

# Newsletter

Volume 39 December 2002

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Season's

Halfway through the league season already and it doesn't seem long ago that I was writing this piece for the newsletter at the start of the season. Yet again it has been a busy time with coaches undertaking personal development courses and coaching our level one candidates for this year. Once again the course has been popular with twenty-one enrolling, the majority of whom have now passed their theory exam and some who are looking for suitable matches to be assessed for their qualification. If anyone can help these candidates please contact Pete Lovell.

Recently the West Hockey Association asked each of the counties for the number of newly qualified level one's in the last twelve months. I am pleased to say that we came up with twice as many as any other county and half of the

overall total. We also lost fewer of our number from the active list than many of the other counties, an excellent performance considering the large number we have. Congratulation must go to you all!!!

It is pleasing to again see that several of our umpires are helping the West by umpiring at tournaments and impress the other counties with their high standard. WELL DONE!!!

Finally I wish you a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a successful remainder of the season.

Best wishes

Gill



**A group of umpires having a short break at a recent west tournament. Does anyone have any amusing ideas for a collective noun for a group of umpires? – if so please Email the editor: [peterlovell@tesco.net](mailto:peterlovell@tesco.net), there could be a whistle in it for the best suggestions.**

## The Anorak's True Or False Hockey Quiz

Just for fun try and answer the following question. Answers next time.

1. A ball bouncing into the circle should always be penalised. **True / False**
2. The line between the goal posts is called the back line. **True / False**
3. After completing a suspension a player may be substituted without first returning to the field of play, **True / False**
4. Teams can have a maximum of 15 players. **True / False**
5. There is only one rule change that came in this season. **True / False**
6. There is a rule about offside. **True / False**
7. Players must wear shin pads. **True / False**
8. A bully may not take place within 22.90 metres of the back line. **True / False**
9. After a missed penalty stroke the defensive free hit must be taken from in front of the centre of the goal at a distance of 16 yards. **True / False**
10. Players are allowed to wear a watch. **True / False**
11. A half starts when the ball is played. **True / False**
12. Rule 9 is about the duration of play. **True / False**
13. At a Penalty Corner the ball may cross the line at a height of more than 460mm provided it then hits the backboard when it is the first shot at goal. **True / False**
14. Yellow-carded players may join their teammates at half time. **True / False**
15. At a penalty corner the injector must have one foot on the field of play. **True / False**
16. A defensive free hit can be taken for an offence in the circle from anywhere in the circle. **True / False**
17. At a penalty corner the ball does not have to be injected from a mark 9.10 metres from the goal post. **True / False**
18. A penalty-stroke cannot be awarded against defenders who persistently break early from the back line at a penalty corner. **True / False**
19. It is possible for a player to be given a green card for a different offence after receiving a yellow card for some other offence. **True / False**
20. A penalty-corner should be awarded if the ball becomes lodged in the goalkeeper's pads. **True / False**



### **Committee**

**Chairman:**

**Gill Prophet 0117 - 9652716**

**Secretary:**

**Peter Lovell 0117 - 9091025**

**Treasurer:**

**Bob Pearce 0117 - 9622139**

**Committee:**

**Josephine Dee**

**Liz Powell**

**Mandy Sanderson**

**Lynda Watts**

# REMINDERS

Have you completed your six match cards.  
If so don't delay, send them back now and reduce the risk of losing them.

This is now a requirement of English Hockey Ltd.

If you have mislaid or simply never had a six match card please contact  
Peter Lovell as soon as possible on 0117-9091025

## NOTICE FROM ENGLISH HOCKEY

The FIH has confirmed that it shall introduce two (2) Mandatory Experimental Rules to all international competitions from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2003. It is not mandatory that National Associations do the same.

Hockey England will consider the introductory date in the next week and will publish accordingly, but I stress that at this stage, it is unlikely that we will introduce any changes mid-Season. I therefore ANTICIPATE that we will not introduce before August 31<sup>st</sup> 2003.

For your information the two Mandatory Experimental Rules (for international competition from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2003) are as follow:

1. A defender shall be permitted to save a shot at goal that is above shoulder height. At present only goalkeepers are permitted to play the ball with any part of their stick when it is above shoulder height. This will continue to apply in general play throughout the field but the change means that defenders can use their stick to stop or deflect a high shot at goal as long as they do so safely.
2. It will no longer be necessary for attackers to stop the ball before taking a shot at goal at a penalty corner. However, the ball will have to travel outside the circle before a shot can be taken. All other requirements for taking a penalty corner shall continue to apply.

**NB these rules do NOT take immediate effect; we will inform you when they happen.**

### Supporting newly qualified umpires

**With the high attendance on this year's Level 1 umpiring course, it is expected that there will be more newly qualified umpires in the coming season than there has been for several seasons.**

**Please ensure you give these people your support and encouragement, remember what it was like when you first qualified.**

**Should anyone in your club be looking to take their Level 1 qualification encourage them to get in contact with Peter Lovell on 0117-9091025**

# Dear Marge



## Your questions answered!



Dear Marge,

I umpired a game recently whereby a penalty corner was about to be executed at the other umpire's end. All players were in place and ready when one of the attacking players on the circle edge called to say her GK was having a bad nose bleed so time was stopped. To get treatment the GK had to remove her helmet. Some questions arose.....

- a. should she leave the pitch because of blood spillage?
- b. should another of her players from the pitch have stepped in and put on a helmet whilst the GK received treatment?
- c. should the corner have been allowed to carry on as the GK wasn't interfering with play?

My concern, should the answer to c. be "Yes", is if the ball had broken from the corner and the defending team were able to make a quick break then the disabled GK would have been disadvantaged and indeed the whole team would have been penalised due to the game proceeding without a GK wearing a helmet.

(Incidentally, what is the penalty for a GK removing her helmet during a game?)

What would Marge do?

*I'll answer these in order.*

- a. *The GK does not have to leave the pitch for blood spillage if the umpires decide to stop time and let her receive treatment on the pitch. There is no need for the player losing blood to leave the pitch if treatment on the pitch is available and umpires condone it. If an outfield player is bleeding then it is advisable to ask her to leave the pitch to get treatment without stopping time. This usually involves no changing/removing of kit and often there is a substitute available to go on. In the case of a GK, kit may have to be removed and this would necessitate the*



*stoppage of time for it to take place.*

- b. *If the umpires have stopped time for treatment there is no need to put in a "kicking back". However, if the GK is unable to continue after a two minute injury stoppage then discussions must be held with the captain of the injured GK to establish who would go into that position. I am very concerned from a safety aspect that this sort of substitution is a short one and not one that is entered into lightly. Trying to hold on until the GK is fit again would be the common sense thing to do but I am aware in these days of tight schedules how difficult that can be.*
- c. *No the corner should not go on while treatment is given unless there is a substitute GK or "kicking back".*

*(The GK is allowed to remove her helmet in the duration of a game. If play is at the other end no problem, but if she removes it while she is under attack, e.g. when players are waiting for a free hit or corner to be taken, then she must be told to replace it immediately. If there is a genuine reason for taking it off then she must be given a small amount of time to put right the problem. If she persistently takes off the helmet and the umpire considers she is doing it to gain an advantage then she must be warned and carded.)*



*Another GK question!*

Dear Marge,

In a recent game one of the GK's asked if she could play wearing only a helmet. The rule book says that a "GK is strongly recommended to wear protective equipment at all times". Where do we as umpires stand? Is it possible that we may be found liable for allowing her to play



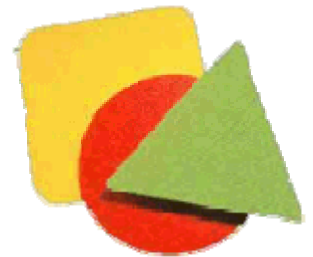
and risk injury or would that be her problem and her clubs?  
 What should umpires do especially if the team only have a helmet with them?

As I indicated in the earlier answer I am not in favour of “kicking backs” at all! We must always encourage GK’s to wear full protective kit for the whole of the match. However, if they decide not to wear all the equipment then we cannot stop them as it is permitted within the rules.

I would suggest that a discussion is held with the captain of the team and her GK during which you spell out that you are not happy with her decision not to wear

full kit and want the team to understand that you will bear no responsibility for any injuries that occur. You might even consider pulling out of the game as it would not only change the way you umpire in her circle (think of the danger aspect) but also intimidate the attackers into not being able to use all their skills in front of goal due to not wanting to cause injury.

*I must point out that this scenario is very rare! Most GK’s are aware of the dangers of keeping goal without kit and only the very single-minded would ever consider playing without protection.*



### Diary of Events 2002/2003

Please see below events that will be taking place throughout the rest of the season.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
7 <sup>th</sup> December	League	
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Under 18 Regional Indoor Tournament	
<b>25<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>Christmas</b>	
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Under 16 Regional Schools Indoor	
18 <sup>th</sup> January	League	
25 <sup>th</sup> January	League	
1 <sup>st</sup> February	League	
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Under 17 County Tournament	Clifton College
8 <sup>th</sup> February	League	
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Under 15 County Tournament	Clifton College
15 <sup>th</sup> February	League	
16 <sup>th</sup> February	Under 14 County Tournament	Clifton College
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Under 11 & Under 13 Minis	Clifton College
8 <sup>th</sup> March	League	
15 <sup>th</sup> March	League	
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	League	

## CAPTION COMPETITION



Now for this month's seasonal caption competition.

Whatever is she up to?

Anyone got any ideas for an amusing caption for this picture.

If so Email them to: [peterlovell@tesco.net](mailto:peterlovell@tesco.net), there will be either a whistle or a bottle of wine for the most amusing as judges by your committee.

So go on give us some Christmas cheer, we could all do with a good laugh!

## Young Umpires Award

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December a Young Umpires Award Course, run by Active Sports, was held at Clifton College. Seven young umpires, aged between ten and fourteen attended and took their first steps on the umpiring ladder. All had an extremely enjoyable day as did the coaches.

### **So what's it about?**

Hockey England's Young Umpire Award is for young people aged between 8 and 13 years of age. It's new, it's fun, it's challenging and it's a great new scheme for schools and clubs to invest in.

The Young Umpire Award is based on Mini Hockey (the 7-a-side hockey game). It's about young people learning the rules in a fun environment, developing their confidence and building an understanding of the role of the hockey umpire and then taking up the challenge and blowing the whistle in a Mini Hockey game.

### **Know any young people who might be interested?**

It is hoped to hold further courses in other areas of the region and should you know of any young umpires/players who may be interested you should in the first instance contact **Louise Riddle (Hockey Development Officer) on 01454 616 495** or **Peter Lovell on 0117 909 1025**.