

## **GHA Committee Meeting 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 - reports**

### Juniors

The Junior Festivals and In2Hockey dates have been sent out to all the Clubs and responses received from most, the only exception to date being Lansdown and a couple of out of county Clubs. The first U12s Festival is on 1<sup>st</sup> October.

The West Junior Competitions Committee has met over the summer and all the fixtures are in place for the Clubs tier 1 and 2 leagues with entries still being received for the lower tiers. Clubs Indoor is with counties to organize. The schools dates are all set and Indoor this season is direct entry to West with an element of self organization of the qualifiers for West finals. There is an initiative to organize a Tier 4 state schools competition at U14, but so far details are unclear.

Liz Powell has retired as Chair and Anne Baker of Devon and Isca has taken over. Laura Shorto will run the schools competitions with Jackie Stanley running the overall Committee and the Clubs competitions. County Hockey I will leave to James Doughty and Helen Jefferies to comment.

### Chair - West and EH

Not much has happened with the CSC NWG as EH focus has been on getting the standard constitution adopted across all counties and drafting the membership policy. The other aspects on which they are working is a county handbook and a county health check.

There was a Gloucestershire Clubs County Network meeting organized by Barbara Reynolds on 13<sup>th</sup> September to cover volunteers. Sadly only 4 Clubs registered and 2 turned up. The presentation covered all aspects of volunteering and there was a lively discussion amongst the few participants. There were a lot of good ideas presented, once the slides are sent through they will be circulated and can be put on the website. Clubs should receive them directly.

West held a County Forum on 14<sup>th</sup> September and most of the West counties were represented. Topics covered were:

Officiating - West is reorganizing and running focus groups during October with the aim of publishing a strategy by Christmas.

A Hardship Fund - there was a lot of interest in what GHA is planning to do. However, there were also voices urging caution over the criteria for providing support to ensure fairness. Also apparently EH have a strict set of criteria for providing support to TA players?

County Hockey - there was a suggestion for an U17 league? Possibly also U15 and U14?

Masters - there seem a lot of practical issues with developing Masters across the counties.

Communications and Policies - there was a suggestion of a forum on which individual counties policies could be shared. There was also a discussion on trans-gender issues, apparently EH will not update the policy until 2024.

ED&I - there was little offered on this other than the thought of more efforts to organize Flyerz hockey and funding for disadvantaged groups.

Ian Harvey  
GHA Chair 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023