

WWCHA General Meeting Minutes

Monday 26th April 2021



Date: Monday 26th April 2021

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Jubilee Park Club Rooms

Chaired by: Ken Larkin

Board Membership:

Ken Larkin (President), Amy Smart (Secretary), Brad Ristivojevic (Treasurer), John Marshall (Competitions), Pat O'Donnell (Development), Marcus Manning (Officiating), Craig Knowles (Representative), Phil Stone (Facilities), Vacant (Events).

Club Membership with Voting Privileges: Cavaliers, CSU, Harlequins, Lake Albert, Rosellas, Royals

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The Chairperson opened the meeting at 7:31pm and requested all attendees sign the attendance register located at the entrance if they have not already completed.

Present (A-Z):

Board Members: Craig Knowles (Representative), Ken Larkin (President), Marcus Manning (Officiating), John Marshall (Competitions), Pat O'Donnell (Development), Brad Ristivojevic (Treasurer), Amy Smart (Secretary), Phil Stone (Facilities)

Apologies:

Club representatives:

Refer to the [attendance register](#) attached as Annexure A for Club delegates and Club representatives in attendance.

Apologies:

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to begin by acknowledging the Wiradjuri people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[March 2021](#) (located on WWCHA website)

Accepted: Karen Boyd

Seconded: Aaron Crump

Actions arising from previous minutes

Actions arising from previous meeting minutes	Person Responsible	Timeframe	Progress
WWCHA Officials – Accreditation Report. Update from Clubs	Delegate from each club	1 month	Refer notes below
Zoom Video Conferencing – explore options and cost	Ken Larkin/Brad Ristivojevic/Amy Smart	2 months	In Progress

- Education Week recordings and other webinars are available on the Hockey NSW Website.
 - o <https://www.hockeynsw.com.au/info-hub/education-week-hub/>
- WWCHA Officials – What are clubs doing to encourage their players to become accredited umpires?:
 - o Clubs to provide another update in May
 - o Lake Albert: Asked all of Div 1, only 1 person has put their hand up.
 - o Royals: Allocated individual umpires – will see if this works.
 - o Cavaliers/LACU: Juniors are being mentored.
 - o CSU Hockey Ducks: 2 Accredited Umpires. Trying a buddy system.

- Harlequins: 2 Accredited Umpires. Trying a buddy system as well. Trying to get champions. No interest from Senior players.
- Rosellas: 3-4 Umpires that share the load. Hoping for training/lectures/presentations for Umpire Training Juniors.
- Discussion Points:
 - Rosie and Mel from LACU:
 - Under 16s umpiring – should not be umpired by trainee umpires every week. Could it alternate between them and U13s?
 - Practice experience is an issue and impacting the attitudes of Juniors. We need to stop the bad behaviours from moving into senior competition.
 - Need to encourage our juniors by supporting them on Friday nights
 - Karen and Helen from Royals
 - Previously used to run seminars and watch umpires – can this be done?
 - Umpire's forum now opened to all members
 - WWCHA will reach out to Zeke from Hockey NSW to see when he is available for Session 2.
 - Rosie (Cavs/LACU) will facilitate the first meeting on the 22nd May 2021 9am.
 - 1st Session: What can we do?
 - 2nd Session: What can Hockey NSW do?
 - Canteen Manager agreed to offer Breakfast options on 22nd May.

New Business

Div 2 Men's Competition

- Proposal to complete the full 14 rounds and then split the 8 teams into Lower and Upper Div 2. Fit 1 extra game in before then.
- No Scratch Matches

Vote:

For (4): Cavaliers, CSU Hockey Ducks, Rosellas, Royals.

Against (2): Harlequins, Lake Albert

Motion passed

Div 1 Women's Competition – Time Slots

- Raised that LACU have been allocation 11 time slots in the 5pm & 6.30pm games, while other clubs have significantly less.
- As the draw was available in advance of the first games, and the issue was not raised until after the second round, it is not possible to change the draw.

Duty Timeslots

- Umpires have been rotated/locked to assist with availability. Suggestion raised to do the same for Technical Officials.

- Too many clubs have already rostered their members, and there has not been complaints from most club members.
- Look into this option for next year.

Competition Update

- Suggestion raised by Rosie (LACU) regarding the first three weeks of the competition:
 - o Too many clubs are putting their Div 1 players in the lower divisions, gaining advantage and early competition points. This may be unintentional due to the shortage of team numbers, as the first two weeks have been held during school holidays and uni holidays.
 - o Suggestion: First three weeks are played with named players in their divisions like in normal competition. Clubs should know by now where their members will be placed. Do not start the competition during the holidays – will mean a shorter season. OR Start the competition like this year but the first few weeks do not have competition points to allow for review and finalisation of teams.
- Rosellas raised that they do not have enough Div 1 players to have a named 7. Requested for 5. Rosellas will send these names to John Marshall.
 - o Phil Stone suggested relegation rounds. After some discussion this was dismissed.
- The Div 1 competition is an association-wide issue. We have the numbers for 8 Div 2 teams, but some clubs can't field a Div 1 Team. We need to start developing our players.
 - o Pat O'Donnell is a Community Coach & Level 1 Coach who is available for Practice and Theory training.
 - o An expression of interest will be sent out to all members.

Change Rooms

- Request by players to utilise the change rooms – currently not open due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Restrictions need to be reviewed, and if appropriate, complete COVID-19 plan.

Revolutionise Training, Fees and Active Kids

Update from the clubs re: fees and active kids registration.

Club	Fees	Active Kids
Royals	Completed	In progress – July Timeline
Rosellas	Completed	In progress – Sent to Hockey NSW
Harlequins	To follow up	Registered
CSU	Completed	Not required
Cavaliers	Completed	Registered
Lake Albert	Not required	Registered

Women's Masters – Update

- COVID-19 Plan completed and sent for approval
- Over 34s to be contacted (Wagga, Griffith, Tumut) – Amy Smart to send list to Sharon Smith
- Liquor Licence application needs to be submitted
- Volunteers with an RSA need to be found

- Discussion about Taree Hockey Field(s) condition since the Floods – all approved by council.
- Nominations, Managers, Coaches need to be sent to Craig Knowles
- ~50 Teams
- Ken Larkin to meet with council about the goals
- Masters Team to organise meeting with Canteen Manager, Amy Smart

Canteen Operation

Update from Canteen Manager, Amy Smart.

- Canteen Report ([Annexure C](#))
- Positive feedback received about the start-up of the canteen on both Friday nights (Juniors) and Saturdays (Seniors)
- Request for Volunteers on Friday nights – Suggestion by Clubs to ask for assistance from Junior Parents. Nominate the different teams.

2021 HNSW Presidents Forums, HNSW Inclusion and Diversity

- Royal Commission into Sexual Abuse, Sporting Clubs are a very high source of trauma.
- Multicultural Come and Try Day on 4th May to be held at CSU.
- HNSW – Inclusion Forum – Diversity and Disabilities.
 - o Rosellas were highlighted as Best Practice.
 - o We need to manage the transition well; it can be very detrimental to the association if we do not manage it well.
 - o Ken Larkin to include the presentation in the May meeting
- [More information](#)

Facilities Report

- Defibrillator has been installed in the container at the Paul Fields. Request that this is not moved unless needing to use it. E-Learning will be provided on how to use.
- Noonan Field Scoreboard is still not working, waiting for part to arrive. We thank the clubs for their patience.
 - o Reminder that Technical Officials will need to track the time, and have a whistle to call time instead of causing delay by notifying the umpire.
 - o \$10,000 grant to replace the scoreboards from Dr Joe McGirr successful. Currently seeking quotes.
- Request to Clubs to remind Team Managers to do a sweep of the dugout before leaving to reduce lost property, and crossovers between club members.
- Polytan completing 6 month check
 - o Water guns have been changed again. Looking at locking the panel to prevent further changes.

Secretary Report

Fact Sheets – all Clubs have completed their Fact Sheets. Their club information has been updated on the Clubs page on the WWCHA website.

Development Report

- ~180 juniors have registered this year.
- 60 of those are Little Flickers (2-6)

- Pat gave thanks to Brad and Kellen, and anyone else who has helped get the program up and running.
- A sub-committee has been put together to support Pat for this season.
- Pat requested that clubs provide more members to assist with Juniors

Treasurer Report

- Progressing well.
- Setting up Business Portal
- If any further details required – please reach out.

Competitions Update

- Reminder to all clubs to follow the COVID-19 protocols
- Board Member on duty to open the back gates – teams and spectators are to go through the back gates after games.
- Junior competition will need to only through the front gate due to the darkness/danger on the Friday night.

Representative Report

- Under 15 boys' team in progress, currently have ~10 members
- Under 18s boys' team and Under 18s girls' team ready to go
- Request for Masters Nominations, manager and contact details.

Officiating Report

- Waiting for Umpiring Forum to be held
- Looking into paying Junior Umpires to keep up with other sports
- Discussion around Juniors acting as Technical Officials and Umpires:
 - o Training to be done – Sharon Smith to hold information session. Expression of Interest to be sent out
 - o Determined that Juniors up to the age of 16 may Umpire and Officiate if they have a Parent/Guardian present.

Other Business

- Karen from Royals raised that someone had taken their goal keeper kit from the container and had not returned it. Will be locking the container from now on.
- Royals will be holding their BBQ Club Day this Friday/Saturday.

Meeting closed: 9:29pm

Next Meeting: Monday, 24th May 2021, 7:30pm

Annexure A: [Attendance Register](#)

Annexure B: [WWCHA Officiating Accreditations List](#)

Annexure C: [Canteen Report](#)

Ken Larkin (President / Chairperson)

Amy Smart (Secretary / Minute Taker)