



**NORTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION**  
**MINUTES OF THE 21<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (FINAL)**  
**TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021 - 7:30PM, BY VIDEO CONFERENCE**

**Present:**

**Council/Executive:**

J.M. Scrinì	President
Annette Badger	Deputy President/NHUA
Chris Regan	Immediate Past President/Cumbria
Bev Deakin	Vice President
C. J. Reece	Hon. Secretary/England Hockey Vice President
A.O. Moore	Hon. Treasurer
Ann Marshall	Performance
Peter McNulty	Discipline (RDA)
Ann Marshall	North Performance
Chris Darling	Co-opted
Eunice Ellison	Co-opted
Robert Gordon	Cumbria HA Representative
Julian Hickinbottom	Lancashire HA Representative
Jon Bray	Yorkshire HA Representative
Tony Taig	Masters

**In Attendance:**

Anne Bryant LM, Andy Tapley MBE (LM), Julia Tapley (LM), Frances Loffler-Thompson Lancashire HA, Bowdon (Bill Ball), Chester (Daffyd Jones), Nick Rudgard (Alderley Edge), Katie-Gilly-Blythe (Crewe Vagrants), Leighan Bleasdale (Lancaster), Peter Maclellan, Howard Green (Deeside Ramblers), Julie Antonelli (Lymm), George Finnigan (Southport), Hugh Lorimer (Ben Rhydding), S Checkham (Durham), Clare Thompson, Matthey Winder (Didsbury Greys).

- 1) President's Welcome and Address: JMS** welcomed all to the meeting recording that is the final AGM of the North Hockey Association and presented the Presidents Address: Going back in history to the 1880's London, Manchester and Liverpool were the major canters of the sport in this country. In 1888 it was decided to form the North Hockey Association. A meeting was arranged by Mr Samuel Thompson President of Timperley HC for 14th December at the Victoria Hotel Salford at which Arthur J Balfour then MP Manchester East who became Prime Minister from 1902 to 1906 was elected President. Lees Knowles (MP Salford West and the famous Yorkshire Cricketer Lord Hawke were elected Vice Presidents. Besides the present counties Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire were founder members. By 1890 Alderley Edge, Bowdon, Brooklands, Didsbury, Liverpool Sefton, Macclesfield, Timperley and West Derby were affiliated. The North Women's Association was formed in 1898, as the All England Women's Association was founded in 1898 with Liverpool Sefton one of the six founding clubs. The North over the years has contributed significantly to the development of our sport.

For most of this information I am indebted to Jim Ormandy of Chester HC who is a hockey historian. He spends a lot of time at the Hockey Museum putting together papers mostly about Hockey in the North and traced a 1897 newspaper match report of my grandfather playing for West Derby. I have sent the links to three papers he has recently produced to Chris Reece to send out for people to look at them if they wish. If you come across anything of interest, please let them have it or tell them about it.

Moving on to more modern times the North should be congratulated for producing the most capped players at international level for this country in Barry Middleton and Kath Richardson- Walsh. Many international players, umpires and coaches have been produced by us. The Olympic Women's winning team in Brazil had at least 4 players who started playing in the North and the Men's squad had a similar number. This I believe was the best from any region based on the percentage of people playing in a region. Martin Grimley from Brooklands was in 1988 Olympic winning team coached by Norman Hughes. This success has come about by the great work put in over many years developing Junior Hockey by Chris Darling, Anne Marshall, Julia Tapley and many others

It would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to people from the North who have made a tremendous contribution to our sport in this country in recent times. Chris Darling stepped up when the HA got into financial difficulty and contributed hugely in his 9 years on the Board to establishing the England Hockey we have today. Andy Tapley MBE (for services to Hockey) with his organization ability ran a very successful 2012 Olympic Tournament in London and in his 9 years on the Board has organised many other successful events. We also have as England Hockey President Mike Stoddard.

Turning now to the Leagues the Men's and Women's Leagues were started in 1989. I would like to thank especially Peter Cocker, Peter Richardson and Tony Walker for the work they have put in over many years running the Men's league thanks goes to Anne Bryant, Eunice Ellison, Gill Cussons and Anne Bowring for their work for the Women's League Thanks to all divisional co-ordinators who have helped their smooth running. Our thanks also goes to the NHUA and its members for their work and to Chris Darling who has done the fixtures for both leagues since they were formed.

Finally, I would like to thank Chris Reece and Annette Badger who have done superb jobs as Secretary and Chair of the Executive during my time as President. My thanks all so go to the other Council Members for the work they have done for the North. Chris Reece and Bev Deakin have done great work leading the setting up of the New Associations and they and their teams should be congratulated on the work they have done. Our wishes go to the success of the New Associations.

Links to Historical information – Jim Ormandy

<https://www.playingpasts.co.uk/articles/gender-and-sport/when-hull-got-hooked-on-hockeyeast-yorkshires-edwardian-sporting-boom/>

<https://www.playingpasts.co.uk/articles/gender-and-sport/a-brief-history-of-mixed-hockey-before-wwiithe-mixers-have-hockeys-rulers-all-mixed-up/>

<https://www.playingpasts.co.uk/articles/team-sports/hockeys-religious-foundationspart-1the-anglican-clergy-turn-a-suburban-game-into-a-national-sport/>

**2) Apologies for absence:**

Shelagh Everett England Hockey MENDED), Hon. Life Members: Peter Richardson, Mike Roff, Gill Cussons,

**3) Appointment of Tellers**

Not required as it is a virtual AGM.

**4) Minutes of the previous AGM 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021**

These were accepted as a true and accurate record.

**5) Hon. Treasurer's Report:** AO Moore recorded, Treasurer's report and accounts have been submitted and posted on the NHA Website prior to the AGM, a copy of which will be kept permanently with the Minutes, adding, that there was no income this year, as we did not charge clubs the annual club levy due to the impact on Hockey y Covid 19. The NHA reserves and surpluses will transferred to the North West/Yorkshire and North East Area Companies prior to Dissolution.

**6) Sub-Committee Reports:**

- a) **NHL: John Scrini**, recorded that the League had been deemed null and void due to the impact of Covid 19, a special thanks goes to Peter Cocker, Tony Walker and Peter Richardson, Anne Bryant, Gill Cussons and Ann Bowring for their many years of commitment to the North Hockey League.
- b) **Umpiring: Chris Reece**, recorded report has been submitted and posted on the NHA Website prior to the AGM, a copy of which will be kept permanently with the Minutes
- c) **Masters: Tony Taig**, recorded report has report has been submitted and posted on the NHA Website prior to the AGM, a copy of which will be kept permanently with the Minutes, adding that Cheshire over 60's had recently won the England Hockey Over 60's Cup.
- d) **Performance: Ann Marshall**, recorded report has been submitted and posted on the NHA Website prior to the AGM, a copy of which will be kept permanently with the Minutes.

**7) North HA and “A Structure Fit for the Future”**

- a) A “Celebration of the North” Annette Badger recorded that the North Executive have looked into holding a event, and it was thought that a Master Tournament would be most fitting, and have provisionally booked Wakefield H.C. 21<sup>st</sup> August 2021 for a Masters Tournament, adding that due to Covid 19, we will not be able to hold a Dinner. Tony Taig and Jacky Murray have already done a vast amount of work in contacting players for the tournament, it was agreed that Tony Taig will organise the players, and discuss pitch and catering arrangements with Chris Randall (Wakefield H.C.), Annette recorded that North HA will cover pitch, club costs, and underwrite the Catering, Players and NHA Council members will pay for their own refreshments, and NHA will invite Guests and Life Members and pay for their refreshments.
- b) NHA Dissolution: Andy Tapley proposed, seconded John Scrini proposed that the Dissolution is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, (this is also when the NHA insurance ceases), this was accepted by all present.

Finally: Annette Badger thanked John Scrini (President) for his services to North and North Hockey League (33 Years and the only ever present officer of the North Hockey League).

Meeting Closed 08.10pm

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 Hon. Secretary

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 President