



Hampshire Hockey Association

www.hampshirehockeyassociation.co.uk

President : Michael Harvey

From the County Discipline Administrator: Chris Bond
Tel: 01202-632292 – e-mail: cwbond300@btinternet.com

2018 ANNUAL REPORT OF CDA

Club Discipline Officers (CDOs) are reminded that if they cease to hold that post the CDA should be notified personally of that fact, together with the full contact details of the new CDO (Reg.3.3 EH Red Card & MMO Regs. 2017), which should then also be updated immediately on the Club's webpage on the HHA/HHUA website. Updating the website alone is NOT the same as notifying the CDA. (last season's figures in brackets)

This season had seen a welcome decrease in the total number of disciplinary incidents, though Hampshire has still had the highest number of such incidents this season of any South county. There was a total of **17** (20) disciplinary incidents involving Hampshire players/officials - **12** (19) **Red Cards**, **4** (1) **M.M.O.**, and **1** (0) **Disrepute Offence**.

Category a) - 3+4+1 (12+1) for non-violent offences, e.g. misconduct/dissent/umpire abuse.

Category b) - 6 (1) for using/attempting/threatening violence to another player.

Category c) - 0 (0) for using/attempting/threatening violence to an umpire.

Category d) - 3 (6) "minor offence"

Of the **12** red cards, **6** (13) were given by HHUA appointed umpires, **4** (3) by club umpires, **2** (3) by SCHUA, & of the **4** (1) MMOs 2 were given by HHUA & 2 by SCHUA appointed umpires. The one Disrepute Incident was reported by an 'off-duty' HHUA member waiting to umpire the following match. There were NO appeals to the South against any penalty imposed by Hampshire HA.

Of the 17 reported discipline incidents 2 (0) involved females. Winchester HC collected 3 red cards & 1 MMO (2 red cards & the MMO in the same SCHUA-umpired match). Hamble had 2 red cards (1 was Cat.d) & Bournemouth University & Basingstoke each had 1 red card & 1 MMO (Bournemouth University's red card was Cat.d). Two of the recipients of red cards were team captains, both of whom received enhanced penalties for failing in their duty to lead by example. In other incidents one is left to wonder at the inability, or unwillingness, of some team captains to exercise their authority under Rule 3.4 of the Rules of Hockey. Surrey HA recently fined a Club because a team captain had manifestly failed to control one of his players who had received a red card and then failed to comply with Rule 14.5. The imposition of such fines in Hampshire has been approved by the County Committee - clubs are therefore advised to choose their team captains wisely.

The most serious incident of the whole season, & subject of the one Disrepute Offence proceedings, was the case of City of Portsmouth 1 several players of which, & too many to be able to identify specific offences by specific individuals, confronted and seriously abused the umpires after narrowly losing a match to Bournemouth 2. For sound legal reasons this case was referred to, and dealt with, by the South RDA who fined the Club £300, against which there has been no appeal. The justification for its players' behaviour (as advanced by the Club) was that the umpiring had been poor. Please be advised, once and for all time, that such an argument is **never** going to find favour with this County or any other disciplinary body, even if true. Umpires, of ALL levels, and their decisions simply MUST be accepted at the time without any more than a polite query from the captain, otherwise there will be anarchy. Sportsmanship and good manners define our game of Hockey and distinguishes it most definitely from Soccer, the excesses of which we definitely do not want to emulate. Allegations of poor or incompetent umpiring should be referred to the appointing HUA, or, in the case of club umpires, to the appointing Club. Which leads nicely on to the disappointing increase in MMOs which are simply brought about by players forgetting their manners and being rude to umpires immediately after the final whistle. What a pointless way to get a 16 day mandatory minimum suspension! If you have a concern about a decision, or decisions, or quality of umpiring, leave it until you are in the Clubhouse and can discuss it calmly and rationally with the umpire there.

CHAIRMAN
MIKE WARD
105 PARKSTONE AVENUE
POOLE
DORSET
BH14 9LP
E.M.WARD@NTLWORLD.COM
01202 740682 (H)

VICE CHAIRMAN
FRANKIE TIERNEY
2 LITTLE FALLOW
LYCHPIT
BASINGSTOKE
RG24 8UN
FRANKIE.TIERNEY@HERRINGTON-CARMICHAEL.COM
01276 686222 (W)

SECRETARY
JOHN THOMPSON
3 PENNY COURT
24 COLLEGE STREET
PETERSFIELD
GU31 4BJ
SECRETARY@HAMPSHIREHA.CO.UK
01730 260932 (H)

TREASURER
RICHARD WOOD
15 OAKDENE
GOSPORT
HAMPSHIRE
PO13 0DB
TREASURER@HAMPSHIREHA.CO.UK
01329 310919 (H)

It may, at this point, be worth explaining that the standing disciplinary panel within Hampshire HA consists, and has consisted for several years now, of myself (a retired Police Inspector), the Deputy CDA, Steve Downham (a serving Magistrate), and the County Chairman, Mike Ward (a retired solicitor). All 3 of us are either active or non-active umpires with many years of umpiring experience, some at South level. All decisions on the penalty to be awarded are based on the evidence available and are unanimous, and whilst, where the evidence of wrongdoing by a player is incontrovertible we have an undoubted responsibility to support the umpires, where there is doubt we have a higher responsibility to fairness and the game of Hockey – club players and officials are our members too. I would venture to suggest that one would be hard-pressed to find anywhere else in English Hockey a more experienced, in both law & Hockey, disciplinary panel. All of us are subject to re-election each year if we are seen not to be functioning properly.

Unfortunately the number of assaults on other players has increased markedly this season from last, including 2 very serious cases of players deliberately hitting an opponent with their stick. Both offenders received hopefully salutary penalties. Please still be reminded that, whereas the EH mandatory minimum for Category b) offences is 30 days, this minimum penalty is only applicable to attempts or threats of violence where no contact is made. To preserve differentiation between levels of violence, actual use of violence, i.e. where contact is made, *will* result in a more substantial penalty.

As for Category d) “Minor Offence” red cards, my own personal view is, still, that they are absolutely pointless, generating only extra paperwork & statistics. Of the 3 reported, one actually wasn’t as the two offences earning the yellow cards, although both having the effect of breaking down play, were not “the same” as required by the Regulations (the Red Card Report form states “duplicate”) – Umpires take note, please. Interestingly, one player picked up a Cat.d Red Card one month & an MMO the next month, and consequently his mandatory minimum suspension for the MMO was doubled in accordance with Reg.6.9. An appeal was lodged with EH which hastily amended the Regulations so that Reg.6.9 would not be applicable if one of the offences was a Cat.d), though I am informed that EH has now repented of that, perhaps too hasty, amendment which may now itself be reversed – watch this space.

Only 1 player is carrying over a suspension from this season into the next.

This was the tenth season of MMOs, the fourth under the separate EH Disrepute Offence Regulations 2014, & the second of the new Category d) “Minor Offence” red card. I am still not convinced that *all* umpires at *all* levels fully understand the MMO, or that Red Cards once awarded cannot be rescinded except in cases of mistaken identity (Reg. 4.6), & would urge all umpires to become fully conversant with Regulation 4. In particular, under Reg. 4.4.2 a “non-registered umpire”, (i.e. an umpire who is not Level 1 qualified), cannot report an MMO, but must deal with such an offence using the Disrepute Offence Regulations. A working knowledge of Regulations 5 & 6 is also strongly recommended.

My special thanks go to my Deputy, Steve Downham, & thanks go also to HHA Chairman and Committee for their advice and support throughout the season. I also thank the CDOs of those clubs with which we have had dealings during the season, and those Umpires who have not flinched from doing what is right, necessary, and often unpleasant.

CB

8.5.18

CHAIRMAN
MIKE WARD
105 PARKSTONE AVENUE
POOLE
DORSET
BH14 9LP
E.M.WARD@NTLWORLD.COM
01202 740682 (H)

VICE CHAIRMAN
FRANKIE TIERNEY
2 LITTLE FALLOW
LYCHPIT
BASINGSTOKE
RG24 8UN
FRANKIE.TIERNEY@HERRINGTON-CARMICHAEL.COM
01276 686222 (W)

SECRETARY
JOHN THOMPSON
3 PENNY COURT
24 COLLEGE STREET
PETERSFIELD
GU31 4BJ
SECRETARY@HAMPSHIREHA.CO.UK
01730 260932 (H)

TREASURER
RICHARD WOOD
15 OAKDENE
GOSPORT
HAMPSHIRE
PO13 0DB
HHATREASURER@HAMPSHIREHA.CO.UK
01329 310919 (H)