

Minutes of 2021 NPUA AGM - 16th September
Held virtually over Zoom

Meeting Open - 19:07 with 53 (full) members in attendance

- **Apologies**
 - Apologies for non-attendance were received in advance from:
 - **Robert Cann**
 - **Jonathan Gillespie**
 - **Conor Carmody**
 - **Gary Stent**
 - **Steve Smith**
 - **Lee McEvoy**
 - **Iain Noon**
 - **Jackie Gibbs**
 - **Laura Seager**
 - **Johnny Downer**
 - **Steve Cronin**
 - **Graham Woolcock**
 - **Kevin Twissell**
 - **Alan Miller**
 - **Nick James**
 - **Christopher Seeley**
 - **Bruce Bale**
 - **Jo Pennycook**
 - **Campbell Reeman**
 - **Suzanne Howard**
 - **Paul Box Grainger**
 - **Mason Wright**
 - **Richard Bishop-Leggett**
- **Minutes of the 2020 AGM**
 - The minutes were proposed by David Ellcock as an accurate record of proceedings and were seconded by Liz Pelling.
 - The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of proceedings by 92% of the meeting, with 3% rejecting them and 5% abstaining.

- **Chairperson's Report**

- "I would like to start by saying a big thank you to Dave Monger for his admirable role as Secretary, over the past few years, also, another big thank you to Karen Fynn for her contribution on the Exec Committee, they will both be missed.
- It has been a very strange year, we started the season then it was halted due to Covid, this has not meant that things stopped for the Association we have been in close contact with EH over the possible resumption of the league and if that was possible what that would look like, unfortunately, that never happened.
- We also sent out all the new radios and shirts at the beginning of the year, with the radios being a good covid logistical mission to prepare them all for dispatch.
- We also had some very worthwhile coach's convergence sessions, which have led to the characteristics of a high performing umpire as rolled out at conference
- There has also been a lot of future planning as well as the hard work that went into the virtual conference, which was very informative and certainly got me thinking about how I umpire.
- Thank you to Liz and her selectors for bringing together the appointments for the finals weekends and also the umpires and umpire support that made themselves available not only for that but for the part of the season that we did do, enduring the long drives with no teas or changing facilities.
- With the season starting on Saturday, I really do hope that we do not have any interruptions to make Chris and Rob's life even more difficult than it already is.
- Rob replaces Colin in the appointers' role, although they will be very difficult shoes to fill, Rob is getting to grip with it already and on a plus side, he like me has no hair to pull out.
- As I said at conference, Colin will be sorely missed from his role and I know it was not the last season he hoped for, he has however offered his expertise to Rob in the Job.
- We now have a new system for appointing called GMS, there has been some teething problems with this, thanks to Liz, Matt, Rob and Chris for getting us to where we are, but hopefully WTU have got to grips with these and it will start to run a lot smoother, could I ask that anyone who has not registered on the system do so as soon as possible.
- Matt Harrison sent out some guidance on how to complete the process, if you do not register, you will not be able to update availability and as things stand there are some weekends we are short of umpires, so can I ask that you register and everyone keeps their availability up to date.
- Hope you all have a good season, fingers crossed it is not interrupted."
- The above report was proposed by Mark Everard and seconded by AJ Small.
- It was accepted by 98% of the meeting, with 2% abstaining.

- **Association Accounts**

- This was a difficult year for the Association and one of those which he had built some reserves up for being a rainy-day season.
- We had little activity beyond October 2020 and the ability to generate funds was therefore limited.
- We had already committed to the purchasing of radios which we incurred in the accounts to 30 June 2020 at a cost of £8,844 with an additional cost of £740 in the early part of the year ended 30 June 2021.
- Further we incurred the costs of purchasing new shirts for all umpires with the addition of the green polo shirt at a cost to the Association of £5,470. This was committed to before the pandemic struck as the blue shirt was being phased out by Adidas.
- With no BUCS activity this year we were unable to maintain that revenue stream, but a new agreement has been reached with BUCS for this year so hopefully this will be a return to previous seasons.
- The conference income has been generated from the amounts set aside in 2020 and the Executive agreed to cover the costs of running the virtual conference in September 2020.
- As agreed at the last AGM the Executive reviewed the membership fees during the year and made the decision to reduce to £nil the fee for coaches, assessors, and the younger membership due to the pandemic. At the same time the active umpires membership levels were reduced to £40 to help cover the admin costs and the fact we had provided a free shirt and radio over the last two seasons.
- **Overall, we had a deficit in the year of £5,849.**
- With regard to the balance sheet clearly reserves have been hit by COVID and there were no grants available to the Association to help in this regard.
- The accounts were proposed by Richard Kirk and seconded by Rebecca Woodcock.
- They were unanimously accepted by the meeting.

- **Association Subscriptions**

- As committed at the AGM last year we have reviewed the indoor-only membership category. The proposal is to slightly increase the subscription from the current £54 to £65, as a contribution towards shirts and specific development resources (such as a specific indoor, on-line, 'conference').
- The proposed subscription levels for the forthcoming season are as per the below:

• Honorary Vice President and Life Members	Nil
• Full Member – Umpire	125.00
• Full Member – Non-Umpire	125.00
• Indoor Only Member	65.00 - the only change proposed
• Coach Candidate	125.00
• Young Member	32.50
• Associate Member	5.00
• Young Umpire	5.00
• NPDP Candidate	Nil
• Visiting Umpire	Nil
• Reserve Umpire	Nil
- We have a policy currently that if a member undertakes very few appointments yet has been regularly available we reserve the right to reduce the subscription to the level of any potential travel claims.
- As last year, if the season is curtailed then a pro rata membership level may be determined and applied accordingly at the discretion of the Executive as elected by the membership.
- The mileage rate is determined by EH and therefore no increase is proposed for the coming season as any money would need to be generated by EH to fund this and in these difficult times that is not high on anybody's agenda.
- The subscription charges were proposed by Richard Kirk and seconded by Bob Jordan.
- They were accepted by 93% of the meeting, with 7% abstaining.

- **Election of Officers**
 - Mark Everard, Sean Edwards, and Richard Kirk are all happy to continue in their current roles (Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, and Treasurer, respectively):
 - **Mark Everard**
 - Proposer = Lee Barron
 - Seconder = Rob Brownbridge
 - **Sean Edwards**
 - Proposer = Hannah Harrison
 - Seconder = Rajiv Khanna
 - **Richard Kirk**
 - Proposer = Dawn Bonner
 - Seconder = Jaime Cox
 - **Rachel Williams**
 - Proposer = Mark Everard
 - Seconder = Rebecca Woodcock
 - The re-nomination of Mark as the Association Chairperson was accepted by 91% of the meeting, with 9% abstaining.
 - The re-nomination of Sean as the Association Deputy Chairperson was accepted by 98% of the meeting, with 2% abstaining.
 - The re-nomination of Richard as the Association Treasurer was accepted by 92% of the meeting, with 8% abstaining.
 - Rebecca Woodcock, AJ Small, Jonathan Hull, Ed Westbrook and Charles Hallows are all prepared to continue in their non-officer roles.
 - The nominations of these non-officers were accepted by the meeting (as a block), and all were duly re-elected to the Executive, with 92% of the meeting voting for and 8% abstaining.
 - Julian Warburton was proposed and seconded by David Monger and Andy Higgins, respectively, to join the Executive in a non-officer role. His nomination was accepted by 90% of the meeting, with 10% abstaining.

- **AoB**
 - There were two proposed changes to the association's constitution, detailed in the document that was circulated prior to the meeting. These were follow-up actions that were noted in the 2020 AGM:
 - Update the wording to make it gender neutral
 - Make clear that disciplinary hearings can be held electronically, if required
 - The changes were proposed by Sean Edwards and seconded by Chris O'Hagan.
 - The meeting voted in favour of both making the constitution gender neutral, with 94% in favour and 6% abstaining, and making it clear that disciplinary hearings can be held electronically, if required, with 98% in favour and 2% abstaining.

With no other items raised from the meeting floor, the meeting closed at 19:46