



Hampshire Hockey Association

www.hampshirehockeyassociation.co.uk

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2019 ANNUAL REPORT OF CDA

Club Discipline Officers (CDOs) are reminded that if they cease to hold that post or change their contact details the Club contacts page on the HHA/HHUA website should be updated/amended immediately.

(Last season's figures in brackets).

This is my final report as CDA – after 16 seasons I am stepping down, but will continue to support my successor as his Deputy CDA for at least the first season. During those 16 seasons my Deputies & I have dealt with a total of 242 offences of all kinds, an average of 15.13 per season. 20 has been our highest total, in 2004/04, 2011/12 & 2016/17, whilst 10 is our lowest 2013/14 & *this* season 2018/19.

This season had seen a very welcome, & marked, decrease in the total number of disciplinary incidents, and, for once Hampshire has not had the highest number of such incidents this season of any South county – we are 4th behind Kent (16), Sussex (15), & Bucks (11). There was a total of **10** (17) disciplinary incidents involving Hampshire players/officials - **6** (12) **Red Cards**, **4** (4) **M.M.O.s**, and **0** (1) **Disrepute Offences**.

Category a) - 4+4 (3+4+1) for non-violent offences, e.g. misconduct/dissent/umpire abuse.

Category b) - 1 (6) for using/attempting/threatening violence to another player.

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

Category d) - 1 (3) “minor offence”

Of the **6** red cards, **3** (6) were given by HHUA appointed umpires, **2** (4) by club umpires, **1** (2) by Surrey HUA, & of the **4** (4) MMOs 3 were given by HHUA & 1 by Sussex HUA appointed umpires. There was one appeal to the South against the penalty imposed by Hampshire HA – still outstanding at the time of writing.

Of the 10 reported discipline incidents 2 (2) involved females. Trojans, Petersfield, & Southampton collected 2 apiece, and Bournemouth, Basingstoke, Haslemere, Aldershot & Farnham each got 1. One of the red card recipients was a team coach, and he received an enhanced penalty for failing in his duty to lead by example. The imposition of such enhancements in Hampshire has been approved by the County Committee - and enhanced penalties **will** continue to be imposed on Captains & Coaches who set a poor example to the players under their control.

Thankfully we seem to have stopped thumping our opponents this season – the only ‘use of physical violence’ case was a player who’d been fouled deliberately pushing his opponent over in retaliation. The opponent got yellow, the pusher red! Please still be reminded 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 Category d) “Minor Offence” red card this season – Hallelujah! My own personal view is, still, that they are absolutely pointless, generating only extra paperwork & statistics.

Only 1 person is carrying over a suspension from this season into the next – subject to appeal.

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This was the eleventh season of MMOs, the first under the separate EH Disrepute Offence Regulations 2018, & the third of the new Category d) "Minor Offence" red card. I cannot emphasise enough the importance to umpires, of all grades, of having a working knowledge of the EH Red Card & MMO Regulations 2017 which complement the Rules of Hockey by, inter alia, expanding the scope of Rule 14 to cover offenders other than 'players', and including "other misconduct", e.g. 'abuse' & 'dissent' which are not listed as "offences" in the Rules. In Regulation 4, for instance, will be found the definition of a Red Card Offence & its extension to bench members (not included in the Rules); the definition of, and instructions for how to deal with, MMOs; the scope of mandatory minimum suspension; & how to deal with a case of mistaken identity if a red card is shown erroneously; and I heartily recommend that all umpires familiarise themselves with, if nothing else, Regulation 4 in particular.

My special thanks go to my 2 Deputies over the years, Ginette Tessier & 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 seasons, and those Umpires who have not flinched from doing what is right, necessary, and often unpleasant.

I wish my successor as CDA an easy ride.....! !

CB
8.5.19



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