



## **South Central Hockey Ltd AGM 2026 FINANCE REPORT**

### **SUMMARY OF YEAR 2025-26**

The fiscal year has been another busy one for the South Central Hockey Finance. The Budget in 2025/26 was set with the intention of being break-even. SCH concluded the year with cash in the bank of £49,686 (PY £62,366), of which £32,584 is ring fenced funds supporting officiating and junior hockey. Revenue for the year was £110,882 (PY £129,042). Expenses for the year £117,608 (PY £126,165). QuickBooks again has proven invaluable. GMS has not moved on at all in terms of assisting regions in managing their financial administration any better. SCH has invested in Umpires, Junior hockey, Masters hockey & paying more people to manage hockey (outside of the committee). Thus SCH has invested £6,726 from reserves in SC Hockey.

There have been the following purposeful investments in the year:

- Subsidising of parts of hockey in the SC Area. State schools hockey, Junior competitions, indoor junior & adult umpiring (Umpiring, pitch hire, trophies) £3,921
- Investment in Umpire Equipment £2,720 (Shirts)
- Investment into Masters Hockey 2026 Tournament £2,587

Activity occurred in the year:

- Complying with HMRC and Companies House filing for SCH Ltd
- Working with the scrutineer on the accounts audit
- Raising invoices to clubs for Membership, League fees, and Appointed Umpire fees
- Managing Fines to clubs through the QuickBooks tool
- Managing Debtors through the QuickBooks tool
- Paying umpires' expenses (496 expense claims processed)
- Administering schools competitions & masters competitions
- Paying expenses for pitch hire and other SC hockey-related invoices

Payments have been OK from clubs, but universities always pay late. A better process is needed for universities' payments next season.

To date, the Finance Director and Finance Admin role has been carried out by a single person (The Finance Director) with no extra cost of admin staff – hence keeping SCH cost base low. My plea to all clubs / SCH leaders wishing to use the finance team is :



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### **Clubs**

- Make sure your correct treasurer email address is in GMS and also the details also communicated to [finance@southcentral.hockey](mailto:finance@southcentral.hockey)
- Please pay your bills on time or contact us to discuss. Please do not *just NOT pay*
- Add invoice numbers to all bank transfers, to ensure correct invoice reconciliation
- Ignoring bills until you are chased is not acceptable. Fines can be levied for late payment.

### **Umpires**

- Ensure the SCH treasurer has your BACS details
- Claim your expenses on time and certainly by the end of April
- Join the England Hockey Officiating Club at the appropriate level (Bronze (free), Silver or Gold)

### **Other Stakeholders**

For any projects that you undertake (School tournament, Masters tournament etc.) please complete one of the 'Fiscal Control' forms that have been published. i.e. a list of What, how much, when, etc

### **Cash Situation in Bank is being held for other parts of SC Hockey**

- Claire Wilkinson & Pete Atkins Charitable Trust £18,498 (PY £18,764) (Hampshire)
- HUA Account £14,085 (PY £10,190) (Berks, Bucks, Oxon)
- Income £5,880 from OHUA account to SCH account in September 2025, income from interest £132
- Invested £2,117 on Umpire development program

*Note in May 2026, after the YE 2025-26 accounts closed £17,374 was transferred into this account from the closure of the Southern Counties Hockey Umpire Association.*

### **EXCEPTIONAL COMMENTS:**

#### **INCOME**

- £5,880 Funds transfer from closed OHUA to be ring-fenced in the SC accounts for Umpire Development



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- League Fees collected £14,040 (PF £15,690) fewer teams in league
- £2,250 (PY £5,917) Fines reduced year on year
- Umpire Income (£70,290) minus Umpire Expense (£71,583) has been subsidised £1,293
- School Hockey subsidising by SC Hockey (Umpires costs and waived entry fees)

### **EXPENDITURE**

SC Hockey has chosen to invest in hockey in the following areas :

- Junior tournament umpires, umpire training website & content £3,921
- Umpire Equipment (Shirts) £2,720
- Consultancy £7,320 (PY £9,322) was associated with non-committee members being paid a consultancy fee for administration undertaken to manage hockey activities – a significant change was the purchasing service to manage junior and school hockey
- Pitch Hire £10,070 (PY £10,758) Play off £895, Masters £2,288, Juniors/state school £6,887
- SCH again chose to pay the SCH Master Tournament fees this year, and sponsor hockey for masters; some new kit was purchased this year £377
- SCH continues to subsidise junior hockey with lower league fees and zero umpire fees at junior tournaments and games. SC sends umpires to all junior & school events at zero cost to the participants
- Office Supplies were £1,671 (PY £1,081), Postage, Accounting tools, ALMC software, printer ink, postage
- Trophies £2,753 School, In2Hockey, League pennants, Masters trophies
- Donations £1,790 (PY £0) Basingstoke fire damage, loW storm damage pitch repair fund, Trojans/Oxford Hawks & Aylesbury Hockey outreach programs
- Entertainment £2,682 (PY £1,719) Volunteer thank-you, Pro-league, ALMC, Umpire Development day, Officiating leadership, South Central Play off day
- Technology was GMS, OMS, and IT systems annual charges

### **Hardship Fund**

Reminder, there is a modest hardship fund available to clubs from EH for financial support to be able to continue to play hockey.



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### **Board Comment on Isle of Wight discussion**

The Board have reflected on the data from the 2024–25 season, one thing is clear: there are no easy answers. Travel to and from the Isle of Wight is shaped by the rhythm of fixtures each year, making it difficult to define any consistent baseline. For Hampshire clubs, this is not unfamiliar territory. Isle of Wight HC has been part of the landscape since its formation in 2010, and travel has long been a factor woven into the fabric of competition.

Clubs already anticipate and plan for these commitments within their annual budgets, including journeys to the island. At the same time, it is important to recognise the significant and ongoing burden borne by Isle of Wight HC, who make the return trip to the mainland week after week.

While reduced fares have been secured through frequent travel, the reality remains that transporting multiple adult teams alongside junior fixtures represents a substantial and sustained cost for Isle of Wight HC.

With all of this in mind, the Board's conclusion is a considered one. Rather than introducing a standard travel subsidy, we believe the current approach remains appropriate. However, where clubs find themselves under genuine financial strain as a result of these demands, there remains a clear route for support through the hardship fund.

### **HUA ACCOUNT COMMENTS**

#### **Statement from Simon Milford ref Umpire Development Funds**

The HUA ring-fenced funds come from the County HUAs, which were absorbed into the South Central Area, and, more recently, from the Southern Counties HUA, which has been divided up between the Areas of South Central, South East, and London. South Central received £17K.

Each of these donations was given on the understanding that the funds would be used to support umpire/officiating development within South Central.

The South Central Area Officiating Committee is working to best help umpire/officiating development throughout South Central.

Note in real terms, today this account sits at £31,460

A Request for Proposals to all clubs in South Central, asking them what projects they would like these funds spent on to improve their umpire and officiating development. There was a very low response from the clubs. So the AOC team will be creating programs for Umpire Development and the utilisation of these funds.



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Budget will be set as break-even. Change to Rates for 2026/27 Season

- Appointed umpire charge to be raised by £2 per umpire (£20 to £22, £25 to £27)
- University Wednesday matches appointed umpire fee £30 per umpire
- Umpire Milage raised to £0.39 from £0.35

### **Rate Card 2026/27**

Area membership and league fee no inflationary change

Umpire mileage expenses at £0.39 per mile

Umpire mileage expenses for an Umpire passenger £0.05 per mile

Area Membership Adult Fee £10 per team

Adult League Fee £20 per team

Area Membership Junior Fee £0 per team

Junior League Fees 11 a side £20 per team

Junior League Fees 7 a side £10 per team

Adult Indoor Fee £60 per team

Junior Indoor Fee £60 per team

Schools Competition Fee (11-a-side) £0 per team - Free now as from 2025/26

Schools Competition Fee (7-a-side) £0 per team - Free now as from 2025/26

EHO Umpire Membership Gold £30 per umpire (as set by EH outside of SCH control)

EHO Umpire Membership Silver £20 Per umpire (as set by EH outside of SCH control)

Umpire Appointment Prem 1 & 2 (Per Umpire) £27 per umpire

Umpire Appointment EH Competitions (Per Umpire) £27 per umpire

Umpire Appointment General (Per Umpire) £22 per umpire

Umpire Appointment BUCS (Per Umpire) £30 per umpire

Umpire Coaches and Advisors £0 per person

Junior Club Games £15 per umpire

Schools Umpiring £0 (most schools fund umpiring directly)

Masters Representative Entry Fee £TBC per team (annually set depending on tournament costs)

Voting Areas Membership Fee £50 per entity

IN2Hockey Junior Finals £30 per team