

Subject: FW: England Hockey statement
From: <secretary@glos-ha.org.uk>
Date: 30/03/2020, 18:54
To: "Shaun Cullimore" <treasurer@glos-ha.org.uk>

Shaun

Please can you forward the below email to the GHA Committee members. The Clubs should receive it directly.

Regards

Ian Harvey

From: Verity Langfield <verity.langfield@englandhockey.co.uk>
Sent: 30 March 2020 13:54
To: Verity Langfield <verity.langfield@englandhockey.co.uk>
Subject: England Hockey statement
Importance: High

To Club Chairs & Secretaries – below is the latest statement released today. It has also been released on social media channels. I do hope all of you and your clubs are well and are adapting to this change in our lives. Please do let me know if there are any aspects for which you feel I could support or signpost you towards at this time.

Domestic hockey activity suspension extended until June 30

England Hockey has today taken the decision to suspend all hockey activity until June 30.

Currently hockey activity is suspended until April 15 but, with the continuing social restrictions caused by Covid-19, this extension is pragmatic in the circumstances and provides clarity for our clubs, players, officials and volunteers. We have asked that this national position is replicated at a local level by counties, leagues and independent hockey providers.

It is hugely disappointing to curtail hockey activity in this way and there will be many league and cup competitions which will not now reach their natural conclusion. The implications of the decision affect different areas of England Hockey activity in different ways, details of which can be found below.

Finally, the health and wellbeing of those in the hockey community is our overriding concern so please follow the government guidance and stay safe. Please search #StayInWorkOut on social media for tips on how to stay active indoors.



Club support

We are continuing to offer support to our clubs in this difficult period and our local Relationship Managers are available as normal to support in any way they can. A list of our Relationship Managers and their contact details can be found [here](#). We are also in contact with Sport England to best access the support they are putting in place for clubs, and will communicate more in the coming days.



England Hockey Leagues

Following the suspension of hockey activity until the end of June, given the time it would take to complete the league and prepare nationally and locally for the 2020-21 season - which naturally we hope will be able to run as normal - there is now insufficient time to complete the 2019-20 season.

Remaining games in the Men's and Investec Women's Hockey Leagues 2019-20 seasons will not be played. The last round of fixtures in Divisions One North and South and the Conferences scheduled for 21 & 22 March and three

unplayed games from 14 & 15 March will not take place.

The Premier Division regular season fixtures were completed. However, the League Finals between the top four teams in the Premier Division to determine the league champions and EuroHockey placings cannot be concluded in their prescribed format, nor can the Play Offs to determine promotion and relegation between the Premier Division and Division One North and South.

England Hockey understands there are significant implications to ending the season at this point and is mindful that the integrity of the League is important. We have begun a thorough process to deliver a fair and balanced outcome for teams. A recommendation will be made to the England Hockey Board in April and communicated to clubs thereafter.

National Club Championships

The current status of England Hockey's National Club Championships is as follows:

- England Hockey Club Championships – Adult (Men's and Women's), Masters, U18 knock-out competitions: These Championships are mainly at the semi-final stage or finalists are known. There are a small number of outstanding quarter-final ties.
- England Hockey Mixed Championships – Tier 1 and Tier 2: These Championships are at the last sixteen stage.
- England Hockey U16 Tier 1 Championships: The eight girls and boys teams qualifying for the final stages of these Championships are known.

As there is no knock-on effect associated with the completion of Cup competitions, England Hockey is exploring whether it is feasible to schedule the final stages of each of the above Championships ahead of the new League season if hockey activity was resumed by this time, and will communicate with participating teams.



Other Competitions

In the following Championships, qualifiers for final stages are not yet known or the competition has not yet started. We have made the decision that the following competitions are now cancelled:

- Regional Masters Tournaments
- Men's County Championships
- Masters Summer Championships
- Back to Hockey Festivals
- U16 Tier 2 Championships
- U14 Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 Championships
- U12, U10 In2Hockey Championships

National Schools Championships

The following Championships have yet to be concluded and are now cancelled:

- Notts Sport Boys U18 Tier 2, Tier 3 and Tier 4 Championships
- Notts Sport Boys U16 Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 Championships
- Notts Sport Boys U14 Tier 1 and Tier 2 Championships.
- Boys & Girls U13, U12, U11 In2Hockey Championships

The Notts Sport Boys and Investec Girls U18 Tier 1 Championships final matches were due to be played on 19 March. Consultation will take place with the four participating schools to ascertain if these matches could be played when hockey activity is allowed to resume.



Player Pathway activity

No hockey activity will take place across England National Age Group and Player Pathway programmes including Performance Centres, Academy Centres and Development Centres. We are currently working through the implications of this decision on activity scheduled for later in the season and we will communicate more information as soon as possible.

Coaching

Coach Development delivery will continue to take place online during this period, with a wide range of opportunities available for coaches. Follow [@coachandinspire](#) on Twitter for news, as well as hockeyhub.englishhockey.co.uk/coaching-offer

Umpiring

England Hockey will not be running umpiring courses during this period, but we would encourage clubs to begin thinking about how you may want to schedule courses when hockey restarts, as we will be expecting higher than normal demand at that time. We could also suggest that people check in on the free online rules test, the umpiring discussion forum, and the online introductory umpiring training available as part of the In2Hockey modules. More at hockeyhub.englishhockey.co.uk/officiating



Hockey Development Programmes

All hockey development programmes are suspended until further notice. England Hockey is in touch with clubs as appropriate where programmes are underway.

International Masters

All England Masters teams activity will be suspended until 30 June. Late last week, World Masters Hockey took the decision to postpone this summer's O35s and O40s Masters World Cup in Nottingham by a year until 2021.



Verity Langfield

Relationship Manager

Direct: 07718 976290 | **Mobile:** 07718 976290

England Hockey, University of Exeter, Sports Park, Stocker Road, Exeter, EX4 4QN

Tel: 01392 264031 | www.englishhockey.co.uk



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From: Verity Langfield

Sent: 17 March 2020 09:49

To: Verity Langfield <Verity.langfield@englishhockey.co.uk>

Subject: EH Suspends National Hockey Activity in relation to COVID-19 virus

To Club Chairs & Secretaries – the latest statement released, in case your club has not yet picked up via social media channels last night. Thank you to the many clubs who have already taken action:

In light of the ongoing effects of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and government advice, England Hockey has taken the decision to suspend its nationally run hockey activity.

This includes our competition and domestic events programme, Player Pathway activity and national youth programmes until at least 15 April. We have already issued an [update](#) with regards to our AGM on 17

March.

We would urge leagues, clubs, schools, Player Pathway centres and others who deliver hockey on a local level to support this approach.

This decision will impact activities at differing levels and scale. We will continue to monitor the situation carefully and react as best we can during these unprecedented times. We'll keep everyone in the hockey family as up to date as possible and look forward to hockey returning to normal when the time is right.

From: Verity Langfield
Sent: 13 March 2020 14:09
To: Verity Langfield <Verity.langfield@englandhockey.co.uk>
Subject: EH Statement in relation to COVID-19 virus

To Club Chairs & Secretaries – below is the latest statement released, in case your club has not yet picked up via social media channels:

As elsewhere in society, the Coronavirus is impacting the current and future activities of England Hockey. Below details England Hockey's position in relation to community hockey, the England Hockey AGM, international fixtures and England Hockey offices.

Community hockey

Community hockey will continue to take place unless we are advised otherwise by government, and we will continue to update the Hockey Family on the situation. Please check with your local league if you are unsure if the game is going to take place. We would encourage all players to follow the widely available guidance of public health with regards to people maintaining good hygiene to avoid spreading of the Covid-19 virus.

In a hockey context, we would advise clubs and other hockey venues to ensure washing facilities have appropriate provision of hygiene products and urge players to follow the public health guidance in environments where they are in close proximity to others. If any players, officials or coaches are feeling unwell, please follow the government's advice to self-isolate and therefore do not take part in hockey-related activities. We also recommend our more elderly players and officials consider whether they should take part in hockey activity.

All players and officials are responsible for their own safety equipment (goalkeeping kit, facemasks, mouth guards, whistles, shin pads etc) and we would encourage everyone to ensure they are clean and not shared amongst team-mates.

Instead of the traditional handshake at the start and end of the game, we are encouraging players to tap sticks: <https://twitter.com/Xenioshockey/status/1235819830562832384>. A warm smile and thanks of appreciation to officials may be more appropriate at this current time.

England Hockey AGM - Tuesday 17 March

The AGM will take place as planned unless circumstances change. The meeting at Bisham Abbey begins at 7:30pm. If you are uncomfortable attending in the circumstances then duly authorised representatives are advised that you can instruct a proxy to cast your votes until 7:30pm on Sunday 15 March. Please [click here](#) for more information.

FIH Hockey Pro League & England Hockey domestic Finals

England Hockey is continuing to monitor government advice in relation to the hosting of events. At this juncture, there are no changes to our advertised programme. We will keep participants, ticket buyers and other stakeholders informed if this position changes.

International teams' tour to South Africa

The GB men's and women's squads were both due to travel to South Africa on Sat 13 Mar for warm weather training camps (with match play for the women) as part of their Tokyo preparations. After due consideration, it has been concluded that this is not in the best interest of players and staff, and they will not be travelling. With no international programme activity over the weekend of 13 and 14 Mar, players are available for selection for the final Men's and Investec Women's Hockey League matches of the season.

England Hockey Offices

England Hockey offices remain open for business. In the event the situation escalates and we need to close the offices, we are confident we have the capability to continue to provide services to our customers, through home working and mobile applications.

Information and data sourced within England Hockey is of a proprietary nature unless otherwise stated. Accordingly they must only be used in connection with England Hockey business.

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