



NPUA AGM
Saturday 6th September 2014
Warwick Conferences

1. Minutes from the previous AGM, held on Saturday 31st August 2013

The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted as a true and accurate record. There were no matters arising from the previous AGM.

The minutes were proposed as an accurate reflection of the meeting by Terry Lees and seconded by Daran Cass. They were approved unanimously.

2. Apologies for absence

The secretary received numerous apologies from many members who were unable to attend the AGM.

3. Chairman's report

The Chairman's report was provided by Martin Twist. He summarised the things that he felt had worked well over the last year, as well as the things he felt could improve:

What worked well?

- Prudent operations, taking care that we maximise value of both our funds and EH money
- Exec Committee is developing
- Good links between Exec and Selection
- Coach working group
- Constructive relationship with EH
- Strength of our volunteers

Where can we improve?

- Strategic plan
- Ownership of key areas – we can do better for assessors and UMs
- Put development at the heart of NPUA
- Recruit – members and volunteers
- Communication

The Chairman finished by thanking Hannah Sanders, who is stepping down from the NPUA Executive Committee after eight years of fantastic service. He also reinforced his thanks to all the volunteers within NPUA who put significant time into taking the association forward.

4. Treasurer's report

Richard Kirk provided a summary of the NPUA financial reports following the prior circulation of the full NPUA accounts. In summary:

Income and expenditure

- Excluding the impact of Olympic ticket sales, income has risen £3,864
- Increase mainly due to sales of kit following the launch of SilverFX products at Conference 2013
- Donations from members were £199 – thank you.
- Expenditure has been carefully monitored, but increased by £7,866 (excluding Olympic costs)
- £7,700 of this is development initiatives in response to your comments
- 2013 Conference surplus has been re-invested in improvements this year
- Overall the association ran with a small surplus of £3,033



Balance sheet

- Debtors at year end relate to a few prepaid costs and sundry amounts due from members
- The monies due from EH is a timing difference related to transfer of funds between two bank accounts we control – one for EH income and expenses and one for NPUA funds. Because of its size the accountants wanted to show it separately
- Creditors related to 4 or 5 balances at the year-end which have subsequently been paid
- Deferred income represents monies saved by members for conference (£11,942) and subscriptions (£2,881) in 2014/15 – thank you, it all helps to manage cash flow.

Development initiatives

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| • Post-match kit | £2,066 |
| • Repairing radios owned by NPUA | £1,440 |
| • New radios | £1,888 |
| • LearningLive at Playoffs | £1,662 |
| • Obtaining and collating video footage | £1,058 |
| • Initial Portal investment | £4,000 |
| • Total for 2014 | £12,114 |

The accounts were proposed by Dawn Henning, seconded by Liz Pelling and approved unanimously.

5. Amendments to NPUA Constitution

The NPUA Executive Committee proposed some changes to the association's constitution, which fell into three categories:

Update references to England Hockey and its Committees:

- Section 2 – Change “England Hockey Board” to “England Hockey”
- Sections 2, 4.4, 13 and 17.8 – Change “EHB” to “EH”
- Section 7.1 – Remove “Coaching and Development Manager” as this post no longer exists
- Section 8.1.7 – Remove “the EH umpiring” as the England Hockey Umpiring Committee no longer exists
- Section 17.1 – Change “it’s” to “its”

These amendments were approved unanimously.

Addition of Life Member membership category:

- Section 5.5 – Add “and life members”
- Section 5.5.1 – Add “in recognition of truly exceptional service or contribution to the association”
- Add “5.5.2 – “The Executive Committee shall have the discretion to nominate suitably qualified individuals as Life Members, in recognition of their contribution to the association or umpiring in general.”

These amendments were approved unanimously.

Change to discipline procedure:

- Section 17.4 and 17.8 – Change “three officers of the association” to “three members of the Executive Committee, excluding the Chairman” to increase flexibility in determining who can manage hearings and appeals on behalf of the association (leaving the Chairman free for appeals)
- Section 17.5 – Change “England Hockey Umpiring Committee” to “NPUA Chairman and subsequently to the EH National Disciplinary Panel” to clarify routes of appeal as the EH Umpiring Committee no longer exists.

Jo Pennycook raised a concern that the proposed amendments to the constitution did not allow enough flexibility in the event of the Chairman having a conflict of interest during an appeal. She therefore proposed the following amendment, which was seconded by Dawn Henning:

- Section 17.4 and 17.8 – Change “three officers of the association” to “three members of the Executive Committee, excluding the Chairman” to increase flexibility in determining who can manage hearings and appeals on behalf of the association (leaving the Chairman free for appeals)



- Section 17.5 – Change “England Hockey Umpiring Committee” to “NPUA Chairman, or nominated officer, and subsequently to the EH National Disciplinary Panel” to clarify routes of appeal as the EH Umpiring Committee no longer exists.

The amended proposal was approved unanimously.

6. Election of Officers

The election of NPUA Officers, listed below, was taken as one block and was voted for unanimously.

- Chairman – Martin Twist
 - Proposed by Nick Bennett
 - Seconded by Dave Dowdall
- Deputy Chairman – Mike Davidson
 - Proposed by Hannah Sanders
 - Seconded by Dawn Bonner
- Secretary – Sean Edwards
 - Proposed by Andy Burnette
 - Seconded by Emma Dodd
- Treasurer – Richard Kirk
 - Proposed by Raj Khanna
 - Seconded by Colin Barthorpe

7. Election of Executive Committee (non-portfolio)

The re-election of existing NPUA Executive Committee members, listed below, was taken as one block and voted for unanimously.

- Frances Block
- David Ellcock
- Darryl Hoffman
- Mark Williams

The Executive Committee also received proposals for two new members:

- Mark Everard
 - Proposed by Martin Stott
 - Seconded by Matthew Simpson
 Voted for unanimously.
- Clare White
 - Proposed by Sean Edwards
 - Seconded by Saul Shohet
 Voted for unanimously.

8. NPUA Subscriptions

The Executive Committee proposed that the subscriptions should remain the same as the previous season, with the addition of the Life Member membership category which shall have a subscription of £0.

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| • Honorary Vice President | £0 |
| • Life member | £0 |
| • Full member – umpire | £125 |
| • Full member – non umpire | £125 |
| • Indoor only member | £54 |
| • Young member | £32.50 |
| • Coach candidate | £125 |
| • Young umpire | £5 |
| • Associate member | £5 |
| • Visiting umpire | £0 |
| • NPDP umpire candidate | £0 |
| • Reserve umpire | £0 |



Rob Brownbridge queried why the subscription level for NPDP umpires was nil. Martin Twist explained that this was in line with the previous candidate process, where candidate umpires had no subscription to pay. Simon Little asked whether that should change, given that NPDP umpires are guaranteed to receive a certain number of appointments from NPUA. Martin Twist explained that the Executive Committee felt that it was a worthwhile investment for NPUA to charge a £0 subscription for NPDP umpires in the interest of developing new members.

The subscriptions were proposed by Richard Kirk, seconded by Pritpal Sihota and approved unanimously.

9. Any Other Business

Jo Pennycook asked whether the Deputy Chairman role was a formalised position on the Executive Committee and whether it was listed in the constitution as an Officer position. Martin Twist confirmed that this was the case, and was added two years ago when the Expenses Administrator was removed as a position from the NPUA Executive Committee.

Raj Khanna asked whether the development portal would be made available to regions. Martin Twist explained that the key focus, particularly in the short term, was to provide a development resource for NPUA members, with an extension to NPDP umpires.

Liz Pelling commented that all officers of the Association were now male. She stressed that this was not a criticism, but encouraged the officers to ensure they consulted with key females members of NPUA when relevant. Sean Edwards agreed with this suggestion and confirmed that the Executive Committee had discussed this situation, as well as the composition of the whole Executive Committee, at their meeting the previous evening. Martin Twist encouraged any members of the NPUA to put themselves forward for key positions if they feel they have something to contribute to the association.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 17:52.