



Minutes of the EHUOPC Meeting Held on 2nd December, 2017

Attendees:

Liz Pelling (Chairman) (LP), Colin Barthorpe (CB), Dawn Bonner (DB), David Ellcock (DE) from 11.30am, Simon Gillett (SG) by phone, Suzanne Howard (SH), Rob Jenkins (R), Tony Kelleher (TK), Gary Stent (GS), Martin Twist (MT).

Meeting opened at 09:30 on 2nd December, 2017 at Rivers Ibis Health Club, Scours Lane, Reading, RG30 6AY.

1. Apologies for Absence

None.

2. Minutes of 6th May, 2017 Meeting

Those present at meeting agreed content of the 6th May, 2017.

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

3. Umpire Performance Review:

Panel Discussions:

Women**a) Premier – LP**

No panel changes.

b) A* Panel – RJ

Rebecca Woodcock promoted to Premier panel.

ACTION: LP to advise NPUA secretary re National Badge

A Panel – RJ

Janice Tasho – promoted to A*.

Lia Waine – moved to reserve panel.

c) B Panel – SH

Martin Hall and Jenny Ratcliffe moved to reserve panel.

Mike Smith to be added as a transferring candidate for women's games following positive feedback as a 'willing' umpire.

d) Reserve panel (LP)

Peter Horrobin, Laura Seager, Caroline Standfield, Mark Waller have not umpired and are taken off panels. Return to NPUA possible via regions.

e) Regional Reserves

Thanks expressed to all regional reserves who have been used most weeks.

- a. David Colbourne – added as a candidate for women's panel.

ACTION: SG to advise David and region



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Men**a) Premier – TK**

Tim Benford has retired from umpiring and is removed from panels. OPC thanks Tim for his contribution to NPUA and umpiring.

b) A* Panel – RJ**c) A Panel – RJ**

Ady Green promoted to A*.
Jamie Hooper promoted to A*.

d) B Panel – GS

Jason Evans promoted to A panel.
Gareth Perry promoted to A panel.
Anthony Gamble and Lia Waine moved to reserves

Reserve Panel – LP:

Hamish Jamson, and David Thirsk have not umpired and are taken off panels.

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

NPDP and Candidates – SG

SG provided a full report for the season.

SG has requested any further regional candidate nominations by 31st December.

Since the start of the season NPDP's Karen Fynn, Matthew Pilgrim and Arevinth Sarma have passed their L3 assessments.

Candidates James Carter, Daran Cass, Ben Driver, Neil Smith and Lee Wilks returned to NPUA after breaks. Nicki Butcher and Saul Shohet were successful in their candidate watchings. Lena McCrae joined our panels from Scotland as a transferring candidate and Charles Hallows transferred onto the women's panel following assessment.

OPC agreed wording for UMs to consider when marking NYUPL as ready for NPDP in their reports post tournaments.

ACTION: DB to circulate to UMs appointed to events involving NYUPL

If, in the opinion of the UM, based on performance, the young umpire is capable of performing in the National Programme on senior games they should mark them as "Ready for NPDP". However, this is not a trigger for them being accepted onto NPDP. As the Regions are primarily responsible for nominations to the National Programme, the NPDP / Candidate panel lead will pass this recommendation on to the relevant Region, together with any other "Ready" / "Not ready" grading from the past 12 months to ensure they have a complete picture in time for the Region to make their decision regarding nomination.



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4. Domestic Tournament Planning

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

Play-offs:

In future, 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.

CB is preparing a tournament list, currently with EH for ratification.

ACTION: CB to advise all umpires when tournaments are on the NPUA system so availability can be entered

Tournaments to be appointed to before meeting date.

ACTION: CB to advise and then LP to circulate for consideration

NYUPL events. Principals of appointing to be discussed with members of NYUPL prior to next meeting.

ACTION: DE

5. Appointments Co-ordinator Report - CB

CB submitted a full report of the season.

The change-over to SportLomo had created some difficulties with NPUA appointing system early on as the two were not compatible. The need for an automated e-mail when fixtures are updated by clubs on SportLomo is being dealt with by EH.

ACTION: DE to follow up with EH

6. Coaching & Assessment Report - DB

DB submitted a full report of the season.

2017/2018 Support Statistics:

Total umpire support for season 17/18 **267**, 16/17 526 15/16: 528. Season 14/15: 444.

Total Coaching for Season 17/18 **116**, 16/17 220, 15/16: 231. Season 14/15: 135

Total Assessments for Season 17/18 **151**, 16/17 306, 15/16: 297 Season 14/15: 309

DE provided OPC with an overview of the support survey, its results and next steps. Support personnel will receive their individual feedback before outdoor season recommences (similar to umpires who receive 'club' feedback averages twice yearly). The feedback will be used as a basis for future appointing.

A new assessor award has been implemented. Criteria need to be added to the website.

ACTION: DE

Issue with three way radios when other radios/announcers used noted. Review after indoor season usage.

DN and John Litchfield have been asked by Exec to look at development group opportunities.

The welfare information on the web site needs updating.

ACTION: DB to send draft to NPUA Exec



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Mid-season support newsletter to be prepared and circulated.

ACTION: DB to provide data and DE to send letter to support members

7. EHUSC report – DE

DE provided a report to the committee of the strategy work currently underway. Notes of meetings are posted on the NPUA website.

A 'needs-based' assessment report had been produced for consideration by OPC and is broadly in line with the appointments made so far this season.

We now have an EH agreed coaching and assessing award. An NPUA UM assessment is now ready for use. Thanks to DB and John Litchfield for producing these.

ACTION: DE to add Assessing and UM documents to NPUA website

DE and LP updated the NPUA general information on the website. Still some areas that need updating where access is not available.

ACTION: Exec to do further updates

International updates for or season 2017/18:

Umpires:

Paul Walker promoted to FIH World development panel.

Emma Shelbourn promoted to FIH Grade 1.

Rachel Williams promoted to FIH promising list.

Rebecca Woodcock and Sean Edwards achieved FIH International status.

Tim Benford and Andrew Kennedy retired from international umpiring.

It is noted that Lelia Sacre (CAN) and Jamie Hooper (WAL) were promoted to the FIH promising list.

UMs:

Outdoor:

Louise Knipe and Margaret Hunnaball promoted to World Panel.

Paul Box-Grainger promoted to Grade 1.

Hamish Jamson has been added to the FIH potential International UM list.

Indoor:

Tony Kelleher promoted to Grade 1.

Margaret Hunnaball has been added to the FIH potential International UM list.

NPUA hosted Alison Keough (IRL) to an EHL game in October and will look to host Tim Bond (NZL) in February/March. Both requested support in the build up to up-coming tournaments.

8. NPUA Exec Update

MT provided an update on updates from NPUA Exec.

Conference for 2018/19 draft date is 8/9 September 2018 at Warwick University.

Fitness tests in regions in summer generally worked. In future, the deadline to be set for 4 weeks before the start of the season. NPDP/September Candidates fitness test must be provided as part of the nomination. Request to regions to be updated – tests to be valid



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between 1 June and 31st July of the nominating season. December candidates must have a valid test for that season of nomination.

ACTION: SG to update nomination form

LP, DL and MT met with EH to discuss the proposed new league structure for 2019/20 and its implication on umpiring. A follow-up session with regional HUA representatives will take place on Dec 3.

9. Dates of next meetings (subject to league fixtures):

Saturday 24th February, 2018 – 10:00 am start, Rivers Ibis.

Saturday 12th May, 2018, Rivers Ibis.

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

The meeting closed at 3.20 pm.

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