Change of name for the Selection Committee, from National Programme Umpire Selection Panel (NPUSP) to England Hockey Umpire Selection Panel (EHUSP).

The membership voted in favour of this change.

8. Proposed Constitution Changes

As from 1 September 2009 NPUA will no longer report to the 'England Hockey Umpiring Committee'. Instead this will be to the 'England Hockey Officiating and Rules Committee, this is a change to Section 2 and Section 7 of the Constitution.

The membership voted in favour of this change.

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9. Role and appointment of umpire Coaching and Development Coordinator (CDM)

Raj Khanna asked how the CDM is appointed and why a coaching assistant will be appointed. Dave Dowdall clarified that the CMD is an Exec Appointment and appointed by the Executive Committee. The coaching assistant has not yet been advertised via the NPUA website and is a result from feedback that the CDM role was expanding and needs assistance with facilitating the coaching responsibilities.

Paul Box-Grainger clarified that some roles which receive a small bursary for carrying out the responsibilities of that role (such as the Umpire Appointments Coordinator) are appointed by the Executive and volunteers are appointed by the membership.

10. Peter Halliday asked why the Coaching Committee was disbanded and what has been done with the outstanding actions from that Committee?

David Dowdall responded by explaining why the Committee was disbanded and proposed the Executive Committee find out what has happened to those actions and what progress has been made or what plan is in place to address them. [Action: David Dowdall]

AGM was postponed at 15.35 until the following morning.

AGM resumed at 9.37am Sunday 5 September.

The membership returned to item 6: Proposed Subscription for 2008/09

Following discussion from the previous day, the Executive Committee made two proposals were proposed in order to clarify what the membership wanted with respect to the subscriptions: either a continuation of last year's subscription fees, as all members are equal, or a tiered approach. The proposals were:

- 1) The subscriptions from last year remain the same.

Or

- 2) Executive Committee take a remit to explore a Tiered subscription system in respect of umpires, coach's and assessors, to put forward the new subscription system at the next AGM, with subscriptions remaining the same as for 2008/09 for the interim year.

The membership voted in favour of proposal (2)

The AGM was closed at 9.57am