



Minutes of the NPUA AGM Held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 – via Zoom

## Meeting Open and members welcomed by Chair, Sean Edwards - 19:32 with 66 members in attendance

**1. Apologies – Colin Crayford, Julian Warburton, Mark Davidson, Rob Jenkins, Colin Anderson, Nick Lockhart, Jonathan Gillespie, Howard Wilson, Tim Forte, David Savage, Annette Harvey, Phil Mutlow and Tom Pilgrim**

**2. Present – Sean Edwards, Rachel Williams, Adam Fleming, AJ Small, Alan Dow, Alex Bandurak, Andy Brookes, Ann Hopkins, Anthony Bridge, Champness, Chrles Hallows, Chris Duerden, Chris Peart, Colin Jones, Colin Reed, David Ellcock, David Monger, Dawn Bonner, Debbie Garner, Julie Ferrett, Gemma Jones, George Deaves, Gihan Thabrew, Grant Douglas, Jackie Gibbs, Jade Bloomfield, Jaime Cox, Jason Horne, Jason Davies, Jo Swift, Jonathan Hull, Lee Barron, Liz Pelling, Margaret Hunnable, Mason Wright, Matt Harrison, Matt Pilgrim, Max Davidson, Mia Dewing, Neil Johnson, Nick James, Nick Padget, Nick White, Paul Box-Granger, Peter Divall, Peter Tovey, Raj Khanna, Rebecca Edwards, Richard Kirk, Rob Dummer, Robert Brownbridge, Rowan Tejura, Sam Church, Saul, Simon Gill, Simon Webb, Stuart Freeman, Teresa Jolly, Terry Lees, Tom Cox, Vic Carveth, William Mewis, Jason Horne and Clare Barwood.**

### 3. Minutes of the 2024 AGM

The minutes were proposed by Jaime Cox as an accurate record of proceedings and were seconded by Raj Khanna.

### 4. Chair's Report

Sean presented a deck of slides (below) to highlight the NPUA strategy and the direction for each pillar within it.



#### Recruitment & Talent ID

“Identifying and encouraging the right people to join our pathway”



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- NYUPL governance – formally incorporating young umpiring into NPUA (Thank you to Mason Wright for all his work with NYUPL to date)
- Filming of “my umpiring journey” stories at NPUA Conference
- Launch of *High Potential Panel* within new panel structure
- EHO Conference in partnership with NPUA event
- We have 250 talent scouts

### **Performance Support**

“Tailored support for our elite performers and top talent”

- Targeted development camp held at Loughborough in February
- Development group at East Grinstead HC in October
- Purchased timing gates for FIH fitness tests
- Opened conversations with England Hockey and UK Sport about availability of funding for elite officials

### **Utilising Technology**

“Investing in new ways to deliver regular development support”

- Launch of weekly UmpireCast podcast, with 36 episodes published so far (Thank you to Jaime Cox leading the charge with this project)
- Launch of WhatsApp Community and weekly clip sharing
- Online development portal under construction – launch in first half of the season
- Various webinars throughout the year including umpire support, indoor umpiring and trial aerial rule
- Send us your content ideas and clips
- Valuable learning requires us all to be honest, open and respectful

### **Umpire Support Investment**

“Embedding the key characteristics of umpire support in our culture”

- Umpire Support development event at Sevenoaks HC in November
- Two attendees at EuroHockey Umpire Manager Conference
- Investment in 25 three-way radio sets for umpire support
  - Compulsory for all coaching and assessment appointments!
  - Online coaching to launch this season – coordinator needed

### **Growing Our Brand**

“Presenting NPUA at the forefront of umpiring excellence”

- Launch of EHL Umpiring Briefing, including meeting with clubs
- Great social media content, including presence at major events such as playoffs
- ‘Behind the scenes’ videos at Super6s finals
- Improved social media collaboration with England Hockey

Facebook: NPUA

X: @NPUAhockey

Instagram: @NPUAhockey

- We have 250 brand ambassadors; represent us with pride and integrity

### **Enhancing our member experience**

- Formalised expenses policy, including increase in hotel allowance



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- Renewal of Specialist Sports deal, including free matchday casual shirt
- Safeguarding lead required – please contact Sean Edwards
- England Hockey...
  - Increased recognition from England Hockey, including social media and awards
  - Kicked off expense review with England Hockey, ahead of 26/27 season
  - Agreed 25% ticket discounts for domestic events, exclusive to NPUA members
  - Agreement for EH to run a mid-season respect campaign

### **NPUA 500 Club**

Congratulations and thank you to those who have completed 500 appointments with NPUA:

- Paul Box-Grainger
- Stephen Cox
- Jackie Gibbs
- Andy Higgins
- David Howell
- Rob Jenkins
- Tony Kelleher
- Richard Kirk
- David Lane
- Steven Rice
- Pritpal Sihota
- Nick White

### **NPUA Awards 2025**

Congratulations to all who won awards at this year's NPUA conference:

- Jane Nockolds Young Umpire of the Year – **Max Davidson**
- David Lane Indoor Umpire of the Year – **Laura Seager**
- Chris Todd Award for Umpire Support – **Hamish Jamson**
- Outdoor Umpire of the Year, The Graham Nash Trophy – **Clare White**
- Julia Gill Lifetime Achievement Award – **Margaret Hunnaball**

An acknowledgement to the loss of Mark Jarvis. His loss is still felt within the association, and the roles he has previously taken are now completed by three people, showing just how invested he was in NPUA. A big push was done for the Ride for Jarvy crew and we're now a lot closer to our overall target of 20,000. Our current total:



Current total £19,557...

## 5. Association Accounts

The finance report was sent across to the membership with no questions from the membership.

The accounts were proposed by Richard Kirk and seconded by Matt Pilgrim. They were accepted as an accurate record by 59, with 1 abstain and 0 rejected

## 6. Association Subscriptions

The proposed subscription levels for the forthcoming season are as per the below – no amendments are proposed:

Honorary Vice President and Life Members Nil

Full Member – Umpire 125.00

Full Member – Non-Umpire 125.00

Indoor Only Member 65.00

Coach Candidate 125.00

Young Member 32.50

Associate Member 5.00

Young Umpire 5.00

NPDP and Candidate Nil

This reverts to the category of membership when they are admitted so if before the end of December a full membership and reduced if after December

Visiting Umpire Nil

Reserve Umpire Nil

Young umpire – Those who were in NYUPL

Young member - someone who has the same rights as a full member and U21 in fulltime education or U23 and working.

The subscription charges were proposed by the Executive Committee and seconded by Liz Pelling. They were accepted by 58 with 1 reject 0 abstain.

## 7. Election of Officers

Election of Honorary VPs:

Liz Pelling



Paul Box Grainger

61 accept – 0 reject - 2 abstain

All officers of the executive committee are happy to continue in their current roles:

**i. Sean Edwards** Proposer: Liz Pelling Seconder: Mark Everard.

The re-nomination of Sean as the Association Chairperson was accepted with 100% of the meeting accepting.

**ii. Gemma Jones** Proposer: David Ellcock Seconder: AJ Small.

The re-nomination of Gemma as the Association Deputy Chairperson was accepted by 91% of the meeting with 9% abstaining.

**iii. Richard Kirk** Proposer: Debbie Garner Seconder: Andy Higgins.

The re-nomination of Richard as the Association Treasurer was accepted by \*\*\*% of the meeting.

**iii. Rachel Williams** Proposer: AJ Small Seconder: Jaime Cox.

The re-nomination of Rachel as the Association Secretary was accepted by 99% with 1% of the meeting rejecting.

Non-officers all prepared to continue in their non-officer roles:

<b>Jaime Cox:</b>	Proposer: Margaret Hunnable	Seconder: Lee Barron
<b>Rebecca Edwards:</b>	Proposer: Hannah Harrison	Seconder: Nick Padget
<b>David Ellcock:</b>	Proposer: Jaime Cox	Seconder: Sean Edwards
<b>Charles Hallows:</b>	Proposer: Rachel Williams	Seconder: Nick James
<b>AJ Small:</b>	Proposer: Jaime Cox	Seconder: Rachel Williams
<b>Julian Warburton:</b>	Proposer: David Monger	Seconder: Andy Higgins
<b>Simon Webb:</b>	Proposer: Rachel Williams	Seconder: Sean Edwards

The nominations of these non-officers were accepted by the meeting (as a block), and all were duly re-elected to the Executive, with 98% of the meeting accepting and 2% abstaining.

## 8. AOB

Other business raised from the membership:

### 1. EHO Membership benefits with NPUA

Most of this sits within our NPUA membership – the only real difference is our webinars. NPUA should be supporting you with development as an NPUA member so those webinars aren't made available as part of EHO. We will be looking at running equivalent sessions for NPUA members this season which will be tailored to NPUA.

### 2. Overnight accommodation

We must ask Kirky in advance or it's not paid. The exec will have a discussion at their next meeting regarding this. We get a fixed amount per appointment from EH from each match regardless of travel and it needs to be balanced out. We will come back with a proposal if necessary

### 3. Other



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Arranging a webinar (hopefully next week) for N1, N2 and umpire support to brief the trial aerial rule.

Thank you to everyone who presented at conference and those who attended – it was fantastic interaction with a great atmosphere and culture in the room. Thanks to Jaime Cox who arranged conference. Jaime has shared the form – please ensure you complete this. There will be online reporting for all red cards / misconduct this season. Please keep an eye out for upcoming comms from EH. The old forms will no longer be accepted.

**With no other items raised from the meeting floor, the meeting was closed at 20:10**