

# Newsletter

Volume 44 December 2004

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear All,

As the first half of a busy season comes to an end we need time to reflect on what has happened and recharge the batteries for the remainder. The season seems to have been very busy with lots of people having queries or requests. Your committee has been busy organising a new level one course starting in January - more details later in this newsletter. Please make sure that anyone you know may who maybe interested signs up. The coaches have been assessing those candidates from last year's course, just a couple more to go, so if your club gets asked to provide a match for testing please help us to bolster our number.

Our membership has again been busy providing umpires for West Tournaments (a massive 80% of those needed) and I congratulate all those that have taken part on their level of performance.

The County has recently adopted its Child Protection Policy and a copy of their statement is enclosed with this newsletter as the Association has adopted this. Our lead article follows this theme and gives you some do's, don'ts and things to think

about, it is so easy to get into a situation which can be misconstrued.



On the same topic at the AGM interest was shown by those attending for us to arrange a Child Protection Course, however when Peter circulated you regarding making arrangements there were NO replies. Please respond when he circulates you again in the New Year.

This will be my penultimate newsletter as Chairman as I am almost at the end of my 5 year term. I would therefore ask you to start thinking about who you would like to take this position over in readiness for the AGM.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Richard Powell all the best for a speedy recovery. Many of you may know that he has been undergoing a second course of chemo therapy. Richard we look forward to seeing you out and about watching umpires and the game you love.

Finally I take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Best wishes.

Gill

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Included with this Newsletter is a copy of Avon County Women's Hockey Association child protection policy, something we should all adhere to. We have also put together a document of good practice for umpires and officials.

## Umpires and Officials

### Good Practice Document

**‘Good practice is as much about protecting yourself as well as protecting the children.’**

#### **When working with young players and umpires.....**

##### **Do**

- Make every effort to protect them from **abuse** from players, coaches, spectators etc. If you see it or hear it call the captains together at the time and if appropriate report it to the County's Welfare Officer after the match.
- **Accommodation** – check that those who are under 18 are in allocated rooms. No under 18 should share a room with an adult.
- **Appointments** – if the umpire appears tired or injured, reconsider his/her appointments. Demonstrate care. Remember that safety and well-being are paramount.
- **Appreciate** the needs of young persons at all times.
- **Changing Areas** – If under 18s are involved, make every effort to see that these areas are safe – involve the team captains as appropriate.
- **Enjoyment** – recognise the importance of fun and enjoyment.
- **Feedback** – Where appropriate provide verbal feedback in a positive way at all times. Be constructive, be helpful. Explanations are essential. Young persons are still learning.

##### **Do Not**

- Engage in any inappropriate contact with young persons under 18.
- Give a lift to a young person under 18 unless there are other young people or adults in the car and their parents are aware.
- Take any young umpire or player under 18 to your room or home.
- Overtly criticise young umpires or players or use language which may cause them to lose confidence or self-esteem.
- Make sexually explicit remarks to young umpires or players, even in fun.

Whilst most of this is common sense it does not hurt us to be reminded of our responsibilities.

**Website: [www.acwhua.com](http://www.acwhua.com)**

## 2004/2005 COMMITTEE

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<b>Committee</b>	Carolyn Britton	01454 851182	<a href="mailto:carolyn25@blueyonder.co.uk">carolyn25@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	Level 1 umpire award course coordination
	Justine Nicklin	01454 851182	<a href="mailto:justine18@blueyonder.co.uk">justine18@blueyonder.co.uk</a>	Summer league coordinator
	Jo Dee	01454 320603	<a href="mailto:tonyseymour@freeuk.com">tonyseymour@freeuk.com</a>	Young umpires and active sports
	Liz Powell	0117 9498571	<a href="mailto:thepowells298@ukonline.co.uk">thepowells298@ukonline.co.uk</a>	Progression group
	Margaret Hollow	01934 637426	<a href="mailto:hollowtreave@hotmail.com">hollowtreave@hotmail.com</a>	Complaints coordinator
	Vicky Hollier	01275 880274	<a href="mailto:vicky.hollier@lafarge.com">vicky.hollier@lafarge.com</a>	Newly qualified coordinator
	Janet Wilson		<a href="mailto:Jans@wilsonj23.fsnet.co.uk">Jans@wilsonj23.fsnet.co.uk</a>	Reassessment coordinator

**Should you have any questions and or comments please contact any member of the committee.**



### A caption required

Can anyone think of an amusing caption for the picture to the left?

Forward your answers to  
[peter.lovell4@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.lovell4@btinternet.com)

There's a bottle of wine in it for the winner

**Website: [www.acwhua.com](http://www.acwhua.com)**

# Dear Marge



Dear Marge

When umpiring my last match, having awarded a penalty stroke, I proceeded to ask both goalkeeper and striker if they were ready and, after receiving verbal responses from both, I blew my whistle. I was informed by my colleague after the match that the requirements regarding asking players if they were ready were removed from the rulebook in 2004 and all that was now needed was for the umpire to blow their whistle. I must admit that I have not read my rulebook for some time please could you advise.

Uninformed

Dear uninformed

Your colleague was right; however the requirement was removed from the rulebook to alleviate language problems especially in international matches. Because most of us are not involved at this level we are advising all umpires at local level to continue as before. Time is stopped and therefore no time is wasted in asking if both players are ready and awaiting their verbal response. By doing this you can be sure that everybody concerned knows what is about to happen and no confusion arises.

On another note I would advise all umpires to read their rulebooks on a regular basis, especially the parts referring to interpretation, by doing this we will improve on our consistency and therefore improve the game for all.

Dear Marge

Confusion arose during the last match I umpired. Having given a short corner and blowing time, I of course allowed the short corner to proceed. Whilst waiting for the players of the defending side to retreat to the half way line, I noticed that the keeper at the other end had removed her helmet and left the field of play. I asked her to replace her helmet and return to the pitch. The keeper questioned my decision, saying that because she was not allowed into the opponents half and that once the short corner was over it would be half time it made no difference. However she returned to the pitch with her helmet on and the half ended when the short corner was over. Was I right?

‘Keepers are scary people’

Dear ‘Keepers are scary people’

Yes you were right although I do have sympathy with the keeper’s viewpoint. The rulebook quite categorically states that there will be a person on each team at all times wearing full head protection and that this person shall not enter the opponent’s half. Therefore, even though in this case the keeper could not have become involved, it is necessary for her to be on the pitch with her helmet on.



**Marge wishes all her readers a very happy Xmas and healthy New Year. Keep on writing**

**Website: [www.acwhua.com](http://www.acwhua.com)**

## 2005 Level 1 Umpiring Award Course

This course will be held in January 2005 dates as follows:

16<sup>th</sup> January 2005 - 10am to 4pm at Students Union, UWE, Blackberry Hill

30<sup>th</sup> January 2005 – 10am to 4pm                      Ditto

Practical coaching will then take place during the rest of the season and on the Summer league.

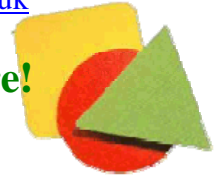
Practical Assessment will be carried out where possible on the summer league.

Do you or your club know of any budding umpires who would like to become qualified. If so your club secretary should have a registration form.

Should you have any further questions please contact the course coordinator:

Carolyn Britton – 01454 851 182 or Email [carolyn25@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:carolyn25@blueyonder.co.uk)

**Umpires are still in short supply and we need more!**



## ACHIEVEMENTS

The following have had successes since the last newsletter

### Level 1 Umpire Award:

Hayden Arrowsmith	–	Bath University
Simon Fairclough	-	Bath University
Marcus Baines		UWE
Rebecca George	-	Winscombe
Trixie Burlinson	-	Somerset Gryphons

### Level 1 Umpire Coach Award

Carolyn Britton  
Justine Nicklin



Our congratulations go to each and every one of them. Please make them welcome.

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## Forthcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Avon Juniors Triangular Tournament	Clifton College & Firebrands
16 <sup>th</sup> January	Level 1 Umpire Award	UWE Students Union, Blackberry Hill
30 <sup>th</sup> January	Level 1 Umpire Award	UWE Students Union, Blackberry Hill
6 <sup>th</sup> February	Under 17 County Championships	Clifton College
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Under 15 County Championships	Clifton College
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Under 14 County Championships	Clifton College
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Under 11 & Under 13 Mini Hockey	Clifton College
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Under 18 Club Championships	Clifton College

**Anyone wishing to be considered to umpire at these events should  
in the first instance contact Peter Lovell**

**Tel: 01275 844 875 or Email: [peter.lovell4@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.lovell4@btinternet.com)**



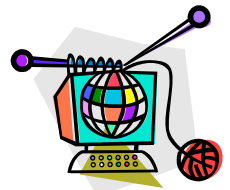
For all the latest information and news visit our  
website at:

**[WWW.ACWHUA.COM](http://WWW.ACWHUA.COM)**

Why not take a visit and leave a question  
for Dear Marge.

Links are also available to English  
Hockey's website offering a great deal of  
information about umpiring.

Should you have any comments or items for inclusion please contact Bob Pearce  
Email: [Bob.Pearce@adsweu.com](mailto:Bob.Pearce@adsweu.com)



*Seasons Greetings to all our members and their loved ones*



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