



**Minutes of IHUA Annual General Meeting
Held via Zoom Video Conference
Saturday 5th September 2020 at 10:00am**

Present: Hockey Ireland Vice President – Ann Rosa, IHUA Chair – Warren McCully, IHUA Vice Chair – Rob Argent, IHUA Hon Treasurer – Simon MacAllister, IHUA Hon Secretary – Robert Johnston.
Bruce Bale, Marcus Blake, Paul Bonar, Jim Butler, Luke Chapman, Liz Clifford, Louise Daly, Fiona Davitt, Russell Donaldson, Ellie Duffy, Gareth Herron, Gill Hohn, Graham Hohn, Colm Kavanagh, Mervyn Logan, Neil Mackey, Peter Murphy, Shane O'Donnell, Darrell Reamsbottom, Christine Reid, Tanja Schafer, Ian Strange, Gail Taylor, Andy Waller, Paddy Wright.

Apologies: Les Allen, Paul Arneill, Tara Browne, Jonny Campbell, Kim Collins, Geoff Conn, Tom Goode, Gillian Johnston, Linda Johnston, Richard Kendrick, Randall Kernaghan, William Kilpatrick, Jack McCann, Brian McQueen, Simon O'Connor, Claire Oliphant, Phil Shields, Richard Stone, Peter Watson.

Warren McCully welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance, declared the meeting quorate and invited the Hockey Ireland Vice President, Ann Rosa, to take the Chair. He explained the etiquette for the meeting which, due to the unusual circumstances brought about by the Covid pandemic, was held entirely by video conference for the first time.

Ann Rosa thanked Warren for his kind words and welcomed everyone to the meeting. She thanked every umpire for their commitment throughout the season and their contribution to Irish hockey. Ann continued by mentioning the pain and suffering endured by many families during the Covid crisis but paid tribute to the essential work carried out by health care professionals over a prolonged period of months.

Ann's words were followed by the playing of a video of a beautiful and moving piano solo played expertly by IHUA umpire, Russell Donaldson, which was received with acclamation by all present.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the last AGM

Having been sent to all members in advance, adoption of the minutes of the 2019 AGM was proposed by Peter Murphy, seconded by Jim Butler, accepted by the meeting as an accurate record and duly signed by Ann Rosa on behalf of the Hockey Ireland President, Martin Canniffe.

Three matters arising from the 2019 AGM minutes were actioned as follows:

- i. Re-draft of the IHUA Constitution – to be covered later at Agenda item 9;
- ii. Future planning for supply of umpire radios – this was completed after a procurement exercise and significant financial support provided by IHUA. The new radios have now been delivered to all Provinces for circulation to umpires;
- iii. Review the provisions for umpire insurance – Warren McCully confirmed that a comprehensive paper outlining the current umpire insurance provision for IHUA and within Provinces was distributed to all members within the past week.

2. Correspondence to the AGM

No correspondence received.

3. Chairperson's Report - (Warren McCully)

The key points of the Chairman's report were:

- Absolutely delighted that IHUA secured a four-year sponsorship deal with Sedgwick, a leading global provider of technology enabled risk, benefits and integrated business solutions.
- Umpire development and improving the umpiring structures at provincial level remains very much at the forefront of our work.
- The Women in Sport project is a particularly exciting initiative that will hopefully bring rewards to the women's game.
- I have enjoyed the role and I thank every one of you for giving me the opportunity to lead the Association.

Having been circulated in advance, adoption of the Chairman's report was proposed by Ian Strange, seconded by Christine Reid, and accepted by the meeting.

4. Honorary Secretary's Report – (Robert Johnston)

The key points of the Honorary Secretary's report were:

- IHUA Executive Committee met 8 times in 2019/20.
- Since March 2020 all meetings have been via video conference saving a lot on time commitment and travel expenses.
- All members of the Committee worked hard during the season bringing their own specialist skills and knowledge when dealing with many varied matters of business.
- Particular thanks to Warren McCully for his enthusiasm, appetite for improvement and commitment to IHUA over many, many years; all umpires in Ireland owe him a debt of gratitude.

Having been circulated in advance, adoption of the Honorary Secretary's report was proposed by Russell Donaldson, seconded by Simon MacAllister, and accepted by the meeting.

5. Honorary Treasurer's Report - (Simon MacAllister)

Simon MacAllister presented a summary of the accounts for the calendar year ended 31st December 2019. The accounts were successful audited and will be made available to any member on request. The key points of the Honorary Treasurer's report were:

- EYHL cost per appointment was €53.80 (all competitions and appointments.)
- Noteworthy financial items in 2019/20:
 - Sedgwick sponsorship.
 - New umpire clothing.
 - Umpire clothing rebate.

Simon briefly summarised the accounts explaining that the average cost per EYHL appointment had dropped slightly from last year (€56 down to €53.80) and overall the Association was in a healthy position with a closing balance in excess of €6,000. He thanked everyone for submitting their travel and subsistence claims in a timely manner and appealed for all members to continue to keep their details on the system and mileage claims up-to-date. He emphasised this will be more important throughout 2020/21 as we manage the budget against a proposed reduction in mileage rate due to the restriction imposed on travel as a result of Covid.

Having been circulated in advance, and following Simon's excellent summary, adoption of the Honorary Treasurer's Report was proposed by Darrell Reamsbottom, seconded by Tanja Schafer, and accepted by the meeting.

6. National Men's Umpire Co-ordinator's Report - (Tom Goode)

The key points of the Men's Umpire Co-ordinator's report were:

- We've never had a season like this one! We were just approaching the business end of the season when COVID19 brought an untimely end to proceedings.
- Those of you appointed to various cancelled EHF/FIH competition are doubly disappointed. Will we see a resumption of international competition?
- Thanks to all provincial appointments secretaries for your help and cooperation last season. It was much appreciated.
- Thanks to each and every one of you for your help and cooperation over the last year. Without fail, you have come up trumps when I have asked you to change to a different game or to accept a last-minute appointment - THANK YOU!!
- I have worked with Warren throughout his time as Chairman and he was always there to offer advice and help. For your help and friendship, THANK YOU WARREN!!!!

Having been circulated in advance, adoption of the Men's Umpire Co-ordinator's Report was proposed by Graham Hohn, seconded by Peter Murphy, and accepted by the meeting.

7. National Women's Umpire Co-ordinator's Report - (Kim Collins)

The key points of the Women's Umpire Co-ordinator's report were:

- I'd like to start by thanking all those umpires who made themselves available for weekly appointments (sometimes at short notice and to double-up.)
- Although the season was cut dramatically short due to the pandemic, the usual problems arose during what games we had. At times it has been impossible to cover all the matches due to our lack of umpires.
- The usual last minute rearranged games/time/location etc still continue to give myself and some umpires problems but I will continue to rant to the powers that be to improve the art of communication.
- Final thanks to the usual advisory culprits: Warren, Tom, Robert and Lynn. You are always ready to help find a solution..
- I hope to see you all back on a hockey pitch soon and stay safe.

Having been circulated in advance, adoption of the Women's Umpire Co-ordinator's Report was proposed by Gill Hohn, seconded by Liz Clifford, and accepted by the meeting.

8. Election of Officers and Executive Committee for 2020/21

Ann Rosa declared all posts vacant and proceeded to conduct the Election of Officers and Executive Committee members for the 2020/21 season.

The following were elected:

Election of Officers for 2020/21

		<u>Proposed by</u>	<u>Seconded By</u>
Chair	ROB ARGENT	Warren McCully	Bruce Bale
Vice Chair	<i>left in abeyance to be filled by the incoming Executive Committee</i>		
Honorary Treasurer	SIMON MacALLISTER	Jim Butler	Peter Murphy
Honorary Secretary	JIM BUTLER	Peter Murphy	Warren McCully

Election of Executive Committee members (5) for 2020/21

The following Committee members were elected to serve for the 2020/21 season:

	<u>Proposed by</u>	<u>Seconded By</u>
1. ALISON KEOGH	Fiona Davitt	Carol Metchette
2. PETER MURPHY	Malcolm Coombes	Jim Butler
3. ROBERT JOHNSTON	Russell Donaldson	Warren McCully
4. CHRISTINE REID	Ian Strange	Robert Johnston
5. RUSSELL DONALDSON	Rob Argent	Alison Keogh

Election of Umpire Appointments Coordinator - Women

It was proposed by Robert Johnston, seconded by Ian Strange and unanimously agreed that KIM COLLINS be elected Women's Umpire Appointments Coordinator for 2020/21.

Election of Umpire Appointments Coordinator - Men

It was proposed by Carol Metchette, seconded by Les Allen and unanimously agreed that TOM GOODE be elected Men's Umpire Appointments Coordinator for 2020/21.

Appointment of Auditors

It was proposed by Simon MacAllister, seconded by Christine Reid and unanimously agreed that CRAWFORD TIPPING be re-elected as Auditor for 2020/21.

9. Notices of Motion received in accordance with Constitution

“On behalf of the IHUA Executive Committee it is proposed by the Chairperson, seconded by the Vice Chairperson, that having been subject to inclusive consultation with all members the amended IHUA Constitution and the content therein be adopted in full at this AGM by those members present and entitled to vote.”

The draft Constitution was sent to all AGM attendees in advance of the meeting. Revision of the Constitution is an important matter arising from the 2019 IHUA AGM at which the Executive Committee was tasked with conducting a full consultation exercise. This was completed between November 2019 to February 2020. The consultation included all members of IHUA, all Provincial umpiring committees and the Hockey Ireland Board. A comprehensive response was received with comments incorporated in the new draft now presented to members. It was explained that the Constitution will likely change again in the coming years, e.g. to reflect Hockey Ireland’s new membership system once it is established, so this is very much a fluid document at this juncture. It will be reviewed annually to keep pace with wider changes in our sport.

The draft Constitution was presented in full for adoption. It was explained that it is not being presented for further consultation nor discussion. That stage has passed. The Notice of Motion asks members to either adopt the revised Constitution or not.

It was further explained that the revised Constitution will have to be ratified by the Hockey Ireland Board. This process has already commenced and it is the Board’s wish that the Constitution is initially passed by the members of IHUA at this AGM before being brought to the Board for final endorsement.

Having presented the draft Constitution, as proposed by the IHUA Chair and seconded by the Vice Chair, members were asked to vote in favour of or against the Motion.

The vote resulted in a 100% unanimous agreement in favour of the Motion therefore the revised IHUA Constitution, as presented to this AGM, was declared formally adopted subject to ratification by the Hockey Ireland Board.

10. To Fix and Agree Membership Fees

Honorary Treasurer, Simon MacAllister, proposed no change to the existing IHUA membership fees of €30 (full members) and €10 (junior members.) Mervyn Logan seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed.

11. Presentations

On behalf of all the members of IHUA, Warren McCully was presented with a gift to recognise his immense work and commitment to Irish umpiring in the role of Chair of the Association for over eight years. Warren thanked everyone for their kindness and their support during his period in office. He wished the incoming Chair, Rob Argent, and the Executive Committee all the best for the coming season.

Warren then presented Hockey Ireland Vice President, Ann Rosa, with a gift of flowers and chocolates to thank her for chairing the meeting.

12. Any Other Business

No other business was raised.

There being no further business Ann Rosa thanked everyone for their attendance and praised Warren McCully, Rob Argent and Robert Johnston for organising the AGM. She felt it had been an excellent meeting which ran very smoothly despite the unique circumstances.

The meeting closed at 10:40am.

Robert Johnston

Minutes prepared by Robert Johnston
IHUA Honorary Secretary
5th September 2020

APPENDIX A – AUDITED IHUA ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31/12/2019

INSERT ACCOUNTS PDF HERE – WHEN AVAILABLE