



# HORSHAM HOCKEY CLUB

THE CRICKETFIELD, CRICKETFIELD ROAD, HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX  
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## HORSHAM HOCKEY CLUB AGM- Minutes Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2021

### 1. Apologies for absence-

Apologies received from the following: -

Sue Crake, Sue Chinn, Ollie Spiers members of the ladies 1s and 2s who were attending training at the same time.

### 2. Attendees:

Chris Poland, Steph White, Mark Beard, CJ Nichols, Tom SurrIDGE, Steve Watson, Tracey Marsden, Sandrine Yeates, Nick Evans, Rachel Green, Tom White, Tim Allen, Alistair Billington, Amanda Billington.

### 3. Minutes of AGM held on Friday 21<sup>th</sup> August 2020

These were proposed by Steph White and seconded by Nick Evans

No objections noted

### 4. Chairman's Report

Chris Poland welcomed members to the AGM and outlined his report to the club, the key points were as follows:

- Due to Covid-19 a short season was played with most teams managing a maximum 6 fixtures. However summer leagues have been popular and possible with ongoing rule changes
- Covid controls were observed in the main and we got through well thanks to Tom SurrIDGE acting as Covid Officer to steer us all through the extra work
- No social events occurred due to Covid restrictions in place across the country. An area the committee want to rectify in the new season (rules dependent).
- We continue to remain based at Christs Hospital with a renewed level of support and understanding from the blue coats team, but the Tanbridge School Astro refurbish is now delayed by one year due to carpet shortages. However Horsham HC continues to have positive discussions with the owners of the Golf and Fitness Village concept.
- Full England Hockey league restructure is now in place, mostly beneficial for our teams with no change, except for the L2/3 who will now play in the same league but perhaps travel less distance
- New player registration system and Game management system coming in and will require all players to register online, manage team sheets online and report fixture results. This will be in force nationwide.
- Inflation is adding cost increases to the club, with increases to pitch hire, sports club costs, teas, and IT all coming through. This is reflected in finance section budget.

- The cost of Club teas has increased 42% against a background of historic poor quality and are unsustainable within the match fee at this level, so we will be changing teas to the provision of sandwiches instead, with a view to monitoring value for money.

The plans/aims for the next season are as follows:

- Ladies' 1s retain National League, strengthen the squad and finish near mid-table.
- Ladies' 2s to find a permanent Saturday coach to help build their league position
- Men's 1s rebuild to continue with the integration of Men's 1XI and 2XI squads training together, aiming for both to push for league promotions.
- L1 and M1 to train twice a week
- Colts U8 to U14 age groups to receive more coaching resources and development

The report was proposed by CJ Nichols and Seconded by Tom Surridge

## 5. Covid-19 Update

Tom Surridge is to stay on as club Covid officer. Since the last AGM the situation across the country has changed multiple times. We are hoping that the new government guidance allows us to play an uninterrupted season where possible now that much of the adult population has been vaccinated. To this end England Hockey's management has shifted to playing with/managing Covid.

Controls for games and training need to continue such as good hygiene practices, social distancing where possible.

It is imperative that all members check in on teamo for all match based fixtures (both training and games). This will allow our response to be rapid in any positive cases.

If a positive case associated to a player or others partaking in hockey please contact Tom Surridge who will follow England Hockey's guidance to ensure we are protecting/notify and individuals who may have had close contact.

## 6. Treasurers Report

The 20-21 season finished above budget (£3,274) due to reduction in games played leading to a reduction in pitch hire, teas and coaching costs. This was measured against the 19-20 season as our 'last normal' season.

Last year's figures and report proposed by Rachel Green and Seconded by Nick Evans

Following the reduction in fees for members (10% discount was provided) in the 20-21 season due to the potential disruption posed by Covid, the fees for members are to be reset to the level they were at the 19-20 season. This is because the worst of the Covid disruption is seen to be behind us and the fees being applied to club are increasing within our stakeholders (e.g. Horsham sports club, Le Crepier, a pitch hire increase of 2% and teamo have introduced card payment fees). The proposed budget for 21-22 will look to run at roughly a £2961 deficit partly due to increase costs but a reduced incoming from fundraising in the current climate. Steph stressed the point on an easy win for fundraising around the Barns Green half marathon we are down to both support marshalling the

course but also the car park. This will help with the fundraising drop due to the harder climate.

This change was proposed by Steph White and seconded by Rachel Green

A discussion around the current teas situation and the proposed raised costs to the club versus the questionable quality of the food provided in the past. We are looking to maintain hot teas for the ladies 1s and the rest of the club to have cold teas (sandwiches etc.). The cost of the cold teas is greater than what is being paid for hot teas in previous season. We are looking to trial for 4-6 weeks to monitor quality and costs.

Treasurers report proposed by Rachel Green and seconded by Nick Evans

## **7. Election of Officers**

Election of officers completed with a few gaps present primarily around team captains and admin positions.

The gaps are as follows:

- Mens Club Captain
- Ladies 1s and 4s teams captains
- Mens 3s and Hotsticks teams

As always the club cannot run without volunteers, if you are interested in helping please get in touch with Tom Surridge or Chris Poland

A discussion was raised by Nick Evans regarding the position of club president the role has been vacant for a few years following Hugh passing away.

The election of officers was proposed by Steph White and seconded by Rachel Green.

## **8. AOB**

- CJ Nichols enquired about the effect on the league(s) formations/changes on the age groups within the colt section. This has been confirmed that the age groups are not changing so should not have a potential effect on how the colts section is to be divided.
- Nick Evans requested that the constitution is given a space/link on the club website for members to access and review. Chris Poland who is currently developing the website has this page constructed in the background of the website and will be made live for all to see shortly.
- Club day due to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September all teams are playing games with most/ if not all at home. So would remind all members to come down after fixtures to join in the barbeque and activities going on.
- Club President role to be fleshed out with a role description so that applicants can come forward/ be proposed by others.

**Thank you all for attending and your contributions. The meeting concluded at 8:30pm.**