

## Minutes of The Yeovil and Sherborne Hockey Club Annual General Meeting Held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011, 8pm, The Digby Hall, Sherborne.

**Present:** Please see attendance sheet.

**Apologies:** Kern Vickers, Pete Jakes, Nick Whigham, Pip Dawe, Jill Branson, Sarah Anstee, Jo Stevenson, Sarah Newton, Becky King, Eve Hill, Barry Izzard

### • **Matters Arising**

- No matters arising.

### • **Chairman's Report**

- The Chairman read his report - On Website.

### • **Treasurer's Report**

- Libby Walters stated that a surplus of £450 had been planned for the season just finished but in fact £4250 was the true figure. This is due to the following factors: a £600 VAT rebate through England Hockey which is a one off; £1000 less was spent on coaching than planned due to certain coaches kindly volunteering their time and no coaching courses had been taken up and Libby Walters stressed that there is money in the pot for those who want to gain a coaching qualification; affiliation fees were reduced last season and of course we had one less mens team; we did not have to pay for any affiliated umpires; the teas cost less than budgeted for.
- Libby Walters has budgeted for a similar plan next season. She is assuming there will be no ladies 4<sup>th</sup> team but if it is resurrected the match fees should cover costs. She stated that there is no increase on match fees or subscriptions and that petrol will stay the same at 15p per mile. With the umpiring payment proposed by Bill (see Umpiring Presentation Point) and agreed by the meeting the planned surplus would be around £200 for next season.
- Su Johnson asked if the website cost was very high. It was agreed that it is and that we are looking into other possibilities regarding the website which should reduce the yearly cost quite dramatically.
- Libby Walters thanked the Captains for all their hard work in getting match fees and subs, she stated that it is a very hard task to collect money week in and week out and suggested that a way to reduce this extra work was for players to pay up front not only for subs but for match fees, this could be done at regular intervals during the season. The Chairman will circulate a proposal to members suggesting this.

### • **Club Captain's Report**

- Debs Gemmell read his report – On Website.
- Tony Organ read his report – On Website.

### • **Election of Officers**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nominated</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
President – Steve Fudge	Debs Gemmell	Alan Judge
Chairman – Keith Walters	Debs Gemmell	Steve Fudge
Secretary – Jo McDermid	Keith Walters	Libby Walters
Treasurer –		
Club Captain Ladies - Debs Barter	Su Johnson	Sadie Watson
Club Captain Mens – Bill Bibby	Tony Organ	Sam Holloway
Club Communications Officer -Tony Organ	Di Darch	Tim Hotham

Club Development Officer – Sadie Watson	Zoe Hodson	Debs Gemmell
Club Social Secretary – Lewis Walters & Sam Holloway	Richard McDermid	Keith Walters
Club Welfare Officer – Richard McDermid	Di Darch	Debs Gemmell
Club Youth Co-Ordinator – Harriet White	Debs Gemmell	Abi Green
Committee Member – Di Darch	Tony Organ	Zoe Hodson
Umpire Co-Coordinator – Alex Hardick	Bill Bibby	Tim Hotham
Men’s Fixture Secretary – Jon Stride	Bill Bibby	Tony Organ
Ladies Fixture Secretary – Di Darch	Debs Gemmell	Zoe Hodson
Mens 1 <sup>st</sup> XI – Sam Holloway	Calum Gray	Bill Bibby
Mens A XI – Carl Bason	Bill Bibby	Tony Organ
Mens B XI – Tim Hotham	Tony Organ	Lewis Walters
Mens C XI -		
Ladies 1 <sup>st</sup> XI – Sadie Watson	Debs Gemmell	Di Darch
Ladies 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI – Zoe Hodson	Debs Gemmell	Becky Brodie
Ladies 3 <sup>rd</sup> XI – Su Johnson	Debs Gemmell	Abi Green
Mens Summer League –		
Ladies Summer League – Di Darch	Zoe Hodson	Debs Gemmell

● **Mens Teams for 2010 - 2011**

- The Chairman had already discussed this point in his report and a decision to run a Mens 4<sup>th</sup> XI has been backed by the Captains. It was thought if another mens team was taken out it could lead to the Club’s detriment and could potentially loose the Club more players.

● **Umpiring Presentation**

- Bill Bibby stated in the season 2009-2010 30% of matches were umpired by non playing umpires and for last season this figure was 50%. This means the lack of playing umpires has left the club struggling for umpires. He stated he wanted to find away as a Club to encourage existing playing umpires to umpire more and players to become qualified to umpire, however we would have to compensate somehow for the playing umpire missing pre-match warm-up/talk and post match hospitality. Bill suggested that maybe one way is that playing umpires have their match fee waived for that week if umpiring, but what would the non playing umpires make of this. He stated that he had spoken to 3 out of our 6 non playing umpires and the impression he got is that they umpire to give something back to the Club and for their own benefit not monetary value. Bill suggested that all umpires should umpire 3 games before any sort of concession shall be it in the form of free dinner dance tickets or waived match fees. He believes this would cost the Club between £600-£800 per year.
- Alan Judge stated that he is worried that non playing umpires would wonder why they did not get the same sort of benefits, but Bill stated he did not think this was the case. Bill stressed this is not purely about paying playing umpires but bribing them to help out more. Calum Gray agreed that if a player umpires as well as plays then they should be entitled to have their match fees waived, it is the same scenario as goalkeepers who have their own kits. Debs Gemmell and Di Darch liked this idea. It was stated that after one ladies game we had to pay a Salisbury Umpire £10.00
- The Chairman asked Harriet White as a non playing umpire what she thought. Harriet

stated that when she was first told of the incentive she did not think it was fair but now having been fully informed she thinks it is a good idea, particularly if it attracts more umpires. However she did state that she did not think it was the lack of payment that put umpires off but the attitude of the players on the pitch, often our own members.

- Bill feels it is a good way of getting more umpires, and it might give those who struggle with the cost of playing an incentive, however he needs to get more umpires qualified and the only team he can do this with is the Mens 4<sup>th</sup> XI so this may not take effect immediately. Alan Judge stated he did not see this as a way to get more people to qualify but maybe more qualified playing umpires would be willing to help out.
- Libby Walters stated that as there is a surplus of £850 in the plan so the Club could afford to pay out an amount in the region of £600 for umpiring costs.
- Alan Judge and Debs Gemmell both stated that this had happened in the past and had not succeeded but it was worth trying again.
- The Chairman asked that the following points be voted on and all were agreed unanimously:
  1. All umpires have to do 3 games minimum to get concession.
  2. Non playing umpires would be offered a free Dinner Dance ticket.
  3. Playing umpires have the option of re-imburement of full match fee if they played that weekend. Harriet stated that she was still concerned that non players don't get as much and may not be happy. Libby Walters stressed that Bill must bring to Committee any gripes non playing umpires raise over this so they can be rectified as we do not want to loose them.
  4. This issue will be reviewed at the 2012 AGM to make sure the Club can afford it.

- **Any Other Business**

- Bill Bibby wanted it minuted that the Club is going to face a huge problem in one years time when the Chairman and Secretary step down. This has already been proved by the lack of anyone willing to take over the role of Treasurer. He stated that if these roles can not be filled there will be no Club after next season. He said it is always the same few people stand for the roles within the Club. He stressed that everyone now has to actively look for someone to take on these 3 roles. He also thanked Keith for all the hard work he puts into keeping the Club running smoothly. The Chairman agreed with Bill but mentioned that you can not force someone to take over these roles, those people have to want to do it.
- Di Darch wanted to ask if a new pub could be found for teas, she stated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> XL constantly had bad service, the bar is always very busy and once she had to wait 40 mins for a bowl of chips. She also stated that due to parking prices people do not stay so there is not normally a cross over of teams. Su Johnson stated that teams were loosing youngsters after matches as it was not closer to the Gryphon. Libby Walters stated that The Mermaid costs £1000 more than Half Moon per year. Di Darch stated that she has been to The Mermaid and they say that they would put on teas for £10 per team. The Chairman reminded everyone that The Mermaid has let us down in the past with only hours to spare and this has put a huge burden of finding alternative venues to avoid being fined by the league on the Chairman and Treasurer. Because of this fact we have a contract with The Half Moon's brewery that even if the tenants should leave, the next tenants have to fulfil our contract, this is not something that we could set up with The Mermaid as when tenants leave the pub shuts down. The Chairman stated that if Di Darch wanted to set up a meeting between herself and The Mermaid he would attend to discuss a possible way forward. The Chairman stated that he has a meeting with The Half Moon to see if skittle alley and bar

could be opened for the Club only. This would be a better solution and hopefully get the teams to interact more after games.

- Di Darch stated that at every 2<sup>nd</sup> XI home game they end up moving goals. The Chairman stated that this has been put to the Gryphon before but it wont change as there are no staff to do it. Debs Gemmell asked if it could be suggested that those Clubs using it the night before can move the goals off the pitch.
- Su Johnson stated that there had been times this season when new players had come to training and gone straight into 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI training, bypassing the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI. The Chairman stated that this is a matter for the Captains meeting at start of season.
- Su Johnson asked if a welcome letter for new players could be put on the website for downloading to give to new players as sometimes she is unsure of subscription and match fee prices. Jo McDermid stated that when new players e-mail through the website an interest in joining the Club she replies with an e-mail of training times, who to make themselves known to etc and when she receives registration forms she e-mails the new ladies with their league registration number, where and how to get club shirts with the correct number on and subs details.
- Su Johnson suggested that the Club has more interaction with local schools to encourage more juniors, it was pointed out that we have a formal Schools/Club link with Preston and 8 primary schools and in the past have committed coaches to go to various schools to deliver hockey as a result of this link, but as usual this has resulted in this task falling on 3 coaches to deliver 8 week coaching plans during working hours and as a such can not sustain it. As the Chairman mentioned in his report to try to overcome this we are holding a taster day in September. Jo McDermid also pointed out that during the Summer Term she sends flyers to various SSCos in the schools with training dates and times for them to hand out to their pupils.
- Harriet White mentioned her worries about Thursday night junior training with Nog not being able to coach. She stated with around 30 kids you really need ideally 3 but at least 2 coaches and Tracy has not been there available for at least 7 session since Christmas and in one instance she had been left to take the session herself which she should not as she is not a level 2 coach. The Chairman stated that she must always contact him if that happens again. With regards to regular level 2 coaches this needs to be resolved.
- Tim Hotham won the free membership.

Debs Gemmell won the free End of Season Celebration ticket.