

GLOUCESTERSHIRE HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

Secretary report for GHA AGM Wednesday 23rd September 2020

Throughout the year the England Hockey AGM Resolution on Governance has been a major focus of activity and discussion for myself as Secretary and President. There were roadshows in the summer of 2019 which I and other members of the GHA Committee attended and subsequent to this a number of documents were issued by England Hockey for consideration. These included the results of the survey and the draft proposals for change. Following this the final proposals from the EH AGM Resolution Governance review were published in December 2019 under the name "A Structure fit for the Future" which can be found on the EH website.

A review of this was completed by the Secretary and Treasurer and a summary issued for the Committee to consider. The recommendation was for GHA to approve the proposal at the EH AGM in March and this was approved by the GHA Committee at the February Committee meeting. Unfortunately events then overtook the entire process as due to the Coronavirus pandemic the EH AGM was postponed. Since then EH have issued a number of bulletins indicating they intend to continue with preparations for the changes planned, but with no specific action until approval can be obtained from a reconvened AGM.

The impact of the EH governance process on GHA has been that many of the actions around incorporation and local processes and procedures have been put on hold pending the final outcome of the EH work. As a result there remains much that will be required once the direction is clear and the role of the counties is defined, sub-areas as they will in future be known.

During the season there have also been other changes that would have impacted the GHA constitution which really now needs an update to reflect the make-up of the committee and the role of GHA. Looking forwards though a key aspect is going to be volunteers and how to make best use of those that are willing to be involved at the county (sub-area) level and where best to put the efforts, not to mention improving recruitment.

The West HA has continued to run as normal, but it did establish a working group on the EH AGM Resolution Governance Review which met once in October to collect opinions. I could not attend, but the Minutes of the meeting seem to reflect a collation of the various thoughts of those attending and questions to which there were no answers. It was agreed to have a follow-up, but nothing has happened other than a West Council meeting on 30th January when it was agreed to hold a meeting of County Chairs on 25th March after the EH AGM on 17th March to consider what might be the next steps for the West. Again this meeting was postponed once the EH AGM was postponed, but at the West Council meeting in May it was agreed to have a county chairs meeting in early June.

Otherwise the West Council meetings covered aspects such as Performance Centre and Masters hockey which are better covered under their respective sections in this AGM.

Ian Harvey – Acting Secretary.
5th June 2020.