



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 12 December, 2020

Attendees:

Liz Pelling (Chairman) (LP), Annette Badger (AB), Lee Barron (LB), Colin Barthorpe (CB), Dawn Bonner (DB), David Ellcock (DE), Debbie Garner (DG), Simon Gillett (SG), Suzanne Howard (SH), Mark Jarvis (MJ), Tony Kelleher (TK), Chris Peart (CP), Gary Stent (GS). Mark Everard (ME) until 10:00am

The Meetings opened at 09:30 on December 12, via Zoom conferencing

1. Apologies for Absence

None

2. Minutes of 15 October 2020

No matters Arising not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

3. OMS Update

Matt Harrison provided a written report of updates since our last meeting. Work still ongoing in a priority order with the list of requests from NPUA and Regions. Noted that OMS now linked to Govt. lockdown tiering system which will make appointing easier.

Action: MH to keep us posted via LP

4. NPUA Exec Update - ME

Return to Play: Agreed that ME will continue to inform members of plans for return to play. Note expected next week.

ME & LP to discuss Season 21/22 on Monday 14 December

DE thanked the exec for keeping members updated during the season.

New NPUA website in final stages.

5. EHUSSC Update – DE

Last meeting held on 14 November.

Mason Wright, who is now leading NYUPL, joined the meeting to discuss young umpiring at National level. A reminder that NYUPL to appoint to Futures, U16 & U18 and appropriate Internationals. Key to developmental success are the appointment of appropriate UMs accepting that mid week tournaments sometimes makes this more difficult.

EHUSSC has produced a paper on the 'Characteristics of a high performing umpire'. Plan to share with NPUA support team in a zoom-style meeting in January with Paul Box Grainger and Mark Jarvis leading. It will then be distributed to umpiring members and will 'live' on the new NPUA website as a reference document.

Exec have produced a KPI document, and EHUSSC has been looking at potential options to make meaningful strides into the desired metrics. **Action LP to ask ME if both can be circulated for advanced information**

International umpires: Noted that EHF and FIH appointments can only accepted if active in National Association. It was also noted that International umpires should act as role models when it comes to fitness tests.

With CB retiring at the end of the season, a process for a new appointments coordinator will be underway in the New Year by open recruitment.

The assessors for coach and assessor candidates had been updated, noting there was a shortage in the West region. Mark Staunton will join us from Wales, and other recruitment opportunities being discussed.

Work ongoing with GB players looking at clips (as per conference) and proving a very useful two-way consensus and understanding tool.



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6. Appointments Update – CB/CP

Very few appointments have been made since the last meeting due to lockdown. Some GB games at Bisham, Lilleshall and Loughborough. Have been able to appoint appropriate umpires due to good availability.

EHL clubs in contact with CB and CP to help with friendly umpires.

Harder to appoint to games in far West due to lockdown, particularly for those living in Wales, plus distance needing to travel, and those members accepting these were thanked.

Need to evaluate format of league when we restart, to decide how we appoint eg bi-weekly, weekly. A decision will be made once EH has confirmed plans.

Umpires to update availability after first week of January after meeting with EH and are requested to keep it regularly up-to-date. **Action: All panel leads to remind umpires**

BUCS update – nothing likely until after 17 Feb.

LP thanked CB/CP and MJ for their working appointing thus far

7. Coaching & assessing Update – MJ

Priority with restart will be outstanding candidates. MJ thanked CP for support in getting as many candidates through as possible given constraints.

MJ and PBJ will set up next support call.

6 coach candidates, 1 assessor candidates need games and MJ will work with CB/CP to manage.

35 support people attended the coach/assessor meeting hosted by Louise Knipe and Margaret Hunnaball. Feedback very positive and thanks expressed to them both.

Noted that Assessor candidate confirmation of pass/fail to be done by the assessor following the written report.

DE thanked MJ for his sterling work behind the scenes to keep support / awards ticking over well.

8. Panel updates from leads:

Each panel lead gave an update on panels since the last meeting, although very few games to report on. Where coaching and assessment appointments were missed, each panel lead will work with MJ to re-appoint on restart. WhatsApp groups and Zoom calls all working well and as a means to keep panels up to date.

It was noted that we have experienced a long break in hockey, and it is hoped that umpires are managing to stay fit. A reminder that on all coach and assessor forms is a fitness box with levels of Good, Satisfactory and poor, plus club feedback often reports on 'perceived fitness' of umpires. **Action: Panel leads to closely monitor fitness feedback as play resumes.** Support personnel are to be reminded of the criteria for the fitness boxes. **Action: DE to remind support team**

Panel updates since last meeting:

Caroline Illing passed her L3 Assessment and was added to C Panel

Sophie Parker, returned to C panel

Holly Redpath – taking a year break. Moved to reserves

Oliver Jones has retired from NPUA.

NPDP / Candidate

It was noted that from now on, regions could nominate candidates as and when ready and not just in July and December. NPDP remains twice yearly and a two-year programme.

Action: SG to write to regions to see if any NPDP and advise re new candidate process.

Reserves and Regional Reserves (LP)

Reserves: The following have not umpired for NPUA for 18 months and are removed from the panel: Will Davey, Ian Dinwiddy, Dave Dowdall, Jason Evans, Jamie Hooper, Albert Marcano and Stephen Tabb

Regional Reserves: The new system for appointing Regional Reserves is working well, and has been supported well by the Regions. A reminder how it works. CP assigns a game to the Region and the Region then discusses and advises the nominee.



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8. Preparation for season 21/22

Structure/governance papers are circulating between EH and associations/clubs, but no decisions have been made until discussions have been had following careful evaluation. NPUA Executive will keep all members informed as and when there is more to say.

**10. AOB
None****11. Date of next meeting:**

16 January, 2021 @ 9:30 -11:00 via Zoom

The meeting Closed at 1pm

With thanks to Dawn Bonner for Zoom access