



Hampshire Hockey Association

www.hampshirehockeyassociation.co.uk

President : Michael Harvey

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2015 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. 2008), 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 has seen a reversion to the 'bad old days' which, after last season's low, is very disappointing. There was a total of **16** (10) discipline incidents involving Hampshire players/officials - **12** (9) **Red Cards**, **0** (0) **M.M.O.**, and **4** (1) **Disrepute Offences**.

Category a) - 8 + 3 (6 + 1) for non-violent offences, e.g. misconduct/dissent/umpire abuse.

Category b) - 4 + 1 (3) for using/attempting/threatening violence to another player.

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

From these figures you will not be surprised that, after last year's 'success', Hampshire's record is once again worse than any other county in the South. It is not anything of which to be proud.

Of the **12** red cards, **7** (5) were given by HHUA appointed umpires, **3** (3) by club umpires, and **2** (1) by other HUA appointed umpires (Surrey & Devon) to visiting Hampshire teams. Of the 4 reported Disrepute Offences 1 was reported by an HHUA umpire, 1 by a club umpire, 1 by a player & 1 by a tournament official, but only 2 of the 4 were substantiated. Both of the unsubstantiated complaints were, of necessity, dealt with by the South Regional Discipline Administrator (RDA) as they involved 'cross-border' incidents, i.e. incidents allegedly committed by Hampshire personnel against persons either in or from another South county. The other 2 would have been more correctly MMOs, but for technical reasons (delay in one case, & the umpire not being Level 1 in the other) had to be dealt with as Disrepute Offences.

There was only one appeal to the South against a penalty imposed by Hampshire HA, which resulted in a slightly reduced number of days suspension.

Of the 12 red cards "honours" were evenly shared with one apiece by Fareham, Winchester, Southampton University, Southampton, Yateley, Havant, Haslemere, Hamble, Poole, Petersfield, New Forest, & Fordingbridge. The 2 substantiated Disrepute Offences were against players from Southampton & Salisbury. Of the 16 reported discipline incidents only 1(0) involved a female.

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Only one of those red-carded was a team captain. Team captains & coaches, who are expected to lead by example, should be very aware that if they are red-carded, or reported for an MMO, they *will* receive an enhanced penalty.

Only 2 of the 8 Red Card Cat.a) offences (non-violence) were for technical/playing offence, one following a yellow card for the same offence. The other 6 were for 'umpire-abuse', 4 of which were awarded to players already temporarily suspended by yellow card!! Clubs are specifically requested to ensure that all their players & team officials are reminded before the start of next season that temporarily suspended personnel (both by yellow card, & in future by green card too) are, for the length of such suspension, just that – temporarily suspended from participation in the match, & that they should go to the designated place & be quiet, or else!

Of the 4 Cat.b) offences (physical violence to a player), 1 was committed with the feet & 3 with the hands/arms. Fortunately for the offenders only 2 of these 4 assaults actually made contact, & no injury was caused. Please be very aware 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.

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

This was the seventh season under the new EH Red Card & Matchday Misconduct Offence Regulations 2008, which introduced the MMO, & the first under the separate EH Disrepute Offence Regulations 2014. 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, & would urge all umpires to become fully conversant with Regulation 4. A knowledge of the workings of Regulations 5 & 6 is also 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

18.5.14

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