



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

AGM 2026

16 July 2026 @ 7:30pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

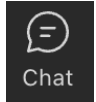
Chris Reece – Chair: North West Hockey Ltd

Welcome: 6th North West Hockey AGM

- **Member Clubs, County Representatives**
- **Non member Clubs who play in the North West Hockey League**
- **England Hockey Observer & Moderator: Sam Lewis (*Area Support Manager*)**
- **North West Hockey Board and Management Committee**

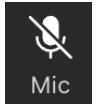
1. Welcome and Introductions

Housekeeping



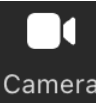
Chat

Please share your Name and Club/Association in the Chat



Mic

Please mute when not speaking, *(this helps to reduce any background noise)*

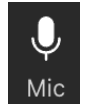


Camera

Please turn on your Camera



We will be recording the AGM, if you choose to turn your camera off, we fully understand



Mic

Remember to unmute yourself when speaking



The Minutes and slides will be shared – Post AGM



Voting by eligible members will be by means of an online Poll *(Teams)*



Apologies

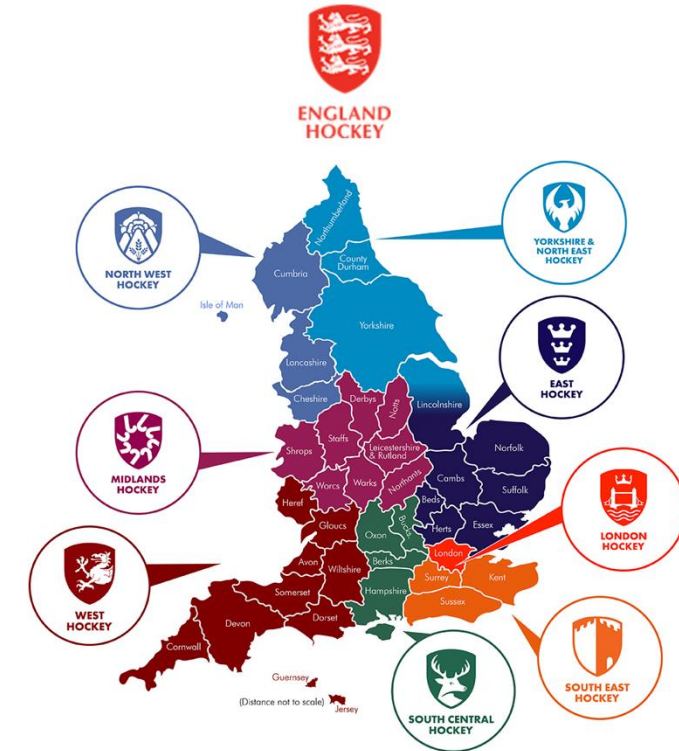
Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies for absence
3. Chair's Remarks
4. Minutes of the last AGM held on 17 July 2025
5. Announcement of Postholder election results
6. Area Structure & Key work of the Board
7. Annual Review of Northwest Hockey Ltd 2025-26
8. Northwest Hockey Limited Financial Report
9. Resolutions to be voted on at the meeting
10. Appointed Umpire Fees: *(Information)* North west
11. Any Other Business

There will be time for questions and answers after each of the main reports
Aim to finish the meeting by 21:00 hours

3. Chair's Remarks

- Year 6 completed since bringing together the North West Hockey Family
- North West Hockey continues to grow with the work of our Clubs and Counties with the support and Guidance from England Hockey
- North West Hockey one of the 8 Area's working closely to ensure consistency of Regulations, Policies and Guidelines
- We are guided by our **North West Hockey Vision, Mission and Strategy**
 - *VISION 'To promote, develop and grow hockey opportunities for all in the North West'*
 - *MISSION 'Working together to make hockey more visible, relevant and accessible for all across the North West'*



3. Chair's Remarks

Thank you to all volunteers who have made hockey happen during the 2025-26 season all those who have participated and enjoyed all we offer

- Adult Competitions – Junior Competitions – Masters Hockey – Officiating
- The Governance of North West Hockey including Discipline
- Our Committees and Volunteers delivering all aspects of Hockey in the North West
- Our Clubs and all their Volunteers
- Our Counties and all their Volunteers
- Our North West and Club Officials and Umpires, our Players and Supporters

3. Chairs Remarks

NW Club and School Successes 2026-2027

EH National League:

- Division 1(N) Champions – Bowdon M1's, promoted to Premier Division, joining their W1
- Conference (N) Champions – Bowdon W2's, promoted to Division 1 (N)
- Brooklands MU M2's promoted Conference (N) – NW Prem Champions
- Timperley W1's promoted Conference (N) – NW Prem Champions

EH Club Championships Winners

- Open/Men's O65s Cup – Cheshire
- Women's O55s Trophy – Timperley
- Women's Trophy - Liverpool Sefton
- Women's Bowl - West Derby
- Open/Men's Salver – Sandbach
- Mixed Trophy – Deeside Ramblers
- Plus a number of NW runners up

EH Junior Clubs Championships

- Open/Boys U16 Plate Winners– Deeside Ramblers
- Runners Up age group comps: Alderley Edge; Bowdon, Manx, Oxton

EH Schools Championships Winners

- Open/Boys U14 Final – Kings, Chester Runners Up
- Girls U18 Vase Final – Kirkby
- Stephen GS Runners Up

3. Chairs Remarks

Successes & Recognition 2026 - AREA / EH Awards

Congratulations to our nine 2026 North West Awards Winners

And our five national EH Award winners

*All NW winners went forward to the
EH National Awards*



NORTH WEST AREA AWARDS WINNERS & National Finalists

- **Rising Star** - William Simmons
- **Open/Men's Team of the Year**
– Bowdon HC Men's Masters (9thXI):
- **Coach of the Year** - Jack Woods
- **Unsung Hero** - Luisa Mackey

EH NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS 2026 from the North West

- **EH Area/County Volunteer of Year** - Niamh Goddard
- **EH Club of the Year** – Clitheroe Blackburn Northern HC
- **EH Women's Team of the Year** - West Derby HC Women's 1s
- **EH Lifetime Achievement Award** - Bill Ball
- **EH Official of the Year Award** - Eric Dickinson



4. Minutes of the last AGM – 17th July 2025

Minutes of AGM 2025

Minutes North West Hockey AGM 2025 circulated with Calling Notice

4.1 Approval as a true and accurate record of the meeting

- Proposed (*Board*) / Seconded - **VOTE BY ONLINE POLL**

Note: Voting Members: NW Clubs, Sub-Areas (Counties) & EHO

4.2 Matters arising (*not covered by the Agenda*)

		North West Hockey Ltd
Minutes of the 5th Annual General Meeting of North West Hockey Limited held on 17 th July 2025 by Video Conference		
Attendees:		
Chris Reece	(CR)	NWH Chair
Shelagh Everett	(SE)	NWH Vice-Chair
Niall Riley	(NR)	NWH Finance Director
Leighan Bilsdale	(LB)	NWH Governance Director
Wendy McDowall	(WM)	NWH Operations Director
Sam Lewis	(SL)	England Hockey Observer and Area Support Manager
Natasha Wilson	(NW)	England Hockey Officiating Manager
Tony Shutt	(TS)	NWH AOC Chair
Peter McNulty	(PM)	NWH ADA
John Dixon	(JD)	NWH Adult Leagues and Competitions Chair
Beth Alvey	(BA)	NWH Junior Leagues and Competitions Chair
Taff Ahmed	(TA)	NWH Social Media Lead
Tony Taig	(TT)	NWH Masters Chair
Charlotte Dunham	(CD)	NWH ED&I Lead
Representatives and members attending (see Annex A).		
64 Attendees		
41 Clubs were represented.		
3 Counties were represented (Cheshire HA, Cumbria HA and Lancashire HA)		
1. Welcome and introductions		
CR welcomed everyone to the 5th AGM of North West Hockey Ltd (NWH) and introduced Sam Lewis attending as the EH Observer. CR notified everyone that the meeting was being recorded and was happy for attendees to keep their screen off view. The minutes and slides will be sent out and posted on the NW website in due course.		
2. Apologies for Absence and confirmation of Quorum		
Apologies were received from: Andy Dale (EH), Brian Tenner (Deeside Ramblers), John Graham (St Helens), Eunice Ellison (Lancashire HA).		
CR confirmed that the meeting quorum, of 15 voting members attending, had been met with 64 attendees on line at the start of the meeting. This was an excellent turnout and CR thanked everyone attending from Member Club's, Counties, Legacy Members, NWH, non-member Clubs who play in the NW Leagues and England Hockey staff for attending.		
CR reported that eight proxy votes had been received in advance of the meeting.		
3. Chair's Remarks		
CR reflected that year 5 has been completed since bringing the North West Hockey family together. NWH continues to grow with the work of our Clubs and Counties with the support and Guidance from England Hockey.		
NWH is one of the 8 Area's working closely with England Hockey to ensure consistency of Regulations, Policies and Guidelines. This year we launched the new NWH Strategy at Clubs Forums. Timperley HC and Vale of Lune Rugby Club in Lancaster.		
North West Hockey Limited is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. Company Number 13433627. Registered Office Address England Hockey, Bisham Abbey, Marlow, England, SL7 1RR.		

5. Announcement of election results & Appointments

Following the online Ballot the following are duly elected:

Board

- Chair: David Ellcock
- Finance Director: Vacant

Management Committee

- Masters Chair: Vacant
- Junior League and Competitions Chair: Charles Jackman
- Adult League and Competitions Chair: John Dixon
- Officiating Chair: Chris Reece (*elected by NW Officiating AGM*)

Board Appointed Roles

- ED&I: Charlotte Dunham
- Appeals Chair: Vacant
- Area Discipline Lead: Peter McNulty
- ADA Assistant X2: Rhydian Burston & Michelle Bury

6. North West Volunteers stepping Down

Chris Reece
Chair (Director)



Niall Riley
Finance Director



Tony Taig
Masters Chair



Tony Shutt
Officiating Chair



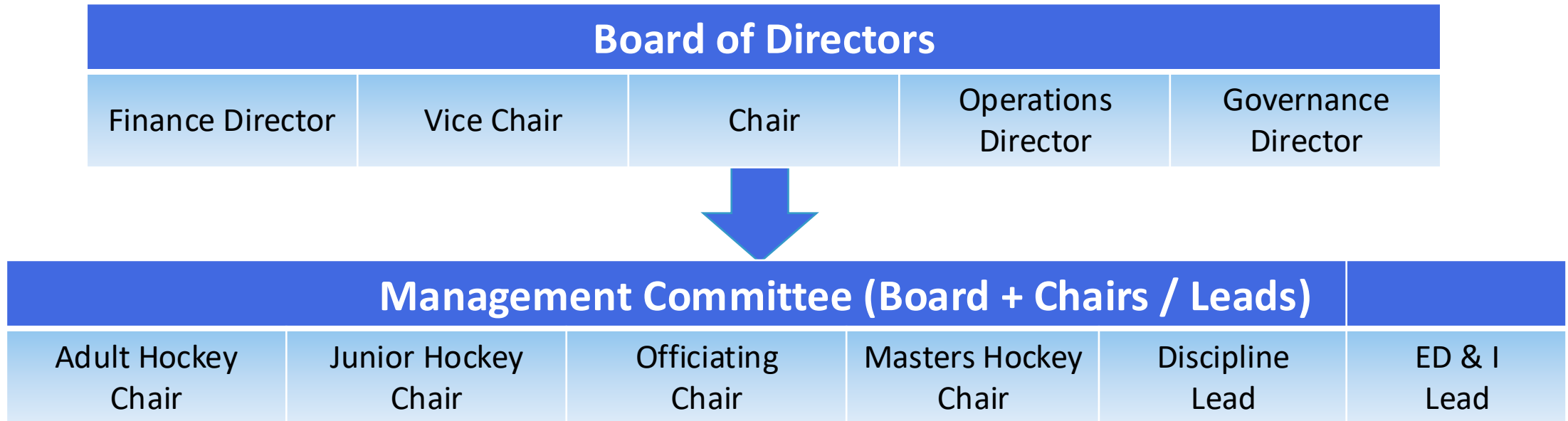
Lou Nash
Junior Co-Ordinator*



Thank You

to all volunteers on our board,
committees and support roles who are
stepping down this year

6. North West Hockey Governance Structure



2026-27 North West Hockey Board of Directors

Board of Directors				
Chair	Vice Chair	Finance Director	Governance Director	Operations Director
David Ellcock	Shelagh Everett	Vacant	Leighan Bleasdale	Wendy McDowall
				

Goals

PROMOTE



DEVELOP



GROW



Priority Themes

Hockey Experience



Ways to Play



Support Structures



People & Engagement



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

2026-27 North West Committee Chairs & Leads

Management Committee: Directors, Chairs & Leads

Adult League & Competitions	Junior League & Competitions	Officiating	Masters Co-opted	Discipline ADA <i>Appointed Position</i>	ED&I	Directors (NW Board)
John Dixon	Charles Jackman	Chris Reece	Wendy McDowall	Peter McInulty	Charlotte Dunham	
						

Goals

PROMOTE



DEVELOP



GROW



Priority Themes

Hockey
Experience



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Play



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**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

2026-27 North West Hockey Opportunities



NW HOCKEY NEEDS YOU

OFF THE PITCH. BIG IMPACT.

Join the North West Hockey team and help
shape hockey in the North West.



Put your skills and passion for hockey together and get involved in helping us Promote, Develop and Grow hockey in the North West

Details will be shared over the Summer to fill current vacancies – get in touch now if interested in getting involved:

Current Vacancies

Board: Finance Director

Management Committee:

- Masters Chair
- Appeals Chair
- Junior Committee roles
- Officiating Committee roles
- Social Media support for each committee
- General support roles



7. Review of North West Hockey 2026-27

July 2026

Annual Review
2025-26



Welcome to our fifth annual review and report to members of North West Hockey, and my final one as Chair of the Board. We have continued to deliver a wide range of hockey opportunities for all from juniors, schools, clubs, masters, outdoor, indoor and officiating through the work of our volunteers and committees in 2025-26. Like the challenges faced by Club's, we are limited in sometimes progressing our ambition and plans due to the limitations on volunteer time or vacancies. I'm very proud of what our NW volunteers, many of whom do multiple roles, have delivered in 2025-26. We have a fantastic opportunity to grow and develop hockey in the North West - but we need the help of more volunteers and clubs make hockey happen and start to make progress against our strategic objectives and delivering against our [Vision 'To promote, develop and grow hockey opportunities for all in the North West'](#).

As I reflect on the past 6 years since North Hockey Ltd was formed and being elected Chair, the work put in to establish the new Area and bring together a number of hockey organisations has been tremendous - all done through our volunteers. We have brought together all aspects of hockey in the NW under one structure, and it's been really pleasing to see how we have grown the junior hockey programme for clubs and schools and now have over 600 players involved in NW Masters hockey, as well as out leagues, officiating and discipline management. I would like to thank everyone who has been involved from the Board, our Management Committee, and functional committees and support roles as well as from you our clubs, counties and volunteers we couldn't do it without you.

Our annual review gives a snap shot of the activities delivered through our NW team in 2025-26 and shares key highlights for the season. Whilst we have not progressed areas of work on our strategy as much as the Board would have liked, due the workload to run the core activities, it is an area the Board will take time to review with the incoming Board Chair and continue to take NW Hockey forward

Thank you again for your support and to our 92 clubs and volunteers delivering hockey in the NW.
[Chris Reece, Chair, North West Hockey](#)

New and key activities delivered in 2025-26

- Engaging with all EH 8 Area functional groups to share best practice, learn, influence and provide a NW voice
- Started work with our committees to link their work and initiative to our North West Hockey Strategy
- Continued to grow our indoor and outdoor schools and state school festivals and comps
- 92 clubs playing over 4500 adult league matches involving 8000+ players
- 550 umpire/officiating appointments
- 600 registered NW masters players
- NW Area awards launched linked to National EH Awards
- Held Clubs forums including our first On-line Forum and update clubs.

Challenges and opportunities

- Recruiting volunteers to a wide range of roles to support NW Hockey activities and future development
- Improving our socials media, communications and engagement
- Working across the Area to ensure how remains a safe, enjoyable and inclusive sport open to and making match day experiences positive for all
- Creating volunteer capacity to deliver our strategic ambitions and plans
- Supporting development and growth of junior and club umpiring feeding into the appointed pools
- Launch our Hockey Development Fund to support delivery of our vision

NORTH WEST HOCKEY LTD

1

ANNUAL REVIEW 2025-26

Annual Report circulated prior to the AGM

Key Highlights and Summary

Followed by any Questions

Use the chat
function

The Annual Review is to NOTE

7. Review of North West Hockey

ADULT LEAGUE & COMPS

John Dixon, NW Adult League and Competitions Chair

Key stats – we deliver an awful lot of hockey!

- 8,000 players (50:50 gender split)
- 4,500+ NW matches per season (152 walkovers)
- 410+ Adult Teams entered the 2025/26 season
- 44 Development Teams (18 Open/Men's & 26 Women's)
- 37 Divisions run by 17 core volunteers
- Plus, indoor Super 6's and tournaments

Looking Forward

- League Starts 19th September – fixtures out soon
- Some changes to regulations come along on 28th July to find out more!
- League Presentations/Adult League Forum, Golborne SC, 28th July



Ways to
Play



Hockey
Experience



People &
Engagement



Support
Structures



7. Review of North West Hockey

JUNIOR LEAGUE & COMPS

Charles Jackman, Junior NW Junior League and Competitions Chair

- Young players are future of game - urge all clubs to develop their junior hockey opportunities to support us to grow the sport
- NW Hockey run a wide range of junior hockey across the year including:
 - Indoor (schools & clubs)
 - NW Clubs Junior Leagues and development tournaments
 - Schools Championships
 - State Schools festivals
- Priority is to re-establish an active and productive Junior NW Committee



Ways to
Play



Hockey
Experience



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

7. Review of North West Hockey

MASTERS

Tony Taig, NW Masters Hockey Chair

Ways to
Play



Hockey
Experience



600 players registered positive
16 NW Masters teams
Social Masters League NW500

North West Masters Pitchero Registrations

as at May 2026

Age Group	Ladies	Men
O-34	42	31
O-40	64	29
O-45	62	39
O-50	44	53
O-55	37	45
O-60	26	39
O-65	11	37
O-70	3	24
O-75	1	20
TOTAL	290	317

Group	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Position	out of
L34	1	1	5	4	8	7	8
L40	2	4	1	6	5	5	8
L45	0	1	6	2	16	8	8
L50	0	4	3	3	8	8	8
L55	1	4	2	6	7	6	8
L60	3	2	2	5	5	3	8
L65*	2	2	3	5	6	5	8
M34	0	0	6	1	22	7	7
M40	1	1	6	5	19	8	8
M45	0	1	6	2	14	8	8
M50	1	0	6	5	20	8	8
M55	2	0	5	13	18	6	8
M60	1	2	4	6	16	8	8
M65	3	3	1	5	2	3	8
M70	0	0	7	0	20	8	8
M75**	0	2	3	1	7	8	8



2 x Bronze medals
Congratulations to WO60 and MO65



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

7. Review of North West Hockey

OFFICIATING

Chris Reece, NW Officiating Chair

Hockey
Experience



Support
Structures



People &
Engagement



- 550 NW appointment
- 10 new L2 umpires – but more to support, coach and assess to grow number of L2's
- Continue to focus on Young Umpire development and growth
- Focus on NW Strategy priorities including female umpire development
- New EH Officiating Pathway roll out planned from Sept
- Plan to run Umpires Forums for 26/27



Umpire Level 1 Course (Online)

Online

FREE – for affiliated Club Members

FREE – online Rules Test



**NORTH WEST HOCKEY
OFFICIATING**

CALLING ALL YOUNG UMPIRES

Are you an aspiring young hockey player?

Have you thought about umpiring?

Are you aged 14 to 23 and fancy being a young umpire in hockey?

If so, please visit the link below.

www.northwest.englishhockey.co.uk/officiating-discipline/umpire-development

www.northwest.englishhockey.co.uk

Opportunities to get involved and join the NW AOC team - more details to follow over the summer or contact officiatingchair@northwesthockey.co.uk

7. Review of North West Hockey

DISCIPLINE

Peter McNulty, Area Discipline Lead

- North West Discipline snapshot 
 - Spirit of Hockey – everyone's responsibility
 - What can Clubs do to help / support focusing on hockey experience for all

Suspensions						
Days	16	23	30	45	60	More than 60
Count	22	1	13	5	3	1

category		
Non Violent	Violence against Participant	Violence against Official
30	13	2

Hockey
Experience



People &
Engagement



Support
Structures



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

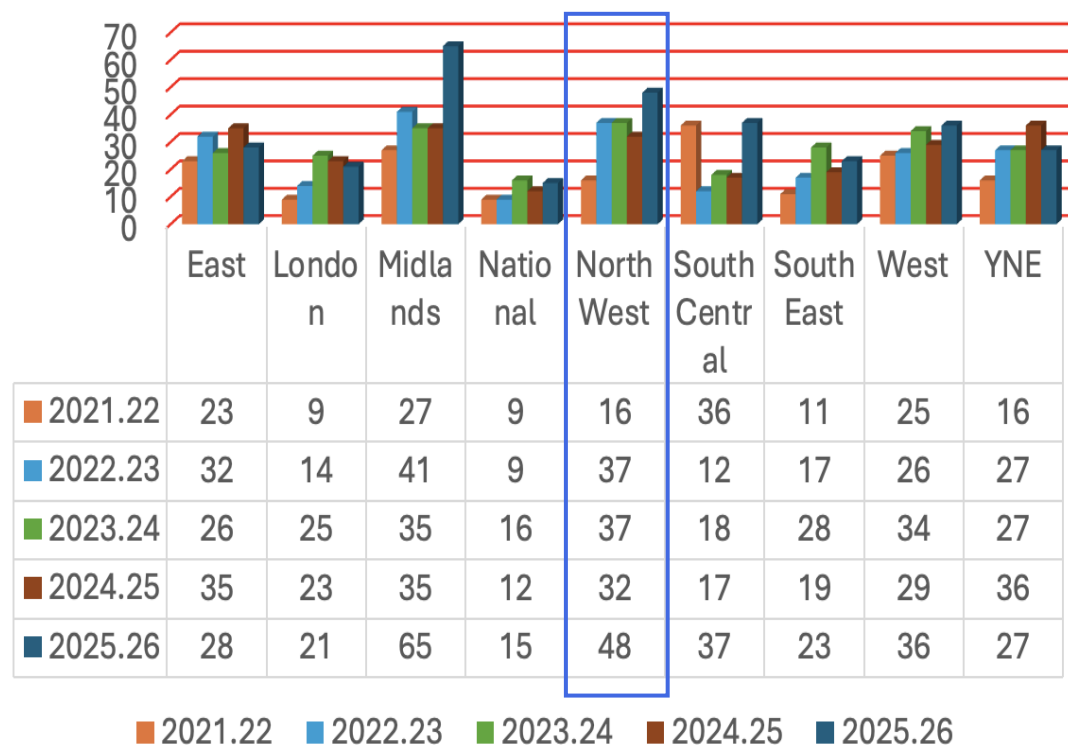
7. Review of North West Hockey

DISCIPLINE

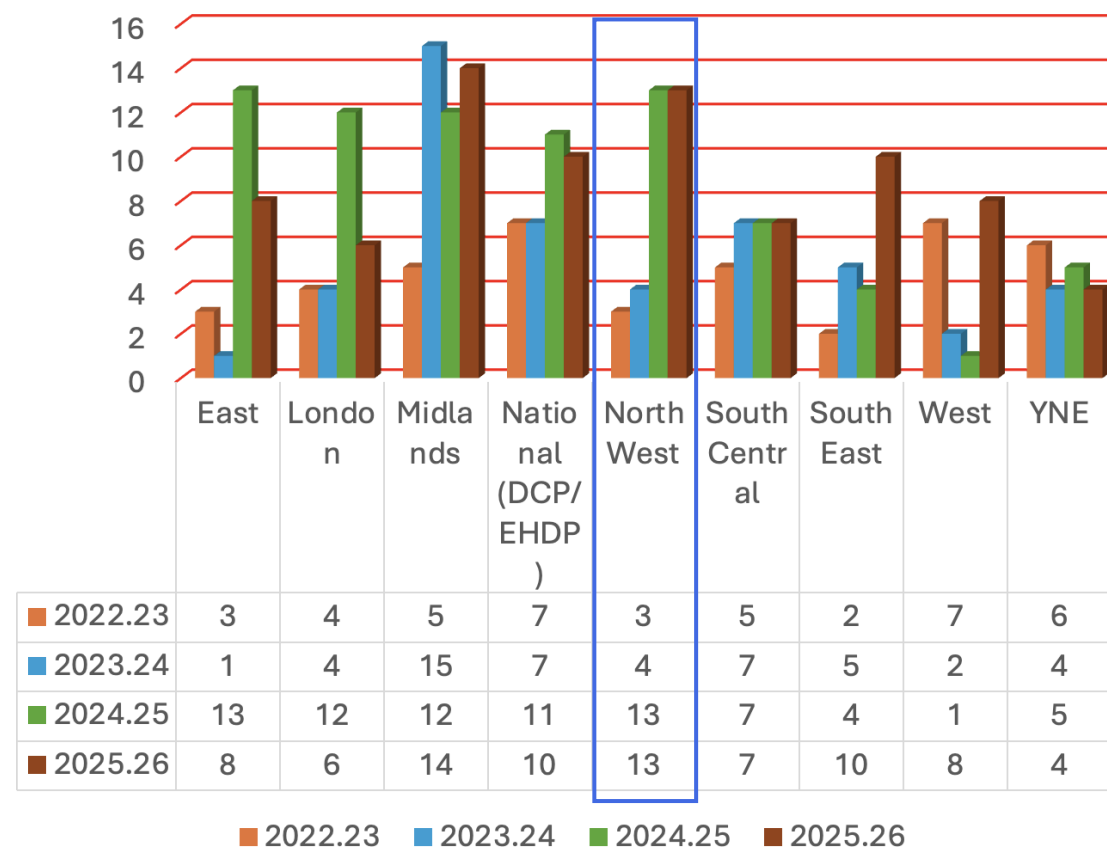
Peter McNulty, Area Discipline Lead

- National Picture – trends

Red Card / Suspension Misconduct Incidents



Misconduct complaints
allocated out to Area / EH Panels





**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

Finance Report

Niall Riley

Finance Director

8. North West Hockey Ltd Financial Report

The Annual Accounts have been independently verified and were circulated with the AGM Calling Notice

Niall Riley, Finance Director to share key highlights and overview

If you have any questions – please use the chat function

Use the chat
function

Registered Number:
13433627
England and Wales

North West Hockey Limited

Unaudited
Financial Statements for the Year
Ending
30th April 2026

Marshall Accountancy Ltd
St Mary's House
Crewe Road
Alsager
Stoke-On- Trent
ST7 2EW

8. North West Hockey Ltd – Finance Report

- I have been Finance Director for North West Hockey since its inception and am stepping down after this AGM.
- It has been a privilege and a pleasure to be involved with the initial planning, start-up and running of North West Hockey.
- Each year at the AGM, I have presented the accounts and proposed the new fees for the forthcoming season, with only a reference to the previous season.
- This year, I would like to sign-off by showing how we have developed financially leading up to this years proposed fees.

8. North West Hockey Ltd – Finance Report

Summary 2025-26

- Income (including Fines & Interest) £59,703
- Total Costs £61,253
- Loss **£ 1,550**

Operating Costs

Costs are continuing to rise

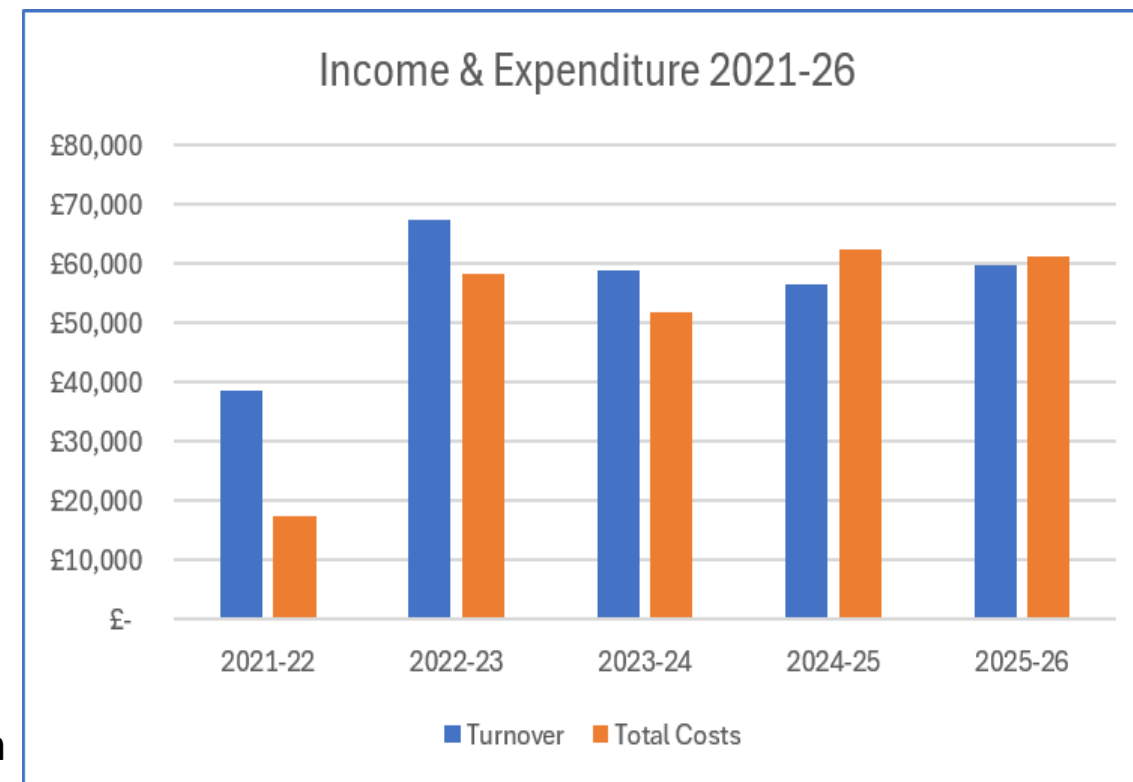
e.g. Microsoft in 2023-24 - £1,894, in 2025-26 - £3,470

League Fines

- 2023-24 £6,500
- 2024-25 £1,575
- 2025-26 £2,300 to date.
- All fines are now paid into the North West Hockey Growth Fund.

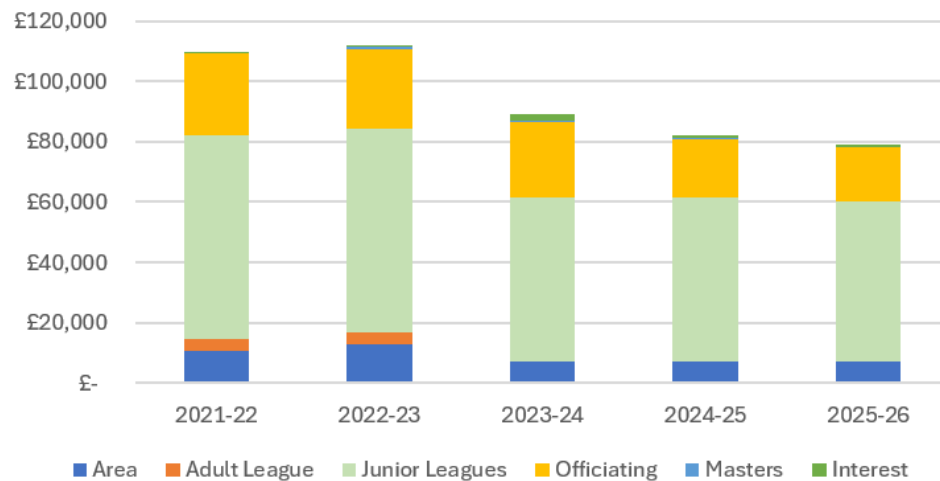
Juniors

- This is the first year that increased activity in Juniors and Schools has helped reduce the cost of running junior events

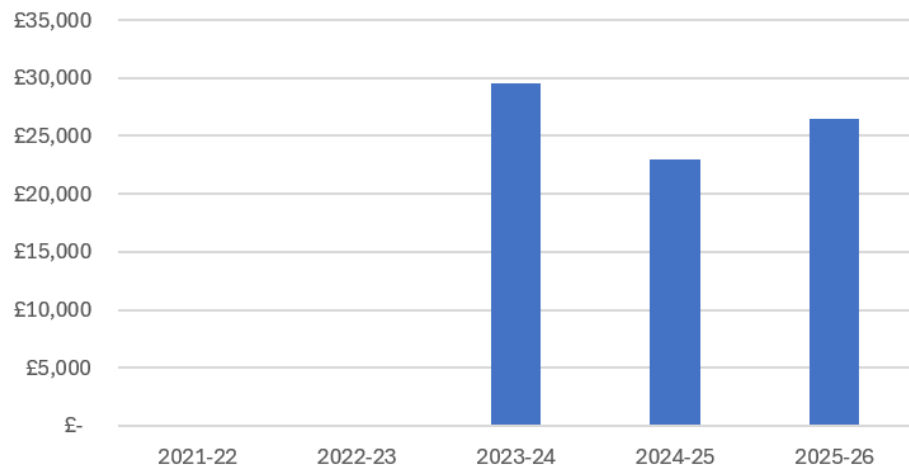


8. North West Hockey Ltd – Finance Report

Reserves 2021-2026



North West Hockey Growth Fund

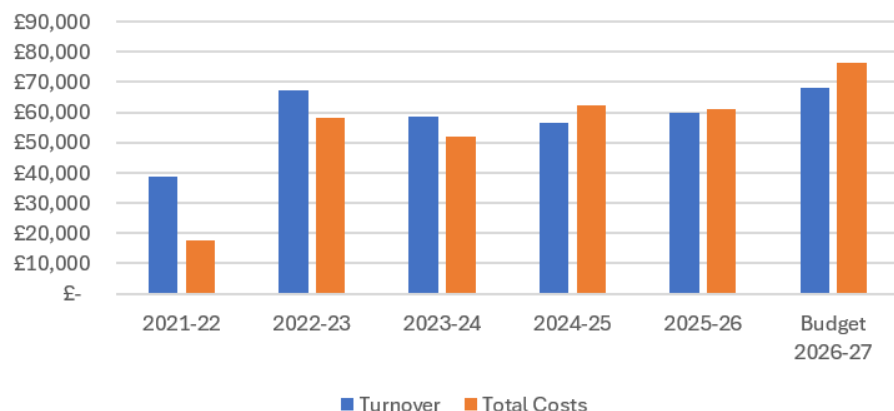


North West Hockey Reserves

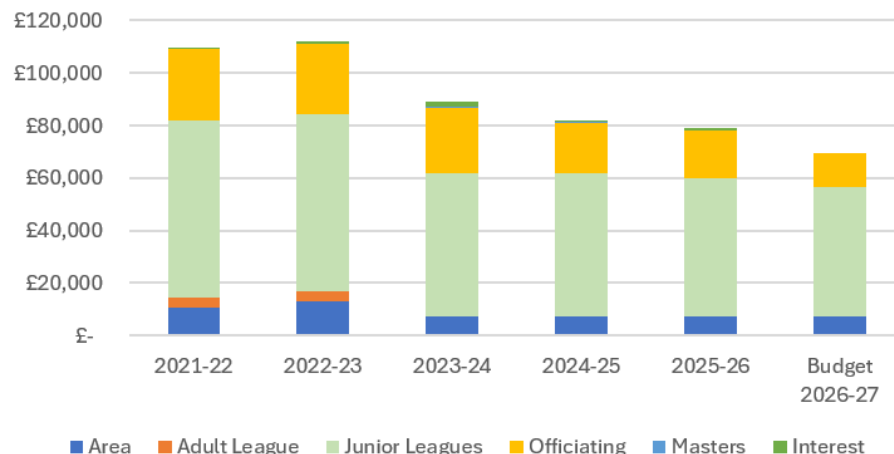
- Reserves came from dissolved organisations in the North West and are ring-fenced
- League Fines were initially put into Reserves and ring-fenced.
- League fines are now paid directly into the Growth Fund account.
- At the end of the 2023-24 season, the Growth Fund account was set up and monies transferred from the Reserve account.
- We have also drawn on officiating reserves for umpire development, umpire equipment and junior development.

8. North West Hockey Ltd – Finance Report

Income & Expenditure 2021-26
& Budget 2026-27



Reserves - Budget for 2026-27



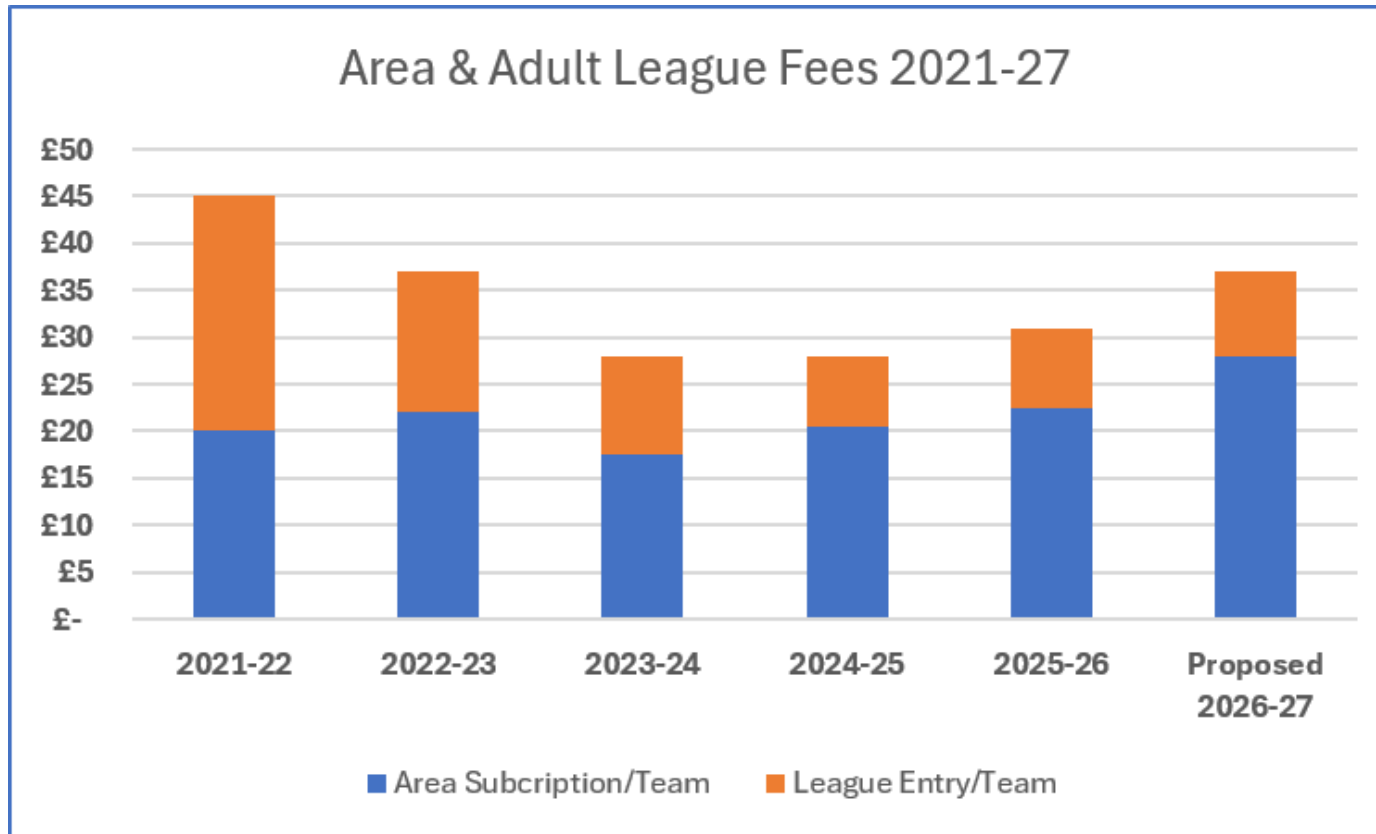
Budget 2026-27

- Increased income from Junior Leagues and Schools both indoor and outdoor
- Increase in remuneration for Appointed Umpires and Officials
- Increases in costs – Coaching, Competitions, IT & Software
- Increase in cost - England Hockey membership and Area Insurance
- Continue to draw from Reserves to support Area development.

8. North West Hockey Ltd – Finance Report

Proposed Area and Adult League Fees 2026-27

- Area Membership £28 per Team
- Adult League Entry £9 per Team



9. Resolutions

9.1 Area Membership Subscription for 2026-27

North West Hockey Ltd propose that:

- For full voting Member Clubs that the annual Subscription for 2026-27 for membership of North West Hockey Ltd shall be **£28.00 per senior team**

For Counties and other Organisations, Subscriptions for 2026-27 shall be set at zero, (no change to 2025-26)

Proposed (*Board*) / Seconded - VOTE BY ONLINE POLL

Note: Voting Members: NW Clubs, Sub-Areas (Counties) & EHO

9. Resolutions

9.2 Entry Fees for North West Adult Leagues for 2026-27

North West Hockey Ltd propose that:

- For entry into the North West Adult Leagues for 2026-27
the entry fee shall be **£9.00 per senior team**

Proposed (*Board*) / Seconded - VOTE BY ONLINE POLL

Note: Voting Members: NW Clubs, Sub-Areas (Counties) & EHO

10. Other Fees & Subscriptions for 2026-27

For Information Only:

As approved by the Directors and Management Committee of North West Hockey Ltd

- **Appointed Umpire Fee - £30.00 per umpire per appointment**
(Adult League and EH Cup games where umpires are appointed by North West Officiating)
- **North West Masters Membership - £12.00 per player per annum**
- **Junior Fees**
 - **Junior Outdoor League Entry - £40 per team**
 - **Junior Indoor Entry - £ tbc per Team**
 - **In2Hockey Finalists - £ tbc per Team**
 - **NW Development Festivals - £ tbc per Team**



**NORTH WEST
HOCKEY**

North West Hockey Strategy

Shelagh Everett

Vice Chair

Review of NW Hockey - Our Strategic Framework

Vision

To promote, develop and grow hockey opportunities for all in the North West

Mission

Working together to make hockey more visible, relevant and accessible to all across the North West

Goals

PROMOTE



DEVELOP



GROW



Priority Themes

Hockey Experience



Ways to Play



Support Structures



People & Engagement



Key Objectives

10 Key Objectives to be delivered alongside our core operational activities



EH Objectives



Lead Positive Change



Inspirational Int. Success



Drive Visible Impact



Responsible Leadership



Meaningful Growth

Values



Collaborate Inclusively



Care for People & Places



Play with spirit
Win with grace



Resilient in
everything we do

Review of NW Hockey - Our Strategic Framework



11. Any Other Business

Any further questions

Or feel free to contact any of the Board
or Management Committee by email after the meeting.

Contacts details on the website

**Adult League Presentation / Adult League Clubs Forum
28th July 2026 Golborne Sports Club.**

This year we have combined the presentations with an Adult League Clubs forum and will include a presentation on rules and regulations for the new season.

2026 – 27 Adult League season start date: 19th September 2025*
*(*Subject to division size, aim is to have 12 team divisions where possible)*

A reminder that all Club and Team Admins must have their email and telephone numbers visible on the GMS

Thank you

Thank you to everyone for attending and for your role in Hockey

- Our Clubs and all their Volunteers
- Our North West and Club Officials and Umpires
- All our North West Committees, Chairs and Leads
- Our Counties and all their Volunteers

Here's to an even more successful 2026 – 27 season

Finally, I would like to wish all the best to our new Chair, David Ellcock

Formally close the meeting at: