

# Newsletter

Volume 46 October 2005

## Chairman's Letter

If you have been as lucky as me you will have had at least 2 days off prior to the beginning of yet another hockey season. Summer leagues almost ensure that there is no break these days.

Included with this Newsletter are the league handbooks, a red card report form and your 3 match cards. England Hockey have deemed that this year all umpires need only umpire 3 matches to remain on the active list for the next season, I do however encourage you to umpire as much as possible after all practise makes perfect and to be respected by the players you need to be umpiring on a regular basis.

The proposed Open meeting in September had to be postponed but I can assure you will be rearranged at the earliest convenience.

One of our stalwarts, having served on the committee for several years in various roles and who was responsible for revamping the Level 1 umpire award course, Lynda Watts, is moving temporarily to New Zealand. I have tried to persuade her to find room in her suitcase for me but without success. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well in this new adventure. BON VOYAGE LYNDA. I suppose it would be too much to ask for you to come back on the odd weekend when we are short of umpires?

Since the beginning of the year the following umpires have gained their Level 1 umpire badge:-

- Jacqueline Cole
- Vanda Fenn
- Christopher Gibbs
- Graham Howell
- Jonathon Irons
- Richard Miller
- Simon Morley
- Hannah O'Driscoll
- Judith Owen

Our congratulations go to all of them. Please make them welcome and give them every assistance should you be paired with them during the season.

The progression group continues to be run by Liz Powell. This group is intended to help those who wish to umpire to the best of their ability and, should they wish to progress, the coaching necessary to help them achieve this. Should you wish to be considered as a member of this group, or just want more information do not hesitate to contact Liz or any member of your committee.

A new code of discipline has been issued by England Hockey and can be downloaded or viewed at:  
<http://www.englishockey.co.uk>

Finally good luck and happy umpiring for the season.

*Peter*

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# THE RULES OF HOCKEY 2006

There are no changes to the Rules of Hockey for 2006 (either outdoor or indoor) other than the reduction in the amount of bow/rake permitted in hockey sticks, which was announced earlier in 2005.

The FIH Hockey Rules Board continues to scrutinise the rules to ensure that our game remains enjoyable for everyone involved in it. One of their focuses is making the game easier to understand while another is reviewing and responding to safety requirements. Changes may therefore occur in the rules in the future but 2006 will be an opportunity to consolidate our experience of the current rules.

The change to the stick specification reduces the permitted bow from 50mm to 25mm. This decision was taken by the FIH Executive Board on the advice of its Equipment Committee and Hockey Rules Board. It followed a concern that the extent of the bow of some sticks had increased significantly over the last few years, which appears to enable an increase in the power with which some players can flick the ball, especially for shots at goal. A limit to the stick bow will reduce some of this power without detracting from dribbling and other attractive ball control skills.

The precise change to the Field & Equipment (Stick) Specifications is shown underlined in the following extract from the rules:

2.3k Any curvature along the length of the stick (the rake or bow) must have a continuous smooth profile along the whole length, must occur along the face side or the back of the stick but not both and is limited to a depth of 25 mm.

The rake or bow is tested using a pointed wedge the point of which is 25 mm from the flat base. The stick is laid on a flat surface. The wedge must not pass completely under the stick at any place along its length.

For international hockey matches, these rules come into force from 1 January 2006. However, England Hockey shall introduce the change as follows:

All players participating in the EHL Premier 1 (Men & Women) shall from 1st January 2006, be required to use only sticks that comply with the new Rule in all EHL and international hockey competition. All other players in England shall from 1st June 2006 be required to use only sticks that comply with the new Rule.

Because this is the sole extent of rules changes for 2006, new rule books will not be published in hard copy. Instead a small leaflet has been produced which can be inserted in the 2005 books. This leaflet is available to download from the England Hockey website [www.Englandhockey.co.uk](http://www.Englandhockey.co.uk) where a consolidated set of 2006 rules incorporating this change will also be available in due course.



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

## MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership is now overdue and a membership renewal form is enclosed with this Newsletter if you have not yet renewed. The membership fee this year is £10.

For this you will receive:

- Insurance, which will cover you against public liability whilst umpiring, something that is becoming increasingly necessary in these days of litigation.
- Regular Newsletters.
- A current rulebook. (NB Latest information from Hockey England suggests that the rulebook will not be reprinted for the coming season, an addendum will be issued, so please keep hold of your 2005 edition)
- Coaching if required.
- Plenty of information and advice.



## Tips & Tricks

I always carry a roll of masking tape with me – invaluable to mend the nets prior to the game.

Using a crib card prior to the game, when talking to my colleague is the only way I can remember to cover all the points I wish to discuss with my colleague. A short list of the essentials is all that is required.



We've all had it – that dispute during the game that is about to get out of control – normally a question regarding a decision we have made.

The best way of dealing with this is to give a short, clear explanation to the player or players involved. But under no circumstances get into detailed discussion during the match. If a player continues to question or argue tell them that you are willing to discuss the incident in greater detail after the game.

You will normally find that by the end of the match the incident has been forgotten and no further discussion is necessary. However should the player/s wish to discuss it further it is important to make yourself available.

Should you have any tips you wish to pass on Email [peter.lovell4@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.lovell4@btinternet.com)



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

## COMMITTEE 2005/6



<b>Chairman:-</b> (Chief cook & bottle washer)	Peter Lovell	01275 844 875	Peter.lovell4@btinternet.com
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Newsletter editor Database maintenance Young umpires & active sports
<b>Secretary:-</b> (General dogsbody)	Margaret Hollow		hollowtreave@hotmail.com
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Avon Umpiring Secretary General correspondence Complaints
<b>Treasurer:-</b> (Moneybags)	Bob Pearce	0117 962 2139	Bob.Pearce@adsweu.com
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Finances Web site maintenance
<b>Committee:-</b> (Runners)	Carolyn Britton	01454 851 182	carolyn25@blueyonder.co
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Level 1 Umpire Courses
	Vicky Hollier	01275 880 274	vicky.hollier@lafarge.com
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Newly qualified level 1s Venues
	Justine Nicklin	01454 851 182	justine18@blueyonder.co.uk
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Summer league
	Liz Powell	0117 949 8571	thepowells298@ukonline.co.uk
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Dear Marge Progression group
	Gill Prophet	0017 965 2716	gill.prophet1@virgin.net
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Vice Chairman West Umpiring Sub Committee
	Janet Wilson	Not available	Jans@wilsonj23.fsnet.co.uk
		<b>Responsibilities:</b>	Reassessment

Should you have any queries or require information please contact any member of the committee, however it would be helpful if in the first instance if you contacted the person responsible. Please also remember common courtesy i.e. no phone calls after 10pm and, if avoidable, no phone calls on Sundays



Does anyone out there have experience of maintaining websites. Could you spare a couple of hours a month to help maintain the Umpires' Association website. If any of you think you may be able to help please contact Peter Lovell or Bob Pearce for more information. Any offers of help would be greatly appreciated.



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

# Dear Marge



Dear Marge,

I umpire on a regular basis for the same team. My problem is that I feel I need more variation, every week I see the same fouls and as a result almost blow my whistle prior to the incident occurring because I know what is about to happen.

Have you any ideas how I might find more variation without letting my club down?

Yours "Need more excitement"

Dear "Need more excitement",

*I fully appreciate your dilemma and I can think of several ways in which you could vary the teams you umpire, but only one that would have little effect on your club.*

*Why not talk to other umpires within your club or the local area and see if they are experiencing the same problem.*

*If they are, with the agreement of the clubs, why don't you pool your invaluable resources and swap games from time to time. As they say "A change is as good as a rest".*

*Other options I can think of could have a detrimental effect on your club.*

*For instance, if your club has ample umpires why not go freelance and offer your services to other clubs, I'm sure they would be glad to hear from you*

Regards  
Marge.

**If you have any questions for Marge Email them to Liz Powell or any member of the committee.**

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## 3 Match Cards



Enclosed with this Newsletter is your match card. You will note that this season the requirement set by England Hockey is a minimum of 3 matches. Please note this a minimum and we would encourage all active umpires to do more than the 3 matches required.

**The deadline for the return of these cards is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2006 but please don't leave it to the last minute return the card as directed as soon as you have completed the required number of games. It is all to easy to put it to one side and then forget where you have put it.**

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

**Any problems contact Peter Lovell**



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# Club Liaison Officers

Liaison Officer	<u>Club</u>	Liaison Officer	<u>Club</u>
Janet Wilson	Avonmouth Hanham Mendip North Somerset	Margaret Hollow	Cheddar Somerset Gryphons Winscombe
Justine Nicklin	Axa Ladies Jaspers Pucklechurch Wick	Liz Powell	City Of Bath Knowle Yate
Gill Prophet	BAC Frys  Firebrands Westberries Wereys	Carolyn Britton	Lodway Old Georgians Redland Weston – Super – Mare
Bob Pearce	Badminton Old Bristolians Norton Down Thornbury	Vicky Hollier	Bristol Cleeve Clevedon Nailsea
		Peter Lovell	Bath Buccaneers Clifton Bristol University Bath University U.W.E.

**Above is a list of Liaison Officers and the clubs for which they are responsible. You may of course contact any member of the committee at any time but, so that the workload can be shared as best as possible, it would help in the first instance if you could contact the officer responsible for your club in the first instance.**

## CAPTION COMPETITION



Yes that is your previous Chairman, but what is she up to?

Can you write a caption for the picture, there is a pealless whistle for the best one received. So go on give it a go and Email your captions to [peter.lovell4@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.lovell4@btinternet.com).

Result in the next Newsletter.



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