

LS Board Members Reports 2008 - 2009

Men's Rules and Refereeing

Rob Powell

This season, we have set out a five-level system of Refereeing qualification, based on and linked into the Federation of International Lacrosse (FIL) awards. These will be used as the blueprint for future progression for officials within Lacrosse Scotland.

A Men's Rules and Refereeing Course took place in February, at Peffermill. ELA Course Tutors Peter McGinnerty and Don Blacklock, both experienced referees with considerable World Cup experience, ran the day. There were 23 attendees, of which 17 passed, with 5 receiving Distinctions – a high proportion, commented on by the tutors. This gives them the Scottish Level 1 qualification, which once supplemented by refereeing sufficient games, will take them to ELA Basic/Scottish Level 3. This is a significant increase in the number of officials available in the domestic game.

The last time this course was run was in 2007, when 5 of the 10 passed.

Beyond Level 1, Phil Smart and Bertrand Salmi have been awarded Level 2 qualifications, and Rob Powell has level 3.

My vision is to move people up through the levels, with the aim of sending one or more officials to the 2012 European Championships.

Finally, for the future of the domestic game, we need to introduce regulations on the number and qualification of referees for Scottish league matches - I'm suggesting at least two referees on the field at all times as a first step. This would significantly improve quality and safety of matches.

Women's R & U

Lorna Powell

A Preliminary umpiring course was held on 19th October 2008 at Peffermill. Due to call offs at last minute, 11 people attended and survived the wind and rain for the outdoor afternoon session. 10 people passed the theory test. Another Preliminary umpiring course was due to be held at Glenalmond College in November 2008, but had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers.

The Lacrosse Scotland proposal for officiating at the WC in Prague in June 2009 was sent to the FIL/IFWLA R&U Chair and Lorna Powell is attending as a Technical Delegate.

6 people have sat and passed their P umpiring test. Testing continues to be a challenge with few friendly fixtures that can be used for testing. Schools have offered to allow potential P umpires be tested at school games, but few people have asked to be tested and only 1 person has taken up the schools offer in the last 2 seasons.

A B umpire evening was held in March but unfortunately due to re-scheduling of matches at the Junior Internationals it was not possible to carry out the practical test.

The Junior Internationals took place at Loretto on 21st & 22nd March 2009. The shortage of umpires meant that for 2 games we had one alternate to cover 2 pitches but, the umpires pulled together and everything went well from an officiating point of view. Everyone had 4 games over the weekend and remained un-injured, so that was quite a relief. Venues remain a concern from an officiating point of view and LS needs to look further than a price tag when considering venues for international events.

A big thank should go to the following people, without whose support and time, many representative matches could not take place;

- Andy Pearson
- Jenny Pearson
- Fiona Reid
- Emily Salvesen

Everyone in the “3rd team” on the pitch has been fantastic and it has been really enjoyable working with them all.

From Louisa McElroy League Secretary

The final placings for the Lacrosse Scotland Mixed league this year were:

- 1st Edinburgh Thistle
- 2nd Edinburgh University 1sts
- 3rd Aberdeen University