



Club / School Circular **December 2005**

Annual General Meeting

Please find enclosed the official notification for the Welsh Hockey Union Limited AGM due to be held on Sunday 8th January 2006. The AGM will be held at two differing sites, the Welsh Institute of Sport, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff and Sports Council for Wales offices, Plas Menai, North Wales, with the meeting to commence at 14:15. Video conferencing technology will be used and it is hoped that with members not having to travel quite so far, that the attendance will be increased.

WHU Modernisation

Some of you may be aware that the four Regions have all been issued with information regarding the suggested way forward for the Union. Following the completion of the AGM there will be a general open session with the Board of Directors to enable any questions you may have to be raised. Whilst a general report on the modernisation will be covered after the AGM itself, this will provide you with an opportunity to voice any queries or concerns you may have.

Handbook

Club and School Secretaries will find enclosed a copy of this years Handbook on CD-ROM. I have been asked to pass on the apologies of our printers who underestimated the timescales involved in the production of the handbook. Arrangements have already been put into place to ensure that this situation cannot be repeated in the future. Whilst I can appreciate that some recipients will miss the paper version, it is anticipated that the CD will be copied onto individual pc's and passed to as many club members as possible. If however, any recipient would like a particular section issued to them in hard copy, please let the WHU office know.

Registrations

A number of clubs have yet to register their members and as such, their members remain uninsured whilst playing in any WHU competition. Each of these clubs will have recently received individual letters advising them of the situation and regrettably, unless the full details and fees are received before 1st January 2006, they will be excluded from all forms of competition. As is normal, new and returning members re-register with clubs throughout the playing season and it is vital that these member's registration details are forward to Anne Mullin as soon as possible, together with the appropriate fee.

Database

A considerable amount of time has been spent ensuring that the new membership database is both up-to-date and comparatively easy to use. Existing membership records will be transferred over during the course of the next few weeks and full instructions for Club Secretaries will be issued early in the New Year. Clubs will have the option (through their club password) to use the system as their own club notice board. Individual members will also be able to access the system to update their own information, again through individual passwords. It is anticipated that instead of forwarding paper copies of their clubs registration details, secretaries will update the information on-line, with an automated notification and appropriate invoice being issued where appropriate.

Cancelled /Suspended Memberships

Regrettably it is sometimes necessary to suspend or cancel some individuals' membership of the WHU for a number of reasons. If you wish to check that any new member of your club is eligible for registration please contact Chris Brewer at the WHU office.

School Registrations

Would Schools please ensure that their fees for 2005/6 (Secondary £15, Primary £10) are forwarded to their Area Secretary (for Secondary Schools & direct to WHU for Primary Schools)

PTO

Free competition

For those of your members who are interested in entering a free competition, courtesy of the BOA (British Olympic Association), we have copies of the highly regarded 'Fuelling Fitness for Sports Performance' to give away. Full details are on the WHU website with a closing date of 6th January.

Website

As many of you will have already seen the new WHU website is up and running and I hope that you feel it is of use and benefit to all. By following the Membership Services / Members Benefits link you will find a list of all the benefits that are currently available. Of particular interest is the Gilmour link (also available from the Home Page as 'On-Line Shop') which details the various items of WHU branded items, including replica kit available for purchase. If anybody has particular feedback on the website, please forward your comments to chris.brewer@welsh-hockey.co.uk

Public Liability & Personal Accident Insurance

A number of members will have noted that IMR Group Ltd, our insurance providers, have regrettably been placed in voluntary administration. Whilst this did not effect our existing Public Liability insurance, we had to find a new insurer for the new Personal Accident cover (included as part of the registration fee for 2005/6 season). Following discussions with a number of insurance brokers, WWSI (Worldwide Sports Insurance Ltd) have been appointed with full details available on our website. Whilst basic accidental insurance is included, clubs have the option of taking out enhanced cover, including loss of earnings. Although the additional insurance is subject to the whole club being covered, the premiums negotiated are extremely competitive. As an added option, clubs can insure their kit, cups and trophies with full details available as above. If anybody wishes to receive hardcopy versions of the insurance cover available, please contact the office.

Administering First Aid

Clubs and all members should be aware that under most insurances, including ours, the only people that should administer first aid are those with a suitable qualification, subject to them acting within the limits of their training, knowledge and experience. Those without such a qualification should not administer any form of treatment whatsoever.

E-Newsletter

Although it had been the intention to launch this new initiative in the run up to Christmas, it was felt that it would be of more benefit if the first issue included the salient points from the AGM. The issue will therefore be e-mailed to all those who have requested a copy towards the end of January. If you would like to receive a copy please send an email to info@welsh-hockey.co.uk detailing the word newsletter in the subject line. Schools are also more than welcome to request a copy.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and successful 2006.

*Chris Brewer
Operations Manager
Welsh Hockey Union Limited*

Enclosures

Clubs

AGM 'Pack' consisting of:
Notification
Agenda
Accounts summary
Directors' nominations
Representation form
Proxy form
Handbook (CD-ROM)

Schools

AGM 'Pack' consisting of:
Notification
Agenda
Accounts summary
Directors' nominations
Representation form
Proxy form
Handbook (CD-ROM)