



**NORTH WEST  
HOCKEY**

# **NORTH WEST HOCKEY LTD AGM**

**17 JULY 2025**

**CANDIDATE LEAFLET**



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Note:

## DIRECTORS

The directors who have held office during the period from 1 May 2024 to the date of this report are as follows:

Mr C Reece - Chair - appointed 2 June 2021

Mr N H Riley - Finance - appointed 2 June 2021

Ms S Everett - Vice Chair - appointed 20 August 2024

Mrs W A McDowall - Operations - appointed 7 July 2022

Ms L M Bleasdale - Governance - appointed 21 March 2023

In Accordance with the Articles of Association, two directors offer themselves for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting, this being Ms S Everett and Mrs W A McDowall.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.



# **Elected Postholders - Brief Role Descriptions**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Vice Chair**

To support the Chair in providing the vision, leadership and business planning to help develop all aspects of the Area, from playing and development to running the administration and fundraising. Ensuring that support for succession planning is in place, for the benefit of all.

### **Operations Director**

To support the Chair and Board in the achievement of Strategic objectives and act as a confidential sounding board to the Chair and Board whilst promoting good governance and to provide an efficient administration service to the Area, ensuring the Area functions smoothly and effectively. Be the main communication link between internal and external stakeholders embedding effective membership consultation.

## **AREA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Chair Adult Competitions & Leagues**

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning in all aspects of the Area Adult League & Competition in line with England Hockey guidelines. To oversee the Area Adult League & Competition committee ensuring delivery and monitoring of a robust adult league and competition programme, with a high level of customer satisfaction.

### **Chair Junior Competitions & Leagues**

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning to help develop all aspects of Junior Competitions across the Area in line with the England Hockey Junior Competitions Framework. To oversee the Junior Competition committee ensuring partnership working between EH, the Area and sub-areas to deliver a robust programme, for the benefit of all.

### **Chair Masters Hockey**

To provide vision, leadership and business planning to help develop all aspects of Master's hockey across the Area in line with the England Hockey framework. To oversee the Master's committee ensuring partnership working between the Areas to deliver a robust programme, for the benefit of all.

### **Chair Officiating**

To provide vision, leadership and strategic planning in all aspects of the Area Officiating in line with the England Hockey guidelines. To oversee the Officiating committee to ensure delivery of umpire developer and development pathways to umpires at all levels, with a high level of customer satisfaction. Being an important link between Officiating and the rest of the game.



## Vice-Chair of the Board:

**Name:** Shelagh Everett

Current roles held in hockey:

- Chair, Timperley Hockey Club
- Director, Timperley Sports Club
- Vice Chair, North West Hockey Ltd since 2021
- Member Elected-Non Executive Director, England Hockey since 2021

Retired after a career spanning a range of senior roles in finance banking and co-operatives businesses including strategy, planning, programme management, HR, governance and membership based organisation and member engagement.

Extensive understanding of the hockey landscape at a club, Area and national level drawing on strategic understanding of the challenges and opportunities for our sport coupled with the grass roots practical experience of a volunteer, player and umpire at club level.

Leading the work to development of the NW Hockey Strategy a further term of office would provide the opportunity to fully embed our vision, mission and key priorities and objectives within the work of our committees, the board and clubs and volunteers.



## Operations Director: Bios

**Name:** Wendy McDowall

I have been Operations Director for North West Hockey for the last 3 years involving maintaining the NW website, attending and recording meetings and running the Adult NW Indoor Super 6s competition.

Currently,

I coach the NW Masters Women's O60's and we were proud to win a Bronze medal this year in the National Area Tournament.

I am currently Treasurer of Lancashire Hockey Association (and was previously Treasurer of Lancashire Womens Hockey Association) and I run the Lancashire Cup Competitions comprising of 14 different cups. Currently I'm still playing for Northern after 25 years, I also coach the ladies 2<sup>nd</sup> team and play for Northern in the NW500 Masters League. I was also the first female President of the Northern Club in 140 years in 2004, which is comprised of hockey, cricket, squash and bowls sections.



In previous years, before all the JDC and JACs were established for juniors, I was actively involved in setting up Sefton Hockey Development Group and Merseyside Hockey Dev Group. I would coach the juniors and help to organise the junior tournaments. These groups were dissolved to accommodate the new England Hockey structure.

Currently, I am Club Steward of the Northern Club in Crosby, Liverpool, managing the bar and function room and coordinating with all the sports sections.

It is my ambition with hockey is to improve communication between clubs, counties, area and EH and thereby try to increase more volunteers within those bodies, to make hockey more sustainable for the future.



# Candidates for Chair of Committee Roles

## Adult League and Competitions Chair:

### Name John Dixon

I have been ALMC Chair for 10 months. In addition, I am also Technical Officiating lead for the NW area. I am looking to build a sustainable league structure that provides the right level of competition for clubs at a variety of levels but also takes into consideration the costs associated with running a club such as travel and pitch hire.

I have a number of years experience across hockey both nationally and locally in a variety of roles and am still actively involved as a coach, manager, umpire, technical official and welfare officer giving me a good insight into the demands of club hockey

I currently work in Risk and Control for a global Bank

I consider my knowledge of hockey in the North West and Nationally and the skill set I have allow me to fulfil the role and responsibilities of the Adult Leagues and Competitions Chair



## Junior Competitions and Leagues

### Name Vacant

## Officiating

### Name: Tony Shutt

I started umpiring roughly 30 years ago at club level. During this time, I have been Appointment secretary for NWHUA then Chairman. Progressing to Level one tutor trainer also regional umpire tutor and trainer.

Currently I am the Appointments panel lead for Northwest Premier panels and recently elected by NW EHO as Chair of NWAOC.





# Masters

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## Name Tony Taig

Tony acted as coordinator for North Masters hockey before taking on the role of Chair of Masters for North West Hockey. He plays at Winnington Park in the season, but particularly enjoys Masters Hockey in the summer, playing for the England LX club and pretty much anyone who invites him for a game.

Tony is keen to expand awareness of and participation in Masters Hockey in the North West. He initiated the popular North West 500 mixed competition, and hopes to expand Masters activity to include opportunities for indoor masters, and to increase awareness of Masters tournaments around the UK and overseas, and to facilitate participation of NW players/teams in them.

