



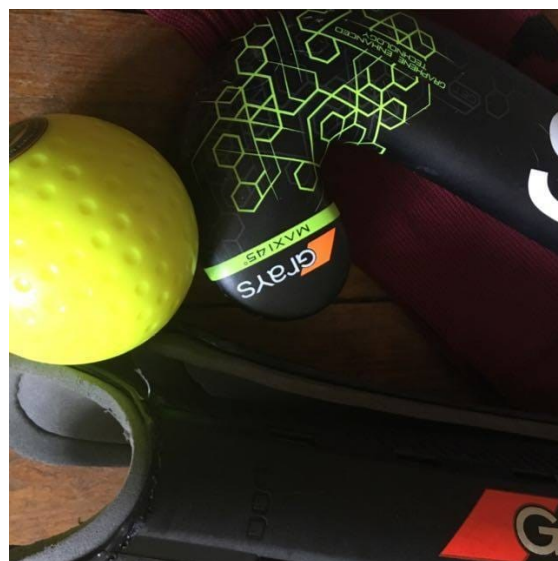
Finance Update

I am pleased to report that all clubs have now been sent their Invoices for "Annual Membership" and "League Fees" and any "H1 Allocated Umpire Fees". We have 5% bad debts at the moment from unpaid bills. Please pay your bills asap, if you have not done so.

We have paid 150 umpires expenses for H1 and I am pleased to say that we now have the ability to easily and quickly pay umpires expenses. So umpires please feel free to submit your expenses on a monthly basis (if you wish). If you wish to wait to the end of H2 then that is also fine. Your call.

Umpires who have submitted their expenses and not their BACS details can't be paid until we have your back account info. Please fill in the secure form that Simon Milford published or contact finance@southcentral.hockey to make alternative arrangements. 95% of the umpire expenses have been paid to known bank accounts.

As a reminder, if you are setting up a generic treasurer email address for your club, please send the address to SCH Finance (finance@southcentral.hockey) and England Hockey that email address for their records.



Whilst cheques are still valid in the UK, they are not an easy way for SCH to process payments. So please can you make the SCH Finance teams life easy by using BACS payment for all remittances.

Rule Changes 2022/2023 season

As published on our website recently in the News section www.southcentral.hockey there are impending rule changes. These have been set by FIH and are planned to be adopted by EH. Below is the full statement from England Hockey:

FIH Rules of Hockey Changes

"In January 2022, the FIH updated the Outdoor Rules of Hockey, which were adopted internationally ahead of the third season of the FIH Pro League. National Federations are allowed to apply discretion when to adopt these into their national hockey structure.



For any relatively minor rule changes England Hockey does not apply them mid-season and these rule changes will now be considered in readiness for the 2022-23 season in England. These will be communicated in a timely manner before the start of next season.

You can see how these rules are applied later this year by watching our international squads during the FIH Pro League who will play to these rules from their next matches - [FIH Hockey Pro League information](#)

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The main changes to the previous rules are as follows:

Rule 4.2 now allows defending players in a penalty corner to continue wearing protective equipment and play the ball outside the circle after an interception during the taking of a penalty corner.

They must however remove that equipment immediately after, at the first opportunity, inside the 23m area.



No player using PC protective equipment can play the ball outside the 23 m area at any time. The amendment came to protect athlete safety and ensure players can focus on the play rather than the removal of protective equipment during a pressurised defensive situation.

Rule 9.10 now allows players to safely intercept a falling ball which will be a positive step forward for the game. Aerial Balls will continue to be closely monitored by all stakeholders so that player safety can be maintained.

A full set of the FIH Rules that apply to English competition this season is available on the Hockey Hub - [England Hockey's Online Training Hub 1](#).

When England Hockey apply these rule changes, the Hockey Hub will also contain materials to support players, coaches and umpires in the understanding and application of these rules in the game.”

Adult Leagues

The Adult League committee is extremely pleased at the way clubs/teams have managed to complete team sheets/enter the score and then do the timelines.

The priority for all teams is the team sheet and the score and we are close to 98% of those being completed by 8pm on the day of the fixture. Timelines are around 55%, with the Ladies teams being more adept at completing them due to past requirements in the Ladies Leagues.



The important thing about the timeline is to check that the score is correct, cards have been entered and that shirt numbers are shown. The timings of goals/cards is not critical but it is good practice to complete as much as you can.

Area Officiating committee

We are well into our Area league season again now, and with the National League starting again there will be even more shortages of umpires.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we in South Central have a Level 1 Assessment manager (Ray Hipkin) who can provide advice and guidance on how to develop umpires and help to get them through the assessment process. Ray has a number of documents that he can send you (we will also get them on the South Central website - www.southcentral.hockey) and then we can all start to plan development activities and assessments around all of our other officiating activities.

As previously, If you want help with sourcing an assessor for a Level 1 assessment then please let Ray know, with as much notice as possible (ray@rayhipkin.co.uk). Ray will also be able to help if you wish to discuss how best to prepare for a Level 1 assessment.



Discipline

Sadly we have had quite a number of red cards this season, with the vast majority being for umpire abuse. It shouldn't really need to be said, but it appears that it does, that umpire abuse is completely unacceptable. This is not soccer (as Nigel Owens would say) and we shouldn't behave like that to any officials, whether they be volunteers or not, who are giving up their time to facilitate our games.

We all make mistakes. It is only human to do so. Your very own Chairman of the Area Officiating Committee had a moment of brain fade in a Premier 1 game last Saturday, and gave a free hit to the defence when it should have been a PC. Was it a wrong decision? Undoubtedly. Was it a deliberate attempt to subvert the game? No, of course not – it was a simple error.

Cont... There was no umpire abuse forthcoming, for which the teams are to be congratulated, but there should never be any umpire abuse of any kind, either from players, coaches or spectators.

As you should all know, a red card will result in a minimum 16 day ban from all forms of hockey; unless it is a technical red, resulting from 2 yellow cards in the same game for the same minor offence, violence and dissent are not minor offences. That ban means that the offender cannot play hockey, cannot coach hockey, or be involved in hockey in any way. They may watch hockey, from outside the cage around the pitch, but they cannot shout guidance to their team, they cannot communicate with the team during the game (using mobile phones to speak to bench players for example). Any offenders found breaching the red card suspension will be further investigated and potentially receive a sanction double the original e.g. 1 month for the original penalty, then a further 2 months for breaching the terms of the original penalty – meaning at least a 3 months suspension overall.

National guidance for red cards relating to umpire abuse recommend a minimum suspension of 30 days, and this may well be extended following review by the Area disciplinary panel.

There is plenty of guidance around Discipline here:

<https://southcentral.englishhockey.co.uk/adult-leagues-competitions/area-discipline>

The simple guidance, though, is don't do it. We are looking forward to a reduction, or preferably elimination, of red cards of any kind, but especially for umpire abuse over the remainder of the season.

Development

The South Central development team will continue to be busy supporting our officials. Post match debriefs may take place over Zoom or Teams again, for good Covid safety reasons.

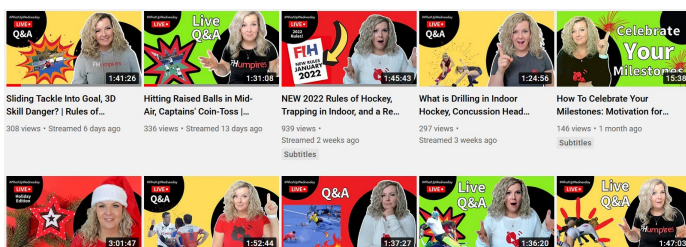


If you want to keep developing your umpiring career then please let Ginette know, by registering for her Development group. To register go to www.umpiredev.co.uk, select "Information for Individual Umpires" and scroll down to find the Development Group button. You should be a Gold member of England Hockey Officiating in order to benefit best from the development opportunities which are available.

As always South Central officials have been joining in with the #ThirdTeam family via the FHUmpires set up – both on YouTube and the FHUmpires Discord server. If none of that makes any sense to you then ask – otherwise come on over and join us on the interweb thingy. We will shortly be putting a list of useful umpire education resources on the South Central website – watch this space!

We are also in the process of taking out a corporate membership of FHUmpires – a red membership of fhu3t for those of you in the know. We will be working out how best to use these resources in consultation with the Club Liaison Lead and the Development Lead.

But, in the meantime, if you want to see some of the freely available material from FHUmpires then head over to their YouTube Channel and check out the various streams which are available.



Social Media

Social media sites for the South Central Area are:

<https://twitter.com/SouthCentralHo2>

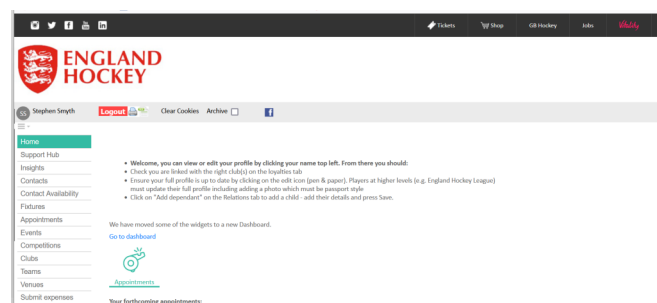
<https://www.facebook.com/South-Central-Hockey-109636851265443>

England Hockey Officiating

Another reminder that anyone who umpires, or will umpire, any game of hockey needs to register to be a member of EHO, at the Bronze (free) level if you don't wish to undertake appointments. If you are umpiring club games, or school games, or any other kind of hockey matches, you do need to be a registered member of EHO.

If you haven't already registered then please go to:

<https://gms.englishockey.co.uk/>



Select Register, Choose Officiating and go from there. Looking forward to seeing the numbers registered for South Central with EHO increasing, especially now that the teething troubles with registration seem to have largely been resolved.

For those of you who can't remember if you have registered or no, or who can't remember which membership level you chose, please get in touch and we can check the records for South Central. Sadly there doesn't yet seem to be a way to verify your membership level via GMS.

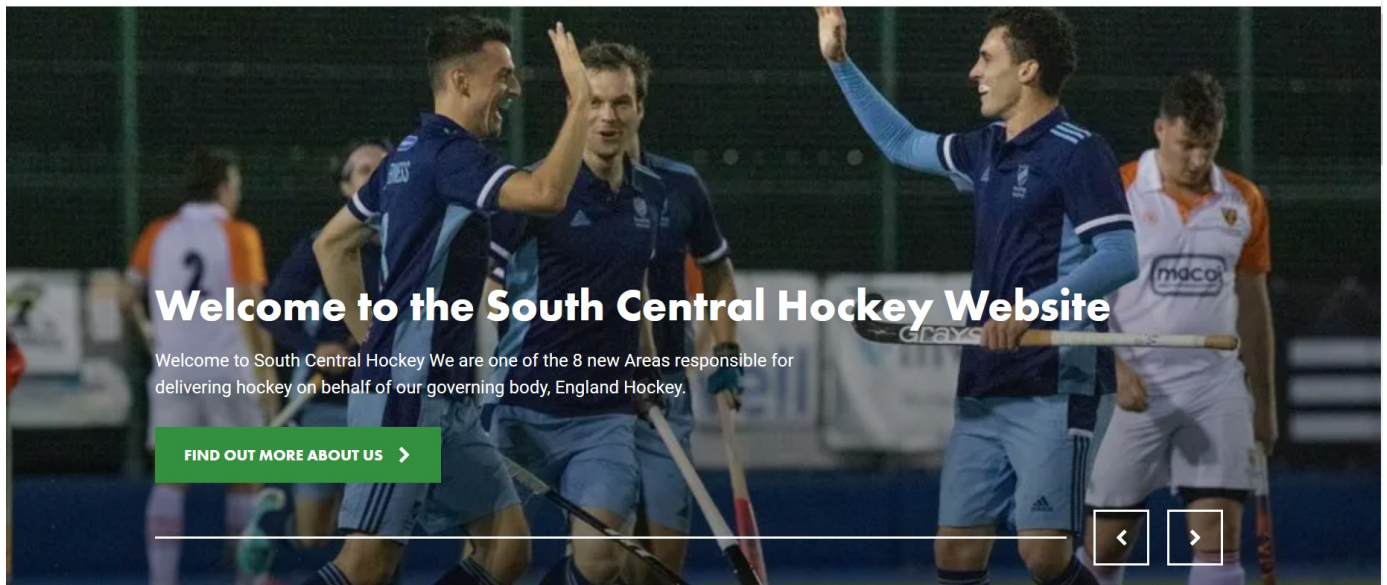
Match Results

Results can be found at:

www.southcentral.hockey and click on the link in the top right hand corner where you can see all the leagues in our area

Operations

Don't forget to visit our website for weekly results, umpiring updates and way of contacting us all here. Contact details are in the About section The URL is www.southcentral.hockey



LATEST INFORMATION



South Central disciplinary panel

Who is the disciplinary panel

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



South Central Officiating

About the South Central Officiating

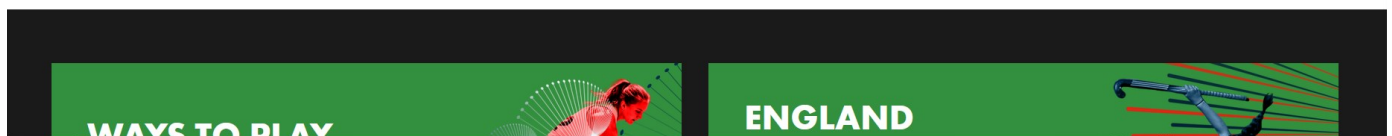
[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Reporting of Cards

Importance of reporting cards

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



Date for your diaries

South Central Hockey AGM

The South Central Hockey Ltd second AGM will take place online on **Thursday 14th July 2022 at 19:00**. Invitations will be sent out together with reports from each department in good time by England Hockey. Please mark this date in your calendars

Area Officiating AGM

We are getting towards that time of year! The Area AGM is likely to be held in July 2022 so the Area Officiating Committee AGM (more properly called the England Hockey Officiating South Central Branch AGM!) will likely be happening in May 2022.

Junior Section

Club U10 and U12 county rounds are scheduled for February so please make sure to contact your county Junior Hockey organisers to enter.