

South East Hockey Limited
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held by Zoom on Tuesday 14th July 2026 at 7.30pm

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Neil Thompson, Chair of South East Hockey, welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, 10 July 2025

Proposed by Robert Harrison, Seconded by Matt Sharp. Approved as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the 2025 AGM Minutes

No matters arising.

4. Election of Chair (Article 15)

Neil Thompson, having served as Chair Elect since July 2025, is proposed for formal election as Chair. No other nominations. Proposed by Robert Harrison, seconded by John Thompson.

5. Election of Postholders (Articles 73 (7) and Part 5)

All continuing Postholders to be confirmed en-bloc;

- **ALMC Chair** - Charlotte Hope: Standing for Election
- **Discipline** - Martin Lewis: Standing for Election
- **EDI Rep** - Francis Bridgeman: Standing for Election
- **Junior Co-Chairs** - Tasha Hookway & Dave Parsons: Standing for Election
- **Masters Chair** - Kay Parsons: Standing for Election
- **Welfare Officer** - Keval Devani: Standing for Election

Additional nominations;

Masters Chair, Paul Andrews: Proposed by Woking HC Seconded by Ashford HC

The nomination email for Paul Andrews unfortunately landed in the Governance Director's spam folder and therefore did not meet the deadline for submission of nominations. Apologies to both Paul Andrews and Kay Parsons for the confusion. This will be followed up over the next couple of weeks.

Governance Director, Robert Harrison, has agreed to stand again. No other nominations. Proposed by Matt Sharp, seconded by Charlotte Hope. Re-elected.

Finance Director, John Thompson, has agreed to stand again. No other nominations. Proposed by Robert Harrison, seconded by Toni Frier. Re-elected.

6. Chair's Report

Distributed in advance. No comments or questions.

7. Finance Report and Annual Accounts 2024-25

Distributed in advance.

John Thompson explained that there had been a small change to the 2024-25 accounts between the 2025 AGM and the scrutineer's sign off due to the £400 corporation tax on bank interest, leaving a small surplus of circa £5000.

For the 2025-26 season, there was a deficit of £15.5k due to Hockey Futures and increased umpire development spending.

Adult competitions showed a healthy surplus. Junior competitions started the season with no Chair and faced challenges due to zero income from schools and written-off fees. The indoor operations faced higher costs than expected, including unexpected charges from Polo Farm and the purchase of protective screens. Masters operations showed a healthy surplus with increased turnout at training sessions. Note that tournament income is from 2025 tournaments.

South East Hockey holds approximately £120k in reserves, with John recommending maintaining about £50k as an optimal surplus level. While there are no plans to increase league or affiliation fees, there may be a need to adjust umpire appointment fees if the expense rate increases from 35p to 40p per mile. The surplus funds are being invested in umpire development and Hockey Futures, with about half coming from legacy associations.

Advise at the next AGM on the impact of the upcoming change to automated software filing for Companies House.

Suggestion to optimise interest rates in high interest accounts. Interest is currently comfortably covering bank charges that were introduced when turnover reached the £100k threshold.

8. Independent Scrutineer's Report on the Company (Article 73(5))

The Independent Scrutineer report was included in the finance report.

9. Proposal: Member Club Subscription Fees 2026-27 (Article 73(2))

Approval sought to keep affiliation fees at the current level for the 2026 – 27 season. Proposed by Charlotte Hope, seconded by Jamie Hutchin. Approved.

10. Proposal: Competition Entry Fees 2026-27 (Article 73(3))

Approval sought to keep league entry fees at the current level for the 2026 – 27 season.
Proposed by Toni, seconded by John Bartlett. Approved.

11. Supporting Reports

The following reports were distributed ahead of the meeting and questions invited.
Governance; Discipline; Adult Leagues & Competitions; Junior Competitions; Masters;
Officiating; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Social Media / Communications.

Adult league report: A question was asked regarding the regulation that allows EH Premier League players to play in their 2nd XIs when their 1st XIs have no game. Neil Thompson responded that SEH had robustly defended the ALMC's right to refuse SXPs. Charlotte Hope, ALMC Chair, advised that the 2026-27 regulations now stated that EHL Premier players will only be permitted to play down with an SXP from the Area. The club concerned will contact Charlotte after the meeting to discuss further.

12. League Proposals 27/28

Neil Thompson summarised the process carried out to date on the proposed restructure of the SEH Adult leagues, to be applied in the 2027 – 28 season.

The revised league structure had been refined based on feedback from previous meetings, showing balanced divisions with no leagues smaller than 10 teams and most having 12 teams.

Voting rules were set out with each club entitled to one vote and multiple attendees from the same club only counting as one vote. The meeting reached quorum with 30 participants.

The proposal was approved with 11 votes in favour and 3 against.

Neil Thompson confirmed that monthly updates would be provided from Christmas onwards, setting out where teams would place in the new league structure based on their current league standings.

13. Any Other Business

Neil Thompson recognised the considerable contribution that Paul Shackman made to SEH and thanked him posthumously. He will be sorely missed.

Amanda Catling thanked the officers and volunteers at South East Hockey for their hard work in running the Area.

Meeting closed at 20.35

Attendees:

*denotes that they have the right to vote on behalf of a club

Neil Thompson	Chair, South East Hockey
John Thompson	Finance Director, South East Hockey and Fleet & Ewshot HC*
Matt Sharp	Operations Director, South East Hockey
Robert Harrison	Governance Director, South East Hockey
Mark Hollis	Director, South East Hockey
Mike Kefford	Director, South East Hockey and Guildford HC*
Keith Carder	England Hockey
Kay Parsons	SEH Divisional Rep and Masters Chair
Francis Bridgeman	SEH EDI Chair and Tunbridge Wells HC*
Charlotte Hope	SEH ALMC Chair and Ops Admin
Mark Newman	SEH Divisional Rep (retiring) and Holcombe HC*
Jackie Gibbs	SEH Officiating Chair (Acting)
Karen Stevenson	SHE Divisional Rep and Blackheath & Elthamians HC*
Adam Nordone	SEH Masters Administrator
Adam Watkins	Canterbury HC
Peter Divall	Kings Hill HC
Martin Fitzwater	Leatherhead HC*
Richard Adamson	Oxted HC*
Kay Ovenell	Burnt Ash (Bexley) HC*
Graeme Jonas	Gore Court HC*
John Bartlett	Hailsham HC*
Toni Frier	Burgess Hill HC*
Matt Scrase	Southwick HC*
Sam Naismith	Woking HC*
Chris Poland	Horsham HC*
Paul Andrews	Folkestone Optimist HC
Amanda Catling	Crowborough HC*