



WEST EHO BRANCH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
Date	Thursday 9 May 2024
Time	19.00
Location	Virtual
Chair	Dave Chard – Acting Chair of Officiating
Attendees	Rod Cook, Barbara Reynolds, Matt Reynolds, Keith Dingle, Graham Woolcock, Natasha Wilson (England Hockey), Nick James, Dave Barnard, Julie Morrish, Val Shipsey, Charles Hallows, Liz Powell, David Lilywhite, Paul Harriman, Jon Bower, Ash James, Terry Cook, Malcolm Pressly-Smith, Philip Talbot, Gary McKenzie, David Gillespie, Steve Foster, Roger Triscott, Anne Baker, Paul Westgate, Steve Hamey, Alex Cock, Dave Yelland, Paul Richardson, Chris Brewer, Sarah Watts, Josh Johnson, Nick Kendall and John Hammond.
Apologies	Andrew Harvey, Steve Tovey, Jack Tovey, Kevin Pattenden, Alison Cook, Phil Mutlow and Bob Whitell.

MINUTES	ACTION
1. Introductions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DC introduced key people from the committee and Natasha Wilson EH officiating • Adopted minutes from EHO West Branch AGM 2023. 	
2. Reports	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acting Chair of the Branch Report available on the West Hockey website. • Appointing Lead Report circulated and available on the West Hockey website. • Development Lead Report circulated and available on the West Hockey website. • Technical Officiating Lead No report submitted but needs more support. 	
3. Election of Officers	
Only one valid nomination having been received for each position, the election is uncontested and the following candidates are confirmed in post.	



- Chair – Charles Hallows
- Vice Chair – Vacant
- Appointing Lead – Graham Woolcock
- Performance Development Lead – David Lilywhite
- Technical Officiating Lead – Richard Hill
- Local Network Coordinator - Vacant
- Young Umpire Lead – Vacant

Charles Hallows as Chair will be put forward to the West Board for ratification.

Vacant positions will be addressed by the new Officiating Committee.

4. AOB

- Paul Harriman - Strategic and Operational plans to ensure that there is equality of appointments to both the Men's and Ladies Divisions. If the Branch cannot confirm that these plans are in place then can they confirm that a) EHO have been informed of this variance and b) the implications of this in the light of EH Equality and Diversity policy.

This season we have appointed equally to Men's and ladies Prem division for the first time. We can only appoint if we have more umpires. Tried a pilot scheme in the North but was unsuccessful. Start times of the games and umpire availability is an issue. Strive to appoint equally to both genders in the future. Intention to have Local Coordinator Networks in place to support more mentoring and coaching opportunities with increased appointments.

- Jon Bower – Support for Masters Hockey matches umpiring as only one umpire at a West Finals, due to no budget in place for neutral appointments. Neutral appointments should be in place for West Finals.

Masters and Junior activity will share dates with Officiating for appointments next season. Clashes with juniors competitions so planning need to identify pinch points earlier.

- Rod Cook – Young Umpire Lead vacant

Yes, a vacant position and West will look to identify a person.

- David Lilywhite – reintroduced four annual Awards for West Officiating.
 - Performance Umpire – Charlie Pritchard
 - Most Improved – Tom Stoner
 - Men's Panel – Rob Ware
 - Women's Panel – Nick Stibbs
 Each winner will receive a £50 Umpire kit voucher.



- Liz Powell – National Women’s Masters Tournament at Coombe Dingle on 18 & 19 May – request for table judges, please contact Liz direct.
- Natasha Wilson – England Hockey – thank you to all umpires for their time and commitment this season. Especially to the few on the committee who held West officiating together this season. New kit will be announced mid to late summer.
- David Yelland – improve communications from the West Officiating.

Yes, it will be improved next season, discussions with EH re GMS as well as better comms through social media. Limited amount of time and people to make this happen this

Meeting Closed 19.34 hrs