

WHUB PowerPoint Presentation Notes – November 2004

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WorldHockey Umpiring Boost

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Overall Objective

The WorldHockey Umpiring Boost is an FIH project, jointly organised by the Umpiring Committee and the Development and Coaching Committee, whose overall objective is to help as many National Associations as possible to encourage, promote and develop Umpiring in their own country.

Due to take place over 2005 and 2006 it is intended that the project will be on-going with a lasting effect, and not just be seen as a one-off.

This project recognises the twin needs of addressing the worldwide shortage of umpires and the requirement to maintain an improvement in umpiring standards.

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The individual aims of the Boost will be to: -

- Increase participation and umpire numbers in all age groups, with particular emphasis on the young.
- Increase the expertise, knowledge and enthusiasm of existing National and International umpires, umpire managers and umpire coaches in order that they can more effectively pass the message on to others.
- Increase the communication and contact with National Associations through provision of information and advice, encouraging them to commit additional funds and resources to umpiring.
- Improve the image of Umpiring, so that: -
 - It is recognised as an important and integral part of the game of hockey.
 - The role of the umpire is better understood and respected.
 - Players are encouraged to take up Umpiring.

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Handbook

Central to the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost is the Handbook containing FIH Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure. This includes Umpires and Umpire Coaches Education and Accreditation Schemes. Templates and supporting resources, including suggested course programmes and contents, are supplied with the Schemes.

The Handbook also contains information regarding the types of FIH supported Umpiring Courses that can be offered to National Associations.

To supplement the Schemes the Handbook also includes Ideas to help National Associations recruit, retain and develop umpires at all levels and of all ages.

These Ideas are supported by templates and other resources to assist NAs to put them into practice.

The Handbook, together with its supporting resources, will be posted onto the WorldHockey website as part of the Umpiring section. Arrangements have been made to have the Handbook translated into Spanish, and this version will also be available on the website very shortly.

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FIH Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure

We hope that the Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure will be of particular assistance to those National Associations who either do not have such a scheme or who wish to improve their existing scheme.

It is planned that the Schemes and Structure will be sufficiently flexible to be adapted to National Associations individual requirements or particular situations.

It may be that some National Associations do not possess playing structures which would support the number of Levels within the proposed Umpiring structure. In this case the appropriate number of levels can be selected from the menu type options and the requirements for each level modified according to their own circumstances.

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Introduction to National Associations

A letter was sent out to all National Associations in October 2004, including an information sheet on the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost as well as a request for some preliminary information as follows: -

- Whether you wish to receive WHUB supporting materials?
- Whether it is your intention to participate in WHUB?
- Who your nominated National WHUB Co-ordinator will be?
- Whether your NA already has dedicated Umpiring personnel, such as a National Umpiring Development Officer?
- Whether your NA already has a formal Umpiring structure, including an Umpire and Umpire Coach Education and Accreditation Scheme in place?
- Whether your NA already has a long term Umpiring Development Plan and associated budget?
- What would your NA like to achieve during the WHUB?

The formal introduction of the WHUB to National Associations takes place here at the FIH Congress in Leipzig. The programme which follows includes: -

National Umpiring Development Officers Workshops

A workshop is planned for each Continent in order to introduce the FIH Recommendations and Guidelines for a National Umpiring Structure. The target group for these workshops are the people who, within their National Associations, are responsible for Umpiring Education and Development.

These Workshops will be scheduled into the DCC 2005 and 2006 Calendar in consultation and co-ordination with the Continental Development Officers.

National/Regional Courses for Umpires and Umpires Coaches

In your applications for FIH NHA Development Fund Grants for 2004 and 2005 National Associations have been encouraged to apply for Umpiring Courses. As part of the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost the budget will support an additional 12 Courses per year, over and above those due to be run via FIH NHA Development Fund Grants awards.

The assistance of the CDOs has been requested in identifying areas of umpiring need which would most benefit from these additional Boost Courses, as well as helping with the applications for them.

Each Umpiring Course will be supported, where requested, by an FIH appointed Course Conductor. Another joint Taskforce is currently developing an FIH Umpire Coach Accreditation Scheme, which will help us identify further suitably qualified individuals to add to the existing list of Umpiring Course Conductors.

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Budget

Considerable funds, over and above those normally allocated to Development and Coaching, have been committed to the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost.

These funds are broadly split as follows: -

- 2004 Preparations and printing for the Boost
- 2005 3 National Umpire Development Officer workshops and 12 Umpiring Courses
- 2006 2 National Umpire Development Officer workshops and 12 Umpiring Courses

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Key Performance Indicators

The agreed KPIs for the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost are as follows: -

1. The number of NAs having a National Umpiring Development Officer or Umpiring Administrator
2. The number of NAs having an Umpire Education and Umpire Coach Accreditation Scheme in place
3. The number of NAs having a long term Umpiring Development Plan and associated budget
4. The number of Umpires and Umpire Coaches at the various Accreditation levels per NA;

The increase in these KPI figures over 2005 & 2006 will give us some of the information by which we will be able to measure the success of the 'Boost', and an indication of where future resources need to be concentrated.

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Finally

Whilst we would obviously prefer every member National Association to take part in the Boost, participation should be seen as an opportunity rather than an obligation. We are certain that the Boost can be of significant benefit to umpiring within your countries.

The first step towards active participation is to ensure that your National Association has replied to the information request and advised the details of your nominated National Boost Co-ordinator. The response so far has been limited – please when you return home encourage your NA to take part in this project! The second step is for all National Association delegates to ensure that they collect the 5 copies of the Handbook that we have ready for each National Association to take home with them.

In conclusion, we therefore invite all National Associations to actively participate in the WorldHockey Umpiring Boost to the benefit of not only umpiring, but also hockey at all levels, in your countries and continents.