

Ashford Hockey Club (Kent)

Committee + invited members

Ben Dawson (BD)
Paul Dawson (PD)
Matt Goodwin (MG)
Geoff Playford (GP)
Jeremy Paterson (JP)
Flo Playford (FP)
Sophie Hunt (SH)
Lewis Elgar (LE)
James Chamberlain (JC)
Andrew Shepherd (AS)

Type of Meeting: Monthly Committee Meeting



Tony Spain - Apologies
Hayley Reynolds - Apologies

Meeting Minutes

Paul Dawson introduced the Committee to Charlie Farrow (CF) from England Hockey, the newly appointed contact for Kent (and the rest of SE England).

CF said that he wanted to know more about AHC, our goals, our current status, how could he help. PD gave a brief status quo. CF suggested we speak to Blue Herts HC who have been through similar development concerns re Sport England's objection and may be able to offer us advice / support.

CF also informed the Committee about www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com – possible funding access? CF suggested AHC review our ClubMark status – important to aid organisation, structure, quality of coaching, safeguarding etc – all needed if applying for grants.

LE asked CF about steps for coaches. CF suggested we form a sub-committee to look at an Introduction to Coaching course (possibly to run one here at Ashford).

CF informed the Committee that the “Your Hockey” programme to promote the Womens’ World Cup (happening this summer) was in full swing. 50 kids plus 5 adults costs only £100 in lower category matches.

PD thanked CF for his time.

Agenda Item 1: Apologies

Discussion

Apologies were received from those listed above who were invited to the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Previous Meeting Minutes

Discussion

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th January were fully agreed and signed off accordingly.

Agenda Item 3: Fundraising Committee

Discussion

FP updated that the quiz raised £860, the Injury Clinic £300, £150 from the darts tournament so far, RIFT have donated £300, the Golden Ticket has sold about 400 of the 800 – all together have raised around £4,000. Massive thanks to Flo and the team!

HR said she had spoken with Mary Daly and AHC is now registered on the Tesco “Bags of Hope” scheme. HR has also been in touch with Tarmac re the carpark – watch this space. HR has also been looking at larger grants through engagement projects

Agenda Item 4: Site & Astro turf maintenance

Discussion

SITE UPDATE - Grass pitches / Carpark / Grounds / Astro turf

TS on the case re the Perspex roof on one of the dugouts.

PD updated that we will look at a fix for the carpark potholes – same method as last year.

Agenda Item 5: Monthly site hire review

Discussion

- 5th May - Club Supper at Kennington Carvery. £25 / head.

Agenda Item 6: Development Committee

Discussion

PD updated that there is a meeting at KJFC on 20th February at which a financial proposal between KJFC and AHC will be discussed. AHC are hopeful of full support.

Agenda Item 7: Treasurer’s Report

Discussion

AS updated that Soccer 6s (who owe approximately £4k) have been told they need to pay in full by end of the month or will be given one month’s notice. Soccer 6s have said they will pay. AS also updated that KJFC still owe £3k for the carpark extension – he is monitoring. Even if Soccer 6’s do not pay, once all settled still ~£10k in account.

Following a meeting between JP, FP and HR, JP introduced the Committee to www.teamo.chat, an app for managing sporting clubs’ subscriptions and team selection. Whilst using this app would cost a small percentage of the transactions, rough calculations show that it would only cost the subs of 6 senior members – something that JP, HR and FP felt would be recouped, as well as making monitoring far easier. JP proposed that all Committee members have a look at the site and then we vote at the next Committee meeting. The Committee agreed to support in this manner.

Agenda Item 8: Operating & Marketing Strategies

Discussion

HR updated that she has created a Google Drive to store AHC documents on which is double encrypted – safe for personnel details etc. HR suggests that we put Minutes, agendas logos on – HR will give access to the Committee members.

Agenda Item 9: Juniors

Discussion

LE informed the Committee that he is stepping down as Junior Section Coordinator at the end of the season – he wants to focus on his personal hockey development. He has already started succession planning and is confident that all positions will be filled using the existing coaches – just taking on more responsibilities. JP asked LE to draw up a list of roles / responsibilities that he needs filled once he leaves so the Committee can ensure all are filled.

PD / JC offered Lewis a massive thanks for his efforts – he is the beating heart of the Junior Section and will be sorely missed

Agenda Item 10: AOB

Discussion

1. H&S
 - a. FP commented that stones are coming on to the pitch from the new section of carpark. John Browning has been asked to source railway sleepers to keep in place.
2. HR suggested that all end of season awards need to be agreed ASAP.

3. BD informed that Ian Thomas had sent comments through regarding umpire fulfilment – the Committee would review with thanks. BD also commented that more Ladies' umpires are needed. LE commented that something needs to change within the Ladies' structure – can the home team supply 2 umpires? Kent are one of a minority of areas that still insist on the away team on supplying an umpire. JP suggested that LE asks Charlie Farrow for his support. LE to contact CF to ask for EH's support against KHUA.
4. JP raised the nomination process for Club Officials for the 2018/2019 season. JP to put up posters to attract nominations, as well as send email to all Members.
5. JP requested we confirm a date for the 2018 AGM – confirmed as Friday 15th June.
6. BD commented that Zoti kit suppliers needs reviewing- he will speak to Diccon.
7. BD informed that Keir Starley would like to return to AHC, playing outfield. The Committee agreed he is fully welcome – as long as he pays his weekly match fee!
8. FP commented that on Saturday mornings the football goals are often still in the middle of the astroturf. AS to speak to KJFC to reinforce that things must be put back where they came from.
9. AS asked if AHC had a grievance procedure – JP updated that no, but our Code of Behaviour says that we will follow policy from England Hockey. AS to investigate.
10. LE informed that the U14/U16 section of the Club are looking at a tour to Holland. Early days, but optimistic.
11. LE also said he had been asked about walking hockey at the Club. He will speak to Ian Thomas about possibly running a session.
12. BD will speak to Kate Tilby about coordinating social media output.

Next meeting will be Monday 12th March 2018.