



NORTH WEST HOCKEY

AGM 2024

4 July 2024 @ 7:30pm

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chris Reece – Chair: North West Hockey Ltd

Welcome: 4th North West Hockey AGM

- Member Clubs, County Representatives and Legacy Members
- Non member Clubs who play in the North West Hockey League
- England Hockey Observer & Moderator: Keith Carder
- North West Hockey Board and Management Committee

1. Welcome and Introductions

Housekeeping



Chat

Please share your Name and Club 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

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies & Minutes of the last AGM – 6th July 2023
3. Chair's Remarks
4. Review of North West Hockey 2023-24
5. North West Hockey Governance Structure
6. Announcement of election results
7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures
8. North West Hockey Ltd Financial Report
9. Resolutions
10. Other Fees & Subscriptions for 2024-25
11. North West Hockey Growth Fund
12. Looking forward to 2024-25
13. North West Successes/Recognition
14. Developing our Strategy for North West Hockey
15. Any Other Business

Use the chat
function



2. Apologies & Minutes of the last AGM – 6th July 2023

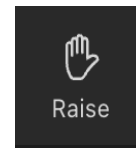
Apologies

Minutes North West Hockey AGM 2023 circulated with Calling Notice

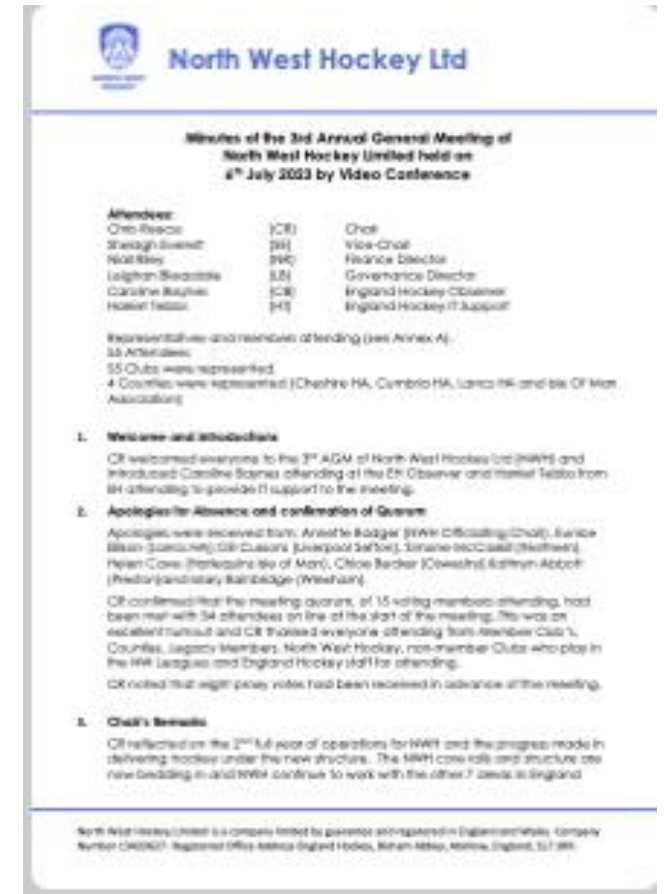
2.1 Approval as a true and accurate record of the meeting

- Proposed (*Board*) / Seconded - VOTE

- For
- Against
- Abstain



2.2 Matters arising (not covered by the Agenda)



3. Chair's Remarks

- Year 3 completed since bringing together the North West Hockey Family
- Structure and core North West roles and responsibilities 'Maturing' well
- North West team working with 7 other Areas to continue to develop the new structures and shared approach to running hockey across all 8 Areas
- Extended delivery to include North West 500 (Masters), Indoor Competitions and State School Competitions/Tournaments
- Developing North West Hockey Website and Social Media



3. Chair's Remarks

Thank you to all volunteers who have made hockey happen during the 2023-24 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


4. Review of North West Hockey 2023-24

Annual Report circulated with Calling Notice

Key Highlights and Summary

Any Questions

Use the chat function



Annual Review 2023-24

Welcome to our third annual review and report to members since the incorporation of North West Hockey Ltd in June 2021. At the end of our third full season, our five core functions - [adult leagues & competitions](#), [junior leagues & competitions](#), [masters](#), [officiating](#) and [discipline](#), the Board and Management Committee, and other Committees have continued to develop and deliver an increasing range of activities for the North West Hockey Community. All Members are thanked for their support and input and particular to those who have attended our popular NW Clubs Forums and meeting.

As Chair, I continue to be extremely proud of what is achieved each season by our volunteer's especially as so many are also still activity involved playing, umpiring, coaching, managing and contributing to running their Club's and Counties as well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers involved in delivering North West Hockey's core activities and to all the volunteers in Clubs who we work with on and off the pitch.

Our Annual Review highlights progress, challenges of our core activities and provides a snapshot of what has been delivered in the past 12 months. In 2023-24 we have continued to focus on delivering at a grass roots level to support playing, officiating and the supporting governance. We have also continued work on our NW Strategy based on our experience of running hockey in the North West, feedback, input and ideas from our clubs received at Forums and against the new England Hockey Strategy for our Sport

New and activities delivered in 2023-24 include:

- Developing and sharing our new Officiating Strategy to support this vital part of our sport
- First State Schools Tournament with 18 schools taking part
- Running our first Senior Indoor competitions
- Introduce a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion role to support our work

The challenges we reported in 2022-23 remain but we are working to identify ways to support clubs and our committees to address some of the impacts. We recognise that Clubs face similar or linked challenges so the more we can work together to address and support the better for all. We're continuing to focus on how we:

- Support the retention, development, and attraction of Officials (umpires, match officials, umpire developers and coaches) to take Club and NW Area appointments and to support Club Officiating. Our new Officiating Strategy addresses many of the challenges faced
- Work together to ensure hockey is a safe, enjoyable and welcoming sport to play, officiate, coach and watch
- Conduct and the EH Respect Code, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Safeguarding
- Identify and to address the challenges of attracting and retaining volunteers at Club and Area


Thank you again for your support.

Chris Reece, Chair, North West Hockey Ltd

Our members

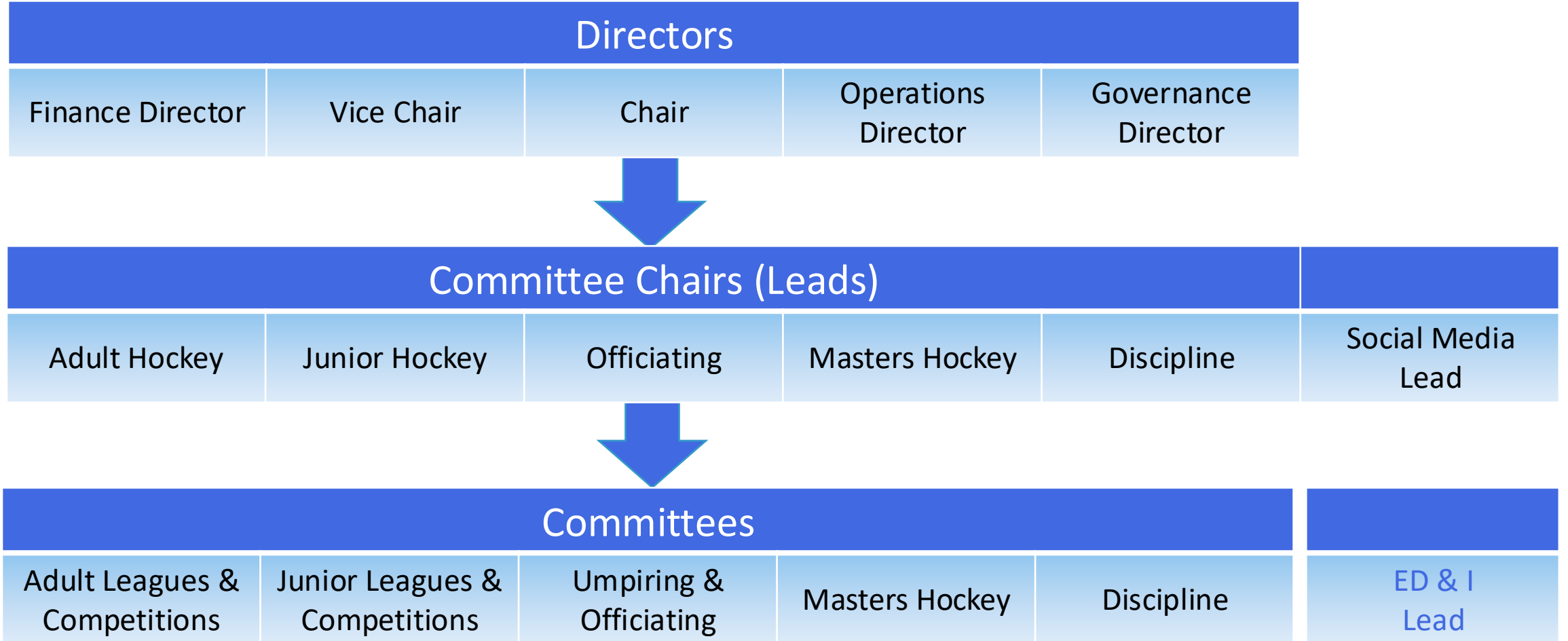
- 92 Clubs (91 in 2023-24)
- 3 Counties - Cheshire, Cumbria and Lancashire Hockey Associations
- Legacy (Former Life)
- 10 non-member clubs who play their league hockey in the NW league (10 in 2022-23)

Our Governance Structure



The diagram illustrates the governance structure of North West Area Committees. At the top is the 'North West Area Committees' box. Below it is a table with columns: 'Finance Director', 'Vice Chair', 'Chair', 'Operations Director', and 'Governance Director'. An arrow points down to a box labeled 'Committee Chair'. Below that is another table with columns: 'Adult Hockey', 'Junior Hockey', 'Officiating', 'Masters Hockey', and 'Discipline'. A final arrow points down to a box labeled 'Committees', with a table below it having columns: 'Adult Leagues & Competitions', 'Junior Leagues & Competitions', 'Officiating & Officiating', 'Masters Hockey', and 'Discipline'.

5. North West Hockey Governance Structure



6. Announcement of election results

Following the online Ballot the following are duly elected:

Board

- Chair: Chris Reece
- Vice Chair: **VACANT**

Management Committee

- Adult League and Competitions Chair: **VACANT**
- Masters Chair: Tony Taig
- Officiating Chair: Annette Badger
- Junior League and Competitions Chair: Beth Alvey

2024-25 North West Hockey Board

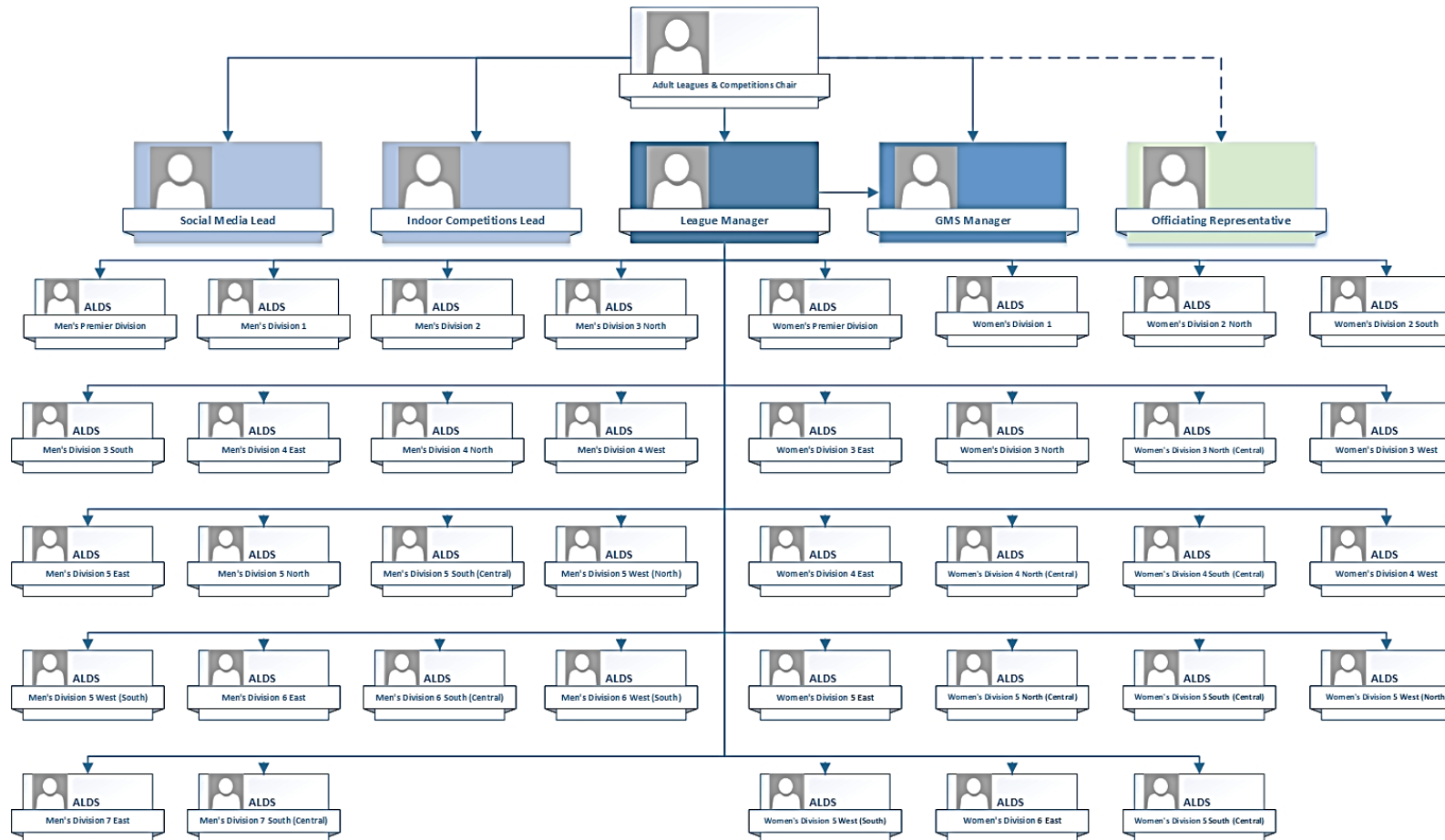
Board: Directors				
Chair	Vice Chair	Finance Director	Governance Director	Operations Director
Chris Reece		Niall Riley	Leighan Bleasdale	Wendy McDowall
	VACANT			

2024-25 North West Committee Chairs

Committee Chairs				
Adult League & Competitions	Junior League & Competitions	Officiating	Masters	Discipline ADA <i>Appointed Position</i>
	Beth Alvey	Annette Badger	Tony Taig	Peter McInulty
VACANT				

7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures

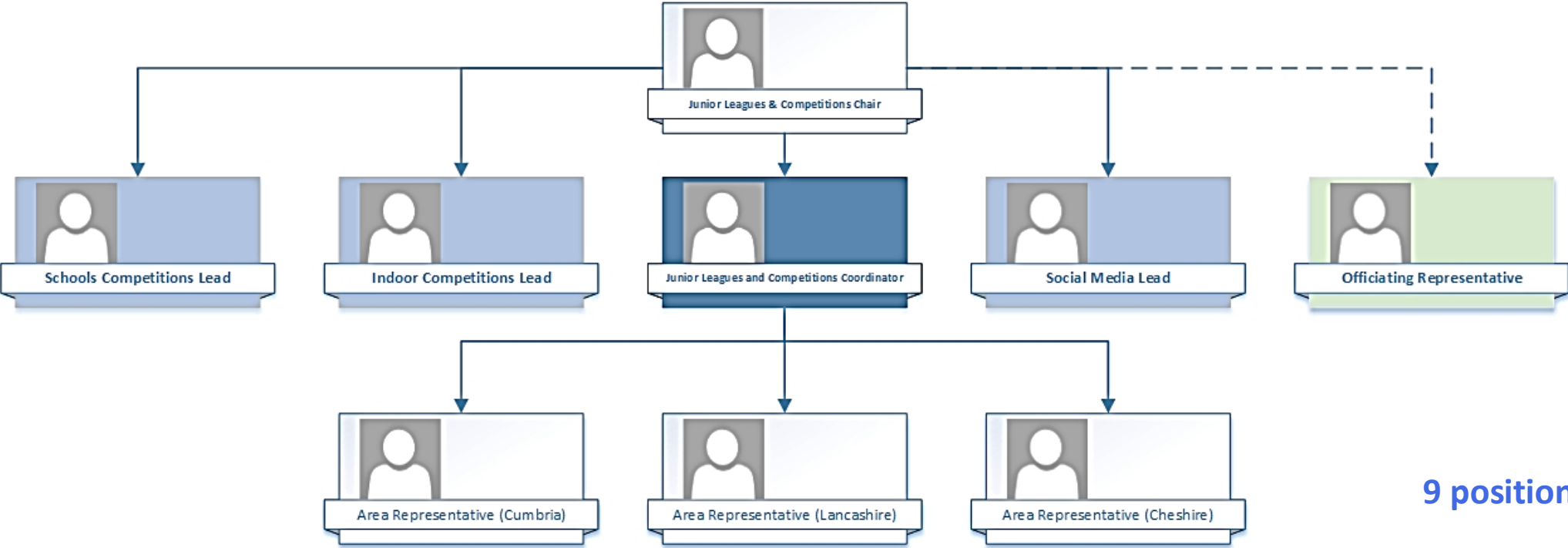
ADULT LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS



42 positions

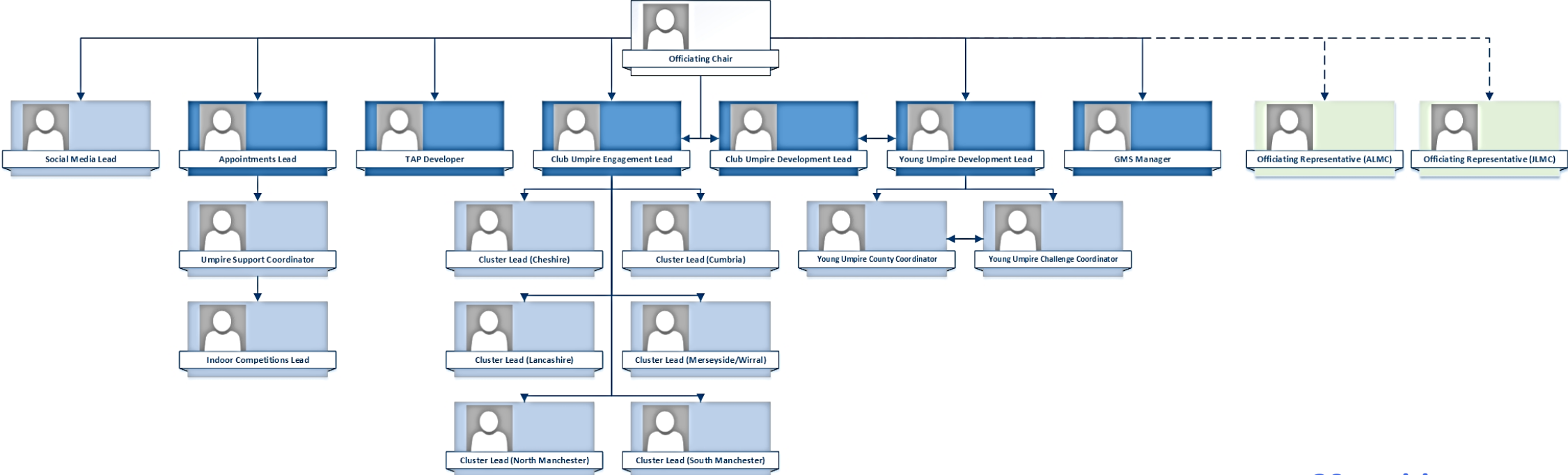
7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures

JUNIOR LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS



7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures

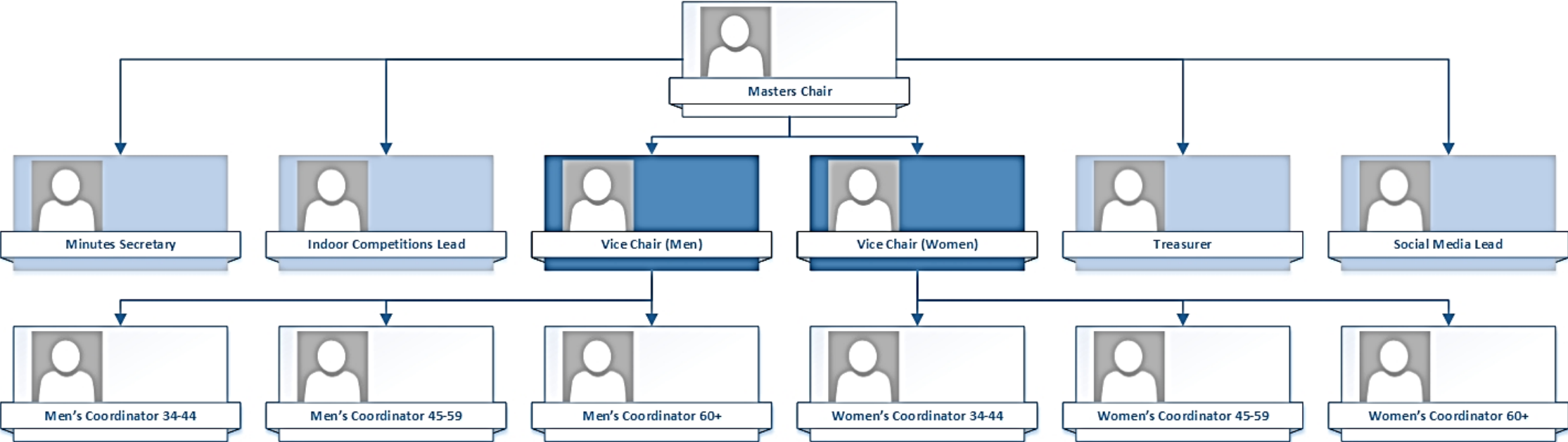
OFFICIATING



20 positions

7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures

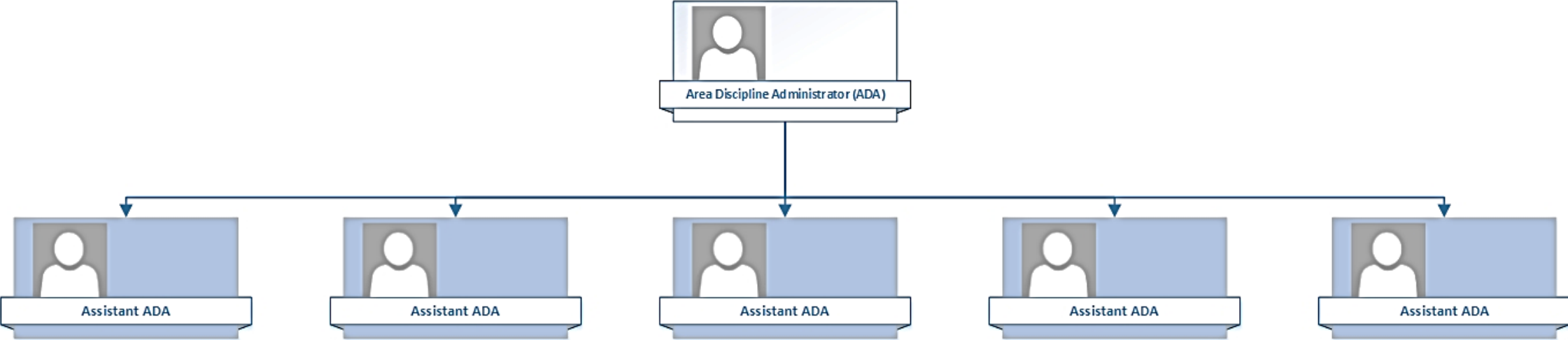
MASTERS



13 positions

7. 2024-25 North West Organisation Structures

DISCIPLINE



6 positions

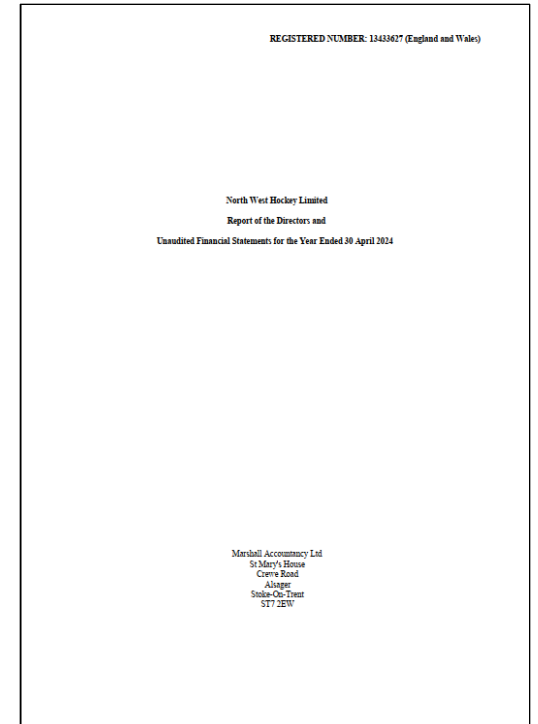
8. North West Hockey Ltd Financial Report

Annual Accounts circulated with Calling Notice

Niall Riley, Finance Director to share key highlights and overview

Followed by Questions

Use the chat
function



8. North West Hockey Ltd Annual Accounts

- **The Company's Annual Accounts were included with the information pack and have been independently scrutinised.**
- At the end of 2022-23, we reviewed our accounting systems and now use Xero to manage our bookkeeping and financial activities, supported by our appointed independent accountants. This has reduced our book keeping costs and improved the control and management of our finances.
- **For 2023-24, the highlights are: -**
 - **Turnover - £58,797**
 - **Operating Costs - £51,871**
 - **Surplus on the year - £ 6,926**
 - Ring-fenced Reserves from dissolved associations as of 30th of April 2024 - **£118,727**
- The accounts have been approved by the Board and submitted to Companies House and HMRC
- We are exempt from Corporation Tax; however, tax is payable on Interest received from the Reserves

8. North West Hockey Ltd Annual Accounts

Membership Subscriptions and Fees for 2024-25

- Having reviewed our 2023-24 Accounts, for 2024-25 we are proposing the following:
- A £3.00 increase in Area Membership Subscription from £17.50 per Team to £20.50 per Team
- A £3.00 reduction in Adult League Entry Fee from £10.50 per Team to £7.50 per Team
 - Please note - as in 2023-24, this includes Development Teams
- These Subscription and Entry Fees require approval at this AGM by the members present.
- **We therefore have the following two resolutions:**

9. Resolutions

9.1 Area Membership Subscription for 2024-25

North West Hockey Ltd propose that:

- For full voting Member Clubs that the annual Subscription for 2024-25 for membership of North West Hockey Ltd shall be **£20.50 per senior team**
- For Counties and other Organisations, Subscriptions for 2024-25 shall be set at zero, (no change to 2023-24)

9. Resolutions

9.2 Entry Fees for North West Adult Leagues for 2024-25

North West Hockey Ltd propose that:

- For Clubs entering teams in North West Hockey Adult Competitions and Leagues, the annual entry fee shall be **£7.50 per Senior Team**
- That entry fees for all other competitions (including Juniors and Masters) shall be set by the Directors on the recommendation of the relevant Committee and, if required, following informal consultation with member clubs

10. Other Fees & Subscriptions for 2024-25

For Information Only:

- As approved by the Directors and Management Committee of North West Hockey Ltd
- All no increase on 2023-24

- **Appointed Umpire Fee - £26.50 per umpire per appointment**
(Adult League and EH Cup games where umpires are appointed by North West Officiating)

- **Junior League Entry Fee - £25.00 per team**

- **North West Masters Membership - £10.00 per player per annum**

11. North West Hockey Growth Fund

- As part of our Area Strategy, we have set-up the **North West Hockey Growth Fund**.
- The Fund has been set up using money from our Reserves and the income from League Fines.
- The Initial fund has been set up as follows:

• Adult League Fines	£6,500
• Area Reserves	£23,785
Total Fund as of June 2024	<u>£30,285</u>
- To manage the fund a new committee will be set up; NWH Growth Fund Committee.
- I will now hand over to Chris Reece who will chair the new committee to explain more.....

11. North West Hockey Growth Fund

As part of our **Area Strategy**, we are delighted to officially announce the **North West Hockey Growth Fund** (*supporting our clubs to grow all aspects of the sport*), full details will be published shortly.

Clubs can apply for funding for/towards specific projects:

Types of projects which could be taken into consideration are:

- Junior development
- Equipment
- Officiating development courses
- Flyerz hockey
- Schools outreach
- Umpire radios (limited to 1 pair per club)



North West Hockey Growth Fund

Supporting our clubs to grow all aspect of the sport



12. Looking forward to 2024-25

ADULT LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS

- **Adult League Presentation Evening will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16th July 2024 at Golborne Sports Club**
- The EH Centralised Calendar is available on the EH Website
- A North West Calendar of important dates and events will be available in July 2024. Note all League Reserve dates
- Season start date: 21st September 2024* (*Subject to division size, 13 team divisions will start on 14th September 2024)
- The 8 Area review of the Adult League Regulations is complete. Publication expected end of July 2024
- All feedback collected during the 2023-24 season was discussed during the Adult League Regulations review (particularly Appendix 5)
- The Development Team guidance will be updated
- The Umpire Approval guidance will be updated

12. Looking forward to 2024-25

ADULT LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS

- A North West Complaints Form and guidance will be created
- The North West league structure review is complete
- Adult League entry was 1st May 2024 (25 Clubs missed the deadline, have delayed fixture publication)
- North West fixture generation in draft: Publication expected July 2024
- A new pre-season tournament at Sedbergh is to be held on 31st August and 1st September 2024
- ALMC applications open in July 2024 and publication expected in August 2024
- EH continuing improvements to GMS. A new GMS Working Group was established in 2023-24 season
- A reminder that all Club and Team Admins must have their email and telephone numbers visible on the GMS

12. Looking forward to 2024-25

JUNIOR LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS

U14 Tier 1 & 2 / U16 T2 (Area League)

- Entries Open - 30 June - 31 July 2024
- U14 Tier 1 fixture planning – August 2024
- U14 Tier 1 Team fixtures released – 1 September 2024
- Tier 1 fixtures start – Beginning of October 2024

U16 Tier 1 (Supra League/EH Champs)

- Direct entry via England Hockey – July 2024? (TBC)

12. Looking forward to 2024-25

JUNIOR LEAGUE & COMPETITIONS

Indoor Competitions: U16 & U18s

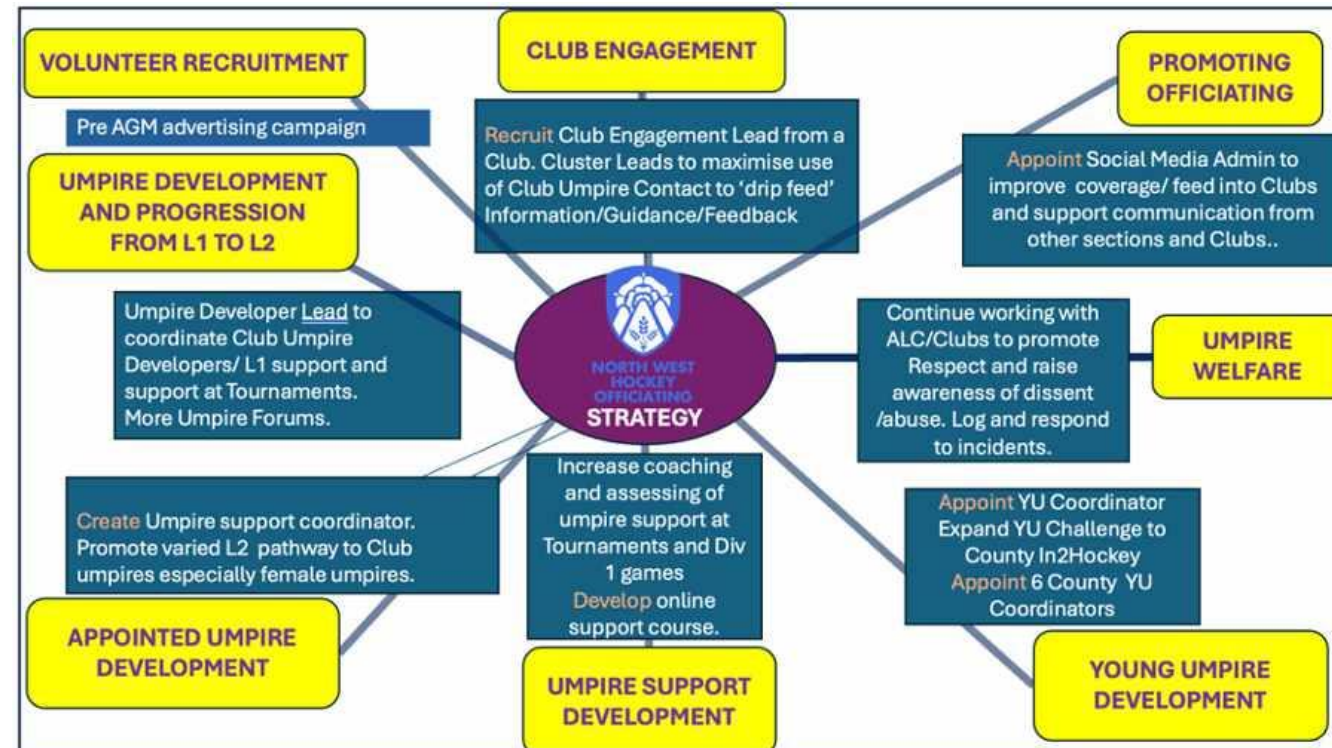
- Winner of North West Finals progresses to National Finals
- Dates for 24/25:
 - U16 Girls – Sat 14 Dec (NW), Sat 11 Jan (National)
 - U18 Girls – Sun 1 Dec (NW), Sun 12 Jan (National)
 - U16 Boys – Sun 8 Dec (NW), Sat 11 Jan (National)
 - U18 Boys – Sun 8 Dec (NW), Sun 12 Jan (National)

12. Looking forward to 2024-25

OFFICIATING

STRATEGY

- Club Engagement
- Promoting Officiating
- Volunteer Recruitment
- Umpire Development & Progression (L1 – L2)
- Appointed Umpire Development
- Umpire Support Development
- Young Umpire Development
- Umpire Welfare

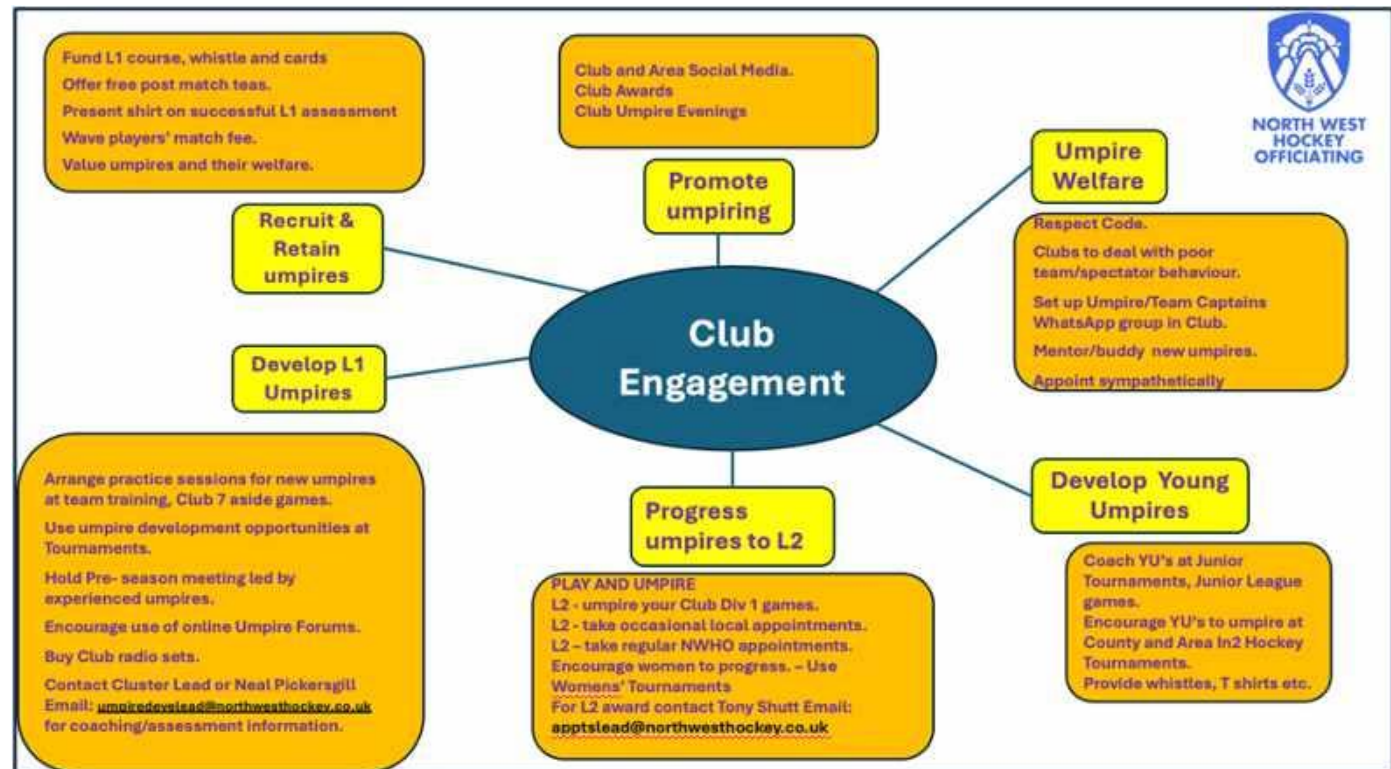


12. Looking forward to 2024-25

OFFICIATING

CLUB ENGAGEMENT

- Promote Umpiring
- Recruit & Retain Umpires
- Develop L1 Umpires
- Progress Umpires to L2
- Develop Young Umpires
- Umpire Welfare



12. Looking forward to 2024-25

MASTERS

- Expanding opportunities for Indoor Masters hockey
- Early appointment of age group managers to ensure regular opportunities to play and fair opportunities to trial for North West representative teams for trials (all ages / genders) for those that wish to.
- Profiling Masters NW population using EH / GMS data.

13. NW Successes/Recognition

EH Awards 2024

Congratulations to those recognised at this year's England Hockey Awards 2024:

- Winners:**
- Macclesfield M1 (Men's Team of the Year)
 - Kirkby Lonsdale W1 (Women's Team of the Year)
- Finalists:**
- Bowdon M1 (Men's Team of the Year)
 - Pendle Forest W1 (Women's Team of the Year)
 - Annette Badger (Area/County Volunteer Award)
 - Robert Turner (Coach of the Year)
 - Kirkby Lonsdale HC (Emerging Club of the Year)
 - Pendle Forest HC (Emerging Club of the Year).



13. NW Successes/Recognition

Club Successes 2024

EH National League

Men's Division 1 (North) - Champions Bowdon M1 promoted to EHL Premier Division

Promoted from NW Premier Divisions back to EHL Conference North - Didsbury Northern M1 and Alderley Edge W1

EH Clubs Championship (Adult)

Mixed Tier 2 Champions - Neston Mixed

Masters Over 60 Tier 2 Champions - Bowdon

Womens Over 35 Tier 1 Runners Up - Didsbury Northern WO35s

Women's Tier 4 Runners Up - Preston W2

EH Clubs Championships (Junior)

U18 Tier 2 Plate Runners Up - Preston

U16 Boys Shield Champions - Deeside Ramblers

U16 Girls Tier 1 Runners Up - Timperley

U16 Tier 1 Plate Final - Runners Up - Alderley Edge

U16 Tier 1 Vase - Runners Up - Chester

U14 Tier 2 Plate Champions - Timperley

EH Schools Championships

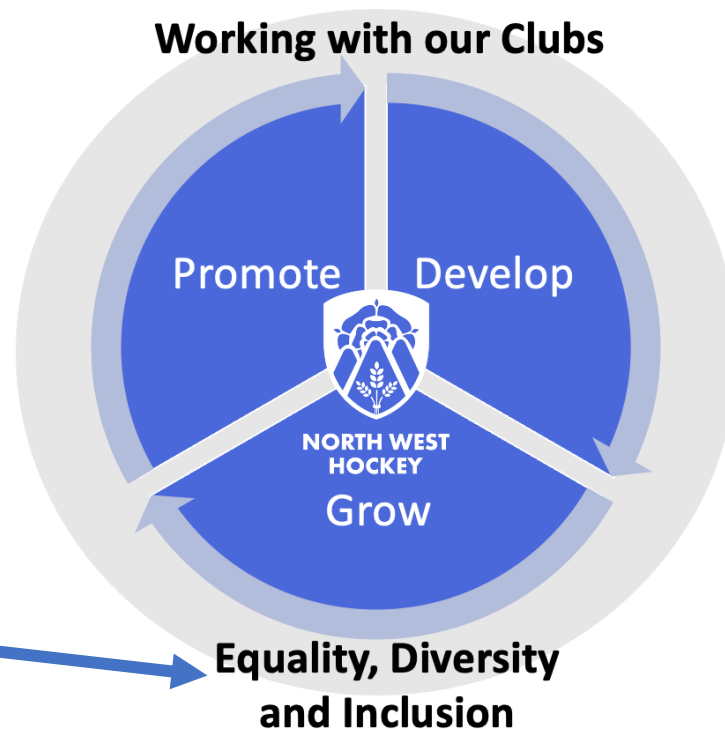
U18 Boys Tier 2 - Runners Up - Altrincham Grammar School for Boys



14. Developing our Strategy for North West Hockey

To promote, develop and grow engagement and participation in hockey for all across the North West

Dec 2021 'working' key strategic themes agreed + Club input April 2022



2023-24 develop full North West strategy aligned to new EH Strategy for our sport



14. Developing our Strategy for North West Hockey

A strategy for the sport to 2028 – mission and vision

VISION - Creating A Future For Our Game Together

A Strategy For The Sport To 2028

MISSION - *Let's shout about hockey. Let's...*

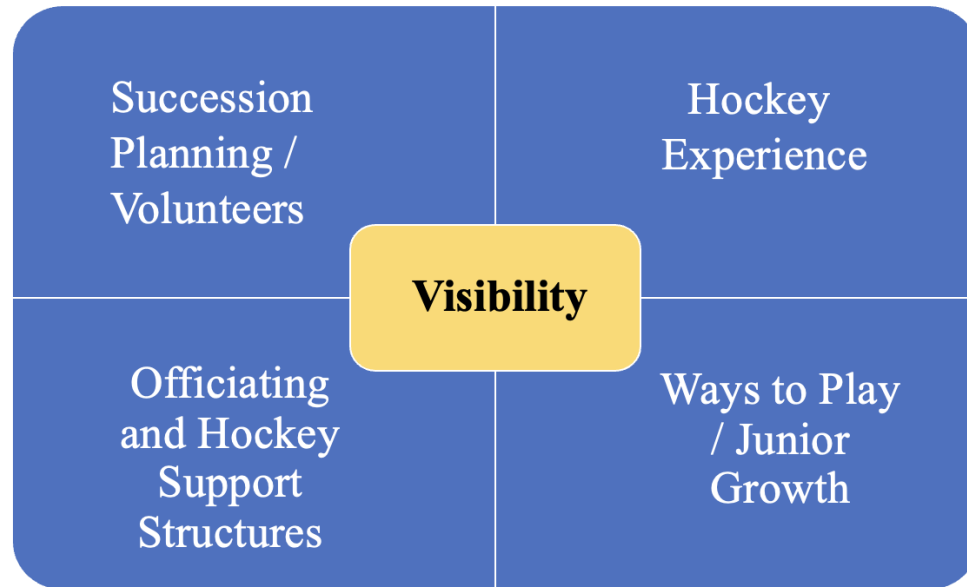
**WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE HOCKEY
MORE VISIBLE, RELEVANT AND
ACCESSIBLE TO ALL**



14. Developing our Strategy for North West Hockey

North West Hockey – priority themes to shape our work

We have reviewed the previous strategy inputs and work and Area Health Check and identified 5 'priority' themes to shape our plan against linking to the Strategy for the Sport to 2028



To promote, develop and grow engagement and participation in hockey for all across the North West

14. Developing our Strategy for NW Hockey

North West Hockey – draft areas to develop for 2024-5 (shared at forums and validated)

- **Volunteers / Succession**
 - Potential North West awards / work with clubs on common challenges
 - ED&I role recruitment
- **Hockey Experience**
 - Link to Respect / Conduct and overall match day experience linking to clubs
- **Visibility**
 - Social Media person for 4 core areas of activity and Area
 - Refresh website promote more North West ‘hockey stories’ links to club activity
- **Officiating and hockey support structures**
 - Officiating Strategy and Action Plan
 - North West Growth Fund to support club development (*funded by fines & Area Reserves*)
- **Ways to play / Junior growth**
 - State Schools tournaments / festivals
 - Universities – retention / future growth (post Uni) clubs links

15. Any Other Business

- **Any Other Business**
(of which due notice of 14 days was required by written notice of the issue)
 - No matters were raised for inclusion within AOB
- **Any final questions?**



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 2024-25 season