



Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Sunday 1st September 2019 @ 10:30am at ALSAA, Dublin

Present: Chairman - Warren McCully (WMC), Graham Hohn (GH), Peter Murphy (PM), Eamonn McFerran (EMF), Fiona Davitt (FD), Geoff Conn (GC).

Apologies: Kim Collins (KC), Robert Johnston (RJ), Tom Goode (TG)

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. The minutes had been circulated a few weeks ago. No amendments notified and accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising

2. Radios – audit completed but the supplier (UmpireTalk) of our radios has yet to reply. There are some supplier issues. We may need to consider a new supplier and needs to be investigated. Radio to be collected from Richard Cowan and refund to be given to him of £25. **ACTION: Treasurer to refund money.**
3. Umpire co-ordinators - Discussion took place regarding a payment (in addition to expenses) to out UC given as it is now a 12 month of the year job. GH to provide figures re costs of running EYHL and cups from UC point of view re expenses. WMC suggested a paper to go to HI re expenses as HI may pay expenses whilst IHUA may have to contribute towards other payment costs. FD added that extra costs are incurred when HI make late requests for changed EY fixtures, schools and cups, international friendlies, etc. WMC advised that budget has not been submitted yet for the incoming season. GH states that KC costs were £1262 and TG was 350 euro but there may be further costs from him to come. PM suggested this needs looking at and cheaper options found. **ACTION: WMcC to raise issue with HI.**
4. Phones - EMF stated that Vodafone Red was mentioned at a previous meeting but this was shelved until AGM and we see who will be the UC's for 2019/20. GC to speak to a friend that works in Vodafone (email previously sent to GH). **ACTION: GC to investigate phone costs for UC's.**
5. Laptops - PM asked about laptop issue which had been raised at a previous meeting. Agreed at meeting to purchase two new laptops for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. 2 x laptops. PM anxious that this be done soon and 2 external hard drives to be included. **ACTION: WMcC to investigate and provide costs**
6. Constitution - This has been done and will be sent out to everyone. Complete.
7. Letter to Dungannon HC – sent. Complete.
8. Women in Sport – See below
9. Invoice to HI re final EYHL payment. Money received. Complete.

10. New clothing – paper distributed via Geoff Conn. Shirts retained to append sponsor’s logo. This is a work in progress and WMC extremely keen to see sponsorship deal being concluded as soon as possible. On-going.
11. Applications for U4E re umpires and coaches – complete.
12. EYHL Training - Ali Keogh and Rob Argent. Both emailed for giving of their time and knowledge. Complete.

Correspondence

13. Email from Ulster re IHUA membership fees and timing of matches due to new rules. Jamie Aiken advised by WMC on both aspects. Also, Ulster asked that Gail Taylor be considered for coaching appointments and courses. **ACTION: WMC will respond in writing.**

Committee Planning 2019/20 and AGM

14. GH advised that Simon McAllister was willing to take cover as Treasurer.
15. WMC stated that it remains his intention to step down as Chair although no one has been identified as yet.
16. Constitution – There was a discussion on some aspects of a new proposed Constitution. Agreed that it could be sent to members ahead of AGM for further discussion as same.

Hockey Ireland Communications

17. WMC advised on the funding received through the Women in Sport Application. A national umpire coordinator is being proposed and this should boost numbers at grass roots level. This is likely to be advertised per FD at 22.5 hours per week. Sue Haslam is the SPOC for this with HI and WMC has spoken to her regarding IHUA and the provincial associations being included.
18. WMC also advised that following recent discussions with HI they are likely to take over responsibility for umpiring at grassroots level leaving the provinces and IHUA to manage the umpires within their spheres as well as providing support to grassroots programmes.

Clothing / Sponsorship

19. GC referred to his recently circulated document and showed the meeting an example of a yellow umpiring shirt and the proposed logo. This will cost 3000 euro plus. First year sponsorship will be 7500 euro (ie 4 x 7500 = 30000 euro over 4 years). Kitbags being considered as an additional gift to umpires - discussed and show to the meeting. 76 people ordered shirts so that means 76 kitbags required. FD said it would be a nice gesture from IHUA to provide the kitbags free of charge to the members for years of service. PM queried could we afford the 2200 euro cost of the kitbags. GH to make contact with sponsoring company to expedite signing of contract. PM stated that we need to ensure that ALL umpires at a national game have IHUA shirts with a sponsorship logo on it. **ACTION: GC To progress shirts and bags**

Finance

20. GH states we have €7500 in the account. There are no outstanding bills to pay currently. PM asked that a separate item be included on budget for laptops.

Umpire Development, Coaching and Assessment

21. EYHL training day to take place at Talbot Stillorgan Hotel and fitness testing at Railway Union HC. To be advised to members via email and Slack. GH to check re showers availability. Fitness at 1015 hours then to Talbot Stillorgan for 12 noon. AGM first then training day.
22. Issue re A Panel umpires being assessed who choose not to umpire national games. Who assesses them going forward? The feeling of the meeting is that if umpires on the A Panel do not take national appointments then they should not be on the A Panel. Also, some people may be picking and choosing which games they umpire. Is the way forward to get on to the A Panel a person is assessed in a national game AS WELL as a provincial game?
23. Provincial Umpire Training Days. WMC states this should be done once every 2 years. Some assessor and coaching workshops need to be followed up as well.
24. Kim Collins and Fiona Davitt attended course in Breda in August. Richard McNabb did not attend due to injury and had not advised anyone in IHUA (although he did advise the organisers in Breda). On checking with Tom Pederson Smith (EHF), it is not a matter of simply replacing Richard with another Irish umpire as the U4E programme is already over-subscribed.

Umpire Grading/Selection/Fitness

25. RJ has forwarded a document on last year's appointments and report on our current situation which included a few recommendations for upgrading. These were discussed and agreed by the meeting today i.e. Ian Strange to A*, Tanja Schafer to A Panel.

Any Other Business

26. PM raised issue of Garda vetting for all umpires having been asked this question in Munster. There appears to be a grey area regarding who needs vetted and who does not. FD noted that there appears to be a different policy in Leinster to that in other provinces especially Munster. FD felt that this needs to be looked at.
27. EMF reiterated that he will not be standing as Secretary. WMC thanked him for his service.

Date of Next Meeting

Date of the next meeting to be agreed after AGM. WMcC closed by thanking everyone for their attendance.

Eamonn McFerran

Minutes prepared by

Eamonn McFerran

1 September 2019

Summary of Agreed Actions

Para Ref	Action	Who
2.	Treasurer to refund money	GH
3.	UC expenses payments	WMC
4.	Phone costs for UC's	GC
5.	Laptop costs	GH & WMC
12.	Response to Ulster Umpires	WMC
18.	Shirts and bags progression	GC