



Minutes of Committee Meeting held at ALSAA Sports Complex, Dublin on Sunday 10th January 2016 at 10.45 am

Present: Chairman - Warren McCully (WMcC), Graham Hohn (GH), Tom Goode (TG) Eamonn McFerran (EMcF) & Robert Johnston (RJ) & Aisling Keogh (AK).

Apologies: Geoff Conn (GC), Gillian Johnston (GJ) & Peter Murphy (PM)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year. He informed everyone, who didn't know already of the broken leg that Peter Murphy suffered during an Irish Junior Cup match before Christmas. Everyone wished him well.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and agreed by everyone present. No amendments.

Matters Arising

2. UDWG to take forward Introductory Courses for Umpires – **On-going, with WMcC at present (ACTION).**
3. Submit development budget to Hockey Ireland - **Complete**
4. Set up a Sterling Bank Account - **Complete**
5. Chase up monies from IHA for Intro Umpires Course - **Complete**
6. GC to be made an authoriser for the bank - **Complete**
7. Letters to be sent to Provinces for payment of subscriptions - **Complete**
8. Write Press Release for Introductory Umpires Courses – **On-going, with PM at present (ACTION)**
9. Coaching Course to be put together – **On-going, with TG at present (ACTION)**
10. Club Nominated Umpire Statistics to Hockey Ireland – **Partially complete**
11. Continue to investigate all sponsorship opportunities – **On going, with GC at present (ACTION)**
12. Lodge Money for Umpires Radios – **Complete**
13. Tournament 'commitment' to go on Portal - **Complete**
14. Check if two people can be nominated for UDP - **Complete**
15. Contact Umpires and submit UDP Application(s) - **Complete**

Correspondence

16. Email received from Andrew Groves re retirement from umpiring at national and provincial level. **WMcC has phoned Andrew Groves. ACTION: WMcC to send a letter to Andrew thanking him for his services to IHUA.**
17. Email from FIH re Request for appointment of women's umpire to 10 Team Invitational Tournament in Hastings (NZ) from 31 March to 10 April 2016. **Alison Keogh has been selected as preparation for her Junior World Cup appoint later in the year.**
18. Email from Mike Heskin re Outcome of Code of Conduct matter involving Arlene Boyles. **See Communications with Hockey Ireland.**
19. Letter received from Polish Hockey Association confirming that Kris Cholewa has been released and is now officially an Irish Umpire. **WMcC has already sent email to Kris re his 'new' nationality.**

Finance

20. WMcC confirmed that an umpire development budget had been forwarded to Hockey Ireland.
21. WMcC advised the Committee that Hockey Ireland had not yet received their grant from the Irish Sports Council.
22. Umpire Co-ordinator expenses have been paid out of IHUA funds for the last number of years. **ACTION: WMcC to raise matter with Hockey Ireland for payment of these expenses as these are directly related to Hockey Ireland fixtures.**
23. GH confirmed that Ulster and Leinster had paid their 2016 subscriptions. Awaiting payment from Munster at present.
24. GH confirmed that Ulster have paid outstanding €200 for Young Umpire Workshop.
25. GH has prepared an overall financial budget for IHUA for season 2016. **ACTION: GH to distribute to all Committee members.**
26. GH has obtained outstanding Introductory Course monies from Hockey Ireland.
27. GH confirmed that IHUA now have a sterling account.

Sponsorship

28. No significant update to report.

Umpire Development Working Group

29. WMcC reported that a paper had been prepared by Richard Kendrick about the immediate umpiring concerns and issues and this was submitted to Hockey Ireland. Paper circulated at meeting. Issues reported: Match times, Club nominated umpires, IHA Code of Conduct.
30. WMcC advised the Committee of the changes to Appendix 7 re the Irish Umpires Working Group – this will now incorporate the Technical Officials Group and this proposal will go before the Hockey Ireland AGM for approval. Committee raised no issues.

Hockey Ireland Communications

31. WMcC informed the Committee that he and RJ had met with Richard Kendrick and Brian Caruth (Hockey Ireland) on Tuesday 5 January 2016 to discuss the above. WMcC and RJ updated the Committee on the meeting, especially that it was accepted that the IHA Code

of Conduct was very generic. WMcC advised that he made the point, it was for this very reason it was not an appropriate process for reporting umpire abuse etc.

Cool-off period - RJ advised that a cool off period after matches was also discussed but that would need a rule change for next season – IHUA to liaise with EYHL Clubs for this season with an informal agreement until change is made. **Match times** - WMcC advised that match times procedures cannot be altered mid-way through season but to be changed next season. **Club nominated umpire** - The Committee agreed that Hockey Ireland need to enforce sanctions this season. **ACTION: WMcC to submit further information to Hockey Ireland.** **IHA Code of Conduct** - Committee agreed that Match Day Misconduct Offence procedures similar to England Hockey should replace the Code of Conduct process for umpires reporting abuse etc. and IHUA could support this change of process. WMcC advised that he had passed the necessary Hockey England paperwork to Brian Caruth to consider.

32. The Committee felt it was necessary to have a Match Day Misconduct Offence process that had a sanction and that which prevented occurrences, as a back up to the cool off period; this would support umpiring currently and provide a 'support platform' to encourage people to take up umpiring.

Umpire Development

33. **Umpire assessor Course** – Scheduled for Banbridge Hockey Club on Sunday 15th November was postponed due to lack of numbers. New date to be confirmed.
34. **EHF Umpire and Umpire Coaching Course** (Glasgow in September) – Feedback received from Richard Cowan.
35. **UDP** – Confirmed that two applications were submitted: Russell Donaldson and Shane O'Donnell. No response received from EHF at present. Emails sent to Christine Reid and Malcolm Coombes in relation to not being considered at this time and thanked for their interest.
36. **Mid-Season Workshop** – Draft Programme has been prepared for Sunday 24 January 2016. WMcC distributed to all at meeting. Umpire attendance remains mandatory.

Tex Solutions – Umpire Portal

37. Nothing significant to report.

Umpire Grading/Selection/Fitness

38. **Selection** – no issues reported by Umpire Co-ordinators. However, a lengthy discussion did ensue about the the recent Girls U21 Tournament. Whilst it was agreed the U21 tournament being held over two weekends was a factor it was fully agreed that there were some 'commitment' issues that needed to be addresses with our members. Also, accepted that overall numbers on the women's panel was a major issue at present.
39. **Irish Indoor** – **ACTION: Hockey Ireland to provide matches and these will be appointed to.**
40. **Fitness** – Testing to take place during training day on 24 January.
41. **Grading** – A grading and assessment meeting which preceded the Committee Meeting can confirm that Rob Argent and Christine Reid can be upgraded from Provincial A Panel to the Development Panel. The following have now successfully obtained Accredited Umpire Assessor: Jamie Aitken, Julie Beamish, Zenia Howe, Robert Johnston and Peter Murphy. **ACTION: WMcC to send emails and update Umpire Portal.**

Any Other Business

42. No AOB.

Date of Next Meeting

Date of the next meeting was no fixed but likely to be early to mid-March.

WMcC closed by thanking everyone for their attendance.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 1.10pm.

Warren McCully

Minutes prepared by

Warren McCully

11th January 2016

Summary of Agreed Actions

Para Ref	Action	Who
2.	UDWG to take forward Introductory Courses for Umpires	WMc
8.	Write Press Release for Introductory Umpires Courses	PM
9.	Coaching Course to be put together	TG
11.	Continue to investigate all sponsorship opportunities	GC
16.	Send a letter to Andrew thanking him for his services to IHUA.	WMcC
22.	Contact Hockey Ireland re payment of Umpire Co-ordinator expenses	WMcC
25.	Distribute IHUA 2016 financial budget to Committee members	GH
31.	Submit further information to Hockey Ireland re club nominated umpires	WMcC
39.	Hockey Ireland to provide indoor matches for appointments	WMcC