



## Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 21<sup>st</sup> Feb, 2023

### Attendees:

Liz Pelling (Chairman Elite ) (LP), Lee Barron (Chairman Conference) (LB), Chris Blogg (CB) Dawn Bonner (DB), Debbie Garner (DG) Simon Gillett (SG), Ann Hopkins (AH), Hamish Jamson (HJ), Mark Jarvis (MJ), Chris Peart (CP), Gary Stent (GS).

The Meetings opened at 19:30 on Feb 21, 2023, via Zoom conferencing

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Nku Davis (ND), David Ellcock (DE), Mark Everard (ME), Rob Jenkins (RJ), Louise Knipe (LK),

### 2. Minutes of 6 Dec, 2022

No matters arising not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

### 3. GMS Update

No further updates.

### 4. NPUA Exec Update – ME

Panel leads to remind panels re the anniversary dinner to be held on September 2<sup>nd</sup> in Nottingham, and to forward on to ex members they may know.

### 5. EHUSSC Update – DE

Next meeting is 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb. **ACTION:** DE/LP will update EHUOPC post meeting

### 6. Coaching & Assessing Update

EHUOPC expressed congrats and thanks Gary Stent on achieving his 400<sup>th</sup> Support Milestone – the first in NPUA to do so.

MJ gave a thorough verbal report on support plans thus far and to the end of the season with a desire for all active members to have been seen at least once during the season. EHUOPC expressed its thanks to MJ for coordinating requests.

### Table of support appointments (coaching & assessing) per panel as at 21 Feb

The overall average for support appointments across the association is 1.7 per panel member (198 umpires – 339 appointments)

Men's				Women's			
Panel	Umpires	Support Appts.	Average / umpire	Panel	Umpires	Support Appts.	Average / umpire
Prem	25	34	1.4	Prem	19	28	1.5
A star	5	7	1.4	A star	6	15	2.5
A	21	34	1.6	A	15	24	1.7
B star	6	14	2.3	B star	5	6	1.2
B	30	56	1.8	B	13	28	2.2
C	22	42	1.9	C	30	51	1.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1.7</b>

### 7. Appointments Update – RJ/CP/CB/LP/LB

February appointments have been challenging. Match times all seem to be similar too, making double ups difficult. From March 11, appointments will be week to week as is usual practice. **ACTION:** LB to remind areas and all panel leads to remind their umpires on appointing principles.

### Area Reserve Numbers at 19 Feb



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Up to 27			
Nov	W	M	
NE	9	2	
NW	16	2	
Mids	13	3	
East	9	0	
SC	7	0	
SE	2	0	
London	5	0	
West	5	8	
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>81</b>

With thanks for the areas for supporting games in February, and also to NPUA members who doubled up on match day to ensure fixtures were played.

### 8. Panel discussion (all):

As a reminder to members, EHUOPC noted that when measuring performance for panel promotions, marks from prior seasons also form part of the overall consideration, with all movements being at the discretion of the EHUOPC. The exception to this is for A star panels, where guidance requires that two marks of 9 or 10 on Prem games is needed for promotion 'within' a season; and membership on both panels is over a maximum of two full seasons.

Movement between panels was discussed at length and it was acknowledged that there needs to be more fluidity to enable progression for those performing well, and those who do not, especially on the star panels. The marking system has clarity around the bands required, and should be referred to by umpires, as well as assessors regularly. Exceptions to the above are in the gift of EHUOPC.

New for season 22/23 was the need for any active Premier or A star panel, on the panel at the Christmas break, need to have completed a second fitness test to Premier level. **ACTION:** Those without two fitness tests by March 6<sup>th</sup> will not be appointed to Premier League in the final matches from March 11.

### Taking a Break from Umpiring (Extract from the 2022/23 Fitness test policy)

Annual assessment is all about maintaining standards for elite national level umpiring. If an umpire takes a break it is essential to NPUA that when they return to umpiring they are fit to do so.

If a member has, for whatever reason, taken a break from umpiring (lasting longer than the current season) they will need to demonstrate their fitness and be re-assessed when they resume umpiring.

It should not be automatically assumed that the member would return to the panel they were on at the start of the absence, particularly if that absence was fitness related.

Those members who are inactive due to injury or a failed fitness test will continue to fall under the responsibility of their original panel lead, this will continue until such time as they return to umpiring or fall into the long-term break described below.

For clarity, and subject to the discretion of the Performance Committee to take into account individual circumstances, the following will apply:



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- Short-term break (within the current season having passed a fitness test at the start of the season) - return to existing panel, no assessment required (although a fitness test may be required at the discretion of the panel lead)
- Medium-term break (within the current season plus the following season) - fitness test required, then assessed and returned to the C panel (outdoor) or B panel (indoor), with Indoor / Outdoor Performance Committee discretion to reinstate at any panel following the initial assessment. Such a decision can be agreed by the relevant Performance Committee off-cycle from their formal meeting schedule
- Long-term break (greater than the current season plus the following season) - umpire should undertake games in their Area, pass the NPUA fitness test for a candidate, and then be re-nominated by their Area as a candidate

### **Milestones:**

Congratulations were noted for the following members on reaching milestones within NPUA

400 Support Appointments – Gary Stent

100 – Daryl Sudworth

100 – Teresa Jolly

### **Panel updates since last meeting:**

Leads provided comprehensive updates to panels for the meeting

**ACTION:** Panel leads to notify umpires of changes not previously communicated

Umpires without appropriate fitness tests for panels to be contacted and may be moved before the restart of the season if still not correct

### **Men**

#### **a) A Panel / B\* – GS**

Steve Cronin is moved to A Panel

Caroline Frye has retired from NPUA

#### **b) B Panel – LB**

Conor Carmody is moved to reserve

#### **c) C Panel – ND**

Chris Rockingham is moved to B panel

Iain Noon is retiring from NPUA and is thanked for his service. **ACTION:** LP to remove from panel

### **Women**

#### **a) A & B \* Panel -DB**

Elysee Enness-Lapport and Chris O'Hagan are moved to A star panel

Saul Shohet is moved to A panel

#### **b) B Panel – AH**

Steve Perruzza is moved to B star panel

#### **c) C Panel – DG**

Martyn Shuttler is moved to B panel

#### **d) NPDP / Candidate**

Gregor Hofstede moved achieved his L3 and is moves to Men's B Panel



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Rodrigo Rivadeneiro is placed on Men's C Panel (overseas transfer)  
Laurie Linnell achieved L3 and is placed on Men's C panel  
Katherine Abbie achieved her L3 and moves to Women's C panel

e) **NYUPL**

Mason Wright has circulated several GMS messages requesting availability for up-coming events. EHUOPC thanked Mason for his work in this important developmental role.

### 9. **End of season Events**

#### **Premier Play-offs**

To be held weekend April 1st and 2nd at Surbiton Hockey club. Top 4 premier teams playing for a place in Europe. The winner of the premier league will take the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked EHL spot.

EHUOPC agreed to take 5 umpires to each competition of Finals weekend, the fifth place in each potential a development opportunity.

Once availability is in, LP will discuss appointments with HJ and LK and circulate to EHUOPC for ratification.

Support to be agreed by EHUSSC

#### **Tiered Competitions**

To be drafted by the appointments group and circulated to EHUOPC for ratification.

#### **BUCS finals**

To be drafted by the Appointments coordinator and based on those who have umpired the leagues. To be ratified between Julian Warburton by LP.

#### **Oxford v Cambridge Varsity**

Viv Carveth, Mia Dewing, Sam Church and James Rollins appointed, with Grant Douglas as coach supported by Dawn Bonner.

### 10. **AOB**

LP raised Continuity coaching v mentoring of umpires given resources available. It was agreed that the role of individual support needs to be discussed and reaffirmed for the start of the season. **ACTION:** LP to discuss with EHUSSC and MJ

### 11. **Date of next meeting:**

Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> @7:30pm via Zoom

The meeting Closed at 21:35pm . With thanks to Dawn Bonner for Zoom access