

Underwater Hockey Australia
Annual General Meeting
2007
MINUTES

Date: 10am-6pm Sunday 9th September 2007

Location: Sydney.

Present: Helen Canavan (Exec Dir, QLD), Simon Talbot (Chief Ref, TAS), Kirsteen Reid (VIC), Lena Plambeck (NSW), Jane Gilligan (ACT), Joe Tindal (SA), Mike Gillespie (WA), Graham Henderson (AUF), Craig Anthony (host).

Apologies: Colin Hepher (Fin Dir)

Start 10am (breaks to be taken as the meeting decides)

Item	Discussion	Action
1	Welcome, sign in of delegates and committee members/Apologies	
2	2006 Minutes Issues No issues Outcomes Accepted	
3	Executive Directors report Issues Current ED (Helen Canavan) is new to the role so not much to report. One concern at this stage is that it isn't clear exactly what the role entails. Mike asked why the name of the role was Executive Director. Committee agreed the role was about making things get done, delegating work to other Committee members, first point of contact for international parties (Graham Henderson has already changed the AUF details that Helen is the main point of contact). No postal address for Underwater Hockey Australia. If anything comes through to the AUF Address Graham will pass it on. Holds a Board position at AUF. Communication is sometimes unclear. Outcomes All Committee members to reply to Helen to confirm that they have received email correspondence.	All states
4	UWHA Financial Controller report No report received. This role needs to be filled. All states to canvass members.	All states
5	UWHA Chief Referee annual report Issues Simon raised concerns that there is not much emphasis on Australian clubs / States encouraging reffing at the local level. There are ways to manage playing and reffing (for example, subs have responsibility for reffing). Lena asked whether each State has nominated Chief Refs. Simon does not believe	

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	<p>that each State has nominated reps. Communication is a bit difficult.</p> <p>Discussion of having a refs course in conjunction with the Vic Tournament. To list refs as a Referee States / individuals need to pay a \$50 fee.</p> <p>Current referee list is simply the list nominated by State Reps as <i>active</i> referees. The aim is to encourage people to keep on reffing. Ways to encourage reffing includes putting in place rules at the local level to protect refs, or to make it compulsory for any player attending Nationals to have completed a L1 Refing course as a minimum.</p> <p>New rules have been released on the AUF website. Volume 2 will be released shortly. This is an update from the last Worlds.</p> <p>Simon is looking at the option of bringing Rob Feist over from NZ as Chief Referee. Victoria would need to build the cost of accommodation and flights into the tournament fees. The advantage of this would be that NZ will bring an additional two Refs at their own cost for development purposes. This has been a reciprocal arrangement with NZ and Australia.</p> <p>Bylaws say that if you have three teams at Nationals you must bring a non-playing ref or pay for it. It hasn't been enforced much but Simon thinks that it should be given priority this year. A playing referee who is willing to ref a full timetable and play games is fine as well. It will be around 4 to 5 games in the tournament. There may be some scope to help out with the cost of their accommodation.</p> <p>Some discussion about the value of having a 'best referee' award. There was support for this though people recognized it could be difficult to nominate a best Ref. Feedback sheets from captains are good, but the Chief Ref should probably do the final nomination.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Simon will email details of the account for the reffing. Simon will also circulate a list of all individuals who have been qualified as Level 1 refs.</p> <p>State reps asked to encourage individuals to keep reffing and participate in a L1 course if they have never done one before. States also need to make sure there are some rules put in place to protect people who are reffing.</p> <p>Simon will let Kirsteen know in the next week whether Rob is interested in coming over to attend the Nationals as Chief Ref.</p> <p>State Reps supported the idea of a Best Ref award for the tournament to encourage and support the refs, to be nominated by the Chief Ref.</p>	<p>Kirsteen</p> <p>Simon</p> <p>All states</p> <p>Simon</p> <p>Simon</p>
6	<p>State Reports – Qld, WA, NSW, Vic</p> <p>See attached state reports. General discussion.</p> <p>Victoria holding a tournament on 13 October.</p>	
7	<p>2007 UHA Nationals – WA report</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Some discussion about lessons learnt.</p> <p>Fees – there was a lot of positive feedback from States that keeping fees low was a good idea. WA felt that low fees (a neutral outcome for the organizing state) should be an ongoing priority for Nationals. The Committee members agreed that Nationals should not be a profit making opportunity.</p> <p>Lena suggested that 4 games day was too much – there was general agreement that 3 games a day should be the limit. (refer to By-Laws amendments)</p> <p>A 3-4 day tournament is a good idea, rather than the two days.</p> <p>There was agreement that videos are only useful if they are good quality.</p>	

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	<p>Providing space for inwater viewing is important. An emphasis on social events and games is a good way to set the scene for the Nationals</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>No actions.</p>	
8	<p>2008 UHA Nationals – Vic report</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>16th is the day you arrive. Captains meeting on this day.</p> <p>2m depth. Some discussion about using the 3m depth but this may difficult to book. Simon raised the issue that 3m make for better games that encourage skill and fitness.</p> <p>Some discussion on how to agree Juniors and masters Juniors must be U19 on 1 January of the year in which the tournament is held.</p> <p>Pool has guaranteed that any tiles that lift will be fixed within 6 hours.</p> <p>Dutch and Singapore may send Barbarian's teams.</p> <p>Currently experimenting with pucks. Trying to figure out what works best with the tiles. A sample has been ordered and Vic will let us know in advance so we can practice with these pucks.</p> <p>The two courts will share a wall. Viewing areas will be available on the outside of the courts, but in the middle we will just have to work within the limitations of the shared wall.</p> <p>States need to notify Vic of teams attending by end of September. Teams need to pay by the end of October to cover pool bookings.</p> <p>Vic are still working through issues of training times and Australian training camp time at the pool.</p> <p>This is the same week as the Australian open. States will need to pay a deposit for accommodation asap.</p> <p>Preso night will be at Luna Park on the Sunday night. 4 rides will be available for an hour at the start of the night Drinks available for 4 hours. Band or DJ. Priority has been to get catering that is filling. People who are drinking will need to have identification bands or stamps and ID.</p> <p>An issue was raised about whether it was a good idea to include alcohol in the price. Some people may not want to pay for alcohol. If this is raised an issue, it should be managed by the States.</p> <p>Question:</p> <p>Is there any concern with Vic entering development teams for women and juniors so long as they can be fitted into the draw easily? Agreed that they should be able to play.</p> <p>Should teams that have international players be allowed to play in the finals? If a State is going to pick up international players we need to state who they are and what their credentials are. If teams field two extra players, they can include international players if other teams agree to the compositions, and will be treated as legal for this tournament.</p> <p>If we have 3+ illegitimate teams they could play a final.</p> <p>Lena raised the issue that it's important to encourage teams that are both weak and strong.</p> <p>There should be no fee adjustment. All teams pay the same amount.</p> <p>In the case of an illegitimate team and how far in the comp they are allowed to</p>	

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	<p>play, we agreed:</p> <p>=> it must be decided on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>=> if all states agree, they can play through to finals.</p> <p>=> if all states don't agree, then we may agree on that team just playing round robin or not allowed to play at all.</p> <p>=> we agreed that if a team is only allowed to play the round robin, they will still play for points (to make their games 'valid').</p> <p>The winner of the National title is the first ranked legitimate team.</p> <p>Round robin points are awarded as per CMAS rules to avoid a situation where development teams get flogged.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Kirsteen to send Graham a copy of the Nationals Information Kit to go on the Australian UWH website.</p> <p>Kirsteen to look at the option of 3m for the tournament.</p> <p>Kirsteen will notify States of the puck that will be used in advance.</p> <p>States need to notify Vic of teams attending by end of September. Teams need to pay by the end of October to cover pool bookings.</p> <p>States will need to organize accommodation early.</p> <p>ACT and any other teams looking to use international players to circulate a team list to all States to seek their vote on whether the team is legitimate or not.</p>	<p>Kirsteen</p> <p>Kirsteen</p> <p>Kirsteen</p> <p>All states</p> <p>All states</p>
9	<p>Australian Team managers report</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>No issues</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Lena will circulate a draft team manager manual.</p>	<p>Lena</p>
10	<p>Report from Australian coaches re - southern hemispheres</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Arnie asked to have a squad of 16 with a final team picked in February. Tommy also raised some issues. This will be managed under the bylaw discussion.</p> <p>Arnie would like other coaches to be selectors. Committee felt that there is no issue with this.</p> <p>Arnie asked if Jacko (SA) is able to play for Australian team. This will be managed under the bylaw discussion.</p> <p>There may be the option of a training camp being organized in Argentina, around 4 days before Worlds.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Graham will post details of the Argentina training camp on the website.</p>	<p>Graham</p>
11	<p>Position descriptions for underwater Australia committee.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>No issues</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>See 13.</p>	
12	<p>Verify changes to UWA By-Laws 2007 made 2006</p>	

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	<p>Issues</p> <p>No issues</p>	
13	<p>Positions vacant: Financial Controller, Director of Coaching, Records Officer (?), Games Commissioner, Women's Development Officer, Junior Development Officer, Marketing/Promotions Officer.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Roles are difficult to fill if people feel there is too much work to be done, not clear what would be required / how much time is expected. As a result there is</p> <p>Votes:</p> <p>Chief Referee – Simon Talbot the only nomination. Agreed.</p> <p>Executive Director – Helen is elected for the next two years.</p> <p>Financial Controller/Treasurer – nominations needed</p> <p>Marketing / Promotions Officer and Junior Development Officer – Alex Doughty the only nomination. Accepted.</p> <p>Records Officer – Joe nominated and accepted.</p> <p>Women's Development Officer – Kirsteen nominated and accepted.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Alex's nomination is accepted.</p> <p>Schools plan to be circulated by Simon Talbot to the State Reps</p> <p>Alex to develop her job description</p> <p>Kirsteen to write women's development</p> <p>Colin Hepher to write Treasurer</p> <p>Craig McKenzie to be asked to write Games Commissioner description</p> <p>David Lambert to be asked to do a description of Director of Coaching</p> <p>Webmaster – Helen to ask rep in AUFQ to write a description</p> <p>All States to be asked to look at whether there is anyone interested in the Treasurer positions.</p> <p>Agreed that the position of Executive Director would be called President and that the Financial Controller position would be called Treasurer.</p>	<p>Simon</p> <p>Alex</p> <p>Colin</p> <p>Craig MacKenzie</p> <p>David Lambert</p> <p>Helen</p> <p>All states</p>
14	<p>Nominations for Masters Coaches - open and women.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Women's and men's masters coaches are needed. There will be no team traveling if a coach is not appointed. Simon indicated that Kyle Betts (ACT) is interested in nominating for the coaching position.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>All State delegates to find out who is interested in playing or coaching masters teams and ask them to provide a nomination.</p>	<p>All states</p>
15	<p>UWHA/AUF tournament guidelines</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>No issues</p> <p>Outcomes</p>	
16	<p>Australian selection eligibility & Selection Processes for Australian Teams</p>	

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	<p>Issues</p> <p>Kirsteen raised the issue that if a squad is selected, and then a team is selected, any players that drop out of that team should be replaced from within the original squad. Committee felt that this was fair.</p> <p>Lena has put forward a proposal make the process for selecting international teams clear. This was supported by the Committee. Once selection process is approved, it cannot change after 90 days prior to the Nationals.</p> <p>Tommy has put forward a proposal to allow the Captain and Vice Captain to assist in picking the final makeup of the squad if selectors are not available at the training camp. This was agreed by the Committee.</p> <p>Arnie has put forward a proposal to select a squad of 16 and name the team at a training camp in February rather than at Nationals. The Committee felt that this would be acceptable so long as the selectors can be agreed by the Committee. Arnie will need to organize the selectors.</p> <p>Who is eligible to play for an Australian national team? Must be in line with the CMAS rules agreed at Sheffield. The Committee agreed that Simon could put forward a proposal to ask for an exception in this instance where it is clear that the player (Jaco) has a commitment to a new country.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Lena's proposal is supported. Simon will incorporate into the bylaws and circulate.</p> <p>Tommy's proposal accepted.</p> <p>Arnie's needs to put forward selectors for agreement at Nationals. Arnie needs to put forward a proposal to the Committee on how selectors will be selected and where it is most likely to be held (i.e. cheapest place possible).</p> <p>The Committee agreed that Simon (as Chief Referee) could put forward a proposal to ask for an exception in this instance where it is clear that the player (Jacko) has a commitment to a new country. Simon will also put forward a rules proposal to the international body to shorten the residency period.</p>	<p>Simon</p> <p>Arnie Piccoli</p> <p>Simon</p>
17	<p>If we are not to be affiliated any longer with CMAS why do we need the AUF? What do we get from our membership?</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>How will AUF, Aquachallenge and CMAS work together? We don't know yet.</p> <p>WA – would like the new body to be further defined. Draft statutes to be circulated to all world bodies.</p> <p>How do the voting lines work? Graham explained that UWH Australia reports directly to Aquachallenge, as the underwater hockey body of the AUF.</p> <p>Aquachallenge membership will not require countries to pay fees.</p> <p>Underwater Hockey is not discussed at CMAS AGMs. It is only discussed at worlds. Underwater hockey countries agreed that it would be a good idea to break away to form a new world body if Bari proposal went forward.</p> <p>The framework of how the new world body will be set up will be circulated in January so that some agreements can be made at Durbin. All states need to be prepared to invest some time reviewing this document so that this can be discussed at the UHA meeting at the Nationals. The name Aquachallenge was designed to prevent CMAS from penalizing other sports (like spear fishing) who want to participate in CMAS events. At the next worlds we will have a representative that will vote on proposed model, including office holders and proposed name.</p> <p>AUF currently pays \$2.5k to be a member of the AUF which is based on a \$1500</p>	

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	<p>Outcomes</p> <p>State reps to let players know that mouthguards are compulsory.</p>	All states
21	<p>Purchasing timing system from Rob Feist in New Zealand.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>2 years ago we agreed to buy one. They cost \$1000, but it hasn't been purchased yet. NSW has bought a timing system with assistance from UWH Australia. Graham raised an issue about some aspects not being intuitive. It may be possible to ask Rob to fix this.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Yes, please go ahead.</p>	Graham / Simon
22	<p>Referees - states need chief refs to compile a list of qualified refs.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Many of the names of players who are qualified L1 refs on the database are no longer active. Simon has deleted all names of those that haven't been reported as have done any reffing in the previous 12 months. Only active L1 refs are eligible to ref at Nationals (see also 5). It is each states responsibility to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o That L1 qualified refs remain active through local reffing o That new L1 refs are trained o To inform the Chief Ref of updates to the new and active L1 ref list. <p>Outcomes</p> <p>State Chief refs to provide regular update information to UHA Chief Ref.</p>	All states
23	<p>SHC – Charter</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>This was sent out previously by Simon. Simon will pass on to Graham and put on the website.</p> <p>Outcomes</p>	Simon
24	<p>Cost sharing for state reps attending AGM UWHA?</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>It was agreed that cost sharing was a good idea in principle. Craig's proposal was agreed, with cheapest fares to be agreed within reason. Funds would be in the order of \$220 per state if it was held in NSW. The aim is to have the meeting in the most low cost location. The treasurer would agree the reasonable fares in advance. States who don't wish to attend do not participate in cost sharing.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>The location and a date will be agreed at Nationals.</p>	
25	<p>Brief outline of Nationals 2009 to be held in Qld</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Most likely Chandler pool. Accommodation near by.</p> <p>Outcomes</p>	
26	<p>What is present thinking with regard to under 19s to Worlds 2008? Should have had comments back from states by the end of June. Nothing has been done about this.</p> <p>Issues</p>	

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	<p>There is an argument that Juniors shouldn't be sent to worlds because the cost ends up discouraging players in the long run. Juniors are currently under 19s. Internationally there is support for sending Juniors to the Worlds. Snow would like to take a worlds team but only if he can get high calibre players. It may be difficult to establish a reasonable standard. The Committee did not think that any state would oppose Snow taking a Juniors team if he had one. The Committee is happy for Snow to take a lead on this given there is no feedback from States.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>The Committee is happy for Snow to take a lead on this given there is no feedback from States.</p>	Snow Canavan
27	<p>Implementation of VOIP technologies to improve communications.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Technologies do exist that can make conference calls cheap.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>To be considered.</p>	
28	<p>Proposed By-Laws amendments by NSW</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Lena's proposed amendments to the bylaws were agreed with some minor amendments.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Chief Ref will circulate updated rules.</p>	Simon
29	<p>Victoria wishes to enter two women's teams and two junior teams in 2008 Nationals.</p> <p>(See 8 above)</p>	
30	<p>Implementation of storage system for work done by committee members.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>A subscription list is considered a good idea and is already in place.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>All documents can be held on the AUF website. Send records through to Graham. Graham to send a list of functionality and information to State reps.</p>	Graham
31	<p>Investigation into possibility of implementing NZUA financial structure in Australia</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Simon will look into this and report back to the Committee</p>	Simon
32	<p>Referees for Worlds</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>There is a proposal for high ranking referees to be taken to worlds and have expenses paid by tournament fees (including Simon). Australian players are probably not going to be paying much more than they are already paying if we take a second ref. Simon proposes that Australia agree to take a second ref, but Simon believes this should be funded by UWH Australia rather than the players. This is a good development opportunity and will make sure we have referees other than Simon experienced at the international level. Referees would need to be a</p>	

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	<p>level 3 ref. Agreed that this is a good idea.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Simon will send out an email about the option of a second ref being chosen from Refs at Nationals.</p> <p>Simon to look at the options for applying for grants and other funding options to support this. Funding would need to come from UHA.</p> <p>All states to communicate this to their members so that any budding international refs make sure they are appropriately qualified.</p>	<p>Simon</p> <p>Simon</p> <p>All states</p>
33	<p>Naming of awards at Nationals: Way to acknowledge previous players' contributions to the sport.</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Idea that it is nice to recognize former players who have put some effort into hockey in the past.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>States to send in 3 nominations each.</p>	<p>All states</p>
34	<p>'Team Travel Fund' project. Quick explanation of what this is, anyone?</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Helen will ask Ray Horn if he has any background on this.</p>	<p>Helen</p>
35	<p>Report on progress of '30 Years of Australian UWHockey'</p> <p>Issues</p> <p>Concern that Alex may have too much on her plate. The committee wishes Alex to place the completion of this as first priority. Joe Tindal suggested that he may also have some historical information that may be useful.</p> <p>Outcomes</p> <p>Alex to prioritise the completion of the book.</p> <p>Joe to contact Alex and provide her with historical information</p>	<p>Alex</p> <p>Joe</p>
36	<p>Late items, notices, report and nominations</p> <p>There is still outstanding money owing from the 2005 Southern Hemispheres, which may be in the order of \$5,000. Colin has a list and Helen will ask him to circulate it to all State Reps. Any player with outstanding money will not be allowed to play at tournaments until they have paid. This issue needs to be supported at the State level, rather than simply being an Australian Team problem.</p>	<p>Helen / Colin</p>
	<p>Minutes prepared by Jane Gilligan.</p>	

ATTACHMENTS

1. Chief Referee Report
2. State Report - ACT
3. State Report - NSW
4. State Report - QLD
5. State Report - VIC
6. State Report - WA
7. Discussion accompanying agenda items
8. By-Laws amendment proposal by NSW
9. Snow comments U19s at worlds
10. Report by Aus team manager 2007 – Michele Kwok

11. Report by Aus mens team coach – Arnie Piccoli
12. Report by Aus mens masters team coach – Craig Mackenzie
13. Report by Aus womens team coach – Tom Solopatias