

South Central Umpiring Transition Team Newsletter

Looking after Umpires in Berkshire,
Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and
Oxfordshire



Welcome

Welcome to the first newsletter from the South Central Umpiring Transition Team - SCUTT for short!

As you are aware the way hockey is structured and managed will be changing from the beginning of Sept 2021, after the EH AGM resolution was passed late last year.

This resolution was branded as "A Structure Fit for the Future".

The structure includes how the country is split into different areas, how leagues will be restructured within those areas and how umpires will support the new areas and leagues.

More details can be found on the EH website here:

[A Structure Fit for the Future](#)

The South Central Umpiring Transition team has been set up to oversee the transition from the current Regional and County based

umpiring and officiating structures to a new South Central Structure.

What this means is that there will no longer be the familiar Berks, Bucks, Oxon and Hants HUAs (Hockey Umpire Associations), but one central association that will look after the umpiring needs for the Area. This will cover developing, coaching, and supporting umpires, at all levels throughout the South Central Area, including appointing umpires to the leagues in the new area but excluding conference and national leagues.

As you can imagine there is a lot to cover and we as a team are keen to keep you updated as much as possible.

Over the coming months we will be sending out more comms to keep you up to date with all the changes, to let you know how you can get involved and what the plans are for the coming season.



Who is in the Team?

Introducing the South Central Umpiring Transition Team



What will this change mean for you?

What changes will be taking pace and how umpires in the new area will be supported

Who is on the Umpiring Transition Team?

We are a group made up from representatives from each of the counties who will help to set up the new look South Central Umpiring Team

Chair: Simon Milford
Berkshire Reps:
Liz Spencer and Huw Richards
Buckinghamshire Rep: David Tobin
Hampshire Reps:
Alan Dow and David Boyle
Oxfordshire Reps:
Mark Cumming and Ray Hipkin

Simon also sits on the South Central Transition Team that oversees the transition across the area for all hockey needs

Liz is the rep for the South Central

Area on the EH Officiating Working Group that is made up of representation from all the new areas across the country.

Contact details should be found for the team on their existing HUA websites or you can email Simon on bhuahongensec@gmail.com
Over the coming months we will be sending out more comms on the progress of the transition and information on how you can help and support it

TO DATE:

Meetings have been held with EH to discuss how each of the HUAs can be merged into one South Central Team

Discussions have been held with SCHUA on how their role supporting the South Umpires will be changing and what it will mean for the National League and L2 umpires across the Area



IN THE NEXT ISSUES

Over the coming weeks and months we will be providing you with updates on :

The Umpire survey recently carried out

Umpire Development Courses and information

How you can get involved

Updates on the progress of the Transition

How the new league structure will be supported by the South Central Umpires

However, if there is anything you want to hear about then let us know.



What does this change mean for you?

Whether you umpire just for your club, or are someone who takes appointments from their County, South region or NPUA, the way umpires across the South Central area are supported is changing.

However, this is not just about appointed umpires, it is about how we as an association/team can help and support everyone who picks up a whistle at all levels of the game from juniors to masters; new or seasoned umpires – we are here for you.

As your new Umpire Area team, we need to work out how best to organise and manage umpiring (including umpires and officials) across the South Central region to ensure as seamless a transition as possible from the existing HUA structures to the new Area structure, which will comprise the existing counties of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, and Oxfordshire.

It is EH's intention that the new structure will be in place ready for the start of the 2021/22 season (Covid willing, of course) so we need to be ready to carry out all the functions that the existing HUAs carry out, and more.

This includes: Umpire development, Umpire Coaching, managing the area's finances, managing membership, liaising with higher level organisations, providing support to Club Umpire Developers, Discipline management, support to junior and masters competitions, and so on.

There is a lot of work to do, and we will endeavor to keep you up to date via your HUAs websites, emails and newsletters. If you feel you can help and support us in this transition, then please let us know. We are here to support you.