

1. Apologies for absence:

Committee: Jo Firth; Lucy Muldoon;

Clubs: Berrylands; Epsom; Merton; Mitcham; Old Freemen's;

The Chairman, Marilyn Walker, opened the meeting just after 8pm by thanking Camberley & Farnborough HC for hosting the meeting and said that experiencing the distance to Camberley helps us to appreciate how big the county is and it is something that clubs should take into account when allocating pitches.

2. Matters Arising:

a) Photos taken at hockey matches

Jo Firth (Surbiton) emailed to report that a photographer had been taking photos of Surbiton's division 8 game at Horley on 27th February and the team captain was contacted by him on the Monday to say that the photographs were available on a website. The Surbiton team contained a number of under 18s and permission had not been sought in advance to take photos or video footage. Surbiton asked the photographer to remove the images from the website, which he did, but he said it was up to the club to get permission for the photos and not up to him although, at the time, Surbiton were unaware that he was at the game.

When the email was read out to the meeting, it transpired that other clubs had also had contact with the same photographer but that he had asked permission from them in advance.

Marilyn advised that anyone taking photos at games must ask permission from the club/captain so that juniors and/or their parents are able to give or withhold their permission.

Action: Marilyn Walker to write to the photographer to advise him of the League's position on this issue.

b) Fines

Angela Durnin, the Fines Secretary, distributed copies of her spreadsheet of fines levied this season with their payment status. All fines must be paid by 31st March or there will be an additional penalty. If anyone wishes to appeal their fine then they should contact the Results Secretary, Laura Aalen, before the deadline and provide appropriate evidence to support their request for the fine to be waived.

About £1500 worth of fines have been levied so far this season and about £900 are still unpaid.

Marilyn explained how some of the fines money has been spent over the last few seasons. Suburban Hockey, a charity that brings hockey coaching to deprived urban areas of the county, has received £5000 pa for the last 3 years. Its latest project is in Southwark. Surrey Hockey Association has also made a grant of £500 available to any affiliated adult hockey section on application on the proviso that it is used for adult hockey. The money is paid to the club on receipt of evidence of how it was spent.

c) Floodlights

An issue was raised by Reigate Priory when their Division 1 fixture against Richmond that was scheduled to start at 3pm on 28th November with no floodlights due to come on until 4pm had to be abandoned due to lack of light. Sunset that weekend was 3.57pm but the light is too poor to play by about 30 minutes before that and there were low light levels due to the weather. The game was rearranged and Richmond were asked not to schedule any more League games to start after 2pm unless floodlights were provided from at least 3.30pm which they agreed to.

League rules do not contain any guidance about when floodlights should be required so this question was raised at the January League meeting to see if clubs thought there should be. The feedback on that occasion was generally in favour, whilst recognising that it was difficult to cover all eventualities. The Secretary offered to draft some guidelines in time for this meeting but was unable to do so in time. The issue was raised again to see if a different group of clubs felt any differently but the consensus was that guidelines would be useful.

Action: Secretary to draft a proposal for guidelines that can be included in the rules at the AGM.

d) Promotion/relegation & structure of division next season

At the time of the meeting, there were no Surrey teams in a relegation position in South League which raised the prospect of an extra space in Premier next season but since then, Richmond has dropped back into the danger zone. Mitcham dropped out of Division 3 at the beginning of the season so there is one spare space in the top half of the League and Cheam dropped out of Division 10 leaving a spare space there too.

At the last meeting, Epsom asked if the League would consider reorganising the bottom division(s) on a geographical basis to make travel easier for the lower level teams. This received a mixed reception at the time, especially from the teams who were more centrally located, but this time, the consensus was overwhelmingly in favour as many teams have struggled to get teams together to travel to games on the opposite side of the county, especially for the very early or late games.

Promotion from the new divisions would be by amalgamating the 2 bottom divisions before deciding who goes up and then resorting the teams into 2 new divisions based on geography providing that this is still feasible given which teams are in the divisions at that point.

Action: The League Committee to try to reorganise the bottom 2 divisions along geographical lines if that is possible once it's known which teams will form those divisions.

3. Any Other Business

▪ New League entrants

At the time of the meeting, no formal applications for entry had been received but interest had been expressed by London Academicals, Royal Holloway (University) and Guildford.

Since the meeting, formal applications have been received for entry above the bottom division from Royal Holloway HC; Clapham Common HC. Entry above the bottom division is at the discretion of the League Committee.

The closing date for applications for entry is 31st March 2016.

**SHA Ladies League Meeting Agenda
Camberley & Farnborough HC at 8pm**

10/3/16

- Proposal from Guildford HC to reduce the level of fines from £10 to £5 per infringement
This proposal was discussed but there was general agreement that £10 was not unreasonable as the level of the fine is designed to act as a deterrent and it was felt that £5 would not achieve this. Jane Hallett from Purley Walcountians suggested rewarding teams that do it right. This was well received with several suggestions for ways to reward teams.

Action: The League Committee to discuss a possible reward scheme and bring to the next meeting.

- Nancy Albright Award
Marilyn presented the Secretary, Janet Slater, with the Nancy Albright Award for 2015 for her many years of work for her club, Reigate Priory, the SHA Ladies League and as county Treasurer before the amalgamation of the ladies' and men's associations. The award is made annually for outstanding contribution to hockey in the county.
Janet accepted the award, together with a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a bottle of champagne, and thanked Marilyn and the club representatives for the honour.
- The AGM is set for Monday, 23rd May at Purley Walcountians HC

Committee attendees:

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

Club attendees:

Club	Representative
Aces	Becky Gillett
Barnes	Laura Aalen & Kate Goater
Camberley & Farnborough	Keri Wilson & Nigel Green
Chertsey Thames Valley	Nicky Johncock
Cranleigh	Debra Scutt
Guildford	Briege Wyllie & Karen Faulker
Leatherhead	Liz Aeissame
London Wayfarers	Angela Durnin
Old Cranleighans	Susan Dewar
Oxted	Terri Foggin
Purley Walcountians	Jane Hallett
Reigate Priory	Janet Slater
Tulse Hill & Dulwich	Marilyn Walker
Wimbledon	Louise Laws
Woking	Lyall Scorovich