



GUILDFORD HOCKEY CLUB

AFFILIATED TO SURREY COUNTY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION AND ENGLAND HOCKEY

Clubhouse & Ground: Broadwater School, Summers Road, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3BW

www.guildfordhc.com | 01483 416925

Minutes of the AGM 2020 Wednesday 20th May 2019, Cisco Webex Meeting

1. Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Mike Kefford introduces the meeting and explained meeting etiquette. A rolling series of photos capturing the 2019/20 season's activities played whilst everyone joined the virtual meeting.

There were 58 members present ...

Andrew, AUSTIN
John, BIGOS
Christophe, BOULANGER
Mercedes, BUSHNELL
Tom, CARNEY
Alex, CLIFFORD
Jo, COLLINS (Board member)
Suzy, COOK
Harry, CURTIS
Dave, DICKSON (Board member)
Nicky, DOWDS
Karen, DUNN
Andrew, FERGUSSON
Ross, FERGUSSON
Clare, FERRIS
Mike, FITTER
Dan, FOX
Emma, FRANCIS
Malcolm, FRANCIS
Michelle, FUSSELL
Anthony, GARTLAND
Christopher, GOULD
Dave, GUNNER
Jonathan, HAINES
Tony, HALL (Board member)
Mat, HEAL
James, HIGGINS
Emma, HIGGINS
Stuart, HOOK
Choi-Lynn, JACKSON
Mike, KEFFORD (Board member)
Maggs, KYTE (Board member)
Alex, LAWTON



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Mark, LENEL (Board member)
Harriet, MARTIN
Craig, MULLON
Lydia, MURPHY
Cate, NEWNES-SMITH
Matthew, PENNEY
Caroline, REES
Mat, REES
James, RELPH (Board member)
Charles, RICHARDSON
Michelle, ROBSON
Melinda, ROCK (Board member)
Kirsty, ROSTRON
Cathy, SANDERSON
Tim, SAVAGE
Robyn, SINGLETON
Hugo, SMELLIE
Matthew, STEVEN
Nigel, STURGESS
David, TOPLAS
Bradley, WELLAND
Ems, WELLAND(MASON)
Steven, WINDSOR-LEWIS

7 members were absent but sent apologies or their attendance was hampered by technical difficulties;

Edward, CHEUNG
Ruth, CREAMER
Sean, KITSON
Gary, LONIE
Katie, STEWART
Sarah, WHITE
Suzanne, WOOD

2. President's Message and Welcome

To keep the meeting short various reports had been circulated in advance (these can be found at: <https://www.guildfordhc.com/members.html>) Specific items in these reports were not presented again verbally but members were encouraged to bring up anything they wished to talk about as a result of reading the reports. The slides presented at the AGM will also be posted at the above.



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The Club President, Maggs Kyte, opened the AGM by welcoming everyone wherever they were. This was likely to be the best attended AGM in many years! She noted that we would all remember 2020 not necessarily for the fantastic hockey we all played - although the league tables were evidence that this did in fact happen - but for the effect on all of us of a novel virus. She hoped that we would all develop our patience gene when standing in queues.

Looking back at the season we celebrated our past President Alex Laver's 100th birthday with a party attended by Maggs and Mel Burgess and several past members of GHC Ladies. Sadly this was also the year we said goodbye to Maryanne Gray - who was part of the Pinks family dynasty who all played, coached and umpired at GHC over many years. Her brothers Ian and Simon, nephew Simon, sons Robbie and Chris and husband Nigel were all key players and members at the club and we sent our condolences to the family. We also lost JJ Whitby recently - by all accounts the fastest right winger ever, a contemporary of Ian Pinks in the Surrey senior team, and a valued observer of a young Danny Hall. Sadly, Bruce Clench had also died at the end of 2019.

Maggs went on to emphasise that GHC is a strong and successful club run largely by volunteers. She thanked everyone for their contributions, and stressed that we continue to have a myriad of jobs that allow the club to function and deliver for its member ... without mentioning everyone individually, thank you for your contributions ... you know who you are.

Maggs though did go on to make specific mentions/thank you to;

Tom Carney who now holds the honorific of "Father of the Club" as he is now our oldest playing member

Thanks to Gary Boucher who is stepping down as Mens 1s Coach after 3 successful seasons. Gary arrived after 2 consecutive years of demotion for GHC and rebuilt the team to finish a creditable 3rd place in his first season. He did a great job to attract new players who also coach and make an impact throughout the club. In his second season he led the team to promotion, finishing top and losing one league game all year.

This season he again added to the squad and we finished in the top 4 in a very tough league which was prematurely ended. He has done a great job of attracting talent, retaining our top talent, blending in our younger players and building a successful team spirit that means a lot for the squad and the wider club. He now hands over an exciting squad to Dan Fox as coach to keep the focus and energy to win promotion back to the national league and play with 'the Guildford way'.



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Thanks to Libby Leadbeater stepping down as Ladies 1s captain after 4 seasons, during which time the L1s have earned two promotions and won their way to a Cup Final at Lea Valley Stadium. The L1s also now sit on the edge of promotion to the national league.

Thanks to Mike Fitter – newish member to the club (1st full season) who has done a fantastic job – setting up the Mens B2H pathway at GHC and guiding GHCs newest team ‘Cavaliers’ in their inaugural season.

Thanks to Michelle Fussell, who after many years of service to the club as Club Welfare Officer has been asked to stand aside to facilitate the restructuring of welfare and safeguarding to fit a club of GHC’s size and complexity. Michelle will continue to be involved with the delivery of First Aid.

Thanks to Dan Fox ... not one year fully into his role as GHC Director of Hockey, but already proving himself to be a fantastic influence/energy in the club and as President expressed the boards view that we are lucky to have you onboard.

The Club Sponsors were also singled out for their generous support of the club - gratefully received, appreciated and hopefully never taken for granted.

3. Finance Report

Mark Lenel presented several graphs to show the club’s financial position at the end the season.

At the time slides for the AGM were prepared, Income for 2019/20 was £256k and Expenditure £263k, which would have placed the club at year end on a £7k loss, however further income has been coming into the club during May and this puts the outturn for 2019/20 at £2k in profit, which is slightly down on the 2019/20 forecast of a £4k profit. Income is primarily fed by subs, match fees and holiday courses. Expenditure was primarily pitch hire and coaching.

Income Breakdown

Junior course revenue was slightly down on budget, as the impact of Covid-19 resulted in us being unable to run our regular Easter holiday camp.

Looking forward to 20/21 we are also expecting reduced course revenues due to us being unable to run our normal May/July camps. Based on a 1st August restart – but if this doesn’t happen the 20/21 forecast will need to be revisited.

Expenditure Breakdown

Expenditure for last season compared to previous season has seen an increase in expenditure across all categories (and includes the first full year where GHC has employed a



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Director of Hockey). The cost of Pitch hire has grown more slowly than other costs over recent years, we continue to take a financially conservatively view of pitch hire costs and forecast an increase for the 20/21 season. However, the discussion on Pitch hire costs with the school has not taken place yet. Holiday course costs are down in line with the reduced number of courses expected to be run.

Profit and Loss

At the end of the 2019/20 season the outturn for the year shows that the club has virtually broken even on the year, compared with an AGM 2019 forecast of a £4k profit. This is a very satisfactory outcome overall in a year where we have considerably increased our expenditure on coaching and suffered cancellation of the Easter holiday camp.

Going forward we expect a loss of £8k for the 20/21 season. Since this profit and loss slide was prepared though accounts for the 2020/21 year have moved on a bit due to both a Gondoliers donation and a successful application for Sport England Emergency Funding – granted £6k. So, we are getting very close to a breakeven forecast for 20/21 season now.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows net assets of £54k. This financial buffer should provide financial cover/security for the club should the pandemic issue be greater than our initial forecasting (1st August restart to GHC activities). These funds are also available for alleviating any hardship cases for GHC members struggling to continue to pay/play for their hockey in the current environment.

4. Spotlight on Hockey – Section Reports

Dan characterised 2019/20 as a fantastic season, with GHC growing in terms of numbers, teams and scope of programme delivery. It was a season that saw GHC's professional coaching growing in quantity and quality, facilitated by an army of volunteers – volunteer coaches and Young Leaders, captains, squad managers, umpires and first aiders. On field performances were strong across all sections with the highlight being the performances of the Ladies section with 5 teams earning promotions – one League double and an Indoor Triple for L1s to National League Div 1. The opportunities within the Junior section are now arguably some of the best in the country – with Sunday matches and Friday training now supplemented by programmes like Mid-Week Academy, Strength and Conditioning, coach development and Young Leaders Induction.

Dan stressed the importance to the Board and himself of anchoring GHC with our local community, engaging with local schools and partnering with Surrey Youth Games.

Dan is focussed on delivering;

1. A Great Place to Play in 20-21 ...striving for success on the pitch...but building the social fabric and club spirit of being part of GHC.



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2. Long-Term – Better hockey, More hockey, More space, Wider Access and Better Coaching and umpiring

But critical to delivering these long-term goals is good people getting Involved. Whether as a sponsor or as a volunteer (on or off pitch) there is opportunity to work with Dan and GHC to create something special.

Dan stressed how open he is to discussing any of his or your own ideas to move the club forward and expand/develop the club.

5. GHC Vision, Development Plans

Melinda Rock spoke about how we hope to go forward as a club. The Club Vision was re-iterated;

Guildford – “A Great Place to Play “

- focussed on [social and competitive hockey](#) that caters for players of all abilities and ages.
- a [friendly and social organisation](#) where people know each other and enjoy their membership.
- for [all members to participate](#) - whether through playing, coaching, umpiring or helping in other ways.

Melinda gave a review of the England Hockey survey results, where GHC set the benchmark as the single club with the largest number of responses.

A large number of extremely positive responses over all questions, with particularly good freeform feedback indicating that members had engaged in the survey to a large degree and were keen to share their largely positive views of the club.

Of course, there was still some feedback on how we might improve our operation and it has been noted that there was a theme in the feedback on clarifying the selection and player development policies/pathways.

Melinda highlighted a few key developments that the club is focussing on delivering/kicking off in 2020+ -

- Looking at a more integrated IT tool Teamo (Payments, Squad and Team Selection)
- Clubhouse Improvements
- New Practice Area between Blue and Sand Pitch ...big fundraising challenge.
- More Social Events again in 2020+ - post Covid -19, we expect we will all want to get out and celebrate whenever we are given a half decent excuse!



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6. AOB, Voting, Closing Statement

AOB

- Kirsty Rostron enquired if the Teamo app being considered by the club to replace Teamstuff would have an Online Payment functionality
 - Mike Kefford responded yes, we have done a pilot and we are quite close to proceeding with this. Also noted that from a cost basis moving from LoveAdmin to Teamo would be almost cost neutral.
- Alex Lawton queried whether we have considered moving from our existing separate payments of annual membership and per-match fee model to an all in one subs+fees payment model. This is a model that is popular with some clubs in the London Area. At this point in time the board confirmed that it hadn't looked into this change.
- Suzy White asked about our GHC capacity to hire out our pitches.
 - Mike Kefford explained that this had been the subject of a discussion between GHC board reps and Broadwater school earlier in the day. Mike explained that the opportunity to open the pitches for an appropriate socially distanced hockey training will be highly dependent on Broadwater School being comfortable with us giving them a plan they can have confidence that it won't introduce additional risk into their primary activity of being open for children to attend school. Mike indicated that it was likely to be challenging, but that both school and club would like to see it happen (if possible), but felt that nothing was likely to happen on this front before mid-June.
 - We are in the process of building a plan for socially distanced/small group/family unit training.
- Harriet Martin raised a question regarding whether we have considered that there may be some additional costs associated with delivering hockey in a post-covid landscape – eg. An increased regularity and deeper cleaning of toilet facilities. Stressed that it might be important that we are prepared to put some additional funds aside in the budget for this purpose. Furthermore, she noted that in her involvement with England Rugby there is talk of community sports clubs needing to have a Covid-19 officer – presumably charged with focussing on interpreting and compliance with government advice as applied to the club's activities.
- Cate Newnes-Smith asked how sensitive is the club's finances to an even further delayed season start-up and suggest that we should do some form of stress test/contingency planning. Board conceded that this needs further work.

Voting

Acceptance of 2019 AGM Minutes

The minutes of the previous AGM on 14th May 2019 were accepted by 21 votes in favour and none against using chat facility.



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Acceptance of 2019/20 Finances and 20/21 Budget, 2020/21 Subs and Match Fees Proposal

The Finances/Budget report and 2020/21 subs proposal was accepted by 28 votes in favour and none against using chat facility.

Two questions relating to membership fees proposal were raised through the chat facility;

- When is Age in years decided?
 - As membership categories are 'age in years' dependent. It was confirmed that age is determined at the start of season – which is considered to be 1st September.
- What are the Sibling/Multiple children discounts?
 - Post AGM answer from Membership Secretary;- GHC's sibling discount is rolled into the requirement that the first child joining GHC has to have their parent/guardian join as an Adult Social member. Effectively, this means that the second/third etc. child in a family group each pays £20 less than the first child.

Acceptance of Board for 2020/21

The membership voted to support the re-election of this board by 20 votes in favour and none against using chat facility.

The meeting closed at 9.16pm by Mike Kefford.

Minutes by Dave Dickson, GHC Secretary