

Colchester Hockey Club AGM Minutes 2009-10

Tuesday 20th July 2010

Castle Park Pavilion Club House

Meeting opened 7:50 pm

Present: Naomi Allen, Ben Mynott, Shivaun Tijou, Heathe Fox-Lawson, Bryan Patterson, Alan Hills, Mike Pearce, Richard Sexton, Helen Barnes, Gordon How, Richard Walker, Rohan Khaira, Tim Wright, Ben Harrington, Jamie Seakens, Sarah Rose, Jacqui Crombie, Kate Bagley, Steven Nunn, Andy Bryant

1. Apologies for absence

Emma Sanford, the Elston family, Tony Rich, Rob Collett, Sue Cross, Tim Logan, Jo Livings, Terry Howlett, Mark Hollingsworth, John Cadman, Paul Hollingsworth, Cynthia Hollingsworth, Christine Andrews, Steve Thorpe, Stella Layzell, Paul Short, Duncan Scott, David Pearce, Matt Brown, Alfie Sexton, Julie Sexton, Karen Harris, Georgina Wright, Mark Kennedy, Wayne Masters

2. i. Minutes of the 2009 AGM

Notification had been given that the minutes were available to view on the club website.

ii. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Andy Bryant proposed the minutes be accepted, Mike Pearce seconded. Motion carried.

3. Reports (see attached)

i. Club chairman

The report was circulated by email prior to the AGM. The chairman gave a recap.

ii. Team captains

Written reports were received from Ladies' 1sts, Ladies' 2nds and Ladies' 3rds which were read out. A verbal report was given for Men's 1sts.

iii. Youth

No report was received but the Chairman asked for it to be minuted that the Chairman of the East League had said it was good to see Colchester 'back on the map' in terms of Junior Hockey. The U10 and U12 teams had been very successful in Essex and East competitions this season.

iv. any other reports

No other reports were received

4. Club accounts and Treasurer's report

The Treasurer presented the Income and Expenditure Statement 2009-10 and Balance Sheet as at 30th April 2010. Income is down this season, mainly due to a failure to collect all the match fees, particularly from some men's teams. Records were not always kept of those who played to enable those in arrears to be chased up.

There was concern from the floor about the lack of money being collected which meant the rest of the teams were subsidising the club. In order to rectify the situation, the Treasurer needs to give team captains match sheets to be completed for every game next season to show who is in arrears. A list of responsibilities for captains would be useful, too. How often the money should be turned over to the Treasurer is open to practicalities (ie once a fortnight or once a month). Captains need to delegate the collection of money to others in the team so they are not overburdened. All club members need to help the Treasurer with what is a very demanding job.

Profits from functions was down considerably owing to fewer functions that were not so well-supported. There is a general apathy amongst club members to come to functions and help raise money.

Sunday Juniors has seen a rise in income since the previous season. There was also a one-off VAT refund from the England Hockey Board. Thanks was given to Mersea Homes and Hills Group for their sponsorship.

In terms of expenditure, pitch hire is expensive and we need to be careful how often we hire it. Tournament entry fees doubled. Officials expenses were mainly due to rising pool umpire costs. A lot of the kit expenses were for Sunday Juniors' goal keepings and Quicksticks which are one-off costs. As Licensees, we no longer pay club house overheads and the monthly rent amount has been finalised.

We made an operating loss of almost £6,000 and if we carry on like this, we will be broke within two seasons. We need to increase our income (without having to raise subs or match fees) and look for cuts in expenditure – as the government is looking to do! It is the collective responsibility of the club.

Suggestions from the floor: Pitch hire for senior sessions (games, training) is £38 per hour (£76 a training session Wed and Thurs, £57 for a league match), while sessions for juniors is reduced to £26 per hour. Monday night training for men's 3rds, 4ths and 5ths was almost exclusively attended by U18s. We could seek to book the pitch as a 'junior session' (@£39 for 1.5 hrs this would save £18 a week or about £500 a season). Some of pre-season training which is fitness-related could be done on grass rather than booking the pitch for a full session. Perhaps pre-season sessions could charge £1 or £2. There are not many who turn up and it could help cover pitch hire. No pre-season training has been arranged so far and no bookings made.

Teas – if we have a caterer, the costs will go up. General consensus was teams were happy for the present arrangement of self-catering to continue to keep costs down. It was mentioned that teams are not obliged to stick to 'cheese, pate and French sticks' but could vary the menu!

Jacqui Crombie proposed the accounts be accepted, seconded by Helen Barnes. Motion carried.

5. Election of Officers

Club chairman	vacancy
Secretary	vacancy
Treasurer	Ben Harrington
Fixture Secretary	Gordon How (nominated Rohan Khaira, seconded Mike Pearce)
Umpire Secretary	Jamie Seakens (nominated Rohan Khaira, seconded Naomi Allen)
Welfare Officer	Kate Bagley
Social Secretaries	Minal Patel and Michelle Titcombe (nominated Heather Fox-Lawson, seconded Jacqui Crombie)

Junior Manager	Helen Wall
Chair of selectors (men)	Andy Bryant (nominated Rohan Khaira, seconded Mike Pearce)
Chair of selectors (ladies)	vacant – not seen as necessary owing to good communication between ladies' captains
Youth Representatives	Richard Sexton (nominated Mike Pearce, seconded Tim Wright)
Kit Manager	Georgina Wright
200 Club Secretaries	Sarah Rose and Jacqui Crombie
Website	Sarah Rose and Jacqui Crombie

Team captains:

Men's 1 st	Rohan Khaira
Men's 2 nd	Adrian Meadows
Men's 3 rd	vacancy
Men's 4 th	vacancy
Men's 5 th	disbanded
Men's Vets	vacancy

Ladies' 1 st	Naomi Allen
Ladies' 2 nd	Georgina Wright
Ladies' 3 rd	Heather Fox-Lawson
Ladies' Vets	Kate Bagley (nominated Sarah Rose, seconded Naomi Allen)
Sunday Mixed	vacancy

Other team captains will be decided at the start of the season when the teams' players are known. The outgoing chairman reminded those present the importance of filling all the roles so that the burden of running a club did not fall to a few. He urged people to talk to other members about filling in the vacancies, particularly for club Captain and Secretary.

6. Nomination for Life Membership (Bryan Patterson and Steve Thorpe)

Bryan Patterson and Steve Thorpe were nominated for Life Membership, both having supported the club for many years. Both accept their nominations

Proposed by Ben Harrington, seconded by Andy Bryant. Motion carried.

7. Any Other Business

i. A donation was received from Life Member Christine Andrews, who had also sent a donation prior to last year's AGM.

ii. The club email list is not always up-to-date and may not include everyone who plays for the club who has access to email. It was pointed out that an accurate list is dependant on all members returning a membership form (which must be signed to comply with EHB policy) and that captains haven't always directed new members who come mid-season to complete a form.

iii. The pitch markings for Sunday Juniors has still not been done. It was also noted that after heavy rain, the senior pitch markings are worn and need repainting. When it has been put to Sodexo, who maintain the facilities, they said they would charge us every time the lines needed repainting. It was suggested that repainting should be part of their obligation to us as main users of the facility and the high pitch charges we pay (and that they should use the correct type of paint for the job). Bryan Patterson is in communication with Sodexo but the new committee will need to decide quickly what the club's stance will be.

- iv. Car park facilities will be extended back from the current carpark next to the athletics track to hold fifty more places. However, no start date has been given. A message has also been received that wardens will be monitoring parking next season and will penalise those who park on verges or the road outside the pitch. As to parking inside the gates, only emergency vehicles are permitted to park there and disabled drivers. Only one vehicle per club is permitted to load/unload equipment inside the gates and then that vehicle must leave the grounds.
- v. A new clubhouse at the Garrison is being considered by the Borough Council. There is £700,000 in an account specifically for the building of it. This money must be spent within the next three years on the project otherwise it will be reallocated. The club needs to constantly push for progress to be made. Bryan Patterson is willing to do this in the interim until there is a new Club Captain.
- vi. The 200 Club needs to send out its standing orders. The forms are now ready. Sarah Rose and Jacqui Crombie will attend to this.
- vii. Clubs First Accreditation has not been achieved yet and needs to be a focus for next season. Much of the paperwork evidence that is needed should be available already from the structures put in place for running the Junior section.
- viii. The passing of Life Member John Thorogood was noted. John had a long association with the club and umpire until this season and did some coaching. Geoff Nolan, who played for the club and various Sunday mixed teams in the 1950s and 60s, also died recently.
- ix. The poor state of the goals was noted. There are no wheels on the back to help move them, which is not helpful to junior players. The back boards are in disrepair which had been noted earlier in the season by a Ladies' 1st pool umpire. Gordon How will address this issue with Sodexo.
- x. Training for ladies on Thursday nights needs to be reviewed. This should be combined with looking at all the club training and coaching. Wayne Masters will be away almost the entire season and will not be able to coach. Does EHB have a means where clubs can contact newly-qualified coaches? Some suggestions came from the floor about potential coaches from the University of Essex and elsewhere which should be followed up.
- xi. An address was given by President Alan Hills thanking the committee and a presentation was made to the outgoing Chairman and Secretary.

Meeting closed 9:15pm

Post meeting: Anna Foley has agreed to be the new club Secretary. Bryan Patterson has agreed to be co-opted Chairman until a successor is found.