

EIHA JUNIOR SECTION
ANNUAL MEETING 2007
JOINT MEETING WITH THE U19 LEAGUE

Minutes of Junior Section Annual Meeting on 9th June 2007 at the Buckatree Hall Hotel, Telford at 1.30 p.m.

Board Present: Ken Taggart, Neville Moralee, Bob Wilkinson, Irene Jones, Geoff Hemmerman, Rob Laidler.

Youth Management: Valerie Wilkinson, Jacqueline Pye, Rita MacKriel, Jayne Bowns, Pauline Rost, Allison Taylor, Carol-Ann Watt.

EIHA Officials: Alan Moutrey, Liz Moralee, Malcolm Preen, David Hill, Charles Dacres, Andy French, John Freeman.

Members: Basingstoke: C-A Watt; Billingham: B McCabe; Blackburn: G Gillingham; Bracknell: D Kyte; Bradford: B Brown; Cardiff: P Hayes; Chelmsford: G Staples; Coventry: P Gill, D Martin, J Heape; Flintshire: C Roberts; Grimsby: L Raithby; Guildford: S Annetts; Haringey: A White; Invicta: J Mason; Kingston: S Ralph; Lee Valley: P Ranby, S Ranby, E Joseph (U19); Manchester: P Brown; Milton Keynes: F Heron; Newcastle: P Winn, J Pye; Nottingham: G Land, L Fisk; Oxford: G Dent (U19); Peterborough: A Wilson; Romford: A Taylor; Slough: S Moria; Solent & Gosport: R Richbell; Solihull: A Gordon; Streatham: J Koral; Sutton: G Apsley; Swindon: S Godfrey, S Taylor; Telford: N Brittle; Whitley Bay: G Wood, J Crammond.

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

BW thanked everyone for staying on after the AGM.

APOLOGIES

Mohammed Ashraff, Sue Tomalin.

PROPOSAL TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING 10TH JUNE 2006

The minutes of the 2006 Annual Meeting were read and approved. Proposed Swindon, seconded Cardiff.

YOUTH MANAGEMENT CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – B WILKINSON

BW's report had been distributed in advance. He said without all the people present there would not be a game. He thanked the Youth Management Group, who spend a great deal of time on hockey, and those doing fixtures, statistics, discipline and other important work for youth hockey. Also there would be no hockey without clubs and people to run them. It is important to remember that most people involved in any way with youth hockey work free of charge purely for the players' benefit.

In the World Championships GB U20s played brilliantly and came extremely close to winning promotion to the top flight. Also they were very well-disciplined. The U18s unfortunately were relegated from a very difficult group. All the England teams did very well this year. He said the players are only there because of their clubs, who have a right to be proud.

EIHA FINANCIAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT – N MORALEE

The auditors' financial report for the year ended 31 December 2006, NM's report, and the cash flow report for the Junior Section had been distributed in advance.

COACHING PROGRAMME REPORT – A MOUTREY

AM's report had been distributed in advance. He said the National Coaching Seminar is the first event of its kind in the UK. Any coach who goes will find it useful, and it also counts as a workshop for retaining Level Two or Level One status. There are likely to be a substantial number of coaches who need to go on a workshop this year, but are not available for the National Seminar or cannot afford to go. Some workshops will be arranged after the National Seminar, and dispensations can be arranged for coaches who need to go on a workshop but are unavailable on the dates.

JF asked if a Referee Level Three course counts as a workshop. AM said it counts if it is continuing the official's hockey education, but not if they are doing the course every year. Chelmsford said a first aid course should count as a workshop, as knowledge of first aid is important for coaches. AM said first aid is not necessarily the coach's responsibility. While it is important that clubs have first aid cover, and also useful to have access to physios and doctors, there are no EIHA requirements about any of this. Clubs should check if there are any such requirements in the contract with their rink. There are many first aid courses available. There were suggestions that the EIHA could hold first aid courses, which would enable them to introduce rules about having first aid cover. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting. Kingston asked if club head coaches could be trained up to instruct on workshops for their own clubs, which would be cheaper for the clubs. AM said he had hoped to be able to do this, but there are not enough coaches of the quality to be trained up in this way.

Sutton asked if plans for a Level Three course are still going ahead. **BW** said once AM's successor is in place IHUK will start arranging a course, if possible for 2008. It needs a lot of organisation and many high quality coaches.

AM was thanked for his work with the Coaching Programme over the last eight years. **BW** said he has been trying to see more hockey around the country, and has seen the standard of coaching rising every year at Conference and club level.

REFEREE IN CHIEF REPORT – M ASHRAFF

Mohammed Ashraff's report had been distributed in advance. He was unable to attend as he was under doctor's orders to stay at home. As none of the OCM were there, **BW** said questions would be passed on to Mohammed Ashraff.

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION – ZERO TOLERANCE

BW said at the U20s World Championships the referees did not call as much as he expected. Penalties were mostly for sticking offences. The Conference Tournament and Junior Finals saw a lot of difference in refereeing. Most of the problems are about how individual referees interpret the rules. Mohammed Ashraff has been working hard on rule interpretation issues, as his report shows. The In House Rules should make it sufficiently clear to referees what they should be calling.

CHILD PROTECTION REPORT – C DACRES

CD's report had been distributed in advance. There have been problems with over-zealous coaches whose behaviour on the bench is unacceptable. Sometimes it is dealt with by himself or AM talking to them. The Code of Conduct for Coaches provides guidance for coaches, and those whose actions are blatantly contrary to these principles may be suspended. A coaches'

handbook would help with some of these issues. However coaching discipline might need more consideration.

Late face-off times are a major issue. Some people have had three years since their last CRB check and so need a new one. When a coach moves clubs, the EIHA advise clubs to obtain references (the EIHA cannot ask for these for confidentiality reasons). Reasons for coaches moving on are not always as obvious as it might appear.

NORTH REPORT – J PYE

JP's report had been distributed in advance.

MIDLANDS REPORT – R MACKRIEL

RM's report had been distributed in advance.

SOUTH EAST REPORT – P ROST

PR's report had been distributed in advance. The South East clubs thanked her for her hard work over the year.

SOUTH WEST REPORT – C-A WATT

CW's report had been distributed in advance.

STATISTICIAN REPORT – M PREEN/D HILL

MP's and DH's reports had been distributed in advance. DH said clubs are not checking player licences. Most clubs said they do check. Clubs however do not always know whether the licence corresponds to the player. While some clubs said the players know if there is someone on the ice who should not be, others have found this is not always the case. MP said they cannot tell unless someone goes to the dressing room to match the players with the cards and teamlist. If there is an unregistered player, the statisticians would much prefer this to be found out at the start of the game, rather than afterwards so that the team forfeit the game and are heavily fined. Clubs do not know if there have in fact been problems with ringers. Coventry said there have been occasions when they suspected opposition players of using someone else's licence, and the players could not give proof of age. Such incidents are not reported because teams do not know whether their suspicions are correct.

Lee Valley asked if the Board would consider reintroducing photos on junior licences. Several clubs said they would like this. Having online rosters with photos is working well for rec teams, but could not be done for junior players for child protection reasons. Reintroducing photos on player licences will be considered. However this would mean VW could no longer accept registrations by email. The photos would need to be recent, as players change appearance very quickly. Poor quality photos would be sent back.

FIXTURES REPORT SOUTH EAST & SOUTH WEST – A FRENCH

AF's report had been distributed in advance. For the South East and South West next season Tony Lack will take over the fixtures for the leagues U10 up to U16, while AF will do them for the U18 League, ENIHL and EPIHL.

FIXTURES REPORT NORTH & MIDLANDS – G HEMMERMAN

GH's report had been distributed in advance. Nottingham thanked KT for sorting out problems over their face-off times.

REGISTRATION REPORT – V WILKINSON

VW's report had been distributed in advance.

NOTIFICATION OF PRACTICE TIMES JUNIOR ENGLAND TEAMS

The report had been distributed in advance. The dates are on the calendar on the website.

PROPOSAL – CUT-OFF LEAGUE DATES EXTENDED – C-A WATT

The proposal had been withdrawn.

The minimum number of players to register a team is 12 plus two goalkeepers, and to register two teams at one age group is 32. The minimum number on the bench for a game is 11. League application forms will be sent out again, this time including U18 teams.

Streatham were concerned that the issue of U16s in adult hockey was discussed at the company AGM although it was not on the agenda. It was explained that this and changing the U19 League to U18 was a direct result of the recent events at Chelmsford. Streatham said 18-year-olds will still be playing alongside children for part of the season in which their birthday falls, and the law does not understand grey areas. **KT** said this had already been talked about, and after the meeting he would bring up to speed anyone who was not at the AGM.

BW said it is his last day as Junior Section Chair. The position is being taken over by **RM**, while he will stay on as Director of Youth Hockey.

The meeting ended at 4.30 p.m.

Signed..... Date.....