

Avon County Women's Hockey Umpires Association

**Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the above named Association
Held on 25th May 2011 at Students Union, Glenside Hospital, Blackberry Hill,
Fishponds, Bristol**

Those present: Justine Nicklin, Peter Lovell, Liz Powell, Vanda Fenn, Sally Palmer, Lynne Lawrance, Deric Burns, Josie Wood, Stephen Wood, Paul Westgate, Deb Hamlin, Alan Giles, Richard Lancaster, Ben Redwood, Lesley Pattenden, James Self, Caz Fenn & David Parry-Jones.

Apologies: John Burr, Janet Wilson, Russell Moore, Gary Gullick, Alison Parry-Jones, Chris Mayo, Jenny Mayo, Gill Rylance, Mark Williams, Jan Sharp, Carolyn Britton, Bob Pearce, Susannah Reynolds, Stephen Herring, Martin Bates, Maureen Mitchell, Joan Davies, Sheila Burrige, Mary Dowds, Kathie Wilson, Laura Stone, Sarah Johnson, Tim Scott, Simon Croucher, Hayley Blackborow, Richard Gardner, Gwen Adamson-Dunn, Ron Edwards, Paul Johnstone, Gideon York, Nikki Waldron, Bob Callicott, Bridget Bolland, Steve Coles, Jane Coles, Sarah Boulton, Sarah Pattenden, Steve Drew, Denise Pinnell, Laura Pinnell, Deb Gemmell, Steve Shaw, Richard Bennett, Annette Mackie, Jan Bowen, Hannah McArdell, Scott McArdell, Penny Mannings, Lesley Bayne, Val Shipsey, Alison Parry-Jones, Rebecca Hart, Rose Side, Tony Thornton, Deidre Thornton, Claire Westgate & Jeanette Bokacz.

Justine Nicklin welcomed everyone to the meeting and having read out the apologies asked if there were any more.

Minutes

Minutes of the previous AGM were agreed and signed. There were no matters arising. They were proposed by Deb Hamlin and seconded by Liz Powell.

Matters Arising

David Parry-Jones brought along a sample umpiring shirt with the crest embroidered on it, this was shown to those present and it was agreed that orders would be sought from the membership. The total cost of the shirt was £10 and the Association would subsidise each member's first shirt to the sum of £5. . They would be available in varying colours. The Chairman thanked Dave for his efforts

Chairman's Report

Secretary's Report

I would also like to say a very big thank you to our membership who have helped us to appoint umpires to all junior friendly matches and to the semi finals and finals days of the Avon Junior League. Once again our membership have supplied the bulk of umpires to West Junior tournaments and, with my West Appointments Secretary's hat on, I would like to say thank you to all those who have officiated, making it possible for over 1200

youngsters to be assessed at the various JAC tournaments and over 500 under 13s to take part in the Regional Under 13 and Under 11 schools mini tournaments.

This year has also been successful for several of our umpires. Andrew Lord having gained his level 2 umpire award; Caz Fenn has been promoted to the 'A' panel of the NYUPL as well as having officiated at several national finals and England training sessions; Nick Bennett having gained his Level 3 umpire award also umpired at national and international events; Claire Westgate and Tim Bennett having been appointed to the National minis finals. Well done to all of these umpires. In addition, Nic Oliver also gained his Level 2 umpire coach award.

The Association have held 5 Level 1 courses this year with a total of 101 candidates attending all of whom passed their theory exam, thanks to Justine & Carolyn for their considerable help in organising and delivering these courses. 46 people have gained their level 1 umpiring award this season and this would not be possible without the dedication of the umpire coaches/assessors in the association.

In addition a Foundation Umpire Award course was held in March at Yate and 7 youngsters all under the age of 13 embarked on their umpiring careers and indeed were able to help out at the junior league that afternoon.

Mark Williams and Sally Palmer have also been doing an audit of our young umpires, in the hope that we can get more of them involved in County Junior matches and hopefully then progressing to the RYUAG. To this end we have set up a texting service and a facebook page to be in better contact with these youngsters.

Peter then announced that three of our long standing members had decided to retire from umpiring this year, Mandy Powell, Tony Brown & Nigel Tasker, letters of thanks had been sent to all with best wishes for the future.

As you can see Once again this has been a very busy year for the Association and as always I would like to give my thanks to your very hard working committee.

Treasurer's Report

Bob Pearce was unable to attend this year's AGM due to family commitments, but had sent along a statement of the accounts which was distributed to those present.

Although in theory we had made a small loss this year, it should be noted that when we take in to account the Level 1 packs and foundation umpire award packs we have in stock, there is actually a small profit. Therefore Bob proposed there would be no increase to membership this year.

Liz Powell enquired as to the sum against coaches, it was noted that these were expenses claimed by our coaches. Deb Hamlin also noted that there were no costs for phone calls and was advised that, although phone calls do take place, no committee member had actually claimed. It was also noted that sums received last year for shirts had been reimbursed in full.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Lesley Pattenden and seconded by Liz Powell & the vote to accept the accounts was unanimous.

Bob had sent a proposal that the usual remuneration of £10 be paid to the auditor, this was seconded by James Self and carried unanimously as was the proposal that the auditor be reappointed for the forthcoming year.

Presentation to Coaches

No coaches were in attendance; however chocolates or wine had been purchased and would be distributed to those that had helped us with assessments and/or coaching through the year. They were, Caz Fenn, John Burr, Janet Wilson, Val Harding, Ray Robbetts, Lesley Bayne, Nic Oliver, Heather Child, Charlene Fleck & Vicky Hollier.

The Richard Powell Award

There have been two nominations for the Richard Powell Memorial Award – Val Shipsey and Caz Fenn – both have done sterling work for the Association and for umpiring in general.

Caz Fenn

Caz is a young umpire who has shown a great deal of commitment to umpiring. Not only is she achieving her own aspirations to further her umpiring career, in the face of some frustration with EHL and also having the responsibility of becoming a parent, but she is also taking on a level 1 umpire coach award to help others to achieve their aspirations. Richard would have been immensely proud of her and I feel that we really need to show appreciation for the commitment of those at the start of their career as well as those that have been involved with umpiring for many years. Caz is a credit to the West and ACWHUA and has much more to give as she matures and develops herself.

Val Shipsey

Val has been involved for many years in hockey and hockey umpiring. She has often umpired more than one game in a day and has often helped out clubs when they have been short of an umpire, either by doing a swap or by changing around her many other commitments. She has been very supportive of the Umpiring Association and, as a qualified Level 1 Umpire Coach has assisted in carrying out many assessments and reassessments both in the summer league for many seasons.

The winner was Caz Fenn.

Caz Fenn received the award and gave the following short speech:

I just want to say thank you to all present, but gave a special vote of thanks to those who had given her tremendous help in her umpiring career, John Burr who mentored her when she was under 18 and to Liz Powell and Pete Lovell who had given her assistance in her progression.

Election of Officers and Committee

There have been no nominations from the membership – people willing to stand are:

Chairman – Justine Nicklin
Secretary – Peter Lovell

Treasurer – Bob Pearce
Committee – Liz Powell
Vanda Fenn
Sally Palmer
Jan Sharp
Carolyn Britton
Mark Williams.

These positions were proposed en-bloc by Justine Nicklin, seconded by Deb Hamlin and voted for unanimously.

Any Other Business

Two tickets for the hockey in the Olympic Games had been purchased by the Association and were raffles off to those present – the winner was James Self. Peter informed those in attendance that the tickets could only be resold at face value and the winner would have to sign a declaration to that effect.

There being no further business the A.G.M. closed at 20.05 and following a short break for refreshments was followed by an open Forum in which Liz Powell gave a presentation on the “Control Ladder”