

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 22nd September 2022 at 7:30pm (on Zoom)

1 Attendance

Present: Ian Harvey (Chair), Shaun Cullimore (Treasurer), Lisa Lundie (Welfare Officer), Andrew Hopcraft (Secretary), Graham Wayland (Communications Officer), Helen Jefferies (Youth Coordinator), James Doughty (Youth Coordinator).

Apologies: Lindsay Ferguson (Men's Masters Coordinator), Sally Privett (West Masters representative and Women's Masters Coordinator).

Not Present: Bob Moxom (Vice Chair).

2 Minutes from the Last Meeting – 27th July 2022

The Minutes from the Committee Meeting held on 27th July were approved.

3 Matters arising

Actions from the last committee meeting were reviewed and updated as follows:

Number	Owner	Action	Update
0722/1	Ian and Andrew	Chase options for insurance through EH	Form complete, invoice received, payment to be made by Shaun.
0722/2	Shaun & Andrew	Publish remunerated roles on website and email to clubs	Complete, no applicants.
0722/3	Lisa	Send schools competition entry chaser	Complete.
0722/4	Andrew	Get a contact for the new Leckhampton High School and pass to Lisa	No bookings being taken yet. Contact through: admin@hsl.gloucs.sch.uk
0722/5	Shaun	Contact Bob Moxom to see if he would consider replacing Nigel Sherwood	Closed. Nigel and Lindsay remain in post.
0722/6	Shaun	Governance section of the GHA website to be updated	Complete.

4 Chairman's Business

Ian attended the West AGM in the summer. It was reported there had been a net financial loss of ~£30k, but this had been planned to start reducing the reserves. Most discussion that took place were around GMS and Officiating, but there were no productive outcomes. Club team affiliation and league fees for 2022 – 23 would be discounted; Affiliation £20.00 per team reduced to £5.00 and League £30 / team reduced to £20.00, with the aim being to reduce the reserves further. It was announced that the Chair of the Officiating Committee had resigned that evening.

There have been no County Standing Committee National Working Group meetings since July. The next one is due on 26th September.

The list of which clubs affiliate to Gloucestershire will be raised with England Hockey at a meeting on Monday as this has not yet been shared.

The impact of the Talent Academies on the county clubs is starting to be seen, with reports of players and coaches leaving their local clubs to join Talent Academies.

5 Finance

No significant change to the finances - reserves stand at £53,000 and the aim for GHA remains to break even for the year. We are on track to break even for this year.

James reported on the player pathway forecast which shows a small forecasted surplus for the season of around £1,400 based on 250 players (actual was 252!). This covers the costs of the honorariums associated with player pathway. As junior outdoor competitions make a small loss, there may be an opportunity to charge a little more to the clubs for these.

6 Reports

Remunerated roles were filled by those currently fulfilling those roles – no other applicants were received.

Role	Payment	Appointed
Book keeping	£800	Shaun Cullimore
Player Pathway admin lead	£1,000	James Doughty
Player Pathway admin support	£500	Helen Jefferies
Schools competition organiser	£200	Lisa Lundie
Junior Club Hockey Festivals and In2Hockey organiser	£500	Ian Harvey

Juniors

Schools – first tournament today and plans in place up to December. Boys entries are very low, but girls at a healthy level. Survey to be sent out to understand why some schools have not entered. We need a forecast for next year to agree or not any support for costs.

Clubs – full programme published with positive responses from the majority of clubs.

Junior competitions – tier 1 and tier 2 entry requests have been sent with matches now scheduled. Tier 3 entries to be confirmed – deadline for entries is next week. West schools dates have gone out. There will be no dispensation for COVID this season, so matches should go ahead as planned. Talent Academies will be invited to send out scouts to the West competition days.

GHA Festival dates set with first to take place on 2nd October for U12 girls and boys.

County hockey - Trials are underway with 252 players and most squads on track to be in place by early October. King's facilities have been very good both indoor and outdoor. 5 new coaches in place this season, all of whom are women, making the coaching staff now broadly evenly split between men and women. There has been one minor injury which has resulted in a complaint that is in progress. Indoor programme to start 26 September. All of the GHA kit is now at Kings in a locker outside and in the sports hall for indoor kit.

Shirts have now been redesigned in accordance with EH guidelines – these will be subsidised by GHA this year. All to be managed by the stick club.

EH junior hockey working group have agreed to work on the player pathway system to make improvements – first view next week of proposed changes. Not yet clear whether any players will want to come back to county hockey from talent academies, but contingencies being thought through for this.

Helen is going to organise the inter-county matches this season, with a meeting next Thursday to agree dates and venues. There will be medals to play for this season. Umpires not yet confirmed, so West to be contacted again to ask them to use GMS.

Development of hockey in state schools – this is an EH initiative for counties, we need to find someone to help us with this and to create a plan themselves, so any

recommendations should be made to Ian. Also need EH to take a lead nationally as the systems within state schools may be actively removing hockey as a sport of interest.

Discussion had with Sarah Bowen of East Glos and previously Bournside; her advice was to target primary schools.

Masters - we have registered 2 teams for the Masters Over 60 Cup competition. We are still determining how many players we have interested in playing and hopefully we will be able to field 2 teams. We require a nucleus of about 36 players to ensure that we can produce the 2 squads. If anyone knows of new players in the age group, please could you get them to contact, Nigel Sherwood or Lindsay Ferguson. Similarly, we need to explore our network to see if there are any others who would like to help push this age group forward.

Welfare – one item in progress (see above).

7 AOB

James has been talking to both Gloucestershire University and Hartpury University to investigate a partnership which would benefit both the university, players and coaches. Hartpury University have been very positive in their response and so James has been liaising with them and the GHA coaches to see if we can put a long term deal in place for them to provide resource for:

- therapy and first aid
- strength and conditioning
- performance analysis
- coaches CPD
- research

The coaches are very supportive following meetings with Hartpury on the last 2 Mondays. Financial commitment is not yet clear. It was agreed that this would be a good thing to explore further and bring back to the committee for further discussion – Andrew will help James with this.

The Communications Officer role has not been defined by England Hockey, so Graham will draft a job description for review and agreement.

8 Actions

Number	Owner	Action	Update
0922/1	Shaun & Andrew	Add minutes from the last meeting to the website	Complete.

0922/2	Lisa	Send survey to schools to look at why some schools are not entering	
0922/3	Lisa	Forecast for schools for next year	
0922/4	Ian & Andrew	Write an email to ask for Masters hockey support and email to the clubs	
0922/5	Graham	Draft a job description for the Communications Officer for discussion and agreement	
0922/6	Ian	Location for next committee meeting to be booked	

9 Date of next meeting

Thursday 12th January 2023 at 7:30pm in Cheltenham (location TBC).

Andrew Hopcraft
GHA Secretary