

EMHUA Secretary Report to the EMHUA AGM April 2019

- The Association will likely to feel significant strain with the changes to the MRHA and EHL leagues in coming seasons, as more umpires are required by the higher levels. My thanks go to **Simon Widdison** for his work in the first half of the season as appointments secretary before personal circumstances mean he had to step down.
- Membership numbers remain healthy, and we are looking for new ways to engage with club umpires.
- 3 Members meetings have been run this season, and ideas for the 2019/20 season have been made for presentation topics.
- Once again, the association is providing support to the Association of Colleges tournament, and the MYU will be supporting the colleges finals with the majority of umpires and support provided by EMHUA.
- Radios continue to be used and are now expected by teams more than not. Again, my thanks go to **Phil Walker** for managing these distribution, repair and stock so effectively.
- Discipline has been high on my radar this once more season, with a number of incidents requiring attention. ***Please can I implore all members to keep us informed before any Red Cards, MMOs or Disrepute Offences are submitted.*** Before submission we can assist to ensure the process is correctly followed to avoid additional disrepute events. Given that the President is also the RDA these should come via myself as Secretary of Paul Bradley as Treasurer to ensure impartiality.
- Council meetings were again well attended. Despite hiccoughs over the season we overall maintain a high-quality administration that works together. I thank all council members for their contributions some of whose efforts cannot be understated.
- The MRHUA AGM is on Tuesday 7th May, starting 7.30 @ Old Silhillans Sports Club. ALL of our members of the Midlands Panel should attend if possible.
- Sadly, this year we have no nominations from the membership for the open positions on committee advertised. The lack of a kit manager is going to provide significant difficulties.
- As always thank you to **Martin Ebsworth and WBHC** for allowing us regular use of their facilities
- This will be my final year as Secretary as a change in my working circumstances mean I am unable to fully support the association in this function – if agreed by the AGM Ben Garrod will be a more than suitable replacement as a diligent and focussed individual.
- Finally, I would like to place on record my deep sadness at the loss of Bill Workman this season, he put a great deal of time and effort in EMHUA. There are many stories and memories I could share (and a number I can't!) but suffice to say not getting a call in the broad ulster accent again still saddens me.

Colin Anderson
EMHUA Secretary
April 2019