



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023			
Date:	Monday 17 July 2023		
Time:	19:00		
Location:	Virtual		
Chair:	David Chard		
Attendees:	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> <p>West Hockey & Counties Dave Chard (West Chair) Keith Dingle (West Operations) Bridgette Jones (West Finance) Caroline Baynes (West Governance & Wiltshire HA) Liz Powell (Junior Competitions & Avon) Lesley Love (Discipline) Debs Gemmell (Masters) Barbara Reynolds (England Hockey) Harriet Tebbs (England Hockey) Kuldeep Kaur (England Hockey) Alex Cock (Cornwall HA & Penzance HC) Anne Baker (Devon HA) Sheila Burridge (Somerset HA & Bridgwater HC) Val Shipsey (Avon HA) Ian Harvey (Gloucestershire HA) Alison Cook (Herefordshire HA) Val Shipsey (Avon HA) Jenny Mitchell David Lilywhite (EHO West)</p> <p>Member Clubs Avonmouth HC (Sophie Lennox) BAC HC (Maz Wilson) Bourton & Sherbourne HC (Rhys Davies) Bretforton HC (Blanche Surman) Bristol & West HC (David Vernon) Bristol UWE HC (Anya Wood) Brockworth Badgers HC (Jenny Wilson-Copp) Chard HC (Hannah McGown) Cheddar HC (Emily Bear)</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 50%;"> Cheltenham HC (Will Carter) Chippenham HC (Mark Grantham) Cirencester HC (Steve Foster) Dart HC (Catherine Causey) Devizes HC (Lorna Freemantle) Dursley HC (Stacey Sealey) Evesham & Badsey HC (Richard Hall) Exeter HC (Sally Turner) Falmouth HC (Megan Cookson) Isca HC (Chris Booker) Marlborough HC (Louisa Gostling) Mendip HC (Jon Carroll) Newquay HC (Leanne Manley) North Devon HC (Ash Thorne) North Somerset HC (Peter Mansell) OPM HC (Rob Logan) Plymouth Marjon HC (Jackie Daw) Redland HC (Chris Chan) Royal Wootton Bassett HC (Suzanne Coles) Shepton Mallet HC (Bev Squire) St Austell HC (Debs Smith) Swindon HC (Sam Dharmasiri) Team Bath Bucs HC (Nick Kendall) Teign HC (Michelle Judge) Torbay HC (Malcolm Woodward) University of Bristol HC (Ed Watson) University of Plymouth HC (Eloise White) West Wilts HC (Amanda Robson) Westberries HC (Sarah Watts) Westbury & Utd Banks HC (Alan Sparks & Jon Bower) </td> </tr> </table>	<p>West Hockey & Counties Dave Chard (West Chair) Keith Dingle (West Operations) Bridgette Jones (West Finance) Caroline Baynes (West Governance & Wiltshire HA) Liz Powell (Junior Competitions & Avon) Lesley Love (Discipline) Debs Gemmell (Masters) Barbara Reynolds (England Hockey) Harriet Tebbs (England Hockey) Kuldeep Kaur (England Hockey) Alex Cock (Cornwall HA & Penzance HC) Anne Baker (Devon HA) Sheila Burridge (Somerset HA & Bridgwater HC) Val Shipsey (Avon HA) Ian Harvey (Gloucestershire HA) Alison Cook (Herefordshire HA) Val Shipsey (Avon HA) Jenny Mitchell David Lilywhite (EHO West)</p> <p>Member Clubs Avonmouth HC (Sophie Lennox) BAC HC (Maz Wilson) Bourton & Sherbourne HC (Rhys Davies) Bretforton HC (Blanche Surman) Bristol & West HC (David Vernon) Bristol UWE HC (Anya Wood) Brockworth Badgers HC (Jenny Wilson-Copp) Chard HC (Hannah McGown) Cheddar HC (Emily Bear)</p>	Cheltenham HC (Will Carter) Chippenham HC (Mark Grantham) Cirencester HC (Steve Foster) Dart HC (Catherine Causey) Devizes HC (Lorna Freemantle) Dursley HC (Stacey Sealey) Evesham & Badsey HC (Richard Hall) Exeter HC (Sally Turner) Falmouth HC (Megan Cookson) Isca HC (Chris Booker) Marlborough HC (Louisa Gostling) Mendip HC (Jon Carroll) Newquay HC (Leanne Manley) North Devon HC (Ash Thorne) North Somerset HC (Peter Mansell) OPM HC (Rob Logan) Plymouth Marjon HC (Jackie Daw) Redland HC (Chris Chan) Royal Wootton Bassett HC (Suzanne Coles) Shepton Mallet HC (Bev Squire) St Austell HC (Debs Smith) Swindon HC (Sam Dharmasiri) Team Bath Bucs HC (Nick Kendall) Teign HC (Michelle Judge) Torbay HC (Malcolm Woodward) University of Bristol HC (Ed Watson) University of Plymouth HC (Eloise White) West Wilts HC (Amanda Robson) Westberries HC (Sarah Watts) Westbury & Utd Banks HC (Alan Sparks & Jon Bower)
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	Weymouth HC (Alice Craven) Wick HC (Jen Clark)	Yate HC (Michael Chaney) Yeovil & Sherborne HC (Barrie Izzard)
Apologies:	Jan Bowen (West Vice Chair & Adult Competitions), Rod Cook, Sidmouth & Ottery HC, Frome HC, David Boyle (Dorset) and Terry Cook (Herefordshire)	

AGM MINUTES
1. Introduction & Welcome (DC)
<p>Dave Chard, West Hockey Ltd Chair, welcomed all to the meeting. A huge thank you to all the Counties, Clubs and West Directors, who carry out their roles in a voluntary capacity. Also to the Lead Chairs of West Committee and their committee members who have put in a huge amount of work behind the scenes throughout the season. Thank you to Harriet Tebbs EH for supporting West Hockey. Several people to thank;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Penny Thorne, outgoing Financial Director for her hard work seeing through transition period and setting up the finances. - Liz Powell – outgoing West Junior Competitions Chair of many years - Keith Dingle – wishing to stand down as Operations Director and played an integral part in establishing West Hockey Ltd - Rod Cook – who will not be remaining in the position of Officiating Committee Chair <p>Congratulations to the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan Bowen – awarded EH Area Volunteer Award for her hard work as a West Director but also Chair of the Adult Competitions Committee - Caradon Ladies 1st team awarded EH Adult Team of the Year - Giselle Ansley awarded EH Performance Player of the Year - All Teams who were promoted and wish good luck next season <p>West Hockey aim to work more closely with Counties next season and have invited County Chairs to the first West County Forum in September.</p> <p>Request for all Lead Committees to present an annual report at the next West Hockey AGM.</p>
2. Approval of Minutes of last AGM held on 18 July 2022
<p>The minutes had been circulated and taken as read.</p> <p>DC confirmed the minutes of the West Hockey AGM held on 18 July 2022 would be confirmed as a true and accurate reflection of the meeting unless any objections to this were forthcoming.</p> <p>No objections were forthcoming.</p>
3. Announcement of results of the election of Directors & Lead Committee Chairs



Following the members electronic ballot, the following Directors and Chairs of Lead Committees have been elected.

Directors

West Chair – Dave Chard (re-elected)

West Vice Chair – Liz Powell

West Finance – Bridgette Jones (re-elected)

West Governance – Caroline Baynes (re-elected)

West Operations – Keith Dingle (will continue in post until a replacement is found)

Lead Committee Chairs

Adult Competitions – Jan Bowen (re-elected)

Junior Competitions – VACANT

Masters – Debs Gemmell (re-elected)

Officiating – VACANT

Discipline – Lesley Love (re-appointed by Board)

Vacancies will be updated on website, for people who are interested. Thank you to Terry Cook for this nomination as Vice Chair.

4. Finance Director's presentation of the Financial Report and Accounts

Bridgette Jones, new Finance Director thanked Penny Thorne for all her hard work and support during the handover. Bridgette is looking forward to supporting you all in the future.

I am new into the role of FD for West Hockey but come with over 25 years' experience as a qualified accountant and look forward to supporting the finance function of West Hockey, as a volunteer.

Accounts for the YE April 2022, were filed in December 2022 with Companies House, with the results showing a deficit for West hockey Ltd of (£11,390). Therefore as reported the reserves have reduced from £166,398 to £155,008.

West Hockey Ltd is entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Co. Act 2006.

Copies are available publicly at <https://www.gov.uk/get-information-about-a-company>

For the YE April 23, the accounts are in draft form and awaiting external review.

The results show an overall deficit of (£10,551), and please find the draft income statement with detail for transparency. The result reduces the reserves from £155,008 to £144,457.

We are in the process of setting budgets for 2023/24 to ensure that financial control and oversight is in place for our area.

Please refer to AGM Presentation for full details of the Finance Directors report.

- Transfer funds from Masters and Umpiring.



- Planned lost to reduce reserves, to a sensible level.
- Fees are artificially low and at some points will increase possibly next year.

5. The Independent Scrutineer's report on the Company

The Statutory Accounts to 30 April 2022 were filed at Companies House on 27 December 2022 after examination by Peter Hodge.

6. The Proposal for Membership Fees

West Membership Fees have been set at £20.00 per team with a 75% reduction in the sum for the 2023/24 season, giving a sum payable of £5.00 per team

7. The Proposal for entry fees for Competitions and Leagues

All competition fees to be set by appropriate league and competition committees in consultation with the Company Directors.

8. AOB

No matters were raised prior to the meeting. AOB raised at the meeting;

- Alison Cook, why was Rod Cook not ratified by The West Board as Chair of the West Officiating Committee? DC responded that no progress or changes in officiating procedures to reflect EH and the Board directives were evident and it was felt a new direction for Officiating in the West was needed.
- Jon Bowers, Westbury & Utd Banks – appointed umpires for next season, changes in policy and how and when will this be communicated to clubs? DC – appoint top down in a considered way. To set up an umpiring 'Think Tank' for best way forward to completely reset officiating to ensure appointments to both genders and develop lower level umpires involving clubs, officials and all interested parties.
- Alison Cook – Club response to development support opportunities has been very poor and club umpires must come forward for development. DC thanked Alison for her work in Club Development especially in the North of the area.
- Lesley Love – would funded umpire support programmes help? AC responded that they will only work if a willingness from clubs to get involved.
- Harriet Tebbs – two areas do not appoint equally to both genders – East & West. EH looking forward to working with West to implement new way forward.
- Anne Baker, Devon HA – 2017 Equity Diversity & Inclusion was ahead of time, but now behind other sports regarding Transgender Policy. Health & Safety concerns, fairness to women' sport and safeguarding concerns are a real issue. What plans to EH have to review the current Policy? Review in 12 months is not acceptable and not supporting its members and volunteers. What should clubs do if a Healthy & Safety issues arises next season? Is there going to be clear guidance as an interim measure?
- Kuldeep Kaur (EH Finance & Operations Director) responded that EH are committed to ED&I Framework and work to review our Policy has started but not complete until Sept 2024. Bigger sports that are better resourced are ahead. EH need to follow their



robust review procedures. If there are Healthy & Safety concerns then please raise with EH Governance. EH working on practical clarity to questions and will feedback with FAQ's. Clear guidance on pitch side required. DC requested that the guidance was clear from EH to allow clubs and officials to deal with any situation that arose.

- Harriet Tebbs thanked everyone for the great work you all are doing to develop the game and looks forward to working with you next season.

Meeting closed at 19:38