

Newsletter

Volume 33 June 2001

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Welcome to our summer newsletter. I hope that many of you are enjoying the break and recharging your batteries for next season, however I know that more and more are involved in the various summer leagues taking place. Don't forget that this is an ideal time to let fledgling umpires have a go and to encourage them to take it further next season.

Before we start contemplating next season a couple of items at our AGM, held at the start of May, have made me think and I would like to share these with you !!

Don't forget we as umpires form the third team on the pitch. We moan about the teams if they haven't got the same kit on or haven't bothered to change, thus making our lives difficult.

Don't forget that first impressions always count. We always expect a smart team to play better if we have not come across them before. If we think this of the players, it follows that players think the same of us.

As umpires therefore let's take a few moments to consider the following suggestions –

- 1 Look to wear a different colour to both teams and if at all possible the same colour as your colleague. If all of us carry two colours - say yellow and pink we should be able to manage this.

We will benefit -

- A) By giving a good impression to the teams
 - B) We will be able to see each other better which leads to better co-operation
 - C) The players will see us much more easily and we will not blend into the spectators
- 2 Try to talk to your fellow umpire before you start, this again encourages Teamwork.
 - 3 If you are unsure don't be afraid to stop time and speak to your colleague - They may be able to help and/or it will give you time to think !!

Enjoy your summer!!

Best wishes

Gill _____

A
D
F
W
G
A

Rule changes for the coming season

The good news is that the changes to the rules in 2001 are **minor**, here is a summary of the changes:

Short 'distance' markings.

These markings, on the side and back-lines of the field, are currently specified in **Rule 1.3**. They are to be placed outside the field of play, rather than inside, as at present. This will help to avoid undue wear and uneven surfaces, especially on synthetic pitches.

The opportunity has also been taken to convert the penalty corner markings on the back-line to 5m and 10m. The existing 4.55m and 9.10m markings are inconsistent with other rules.

This change will be effective immediately for any new pitches but those with existing markings shall be permitted. The wording of the rule will accommodate both existing and new pitch markings.

Stick rule.

Amendments and clarifications will be made to the technical wording of the stick (**Rule 4**), in consolidation with the FIH Equipment Committee officers. In substance, no changes are involved.

Captain. (Rule 7.1)

The need for each team to have a captain (who must wear a distinctive arm-band) actually on the field of play is no longer thought to be essential given the existence of rolling substitutions. It has been agreed that the captain could be on the field or, at particular times in the game, could be on the substitutes bench. However if a captain is suspended, a replacement must be indicated.

Manufactured fouls. (Rule 13)

Manufactured fouls are having an increasingly bad effect on the flow and presentation of the game. They can negate the

promotion of skilful play and are often not penalised correctly. Greater emphasis will be placed in the rules on the manufactured foul.

Goalkeepers restricted

(particularly of relevance to **Rule 15.2 The Penalty Corner**)

When goalkeepers participate in play outside their normal areas, it is confusing to players and spectators. The Hockey Rules Board is increasingly concerned about the involvement of the attacking teams' goalkeeper in the completion of the penalty corner at half and full-time.

It has therefore been agreed that goalkeepers cannot play outside their own half of the field, unless taking a penalty stroke.

Misconduct by substitutes

(**Rule 15.4**)

The hockey rules board shares with others a concern about increasing levels of misconduct. In the light of comments received from national associations and elsewhere, it has been agreed that penalties for misconduct should be strengthened.

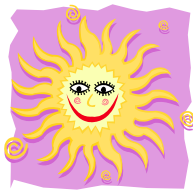
Substitute players when not on the field, are still under the control of the umpires. It is decided that they can be cautioned, warned, temporarily or permanently suspended. In the event of a suspension, the number of players on the field will be reduced accordingly.

Edge of the stick

The rules advisory panel and the hockey rules board had comprehensive discussions about the current mandatory experiment (**Rule 4.5a**) whereby the edge of the stick can be used to play the ball.

It was agreed that the mandatory experiment should be approved and incorporated within the rules. To give everyone involved time to accommodate the change, it is intended that formal inclusion in the rules will take effect when the 2002 rules book is printed.

The 2000/2001 rules book will continue to refer to this as a mandatory experiment.



Summer League

Below are this year's fixtures in our Summer League.

I am sure, teams and umpires alike would appreciate your support.

4th June

7pm OBs v Westberries
8.15pm Yatton v Winscombe II

7th June

7pm BAC v Winscombe I
8.15pm Bath v Clifton

11th June

7pm Possibrands v Redland
8.15pm Yatton v Yate

14th June

7pm BAC v Clifton
8.15pm Jaspers v OBs

18th June

7pm Winscombe I v Redland
8.15pm Westberries v Winscombe II

21st June

7pm Yate v Jaspers
8.15pm Possibrands v Clifton

25th June

7pm BAC v Bath
8.15pm Westberries v Yatton

28th June

7pm Winscombe II v OBs
8.15pm Bath v Winscombe I

2nd July

7pm Redland v Clifton
8.15 Yate v Westberries

5th July

7pm Possibrands v BAC
8.15pm Yate v OBs

9th July

7pm Jaspers v Westberries
8.15pm Bath v Redland

12th July

7pm Winscombe II v Yate
8.15pm Winscombe I v Possibrands

16th July

7pm Jaspers v Winscombe II
8.15pm Possibrands v Bath

19th July

7pm Redland v BAC
8.15pm OBs v Yatton

23rd July

7pm Clifton v Winscombe I
8.15pm Yatton v Jaspers

All matches will be played on the water based pitch at Bristol University's ground, Coombe Dingle.

Fixtures and results can be viewed on our website.

2001/2 Committee

Chairman:

Gill Prophet 9652716

Secretary:

Peter Lovell 9091025

Treasurer:

Bob Pearce 9622139

Committee:

Joe Garry
Liz Powell
Lynda Watts
Janet Wilson



GOOD NEWS



It has been left to me, your editor, because our chairman was obviously too modest to mention it, to tell you that:

We have 3 new Level 2s in the County they are:

Jayne Mills
Gill Prophet
& Tim Smith

Our congratulations to all three.

6 Match Cards

Anyone who has not yet returned their six match card have until:

31st August 2001



to do so. Anyone failing to do so will not be included on the Level 1 active list for next season.

Any problems contact Peter Lovell

Dear Marge



Your questions answered!

Dear Marge,

Could you please give your opinion on the following incident I recently witnessed whilst watching a game?

An attacker entered the circle and proceeded to take a shot on goal, the GK went to ground and the ball went missing. The controlling umpire looked to their colleague for help. This umpire indicated a penalty stroke. A stroke was then given. A player came up to take the stroke as the umpire was talking to the GK. The umpire then went to speak to their colleague. After a small discussion the penalty stroke was changed to a 16 yard bully.

The concerns I have are that while acknowledging the rule about the ball becoming trapped in the GK pads, kickers, etc., is the shirt classed as equipment? If a defender went to ground or fell over in the circle, would an umpire give a penalty stroke or a bully if the ball became lodged in their shirt? Where do we draw the line regarding equipment and an unintentional offence? I did assume in this instance that the ball went up the GK shirt rather than she was lying on the ball!

The other concern I have about this incident is that was it a good idea to change the decision just as the stroke taker is preparing for the stroke?

“One curious observer”



Dear Curious One,

This is a good one – it shows how cooperation can be an excellent tool in ensuring correct decision making but also it shows how dangerous it can be if, in such a situation, conversation between the umpires does not take place!

- 1. Great to see co-operation in action but should the disengaged umpire be signalling a penalty stroke? If you are the disengaged umpire and want to offer assistance use only a small directional signal. The controlling umpire will decide the penalty itself.*
- 2. If the controlling umpire, as in this instance, is unsure of what happened, time must be stopped and conversation between umpires take place BEFORE a decision is made.*
- 3. The rule book states that if the ball becomes lodged in the GK 's leg guard or*

player's or umpire's clothing a bully shall restart the game. The GK is a player and therefore her shirt would be seen in the same light as any other player's shirt for this rule. If the ball did go up her shirt from a deflection and lodge there then a bully is an appropriate way of restarting the game.

- 4. My feeling about the change of decision at such a late stage is that it was regrettable but the right thing to do. Any decision, which gives a goal-scoring opportunity to a team, needs to be seen as fair and correct. Better late than never in this instance!*

Marge



This query came through during conversation on the phone:

At a penalty corner in a recent men's game, three of the attackers ran from the circle edge straight towards the GK who was advancing out of his goal. No contact was made but all three stopped short of the GK and then turned their backs to him as if to receive the ball from the top of the circle. It effectively blocked the GK's vision and his reactions were therefore slower. I did not like the tactic but could not see any foul in their actions. They told me afterwards that they are coached to do this. Is there a foul?

The answer is NO there is not a foul – UNTIL ! When the players advance on the GK it is effectively to block the GK sight of the ball and give the attacking team an edge in the circle. If that is uppermost in the players minds as they perform this action then at some point they will step right or left to physically block the GK and it is at that moment you can blow the obstruction. The players may not actually step right or left but just use their arms/elbows or hips to stop the GK. Be very vigilant to erase this early on in the game. Ask your colleague for support in this to ensure you control your circle well (see above).



CAPTION COMPETITION



Here are just a few of the suggestions for last month's caption competition:

- 1) "Who stole my field and crows"
- 2) "I'm Jake the peg with my extra leg diddle iddle iddle um"
- 3) "Do you really think it looks better with the coat hanger in?"

Congratulations to Lesley Bayne who supplied the winning caption:

"Kate Moss eat your heart out, a figure like mine costs nothing"

A pealesse whistle is on it's way.



**Funny – but
that funny!**

Now for this month's:



This photo was taken during a Christmas meal.

Your new treasurer, the Avon Secretary and the Association's auditor seem to be enjoying themselves, but can you supply a funny caption.

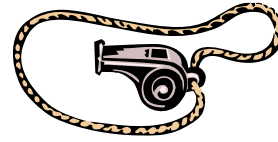
There is another pealesse whistle on offer for the best caption – so why not give it a go. Send your entries to: Peter Lovell, 6 Salisbury Park, Salisbury Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 5RY or Email to: Peterlovell@tesco.net.

A Plea for help!



**We want to include a crossword in the Newsletter
Is there anyone out there with an aptitude for compiling crosswords.**

**If so please contact the editor: Peter Lovell, 6 Salisbury Park, Downend, Bristol
BS16 5RY Telephone: 0117-9091025
Email: peterlovell@tesco.net**



Who's been doing what

Apart from junior county matches our umpires have been involved in numerous West events, please see below who has been doing what.

4th March	West Mini Hockey Championships Simon Croucher, Josephine Dee, Val Harding, Sue Nash, Fran Ripley, Peter Lovell	
11 th March	West Under 19 Clubs' Tournament Richard Powell, Janet Wilson, Gill Prophet, Peter Lovell, Simon Croucher, with Liz Powell as adjudicator.	
12 th March	EHA Under 15 Cup Quarter Final	Richard Powell Peter Lovell
22 nd March	EHA Under 15 Cup Semi Final	Richard Powell
18 th March	Cornwall v Somerset (County Championships)	Peter Lovell
2 nd May	Avon Cup S-Final – 1st XI Clifton v Redland	Peter Lovell Jayne Mills
3 rd May	Avon Cup S-Final – 2nd XI Clifton v Possibrands	Simon Croucher Steve Moseley
5 th May	Avon Cup S-Final – 2nd XI Redland v OBs	Simon Croucher Sue Nash
9 th May	Avon Cup S-Final – 1st XI Yate v Possibrands	Richard Powell Jeanette Bokacz
24 th May	Avon Cup Final – 2nd XI	Janet Wilson Jayne Mills
26 th May	Avon Cup Final – 1st XI	Steve Alger Peter Lovell

Congratulations and thanks to all those involved

Web Site



For those of you with Internet access our web site address is:

**Www8.50megs.com/acwhua
Please visit and let us have your comments.**