

1. Apologies for absence:

Committee: Terri Foggin (Matchday Secretary)

Clubs: Berrylands; Epsom; EUHC Gamblers London; Mitcham; Old Kingstonian; Spencer

2. Matters Arising:

a) Division 1 – qualified umpire requirement:

An issue arose with London Wayfarers using an umpire who has not yet been assessed for level 1 qualification and wasn't on a list of those awaiting assessment. However, the club is undertaking an interesting and effective programme to get large numbers of their members through the umpire course and exam. Marcel van Eldik from London Wayfarers attended the meeting and explained the club's aims and approach.

With the help of David Elwood at England Hockey, Wayfarers have arranged multiple courses that mix umpiring theory and practice, either in a single full day or in a series of evening sessions, with the aim of getting up to 200 people through their Level 1 theory exam and including some on pitch coaching by the end of the season. Some will then go on to be assessed in a game to gain the full level 1 qualification but all will have a much better knowledge of the rules and should feel confident enough to umpire a game to one team up from the one in which they play thus spreading the umpiring load and hopefully improving on and off pitch behaviour by having an appreciation of the role of the umpire in the game.

Wayfarers are opening up their courses to other local clubs at a cost of £50 per person which includes the level 1 exam fee but not the practical assessment. Courses already scheduled are: 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> December, 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> February.

Marcel advised any clubs with SHUA umpires to try to get them qualified as umpire assessors then the club will be able to assess their own umpires internally without having to wait for outside assessor availability.

The Secretary will send out more information from Marcel about how London Wayfarers set up their programme with the minutes of the meeting.

Marilyn Walker undertook to find out more about the SHUA umpire assessors when she attends the upcoming Executive meeting and will report back.

b) Match related issues

▪ Postponing games

The meeting was reminded that:

- Postponed games must be played on the next available slip date unless the home team cannot provide a pitch on that date, in which case, it may move to the next slip date. Any request for the game to move further out must be submitted to the League Secretary with supporting evidence that no home pitches are available until the requested date. This has been agreed for Royal Holloway as the next 2 slip dates fall outside their term time but they have been warned that this may result in them having to concede a future game if they run out of slip dates due to adverse weather next term.
- The date of the postponed fixture should be changed on FixturesLive, on the day of the match, to the next slip date which may then be amended if required for pitch reasons. This means that the club is in control of the fixture information rather than having to wait for the Matchday Secretary.

- There is no need to refer a postponement to the League if FixturesLive is updated before or on match day and the game is moving to the next slip date.

c) Usual reminders:

- Correspondence protocol - please remember to include in the subject, the name and division of the team, the opposition and the date of the match in question. Please copy in the opposition captain if the correspondence relates to a particular game.
- Procedure for conceded games – firstly, be in contact with your opposition in advance as it may be possible for them to help you out with players so that you can at least play the game as a friendly. If you do concede, please email the Matchday Secretary (copying in the opposition captain) immediately but do not text in a result. The walkover will be updated by the Matchday Secretary on FixturesLive as soon as she can after the match date.
- Shirt numbers - these are required for all League matches and must be unique within the team. Goalkeepers must always be listed on the Match Report Form as 'GK'.
- Team colours – please remember to check with the home team whether or not you need to change. Some teams have recently changed their home kit so please don't rely on the fact that you haven't clashed in previous seasons.
- Please check your club's details on the Club contacts page of the SHALL website ([surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk](http://surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk)) and let Liz Aeissame ([web@surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk](mailto:web@surreyladieshockeyleague.co.uk)) know if anything needs to be changed.

3. Any Other Business

- England Hockey competition restructure

England Hockey are increasing the number of teams in the EH League from 40 to 72 teams and this will mean that the extra teams will have to come from the Regional Leagues.

At the end of October, Marilyn Walker (Chairman) and Jo Firth (Surbiton) attended a meeting of interested parties (league, umpire and county association representatives) and England Hockey to discuss the proposed changes and how they might impact on hockey at regional and county level. The notes of the meeting were sent to clubs with the meeting reminder but Marilyn and Jo explained that the main impact for Surrey clubs would be from teams being promoted from South League and South League wanting to retain their existing structure and divisions and therefore promoting at least 3 teams from each contributing county. The restructure would not happen before the 2019-20 season but could result in Surrey teams in South Division 3b initially playing a lower standard of hockey than they would have done in Surrey Premier.

Natalie Palmer from Wimbledon advised that Wimbledon were applying to be one of the 4 regional representatives for England Hockey and they are against the current proposals. They have teams at all levels of the game with their lowest ladies side in Surrey Division 10 so would aim to represent the full spectrum of competition.

The overriding issue that came out of the meeting was the lack of consultation of all the stakeholders and trying to push through the changes too quickly.

England Hockey has sent out a survey and would like as many people to complete it as possible. It's available on the EH website until Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November and the Secretary undertook to attach information about this to the email sending out the minutes.

**SHA Ladies League Meeting Minutes**  
**Woking HC at 8pm**

**7/11/17**

- Laura Aalen (Results Secretary) passed around a list of fines already incurred this season and Angela Durnin (Fines Secretary) will be contacting the captains of the teams concerned with details.
- Jo Firth confirmed that the Surrey Cup first round matches have all been completed and the draw sent out for round 2 of the cup and the plate which matches to be played by the end of December. All matches were played and Liz Aeissame has set up a new page on the League website to record the Cup competition results and fixtures.

4. Future meeting dates and venues

- Thursday 18th January 2018 at Wimbledon HC
- Beginning of March 2018 – date and venue tbc

**The meeting closed at 9.15pm**

**Committee attendees:**

Marilyn Walker (Chairman); Janet Slater (Secretary); Laura Aalen (Results Secretary); Liz Aeissame (Registrations Secretary); Angela Durnin (Fines Secretary)

**Club attendees:**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Barnes	Laura Aalen
Camberley & Farnborough	Keri Wilson
Cheam	Katie Naerger
Chertsey Thames Valley	Helen Dolan & Jade Asbury
Cranleigh	Debra Scutt
Guildford	Karen Coomber
Leatherhead	Liz Aeissame
London Wayfarers	Kirsty Anderson & Marcel van Eldik
Old Georgians	Emma Kramer
Reigate Priory	Janet Slater
Royal Holloway	Rasna Sandhu & Verity Jackson
Surbiton	Jo Firth & Ellie Vicker
Sunbury & Walton Hawks	Nicky McAndrew
Surrey Spartans	Lezanne Denton
Tulse Hill & Dulwich	Marilyn Walker
Wanderers	Nicola Phillips
Wimbledon	Natalie Palmer
Woking	Ellie Payne & Wendy Birks