



NPUA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: Saturday 9 July 2011
Venue: Cannock

Attendees: Hannah Sanders (HS), Dave Dowdall (DD), Martin Twist (MT), Lili James (LJ), Richard Kirk (RK) and Richard Wood (RW).

The Executive Committee expressed their sympathies to the family and friends of Graham Nash who recently passed away.

1. Apologies

Several members emailed their apologies in advance of the AGM: Sandy Richards(SR), Tim Benford (TB), Sarah Chapman (SC) and Karen Evans (KE)

2. Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as a true and accurate record. It was noted that abbreviations will be clarified when first mentioned in the minutes with the abbreviation then used for the rest of the document.

3. Matters arising

- **IDG Review:** HS to create survey via Survey Monkey to review IDG for 2010/11. HS to coordinate review of Men's and DD to coordinate review of Women's IDG.
- **Insurance policy: it was confirmed** EHB insurance does cover all games where international umpires are officiating on behalf of England. A matrix to be compiled to clearly outline coverage, for members, whether at international, national or regional/county level to improve transparency [Action: TB]
- **Great Britain Performance Officiating Panel (GBPOP) representatives:** Andy Mair has been appointed as the independent representative on GBPOP, with Julia Gill continuing as the England representative.
- **Developing women's umpiring** with region – to be followed up [Action: DD]
- **NPUA homepage:** review of homepage and explore possible redevelopment [Action: DD and TB]
- **Awards page:** refine awards page to only reflect winners of awards, as Level 3 umpires are captured elsewhere [HS]
- **Development groups lead:** description of role to be created to attract someone from membership to take this forward on a constant basis [HS]
- **Umpire management appointments for coaches and assessors:** review process [Action: DD]

4. Finances

RK provided an overview of the NPUA's budget. Discussion with EHB to confirm the budget for 2011/12 will take place this month. It has been a challenging year financially, however, due to careful management and prudence by the Executive Committee (EC) it has been a successful one. It was agreed the EC will continue to work on plans for development opportunities and a library of online resources for members to access for 2011/12. **[Action: all]**

5. Conference 2011

MT gave an update on Conference 2011. Liaison with Loughborough University is progressing well, as are logistics and the programme for the event. Guest speakers covering playing and player-coaches are being explored, as are panel sessions, and sessions on new rules and regulations. **[Action: MT to finalise and circulate final programme]**

6. Awards

DD gave a short update on the EHB Award nominations and the NPUA's Umpire of the Year Awards (indoor and outdoor). It was agreed a new annual award would be introduced to

recognise the regular contribution and performance of coaches/assessors and admin support. Winners to be confirmed by 1 August 2011 for the trophies to be commissioned. **[Action: DD and HS with trophies organised by RW]**

7. AGM

DD provided an update on the management of the AGM, rules and criteria for its different components. It was agreed a new membership category would be proposed at the AGM – Lifetime Membership – to recognise those members who have committed long-term dedication and commitment to the Association. Nominations to propose a member to join this category would have to be approved by the Executive Committee.

Deadline for suggested AGM agenda items to be submitted in writing to the Secretary is 10 August 2011. These will be reviewed by the Secretary and Chairman as to whether the AGM agenda is the most appropriate forum and the member will be responded to in order to confirm the items inclusion.

8. Clothing

RW provided an update on the casual clothing range and the take up of stock, which is proving very successful. Several items to extend the clothing range have been suggested by members, these were reviewed and previewed by the EC. It was confirmed the Members' Shop should feature at Conference and the EC encourages members to help staff the shop and view the stock available for the new season. **[Action: RW to develop further and confirm options and costs of any possible new items to EC]**

9. Executive positions

The EC members provided confirmation of whether or not they will be continuing in their present roles for 2011/12. Nominations for joining the EC will need to be made in writing to the Secretary by 10 August 2011, to be proposed at the AGM. It was confirmed by DD that he will be resigning as Chair at the AGM on 3 September 2011. **[Action: HS to add a news item to explain the nomination process]**

10. England Hockey Umpiring Selection Panel (EHUSP)

MT provided an update from the EHUSP, as he attended the last meeting in June. EHUSP asked for clarification on several issues, which the EC reviewed and MT will feedback. A member of the EHUSP will continue to be invited to the EC meetings to ensure thorough communication.

11. AOB

- **Indoor national programme consultation:** MT provided feedback on the consultation response that the NPUA submitted. The EC expressed its thanks to all those who contributed, particularly Val Sassall, Liz Pelling and David Lane, and for pulling together such a thorough response at short notice. DD to follow up at NPUA/EHB quarterly meeting to understand next steps and timeframe for progressing the outcomes from the consultation.
- **Appointments at BUCS:** it was confirmed NPUA will continue to appoint to BUCS games where possible.
- **Technology update:** DD provided a short update in TB's absence. The EC expressed their thanks to TB for all his hard work and efforts to ensure the use of mics during the past 12 months, which has presented several challenges. The EC endorsed the proposals for continued development and distribution of mic packs in 2011/12. **[Action: RW to explore a possible feedback mechanism via NPUA website for users of mics to complete after each game]**
- **Website developments:** several developments were discussed and some developments confirmed to improve the operational efficiency, this included mechanisms to record the number of matches coaches/assessors and indoor umpires have completed.
- **Regional attendance at conferences:** SC to invite a representative from each region to the NPUA conference, as per 2010. Invitation to be sent to Secretary and Chair/President of each region. **[Action: SC to email invitations]**

DD thanked the EC for all their hard work and the progress that has been made in the past 12 months. The EC expressed their sincere thanks to DD for his dedication as Chairman and the leadership he has provided.

Meeting closed at: 16.27