



# Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
**Time:** 7:30pm  
**Venue:** Zoom (video conference)

**Attendees:**

Bruce Bale (BB), Tommy Doyle (TD), Fiona Davitt (FD), Gillian Garrett (GG), Shane O Donnell (SOD), Darrell Reamsbottom (DR), Tom Goode (TG),

**Apologies:**

Colm Kavanagh (CK)

## 1. Previous Minutes

- Published on LHUA website. Read and approved.

## 2. Finance

19/20 Audit:

- Auditor has completed them and posted to TD.  
**Action: TD to meet Percy Henchy for him to sign.**

19/20 Club Fees:

- TD confirmed there are still a small number of clubs still to pay.
- TD noted that we may not have the correct email address for some clubs.  
**Action: TD to check online account for any direct transfers.**  
**Action: TD to double check emails on club websites.**  
**Action: TD to email reminder to clubs with payment still outstanding.**

19/20 Umpire Fees:

- TD confirmed that all except 2 umpires have been paid (umpires need to provide bank details)  
**Action: TD to contact umpires and ask them to update details in the web system.**

Financial Position:

- TD confirmed balance in the bank account and that he is satisfied with current situation.

## 3. Administration

Club Fees Enquiry:

- Committee discussed request from one club asking that fee increase be delayed by 1 year.
- Agreement that position should be the same for all clubs and could not delay.
- Decision not to implement 6 months billing this season (invoices to be sent May-21)
- Committee agreed that a clear and compassionate response should be sent to the club.  
**Action: BB to draft response for committee to review.**  
**Action: TD to send response to club**  
**Update: Response agreed and sent. Reply received from club accepting LHUA position**

20/21 Umpire Fees:

- Discussion on how to record umpire expenses for LHUA with new mileage structure.
- Proposal to replicate the IHUA system used for EYHL appointments.  
**Action: TG to contact Simon MacAllister and Tex Solutions**

#### WhosTheUmpire System:

- TG confirmed that IHUA would not be changing appointment systems for 2020/21 season.
- Committee confirmed that LHUA would do the same and explore WTU for 2021/22.

#### Working Groups:

- *Coaching & Development* - FD (Lead) and BB.  
**Action: 1 additional member to be added**
- *Indoor* - Rob Abbott (Lead) and TD  
**Action: 1 additional member to be added**  
**Action: Since expenses are paid directly, indoor only umpire shirts will need to be charged for.**
- *Performance* - to be discussed and confirmed at a later date (group to include UMs/Coaches)  
**Action: BB to discuss with TD.**
- *Social Media* - BB, CK and SOD.  
**Action: BB/CK to give SOD access to Facebook and Twitter accounts.**  
**Action: 1 additional member to be added.**  
**Action: Social Media working group to review website.**

#### **4. Safeguarding**

- Significant work went into this last year, so all current members are Garda vetted.  
**Action: New members to be Garda vetted**

#### **5. Umpiring**

##### Return to Play Protocols:

- It may be required that a form be completed for each match.
- If necessary LHUA members should fill in this information before friendlies and align with home club requirements (note no need to duplicate work).
- Committee should send a clear communication to members.  
**Action: BB to draft and send communication by Friday (21<sup>st</sup>).**  
**Update: Communication sent**

##### 20/21 Season Dates:

- Men's dates published by LHA. Waiting on confirmed ladies' dates  
**Action: TG to contact LHA and double check on these dates.**

##### Best Practices & Radio Use:

- Pre-season briefing to be given to all members advising on matchday best practices.
- Suggested that LHUA make it mandatory for members to attend a COVID briefing.
- COVID briefing will be given in conjunction with webinar on using radios.
- Committee agreed that session would be recorded for anyone that cannot attend.  
**Action: Date to be agreed at next meeting and communicated to members.**

##### Umpiring Panels:

- To be reviewed in conjunction with IHUA following new IHUA committee appointment.

#### **6. Coaching & Development**

##### Webinars:

- First webinar on 18<sup>th</sup> August was very successful with great turnout (76 registered).

##### Development Groups:

- Committee agreed that with current guidelines it will not be able to run groups.

##### Umpire Courses:

- FD spoke to Ruth Montgomery, who confirmed that they are waiting on Hockey Ireland to redesign their website before (re)launching the online rules course.

- With the current COVID restrictions, it has not been possible to reschedule the NUA.

#### LHUA Strategy:

- BB has drafted document and distributed to committee.  
 Action: Committee to feedback on current draft.  
 Action: BB to continue populating document.

#### Recruitment:

- Strategic goal for the committee to grow its membership.  
 Action: Follow up on webinars, with club liaison officers, and promote on social media.
- Option to explore financial incentives (rather than penalties) for clubs to provide umpires.

### **7. Equipment & Sponsorship**

#### New Radios:

- Committee agreed the Member Contract and 50:50 deposit fee.  
 Action: BB to communicate to all members  
 Update: Communication sent 21<sup>st</sup> August.
- Option to reduce deposit if returning a working UmpireTalk radio, subject to IHUA approval  
 Action: BB to speak with Warren McCully.  
 Update: BB confirmed approval for members to donate UT radios for Young Umpiring.
- Deposit to be collected from expenses at end of season.

#### Kit:

- Possibility of a 3<sup>rd</sup> shirt and rain jacket, subject to securing sponsorship.
- BB confirmed there is a small supply of existing kit still in stock.
- Kit plan for 20/21 to be discussed at next meeting.

#### Sponsorship:

- BB has shared sponsorship document with GG.
- GG has one potential lead. BB will also speak to previous kit supplier about opportunity.
- Committee agreed that it would be open to sponsorship money and/or provision of kit FOC.
- Interest in casual gear (polo shirts, hoodies) as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> shirt and rain jacket.  
 Action: GG to review document and share with potential sponsor.  
 Action: BB to discuss with kit supplier.

### **8. Other Business**

- Question if there are any pre-match checklist cards remaining in stock.  
 Action: BB to check  
 Update: No pre-match cards in stock, but there are a limited number of scorecards.
- Suggestion that LHUA again source branded Fox 40 whistles (possible sponsorship)  
 Action: BB to check who supplied previous whistles.
- Question if Dorothy Kennedy had received her lifetime achievement award?  
 Action: FD to give CK's email address to contact as Secretary  
 Update: Details confirmed
- Next meeting to take place w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September.