



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 1st December, 2018

Attendees:

Liz Pelling (Chairman) (LP), Dawn Bonner (DB), David Elcock (DE) (by phone), Simon Gillett (SG) by phone, Suzanne Howard (SH), Rob Jenkins (RJ), Tony Kelleher (TK), Gary Stent (GS)

Meeting opened at 09:30 on 1st December, 2018 at Rivers Ibis Health Club, Scours Lane, Reading, RG30 6AY

1. Apologies for Absence

Colin Barthorpe (CB), Martin Twist (MT)

2. Minutes of 12th May, 2018 Meeting

Those present at meeting agreed content of the 12th May, 2018.

Matters Arising

4.1 **ACTION:** DE to confirm that the suggestion re shoot outs v PS for some EH cup competitions was forwarded/addressed

8.1 **ACTION:** DE/LP to discuss with Strategy re potential for a UM development group

There were no other matters arising that were not covered elsewhere in the meeting.

3. Update on 2019/20 Season

LP and DE took the meeting through updates on proposed plans for season 2019/20 that have been discussed by various groups including, the EH 'Vision' group, the NPUA Exec and EHUSSC.

It was understood that a degree of flexibility will be needed to administer the new league structure with a pragmatic approach whilst aiming to maintaining standards for the National League. It was hoped that by the restart of the season a fully agreed plan would be in place to aid a smooth transition to the new structure. MT had outlined the basis of the new structure at the NPUA conference, including a panel structure that would allow for appointing to the 6 leagues in the National programme. Two new panels will be created to facilitate this for the start of the 2019/20 season: A B star panel for those whose performances suggest they could umpire in Division 1, and a C panel for newly qualified L3 umpires and prior B panel umpires without the appropriate fitness test to remain on panel.

It was also noted that marking boundaries for the new season have not yet been agreed but that consistently high-performing B panel umpires are most likely to be those considered for the new B star panel when it is introduced next season. EHUOPC will consider panel recalibrations at its June meeting.

There will be 2 additional appointments coordinators for umpires and support personnel, as well as extra selectors. These will be appointed through open recruitment. How appointments are made to non-league games are also being discussed

A 'Vision' document is currently in final draft and would be circulated as soon as available.

ACTION: DE to circulate to EHUOPC

There are no plans to change the assessment criteria for L3 assessments in the second half of the 2018/19 season, given the importance of all the games in the conference divisions.

ACTION: SG to write to regions regarding the levels not changing regarding marks for candidates needing to achieve 5.5 to gain L3 for the second half of the 2018/19 season. NPDP also remains the same at 5.0 base.



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4. Umpire Performance Review:

Each panel selector reviewed the performance of their panel members in detail. With the exception of the reserve panel who are out of time for return to panels, it was agreed not to move umpires to the reserve panel without fitness tests until the end of season meeting despite the inability to appoint them.

Panel Updates:

Women**a) Premier – LP**

No panel changes

b) A* Panel – RJ

Janice Tasho promoted to Premier panel. **ACTION: LP to advise NPUA secretary to reactivate her National Badge**

A Panel – RJ

Ann Hopkins is promoted to the A*panel

c) B Panel – SH

No panel changes

d) Reserve panel (LP)

Mark Williams, Laura Seager, Martin Hall, Jenny Ratcliffe, Sophie Parker, Brian Christian, David Eldridge, Lauren Mullett and Ginette Tessier have not umpired and are taken off panels. Return to NPUA possible via regions.

e) Regional Reserves

No panel changes

Men**a) Premier – TK**

No panel changes

b) A* Panel – RJ

No panel changes

A Panel – RJ

Daran Cass is promoted to A star panel

c) B Panel – GS

Nku Davis, Kevin Roberts, Neil Smith, Lia Waine, Ed Westbrook and Mason Wright promoted to A panel

d) Reserve Panel – LP:

Tony Kelleher, Andrew Kennedy, Rob Lewis, Andy Mair, Matt McMahon, Nick Paget and Barry Smith removed from panels due to inactivity.

ACTION: All Selectors to contact panel members and advise of changes to panels



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ACTION: LP to ask for update to the selector's page on website, as who manages which panel is out of date

NPDP and Candidates – SG

SG provided a full report for the season.

Since the start of the season 7 NPDP members have passed their L3 assessment: Colin Anderson, Ryan Croxon, Will Davey, James Freeman, Toni-Lee Lambert, Holly Redpath, and Joanne Spooner.

Candidates: Of the nine nominations, 8 have been successful, with one out due to injury. Of the successes, 2 are International transfers and we welcome Nku Davis (from Trinidad and Tobago) and Hamish Ellis-Jack (from NZ). Chris Duerden and Steve Smith are new to the National Programme and Kevin Twissell returns. Andy Poulain, Neil Smith and Julian Warburton have all been successfully assessed for Women's Panels.

SG has requested any further regional candidate & NPDP nominations by 31st December. We may face some challenges fitting all the matches in in the remaining weeks, but will endeavour to do so.

We agreed to add in the extra NPDP nomination given leagues will increase in season 19/20. Marking will be consistent for this season in accordance with the published guidelines. Any changes to candidate marking will only come into effect for the new season.

5. Domestic Tournament Planning

LP/TK to remind potential umpires of the agreed note from May meeting below for availability for playoffs

Play-offs:

The two weekends for play-off for the Premier League, and the Championships will be considered as one tournament. Umpires wishing to be considered for appointment to this event must be available for both weekends. Being away on International duty on either weekend is considered as being available.

There will be no relegation play off, but a new three team round robin play off for the final places in Division 1 for season 2019/20

CB has prepared a tournament list, currently with EH for ratification. LP will review and circulate prior to the meeting in February **ACTION: CB to advise all umpires to update tournament availability**

Tournaments to be appointed to before meeting date **ACTION: CB to advise and then LP/RJ to appoint**

NYUPL events. See strategy.

6. Appointments Co-ordinator Report - CB

CB submitted a full report of the season so far which had gone reasonably well with less problems to solve. EHUOPC noted thanks to Colin for his on-going support.

7. Coaching & Assessment Report - DB



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DB submitted a full report of the season, including the list of Continuity coaches. DE had issued an e-mail to assessors reminding them of marking boundaries, especially important given the transition to more panels for season 2019/20.

Marking matrix changes: As per the International section below, the boundaries for FIH Premier Panel umpires have changed. In addition, some clarity is needed in the matrix re whom the assessor should contact post L3 candidate assessments. **ACTION:** LP to update marking matrix re whom to inform when a candidate/NPDP passes.

Lee Barron has passed his L3 umpire coach award
Frances Block has passed her L3 Assessor award

2018/2019 Support Statistics:

Total umpire support for season 18/19 **327**; 17/18 719, 16/17 526 15/16 528; 14/15 444.
Total Coaching for Season 18/19 **146**; 17/18 391, 16/17 220, 15/16 231; 14/15: 135
Total Assessments for Season 18/19 **181**; 17/18 328, 16/17 306, 15/16 297; 14/15: 309

8. EHUSC report – DE

DE provided a verbal update of the selection strategy committee meetings. Most recently these included liaison re the new season, Indoor UM appointments, International updates and liaison with FIH and EHF, and a planned targeted development group at KO16 in April.

Amendments have been made to NYUPL in respect of matches appointed to (no longer U14 level). EH and NYUAG discussing changes to the structure of NYUPL for future seasons, also linked to the EH 'Vision' group work. DE/DB has issued a request to support personnel for availability to support mid-week tournaments.

Support personnel will be sent their mid and end of season weighted average scores from umpires watched with a note explaining the statistical limitations (note: this brings support in line with umpires who receive updates of weighted average club scores twice per season). The watcher survey findings will also be shared. Notes of meetings will be posted on the NPUA website.

International updates for season 2018/19:

FIH has introduced new panels for UMs and Umpires and a new marking bands. The website has been updated to reflect this meaning that the marking within the Premier Panel for the second half of the season will change.

Umpires:

- i. World/Olympic Panel: (Dan Barstow)
- ii. Pro-League Panel: (Bruce Bale)
- iii. International Elite Panel: (Dave Dowdell, Paul Walker, Hannah Harrison)
- iv. Advancement Panel: (Nick Bennett, Sean Edwards, Emma Shelbourn, Jamie Hooper (WAL), Lelia Sacre (CAN), Cathy Wright(WAL))
- v. International Panel: (Rebecca Woodcock, Nku Davis(TTO))



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Umpires' Mangers;

- i. World/Olympic Panel:
- ii. Pro-League Panel: Margaret Hunnaball, Louise Knipe
- iii. International Elite Panel: Paul Box-Grainger
- iv. Advancement Panel: Hamish Jamson
- v. International Panel: Tony Kelleher, Dawn Bonner, Jackie Gibbs, Liz Pelling

NOTE: Indoor panels remain unchanged

9. NPUA Exec Update

Refer to website for meeting updates.

EHUOPC had been reminded by Exec on the parameters for travel. Discussion over whether a conference call would be preferred but agreed that the nature and length of meetings means face-to face is best where possible, with a dial in options available.

Provisional date for Conference for 2018/20 draft date is 7/8 September 2019

10. Dates of next meetings:

Saturday 23rd February, 2019 – 09:30 am start, Rivers Ibis
Saturday 1st June, 2019, Rivers Ibis

11. AOB

LP thanked the committee for its work so far this season.

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm.

With thanks to LP for taking the minutes and RJ for organising the venue and refreshments

Dec 1st 2018