



**ENGLAND
HOCKEY**

EHO Membership & relationship with WHUA

Dear colleague,

As the new season approaches rapidly, I wanted to write to you to update you on some changes that have been made to Officiating within England and the relationship of these changes with Wales Hockey Umpiring Association (WHUA).

England Hockey are delighted to announce the launch of a new governance structure within the domestic game in England, following a resolution that was passed by its members to change the governance structure of the game to "A Structure Fit for the Future". The headlines of this include:

- A structural change from 5 x Regional Hockey Association to 8 x Area Companies
- Production of a standardised Adult League format, with standardised regulations across England
- Aligning over 100 different volunteer led bodies that oversaw the sport into a more streamlined, efficient structure.

For umpiring and officiating, the change in governance structure has allowed the existing HUAs across the country to come together to create a new, national body for all Officials, called England Hockey Officiating Club (EHO).

From its launch at the beginning of September, the EHO will replace the current membership model from existing HUAs ensuring that members from every corner of the country, at every level of the game, will have a membership offer that is to support their development as an Official.

What will change for us in terms of being based in Wales?

For individuals who live in Wales and umpire for clubs who play in the English Leagues, we will be asking for all their umpires to become a member of the EHO in line with the new Adult League Regulations. This will support the new Game Management System (GMS) to produce all match sheets and ensure that the league administrators can administer a fair league for all who participate.

If you live in Wales but officiate for a club that only plays in a league run by a Welsh Association, then you do not have to become a member of the EHO.

Do I have to pay to become a member of the EHO?

No, the membership subscriptions on offer include a free membership option (Bronze) and we recommend that individuals who live in Wales join on the Bronze Membership.

Do I still have to become a member of WHUA?

All umpires in Wales are required to register to the WHUA through Hockey Wales in order to be eligible to umpire any level games.

If I want to progress to umpire at the “appointed levels” at the top of the English Leagues at Area Level, do I have to join a higher subscription for this?

No. We have agreements in place between the WHUA and the Area Officiating Committees where Welsh teams compete to welcome umpires from Wales who want to umpire at higher levels of competition in a strive to gain your Level 2 or Level 3 Umpiring accreditations.

This also applies to Umpire Coaches / Assessors / Match Officials.

I am a current member of the NPUA, do I have to join the EHO as well?

No, as the NPUA will be enrolling you into the EHO. An agreement is in place where a very small portion of your NPUA subscription will be paid to the EHO to cover the insurance element of the membership.

I am a Technical Official, who occasionally takes appointments from TAP. Do I have to be a paid member of the EHO to do this?

We would welcome any member of the EHO, at any level of membership, to get involved in Technical Officiating. In the first instance, we would advise for you to speak to WHUA about upcoming opportunities to be involved as a Technical Official for competitions being held in Wales and then enquire with TAP later.

What do I do next?

For individuals who wish to become a member of the EHO, we would welcome you to undertake the following steps:

- a) Visit <https://gms.englishhockey.co.uk>
- b) Click the “register” button
- c) Select “Officiating”
- d) Enter your e-mail address and submit for a verification code
- e) Once you’ve received your verification code, enter this and continue with the below
- f) Select “England Hockey – West” or “England Hockey – North West” (dependant on the league structure that your club plays in)
- g) Complete the rest of your details as requested
- h) Select the “EHO Bronze Membership” membership
- i) Press Send

This will now complete the registration process and you will now be registered with the EHO.

What if I have more questions?

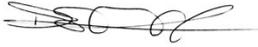
A fuller list of FAQs is available via the England Hockey website by clicking [here](#).

If you have a question that is not within the FAQ’s, please e-mail officiating@englandhockey.co.uk



I wish you well for the upcoming season and, fingers crossed, we all enjoy an uninterrupted season with no undue disruptions due to COVID-19.

Yours in hockey



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