



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

Attendees:

Liz Pelling (Chairman Elite) (LP), Lee Barron (Chairman Conference) (LB), Chris Blogg (CB) Dawn Bonner (DB), Nku Davis (ND), David Ellcock (DE), Mark Everard (ME), Debbie Garner (DG) Simon Gillett (SG), Ann Hopkins (AH), Hamish Jamson (HJ), Mark Jarvis (MJ), Rob Jenkins (RJ), Louise Knipe (LK), Chris Peart (CP), Gary Stent (GS).

The Meetings opened at 19:30 on May 16, 2023, via Zoom conferencing

1. Apologies for Absence

none

2. Minutes of 21 Feb, 2023

No matters arising not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

3. GMS Update

No further updates. **ACTION LP/ME to catch up with webmaster and report**

GMS is only allowing the appointments one at a time and needs addressing before the start of the season **ACTION: LP to discuss with Webmaster**

Liaison with EH re readiness for start of season on GMS needed by mid-August drafting:

ACTION: ME to discuss with EH

4. NPUA Exec Update – ME

Building towards Conference and the Gala dinner

Fitness test updates for next season will be out soon from AJ. Dates will be 1st July to 13th August for completion ahead of season start. Details to follow. **ACTION: ME/Exec**

5. EHUSSC Update – DE

It was noted that HJ will be taking over as International Co-ordinator. Many thanks were expressed to Paul Box-Grainger for taking care of the International group.

Key Characteristics for Umpiring Support are being developed

A list of new people willing to be assessors is being developed. **ACTION: DE to liaise with MJ**

Lee Barron and Matt Harrison have been added to the trainee UM EHF list.

6. Coaching & Assessing Update

Following significant support in the second half of the season, we were able to assess all current NPUA umpires at least once, with a good number receiving 2 or more assessments across the season. This season we saw a rise in the number of NPDP/Area candidates, with a significant number receiving support and assessments where required, thus swelling the overall number of L3 umpires within NPUA – plus 20 new umpires from the start of the season.

MJ expressed thanks go to all those coaches/assessors who have undertaken support appts throughout the season, with many doing double headers, both on a single day and across the weekend. This includes those persons completing umpire assessments/coaching's, alongside coach/assessor candidate assessments/coaching's.

MJ expressed thanks to Liz, Lee, Rob, Chris P and Chris B for their help in sorting out the appts, and considering requests for pairings where needed.



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

Pre-Xmas appointments:

Assessments: 86 Men's, 68 Women's
 Coaching: 59 Men's, 42 Women's
 Total appointments: 274

Post Xmas appointments:

Assessments: 51 Men's, 32 Women's
 Coaching: 10 Men's, 19 Women's
 Total appointments: 112

Total appointments made across the season: **386**

L3 Coach/Assessor Candidate Progress

Aside to the umpire support appts, we have continued to progress those coach/assessor candidates. The following individuals have been awarded (or are in the process of being awarded) their accreditation through EH.

Newly awarded L3 Coaches: Mason Wright, Karl Strickland, Paul Sexby, Andrew Barnes, Andy Brookes, David Elworthy

Newly awarded L3 Assessors: Gemma Jones, Saul Shohet

ACTION: MJ to update GMS

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.

Support lists will be updated to reflect active status in roles **ACTION: DE/LP to discuss with EHUSCC and MJ**

It was agreed to communicate an assessment and coaching framework at Conference and for distribution to members. EHUOPC discussed at length some possibilities. **ACTION: LP to write a proposal and liaise with DE and MJ, then circulate to the group for comment**

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

Sincere thanks expressed to the appointing team for the 22/23 season. Overall, with divided workload, the season has been easier with a better balance. The end of the season was harder than the start. A perennial reminder to members to constantly keep availability up to date.

Thanks were expressed for their support to Julian Warburton for BUCS and mid week matches, and Mason Wright for NYUPL/junior mid-week matches.

End of season tournament appointing and liaison with EH went well. Thanks to the support teams at the cup finals making the days run smoothly.



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

Area Reserve Numbers at end 22/23 season

Season	W	M	
22/23			
NE	13	2	
NW	24	2	
Mids	20	3	
East	13	0	
SC	9	0	
SE	3	0	
London	7	0	
West	5	10	
Total	94	17	111

With thanks for the Areas for supporting games throughout the season, and also to NPUA members who doubled up on match days to ensure fixtures were played.

ACTION: Area reserve list to be updated for start of season 23/34 LB, CB, CP

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. The exception to this is for A star, 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.

A reminder to members that active Premier or A star panel, on the panel at the Christmas break, need to have completed a second fitness test to Premier level. Those without two fitness tests by the restart of the league post indoor will not be appointed to Premier League matches

Exceptions to the above are in the gift of EHUOPC.

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.



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

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

- 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 outdoor/support milestones within NPUA :

200 – Will Champness
 200 – Dan Reid
 100 – Ed Westbrook
 100 – Gemma Jones
 100 – Karen Fynn

Full season:

400 - Gary Stent Support Appointments
 300 – Pritpal Sihota
 200 – Martyn Shuttler
 200 – Will Champness
 200 – Dan Reid
 100 – Daryl Sudworth
 100 – Teresa Jolly
 100 – Jim Marchant
 100 - Richard Bishops-Laggett
 100 – Ed Westbrook
 100 – Gemma Jones
 100 – Karen Fynn

Panel updates since last meeting:

All panel leads provided comprehensive updates to panels for the meeting

Umpires who did not umpire all season will be moved to the reserve panel. Return to 'old' panel possible up to Christmas break 2023, with fitness test for the panel and following assessment on an appropriate game.

Reserve umpires who have not umpired for 18 months will be removed from NPUA panels. Return to NPUA umpiring is possible with Area nominations.

Umpires without appropriate fitness tests for panels will be moved to appropriate panel for test or to reserves. Return to 'old' panel is possible if the correct level test is achieved with an appropriate mark for the panel.

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



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

Men**a) Premier / A* - HJ**

Isaac Charles and Gareth Perry are moved to A panel

b) A Panel / B* - GS

Hannah Harrison is moved to Prem panel

Amar Chudasama and Nku Davis are moved to A star

Kevin Roberts – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve.

c) B Panel - LB

Jonathan Gillespie is moved to B star

James Wakeland is moved to C panel

Zac Longstaff – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve.

Jo Spooner – Did not umpire. Move to reserve.

Gerritt Farren – Did not umpire. Move to reserve.

d) C Panel - ND

Dan Wheawall is moved to B panel

Jon McCall – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve

Graham Woolcock is moved to rReserve

Women**a) Premier/A* - LK**

Jane Hallett and Julian Warburton are moved to Prem panel and awarded their National Badge

Annette Harvey – has retired from umpiring and is moved to reserves. Annette will continue to coach and assess, and may be available to umpire if needed.

David Haynes – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve

Rachel Williams – is currently living abroad and is moved to reserve panel

b) A & B* Panel -DB

AJ Small is moved to A star panel

Start Fenton and Kevin Twissell are moved to A panel

Jo Spooner – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve.

Gerrit Farran – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve.

c) B Panel - AH

Annette Thorpe – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve.

Toni-Lee Lambert is taking a break and is moved to Reserve

d) C Panel - DG

Sophie Parker is moved to B star panel

Raj Khanna, Louise Robinson, Martyn Shuttler, Jason Sign and Liz Spencer are moved to B panel

Cate Adamson – Did not umpire. Move to Reserve

Caroline Iling - Did not umpire. Move to Reserve

Elise Charlton is moved to reserve



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 16th May, 2023

GROUPS:**a) NPDP / Candidate**

Chris Pelmore passed his L3 Outdoor assessment and is moved to men's B star Panel

Mike MacDowell passed his L 3 Assessment and is moved to men's B panel

Elliot Baker, John Beckett, Adam Kendall passed their L3 assessments and are moved to men's C panel

Nikki Butcher is moved to men's C panel

David Colbourne and James Freeman returned to NPUA umpiring and are moved men's C panel

Lucy Barlow passed her L3 Outdoor assessment and is moved to women's B panel

Graeme Hope, Andy Parker, Jo Swift and Peter Tovey passed their L3 assessments and are moved to women's C Panel

Chris Seeley is added to the women's C panel

ACTION: SG to write to areas re new intake for season 23/24 to be advised by 1st July.

b) NYUPL

EHUOPC thanked Mason for his work in this important umpiring development role.

c) NPUA RESERVES

The following umpires who have not taken NPUA umpiring appointments for 18 months or more will now be removed from the NPUA reserve lists. Return to NPUA umpiring is possible via Areas.

S Allen, F Block, J Carter, R Croxon, J Glover, D Henning-Reeman, J Hull, S Mayhew, C Moggach, M Pilgrim, A Pring, L Waine

10. AOB

On behalf of the membership and all teams, LP expressed thanks to EHUOPC for its work this season.

11. Date of next meeting:

September tbc following Exec conformation of EHUOPC membership for 2023/24 season

The meeting Closed at 21:45pm . With thanks to Dawn Bonner for Zoom access