

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE ARMY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
HELD AT THE SIMON LYTLE PAVILION ALDERSHOT
ON TUESDAY 22nd MAY 2012 0830-1000hrs

Attending:

Col A Taylor
Lt Col (Retd) A Flavell
Lt Col R Head
Lt Col C Todd
Maj M Berski
Maj P Nicholas
Maj J Hadley
Capt S Eversfield

Capt P Rosser
Capt J Hooker
Capt A Conetta
Capt R Wise
Mr Les Hunter

Chairman AHA
Secretary AHA
Chairman Infantry HC
EH Umpires/AMAHA
Army Manager Men's Seniors team
Secretary Army Ladies
Secretary RLC HC
Secretary Masters AMS HC/
AHA Masters Manager Des
Army U23 Manager
Secretary R Signals HC
Secretary RE HC
Secretary AMS HC
Chairman AHA Officials

Apologies:

Major General J R Free CBE
Major General C Elliott CBO CBE
Major General G C Cornock CB MBE
Gen Sir Alex Harley KBE CB
Col A Brown
Col D M Eagan
Col (Retd) M Stott
Lt Col D Scott
Lt Col T Lees
Maj W Ginn
Maj T Prowse
Capt S Richardson
SSgt L Addison
Sgt D Cattermole
WO2 Stu Patterson
WO2 D Druce
Mr C Peach
Mr B Mower
Mr A Notman

President AHA
DASCB
Vice President
Vice President
Vice Chairman AHA Ladies/Chairman Col D
Vice President FPC
Vice President
Secretary REME HC
Vice Chairman T/A /Indoor
Secretary AGC HC
Team Manager Ladies
Secretary Infantry HC
Secretary 2 Div Hockey
Captain Army Men's Senior Team
Secretary BA (G) Hockey
Manager Army Ladies Masters
AHA Treasurer/Webmaster
Secretary R Signals Masters Hockey
AHA Umpire Manager

<p>ITEM 4</p>	<p><i>updates; To access the Facebook page look up Army Hockey and on Twitter look up Army_Hockey_UK. You have to have an account on each website separately before being able to access them. For more information contact either Chris Peach or Charlotte in the AHA Office.</i></p> <p>f. The development of facilities; The pavilion weather proof seat cover is complete. Pitch 2 is due to be replaced in August 12 with a sand dressed surface. Capt Steve Eversfield raised the point of the possibility of redoing the lines on the pitch before the Tournament. The Secretary replied that they are done 2 weeks before the Tournament. However, the footballers' who also use the pitches wear that off. It is noted for the future.</p> <p>g. The option of having a Tower has difficulties with too many health and safety issues. The Chairman suggested involving some Engineers and working around that. Wait out for more information.</p> <p>h. AOB; Col Eagan was unable to make the meeting however he may be attending the Tournament. The Chairman asked all who see him to make him feel welcome and show their appreciation. As well as our other elder statesmen, Col Eagen deserves much praise due to guiding generation after generation of Army Hockey players. He was also an Olympian and serving officer and has contributed so much to the Army Hockey and England Hockey community, he deserves our thanks.</p> <p>i. Accommodation; The provision of accommodation this season has been particularly problematic. For the past few tournaments the AHA have used Brunswick Camp in Pirbright, Deepcut Transit lines and Minley Manor / Gibraltar Barracks. Please be patient, other options are going to be looked into such as ASLS in Pirbright. Charlotte in AHA Office to contact Lt Col R Head over this.</p> <p>j. The ASCB have now moved to Fox Lines in Aldershot. Operations will be changing slightly; the kit is in stores there. There is a manned gate so ID is needed, for entry and exit.</p>	<p>Secretary</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>All</p> <p>Charlotte AHA Office/Chairman Infantry</p>
	<p><u>Chairman's Report</u></p> <p>4.1 Please find the full Chairman's Report in Annex A.</p> <p>4.2 The following points were raised:</p> <p>a. CSHA; The Chairman stated that the AHA is fully involved with the CSHA. Areas of weakness are Umpires, Officials and Coaching where there hasn't been a positive ownership and control.</p> <p>b. Support to England Hockey; The AHA supports England Hockey (EH) fully. However EH is overly focused on the performance end of the market. There needs to be a focus on the sport itself and not all effort is focused on the elite, especially after the Olympics. Consider divisional/county competitions and support them.</p>	<p>All</p>

	<p>c. Acquiring players; The Chairman stated that Team Managers have to do all they can to get CO's to release players. It is a matter of timing and approach, target decision makers and if needed pass on to the Chairman or President who will assist. Timely intervention is the key.</p> <p>d. Coaching; Cheryl Campling, as Coaching Secretary is very busy running the coaching on her own. She needs support and if anyone who is Level 2 trained can offer to help it would be greatly appreciated. Capt P Rosser and Capt S Eversfield volunteered to help during season 13-14.</p> <p>e. Please remember as well that funding for the Level 1 coaching course is covered for Army personnel. Level 2 and 3 is through the ASCB, but you have to be an Army Sports Lottery member.</p> <p>f. Assessment, Coaching, Umpires: The average age of Level 2 umpires is above 50 years and this age percentage was only brought down this time round due to Rachel Williams participating! The Chairman estimates that this can only continue for 2 more years before a decision has to be made, which is to either go civilian or have a mechanism that takes Level 1 to Level 2 and use military umpires. Allan Notman will a run a course to develop Level 2 umpires. We need to target someone to take on Level 2 umpire development. Afternote: <i>Corps Chairman are asked to identify suitable candidates to the Chairman in time for discussion at the September Executive Committee meeting.</i></p> <p>g. Capt P Rosser pointed out that at Sandhurst they run a course for students who then would go on to their unit as coaches and qualified umpires. There is success with growing numbers but they are at the low levels. The key is to develop the young umpire. Afternote: <i>The Secretary suggested that Capt P Rosser get the U23s trained as umpires during their tour.</i></p>	<p>Team Managers</p> <p>All</p> <p>Corps Chairman</p> <p>U23 Manager</p>
ITEM 5	<p><u>Management Plan</u></p> <p>5.1 The plan has been updated but there is nothing new to report. The Chairman asked if all were content with the 2012-2017 plan. All agreed.</p>	All Agreed
ITEM 6	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>6.1 Please find the full Financial Report in Annex B.</p> <p>6.2 The Secretary reported AHA Financial Matters as the Accountant was officiating in the Tournament. Main points were:</p> <p>a. The financial situation is healthy and continuing to grow. Major Paula Nicholas queried the £14,000 debtor's amount. The Secretary will look into it and notify in due course. Afternote <i>(This was due to overpaying Monkhouse for the seating shelter and has now been resolved.)</i></p>	Secretary

<p>ITEM 7</p>	<p>b. Garretts; The Secretary asked everyone to please be aware of the increase in charges when using Garretts on the weekend. Please try to use them during the week instead when the cost is significantly reduced or go elsewhere if possible.</p> <p><u>Mens Seniors Report</u></p> <p>7.1 Maj Mike Berski thanked everyone including ASCB, AMAHA and our sponsors for all their support and contribution to the Tour in Hong Kong and Malaysia.</p> <p>a. Would highly recommend in the future the company Winning Tours – Were extremely helpful and made the trip a lot easier, especially if anything went wrong.</p> <p>b. It was reported that the Malaysian Army looked after the team down to every detail and thanks was given to them as well. The aim for next season is to maintain a full training programme and focus on the Outdoor.</p> <p><i>Afternote: The ladies size medium face masks x 3 to be replaced asap by the Seniors Team.</i></p> <p>7.2 The Chairman thanked Maj Mike Berski for his report and wished it to be noted that reciprocity is essential concerning the Malaysian Army when they come to visit here in the future.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Seniors Team Manager</p> <p>All</p>
<p>ITEM 8</p>	<p><u>Ladies Report</u></p> <p>8.1 Please find the full Ladies Report in Annex C.</p> <p>8.2 Major Paula Nicholas reported for the Ladies. They have had a phenomenal season winning for their 12th year in Indoor and won this years' Outdoor Inter Services Titles and retaining their National League Division 2 Indoor status. The Ladies Manager reported the Navy Ladies are growing in strength.</p> <p>8.3 The Chairman thanked Maj Paula Nicholas for her report and hard work.</p>	
<p>ITEM 9</p>	<p><u>U23 Report</u></p> <p>9.1 Please find the full U23 Report in Annex D.</p> <p>9.2 Capt P Rosser reported increasing difficulty to obtain players and there needs to be a proper system to get information. There's also no concrete method of identifying potential players at training establishments. He suggested a sports afternoon in Phase 1 Units to draw out players.</p> <p><i>Afternote: After further discussion The Chairman identified that emerging policy was that sport should be available at the end of Phase 1 training, he will confirm with ARTD, with a copy to AHA. The Secretary has raised this issue with Sec ASCB who has written to D Trg.</i></p> <p>Otherwise, it was also reported that the U23s tour to Scotland was brilliant and plan to tour again this year. He requested an increase in funding to 2.5k.</p>	<p>Chairman</p>

<p>ITEM 10</p>	<p>The Chairman thanked Capt Pete Rosser for his report and welcomed the good news about the U23s tour in Scotland.</p> <p><u>Masters Report</u></p> <p>10.1 Capt S Eversfield reported a good season with success at the Inter Services Outdoor and Indoor. There was further discussion over the Masters Programme.</p> <p>10.2 The Chairman thanked Capt Steve Eversfield for his report and efforts.</p> <p>10.3 Capt Eversfield has recently emailed to say he will be standing down as the Masters manager and is looking for a replacement.</p>	<p>All Masters</p>
<p>ITEM 11</p>	<p><u>Inter-Corps Tournament</u></p> <p>11.1 There was debate over the Ladies and Masters format for the Inter Corps Outdoors. It was explained that to provide 52 games of Hockey over 3 days there was little scope to run round robin formats. The AGM timings were discussed and this will be reviewed to increase participation.</p> <p><i>Afternote: Lt Col Head offered to look into using the Officers Mess in Pirbright as a venue for the AGM on the Monday evening with meals included. If this included the AMAHA Chairman was very interested in looking into this option. The Secretary suggested that this would also be a good way to get sponsors involved.</i></p> <p>11.2 Major Paula Nicholas commented on the attendance of the AGM, stating that all representatives should attend.</p> <p>11.3 Tournament Format and AGM;</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. The decision was made to keep the format as it is and decide again next year.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Complaints over Masters Hockey; The Secretary suggested that if anyone can think of a better format then to bring it forward to him.</p>	<p>Chairman Infantry/Chairman</p>
<p>ITEM 12</p>	<p><u>Corp Led Hockey</u></p> <p>12.1 Lt Col Head said that developing Youth was a main issue. The Corp League does compete with the Infantry Cup which was used to find young players to then feed into the team. Focus is needed on this reduce the number of master qualified players.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. The Secretary suggested running an Umpire Course at the Infantry Cup, this could synchronise participation with coaching and playing. <i>Afternote: Meeting in September. Corps can then integrate games to create matrix for the 12-13 Season.</i></p>	
<p>ITEM 13</p>	<p><u>Fixtures 2012-2013</u></p> <p>13.1 Please see the Main AHA Fixtures 2012-2013 on the website for all dates, main events are:</p>	

<p>ITEM 14</p>	<p>a. 16-17 Oct 12 – Inter Corps Indoor in Aldershot</p> <p>b. 13-14 Nov 12 – Inter Services Indoor in HMS Collingwood</p> <p>c. 12-13 March 13 – Inter Services Outdoor in Portsmouth</p> <p>d. 22-24 April 13 – Army Cup in Aldershot</p> <p>e. 20-22 May 13 – Inter Corps Outdoor in Aldershot</p> <p>13.2 Please be aware that anyone on unit strength can play in the Army Cup.</p> <p><u>Unit Hockey</u></p> <p>14.1 The Chairman identified that once the structure is known the AHA will try to put to all their efforts into integration and efficient use of opportunities. Some units are very good at identifying players and getting hockey played, others less so. We need to target every Major and Minor unit.</p> <p>14.2 Capt P Rosser made the point that Sport needs to have more weight and focus at unit level when compared to Adventure Training.</p>	
<p>ITEM 15</p>	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>15.1 The Chairman said all must employ Succession Planning; when leaving an appointment a replacement should be found by the person leaving and the AHA Office informed of the change, this includes Corps and units. The AHA needs active officials (especially secretaries) that make our sport happen during the playing season.</p> <p>15.2 AHA Directory; Please check and contact Charlotte in the AHA office if any amendments are required on cmills@ascb.uk.com Afternote: <i>The Chairman's new Mil number is 94630 2434 for future use.</i></p> <p>15.3 The Secretary informed all that there is a projector screen in the pavilion which can be used in the future for workshops and meetings if needed. (It's above the window nearest the small conference room and is electric up and down using the switch to the left of the window.)</p> <p>15.4 All our best wishes go to Brian Mower who is recovering from a health set back just before the Inter Corps Tournament. Get well soon Brian.</p> <p>15.5 The Chairman also wanted to note that Les Hunter, Vice Chairman of AHA Tournament Officials, is standing down after the Inter Corps. The Chairman wished him all the best for the future and expressed his many thanks for all his hard work and contribution to Army Hockey. Chris Peach will be his replacement. Afternote: <i>Les was voted the 2011/12 Charlie Wood Memorial winner in recognition of his service to Army hockey and was presented the Silver at the end of the Inter-Corps tournament.</i></p> <p>15.6 The Barry Trophy will be taking place 10-12 October 12.</p> <p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.30 hours.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>