



Welsh Hockey Union
north wales men

Undeb Hoci Cymru
dynion gogledd cymru

Notes of the Executive Meeting held on 8th December 2008 at St Asaph

Present

Jon Upton, Adrian Bennett, Andy Ible, Lee Ible, Martyn Evans, Ian Wright, Andrew Gannon, Robin Bayliss, Mark Davies and Dean Nolan

Apologies

Steve Edwards, Matthew James, Mary Bainbridge, Matt Pritchard and Anneka O'Connor, Mark Roberts

1. Notes of the Meeting held on 10 Nov 2008

Confirmed

2. Matters Arising

It was agreed to discuss the League rules at the January meeting (item 5 refers). It was noted that the current Constitution of the Region needed few amendments but these would be submitted for discussion at a future meeting before the AGM.

3. Financial Report

The Chairman reported that the Region had £456.64 in its current account and £3009.28 in its savings account. This did not include any fee income for the current season.

4. Age Group

It was reported that the Region had fulfilled the matches against its counterparts in the South at Swansea. The results were as follows:

U14s v South U'14s	0-10
U18s v South U'18s	3-7
U16s v South U'16s	3-3

Overall, the Region's objectives had been achieved in fulfilling the fixtures and re-establishing age group hockey following the hiatus last season. Clearly, this needed to be built upon in the future so that suitable competitive opportunities for the Region's young players were available to help them develop as players and assist the WHU in identifying talent for national squads. It was pleasing to note that further games were planned in the New Year against English county teams.

5. North Wales League

The League Secretary submitted a list of games that had not yet been played. The cancellations had been due to a variety of factors, including inclement weather and fulfillment of age group fixtures. However, it was agreed that the Christmas period could be used to play outstanding games as could the end of the English league season in March. **(Action: AB to inform clubs)**

6. Junior Tournament

It was reported that no club had yet sent the fee of £160 to the Region for participation in this year's tournaments. On reflection, the Committee felt uncomfortable in the current economic climate in continuing to charge the fee and it was agreed to halve this to £80 which was felt to be a more suitable level. A letter would be sent to clubs in the New Year outlining the change alongside other appropriate information for the remainder of the season. **(Action: JU to write letter to clubs)**

7. Cup Competition

The draws for the Glyndwr University North Wales Men's Cups were made:

League Cup

Preliminary round

A Llandudno vs Bangor City

B Wrexham vs Bangor University

Round 1

Winners of fixture A vs Winners of fixture B

Dysynni vs Northop Hall

Oswestry vs Rhyl

Colwyn Bay vs Denbigh

Shield

Preliminary round

Colwyn Bay vs Northop Hall

Round 1

Bangor City v Newtown

Wrexham v Denbigh

Bangor University v Rhyl

Llandudno vs winner of preliminary round

Premier Cup

Preliminary Round

Colwyn Bay v Rhyl

Semi finals

Northop Hall vs Bangor University

Wrexham vs winner of the Preliminary Round

It was also agreed that players in first teams participating in the Premier Competition would not be eligible to play in the North Wales League cup.

(Action: AB to update Fixtures Live, JU to update website and inform clubs by letter)

8. Euro Nations: Promotional Ideas

The impending Euro Nations trophy in August at Glyndwr University was an ideal opportunity for the Region to market the game within the area as the event would attract significant media interest. It was vital, therefore, that the Region attempted to use this coverage positively to develop the game within North Wales. The Committee had a wide ranging discussion on how it might seek to do this. The following ideas were generated:

- Mini-tournaments between games on a blow-up pitch
- Junior/Adult tournaments before or after the event
- Free coaching days
- Penalty shoot-outs with teams in country colours
- Skills competitions
- Banners printed, Memory Stick, freebies, stickers. A bag for every spectator

Further discussion would take place in January following discussion with both the WHU and GU and a small group established to co-ordinate the activity.

9. Other Business

9.1 Umpires

It was noted that a range of courses would be available in the New Year. Clubs were urged to contact Ian Wright for further information. It was agreed to discuss pitchside code of conduct at the next meeting as this was important for developing and retaining umpires.

9.2 Disciplinary Incident

The Committee noted that an incident had occurred in a friendly game between Llandudno and Bangor City where a player was deliberately hit with a hockey stick. It was agreed that as the police were involved that any further action outside the statutory 60 day ban as per WHU rules for a sending off with violence would be inappropriate until such action had been concluded.