



2024 HGSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

19:30 23rd October 2024

Laund Hill Sports Complex

AGENDA

Chairman to introduce himself and ask for permission to conduct the meeting.

1. Approval of the minutes from the 2023 AGM
2. Chair's report
3. Secretary's report
4. Treasurer's report
5. Receive the Auditor's report and appoint the Auditor for the coming year
6. Election of Officers - Deputy Chair for a 2 year period until 2025 AGM
7. Any other business

Chair to close meeting and speakers evening to commence.



AGENDA ITEM 1

HGSA 2023 AGM MINUTES

Minutes of AGM: Wed, October 4, 2023, at Laund Hill.

Present: Committee members: M Eastwood (ME), D Eastwood (DE), N Atkinson (NA), M Ball (MB), T Kaye (TK), L Stanley (LS), J Hart (JH), A Crabtree (AC), B Woodworth (BW), T Beaumont (TB)

+ 45 members of HGSA.

ME welcomed all to the meeting and said all should have received the AGM pack.

MINUTES: The minutes of the 2022 AGM had been circulated and the only comment was that the phrase 'on block' should be 'en bloc'. The minutes were approved with 1 vote against by M Robinson.

REPORTS: Reports from the Chairman, Secretary, Social Committee and Social Media Secretary had been sent out. All were approved. The chairman thanked all who had helped HGSA in any way.

TREASURER: The financial report was distributed and approved. £16,000 had been handed over to the club and ME said it was hoped to increase the sum next year.

CONSTITUTION: Two minor changes to the constitution, included in the distributed pack, were debated. One would mean any changes had to be submitted in writing with 21 days notice, and the second was to run the financial year to mid October to take account of possible play-off games. BW proposed, MB seconded and both measures were approved unanimously.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: No new nominations had been submitted prior to the AGM so existing officials would serve until 2025. The motion was proposed by LS, seconded by MB, and passed unanimously.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: A proposal to increase annual subscriptions from £5 to £6 had been distributed with AGM pack. It was proposed by BW the rise be accepted, seconded by George Lockwood, and passed unanimously.



AOB: NA urged members to pay subscriptions by bank transfer, using name and membership number as reference. The account is Co-operative Bank a/c 65453731, sort code 08-92-99.

Dave Calverley queried the expenditure on the website and said it seemed excessive. ME said the fee had been paid to a professional website designer with the necessary skills and it was hoped costs would be recouped through sponsorship. The meeting closed at 7.50pm.



AGENDA ITEM 2

HGSA Chairman's Report 2024 AGM

I'd like to start off by saying thank you to every single person who has helped out the HGSA in any way, your time and efforts, however large or small are always appreciated and without you, the HGSA couldn't do what it does.

Whilst there has been little to cheer about on the field this year, off the field has been a pretty good year for the HGSA, despite, again, struggling for volunteers and relying mainly on the same people.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING?

For a start, after helping the Community Trust out with the women's teams last year, we decided to support both the senior and U19's teams as they made the move away from the Community Trust over to the club's umbrella, we have a passionate and dedicated team of volunteers led by Mick Ball who do the gates and raffle etc for ALL the home games and have done a splendid job, I know that the HGSA and the volunteers are very much appreciated by the women's team, as we heard at the September speakers evening, if you haven't already then I urge you to go and watch the women and give them some support, they might not win every game but they put their bodies, hearts and souls into every single minute of every game and that's something that should be appreciated.

In June, following the sad death of Rob Burrow, the HGSA, along with the Giants and Leeds Rhinos Womens team and working with the Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA) organised a dedicated MNDA day in memory of Rob Burrow when the teams met at Laund Hill, we raised a significant amount of funds which we passed on to MNDA and raised a lot of awareness, the day was a huge success, despite the inclement weather and a good crowd witnessed a strong Leeds side win 42-4 but the real winners were MNDA and the HGSA volunteers who did a splendid job!

See the website for more details <https://hgsa.org.uk/2024/06/23/hgsa-mnda/>

Last year, we presented a cheque to the club for £16,000 for funds raised by the HGSA At last year's committee meeting, we as a committee agreed to set ourselves a target of £17,500, I am delighted to say that we smashed that target and many of and this year's cheque was for a sum of £25,000, the most the HGSA has ever presented to the club.

A reason for this, as above, was the involvement with the womens teams which significantly increased the gate and raffle takings.

Once again, the cricket day was a huge success, despite the weather not being the best, but everyone had a good time and the cricket as always was competitive, massive thanks to Daz and the team for organising and running the event, you'll see a more thorough run down on the events report further down.

KICK IT INTO TOUCH CAMPAIGN:

Led by our social and media manager Lee, we launched our campaign to raise awareness of player abuse online, Lee spent many hours talking to players and their families, and it gained a good deal of publicity at the time of its launch, but it still stands, please, if you see or hear of any abuse then please encourage people to 'kick it into touch'

<https://hgsa.org.uk/2024/05/31/player-abuse-kick-it-into-touch/>



WEBSITE AND SPONSORSHIPS:

Last year, I outlined the expenditure and investments the committee had made, this included the new website which was in the process of being built, the website is now active and running, we post regular updates and features on the website so please keep yourself updated, the address is www.hgsa.org.uk, we have also recouped most of the money we spent on building the website by way of sponsorships, a massive thank you to all those who have sponsored us so far, you can access their sites by clicking the links at the bottom of the website, we are always on the lookout for sponsors, so please get in touch if you'd like your business etc linked on our website.

VOLUNTEERING:

As is always the case, we need more volunteers, the people who help us out do a great job but we are always looking out for more people to get involved and help out to give everyone the odd weekend off, without the numbers, we really are relying on the same people every week to give their time up, even just an hour each matchday to help out at Laund Hill or the Legends bar, any help will be appreciated, please get in touch if you'd like to help us out.

One of the benefits of volunteering is to be able to watch the academy, scholars, reserves and womens games for free at Laund Hill and to be able to access players etc who are always happy to give up their time for the fans and volunteers- see our website for an example of this.

COMMITTEE:

I would like to place on record, my thanks to the committee for all the help and support including those in the background who help and support me, without the great team work we have on the committee, we wouldn't be as efficient as we are.

In terms of committee members, we have a vacancy for a deputy chair, we have one nomination for the role, that of Janice Hart, I would ask the members to please ratify Janice as Deputy chair until 2025.

Can I place on record my thanks to Bobbie Maiden for her help during her spell on the committee, although she has indicated she would like to remain a volunteer.

I'd also like to you to encourage friends, family, colleagues etc to come along to our events if you enjoy them, which most people seem to do, it would be great to see the Laund Hill function room packed!

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all HGSA members and I hope you enjoy the evening with (hopefully) our Wagstaff trophy winner if you're coming along.



AGENDA ITEM 3

2024 AGM SECRETARY/MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As secretary of HGSA there is very little to report.

I have however, along with Janice Hart, been heavily involved in the registration of membership throughout the year.

As you will no doubt appreciate with a registration list of over 700 this is a big task.

We have both agreed to carry on with these duties for the next 12 months, but looking to the future if there is anyone out there willing to assist, your help would be very much appreciated.

Trevor Kaye

Secretary/Acting Membership Secretary



AGENDA ITEM 4

2024 HGSA TREASURER'S REPORT

Good evening: If only things had gone as well on the field for the Giants as they have off the field for the HGSA!!!

It has been a very healthy year, finance-wise. The HGSA committee set a target of £17,500 to donate to the club following last year's total of £16,000 and I am pleased to say we far exceeded that. We have donated a total of £25,000 to the Huddersfield Giants in 2024 thanks to you, the loyal fans. The bulk of that money, more than £22,000, was raised through games at Laund Hill involving the Reserves, the Academy, the Scholarship and, in particular, the Women and the Under 19 Women. We increased membership charges this year to reflect rising costs and that has obviously had an effect. There were also increases in the sales of merchandise, sponsorship, the Golden Gamble (take a bow, Janice Hart!) and of course the popular Cricket Day.

On the expenditure side the improvements to the website meant more costs and we also bought licences to enable us to print posters and signs more efficiently. The committee also took the decision to award medals to the Womens and Under 19s players and this will be extended to the Academy and Scholars next season.

It all means the HGSA has a very healthy balance to start the next year. I would appeal to members to use the bank transfer system to pay their subscriptions as it makes things so much easier.

Neil Atkinson
Treasurer



HGSA Income 2024 AGM

2023			2024
£			£
	1108.00	MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL	2616.00
	390.00	MEMBERSHIP NEW	408.00
1498.00		MEMBERSHIP TOTAL	3024.00
210.00		SPONSORSHIP	550.00
529.50		DONATIONS	546.50
1337.00		MERCHANDISE	2021.06
194.50		RUGBY CARDS	256.80
1887.00		GOLDEN GAMBLE	2314.85
264.10		COURT COMPENSATION	59.82
-----		AUCTION/RAFFLE	357.00
-----		AWARDS NIGHT TICKETS	66.00
-----		CRICKET DAY	1540.55
-----		EASY FUNDRAISING	59.82
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5920.10			10796.40



HGSA Expenditure 2024 AGM

2023		2024
£		£
607.00	PRINTING	349.29
189.60	CARD MACHINES	189.60
----	SUM-UP CHARGES	167.33
457.49	WEBSITE COSTS	517.50
----	PRINT LICENCES	159.79
60.00	TROPHIES	334.00
608.65	FLAGS/BANNERS	574.64
----	CRICKET DAY COSTS	158.58
----	TABLE COVERS	82.58
110.53	EQUIPMENT	107.50
----	AWARDS EVENING	200.00
35.00	RLPA DONATION	35.00
121.65	GIFTS/AWARDS	80.00
607.00	GIANTS DONATION	2993.50
830.00	SCARVES	----
46.99	WRISTBANDS	----
26.68	POSTAGE/STATIONERY	----
----	SUNDRIES	20.00
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3700.59		5969.31

Balance as of September 20, 2024 = £7875.96

Neil Atkinson

Treasurer



AGENDA ITEM 5

AGM Auditors Report

The Constitution requires us to nominate and appoint auditors at each AGM. The AGM in 2023 was advised that at that time no one had been identified to be able to audit the accounts. During the year an auditor was appointed by the Executive Committee to audit the accounts for 2023/24. That person is J M Atkinson ICAEW AICFA.

The auditor has provided the following report to the AGM.

I have checked the accounts of the HGSA for 2023/24 and report all to be in order. No discrepancies were found and there are no issues of concern to raise.

JM Atkinson ICAEW AICFA

Appointment of Auditor for 2024/25

At the time of writing this report we are again struggling to identify someone to act as Auditor for the coming years accounts. A verbal update on progress will be provided at the AGM.



AGENDA ITEM 6

ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HGSA

Section 4.2 of The HGSA Constitution requires that the Executive Committee is elected every two years. The following post falls for election at this AGM any appointment made will be until the 2026 AGM.

Deputy Chair

Janice Hart was appointed to the vacant Deputy Chair role by the Executive Committee during the year per the HGSA Constitution. Janice has indicated that she wishes to continue in the role and wishes to stand at the AGM for appointment. If any other member also wishes to stand for the Deputy Chair role they should give notice to the Secretary by 14th October 2024 as per the notice of the AGM. If more than one application for the role is received a vote of members on the night will be held to determine who will be appointed.

The following form the Executive Committee of the HGSA with the date elected to in brackets after their name.

Chair	Martin Eastwood (2025)
Deputy Chair	Janice Hart (see comments above)
Treasurer	Neil Atkinson (2025)
Trevor Kaye	Secretary (2025)
Trevor Kaye	Deputy Officer (2025)

General Committee Members, who are appointed by the Executive Committee are as follows:

Membership Secretary -	Trevor Kaye/Janice Hart
Events Manager-	Darren Eastwood
Social and Content-	Lee Stanley & Mark Atack
Committee members-	Mick Ball, Richard Jackson, Freya Ball, Anne Crabtree, Janice Hart, Bryn Woodworth.
Associates and advisers-	Geoff Spencer, Jo Flynn, Melanie Hill

Trevor Kaye
Secretary



GENERAL UPDATE

EVENTS MANAGER REPORT FOR AGM 2024

As always, our year began with the popular Fans Forum held in January at Laund Hill.

Over 100 people were present to listen to Giants MD Richard Thewlis, former Head Coach Ian Watson, Match official Chris Kendall and Martyn Sadler, CEO of TotalRL and League Express.

Along with the Q&A's we also held a raffle and auction of various items including a signed Leroy Cudjoe shirt and framed picture and a 2024 squad signed shirt.

In February we were joined by the Head of Academy and Scholarship Tom Tsang and some of the young lads in his academy squad for this year to look forward to the new season and discuss the plans and hopes for them, maybe we saw some future Giants stars that evening?

In March we had the pleasure of meeting 2 of our new signings in Australian Jack Murchie and youngster George Flanagan, as usual they were very much looking forward to their time at the club, likewise for us.

We had a very interesting evening in April when Elliot Wallis was our guest, thanks to our host Daz's detective work we learned some very interesting stuff about a player not many of us knew much about previously.

Local lad Sam Hewitt and Adam Milner were our next guests in May, conveniently Sam's new contract extension was announced earlier that day, a nice way to open the meeting, listening to Adam's story was also heartwarming to hear.

We met the Giants newest director, Jas Singh Athwal DL, in June, those present will agree what a fantastic guest he turned out to be, a very interesting and humorous evening indeed.

In July we had a packed room for the visit of Jake Connor, as ever Jake was his



usual cheeky self and answered some pretty tough questions admirably too.

We had a HGSA 1st in August as we hosted our maiden mid-year fans forum, our guest were club Director Rebecca Jackson, Interim Head Coach Luke Robinson (Ian Watson was, of course, scheduled to be there originally) and popular Giants product Matty English, took part in a very difficult session considering what had gone on at the club, all 3 were brilliant on the evening and showed what assets they are to the club.

Onto September where, following the (almost) conclusion of the season we were joined by Lori, James, Rich, Jacob and Bethan from the Huddersfield Giants Women who were more than happy to chat about their season just gone and the plans for the team moving forward.

With all our meeting we like to add a bit of fun into proceedings as well as getting down to the serious stuff, we do this in the form of our guest quiz, thankfully they all seem happy enough to get stuck in to Daz's grilling and our winner is based on a percentage of correct answers gained rather than points, the clear winner of this year's quiz with 68% is Giants women's captain Bethan Oates, Matty English was the runner-up with 48%.

Thanks to all our guests for taking part in this.

As well as our monthly meetings we obviously arrange and run the annual Twenty20 cricket family funday in the wonderful surroundings of Honley Cricket club, this is always a hugely popular day out and this year was no different, despite the weather being rather disagreeable at times the cricket match, Ash Golding's 'Jamaica Allstars Rest of the World' team take on Matty English's England in a fun filled afternoon, as well as the on field action there was a range of food, drink and stalls for the guests, we hope everyone enjoyed their day and are always happy to listen to any feedback or suggestions to improve the event in the future.

Can we also offer our grateful thanks to all those who volunteered for us on the day.

And of course, to Honley Cricket club and hugely so to Yorkshire Event power, without these guys we wouldn't have a cricket day at all!

Have you also noticed our presence at the pre match Fanzone at home games yet?



You can find us in the main marquee where we host a number of non-playing squad members who are on hand to chat, sign autographs, pose for pictures and take part in our player challenges, these are very popular with more to come next year.

Finally, we'd like to think we have offered plenty of entertainment for everyone this year so thank you to everyone who attended any of our events and supported us in some way, again we are always open to ideas, thoughts or feedback so please do tell us if you have anything.

Thanks Again

Daz Eastwood

Events Manager



GENERAL UPDATE

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT 2024 AGM

So far this year we have had an increase in followers on social media. We are now over 2.2k. Last year we just hit 2.1k. Unfortunately due to Facebook changing meta business I no longer have access to the exact amount of followers or who is new.

Just on Facebook alone, we have posted out over 1180 posts across multiple pages and groups.

Our highest ranking post been one from the Catalan trip reaching over 29,000 people.

We have a reach this year (Since January) of over 163,700 people. Up 151%

Over 32,000 people have visited our page this year.

We have taken and uploaded thousands of photos whilst updating scores etc of over 9 academy and reserves games.

Our post reach stats to gender are still V similar to last year. The highest viewing category been males aged 45 - 54 followed by males aged 55-64.

We did pre-season training with Ian Watson and the lads and produced a few reports from it.

We launched the 'kick it into touch' campaign after talking to over 50 SL players.

We produced ID badges.

We produced signs for the Academy, Scholarship, Womens and Reserves games, Fan Zone, Legends and speakers evenings.

We have made Facebook posters for every single home 1st team game and pushed them across numerous pages.

We have videoed speakers evenings of 1st team players and produced these to go on our YouTube channel.

We have hosted the Brian Blacker Roadshow when Brian hasn't been available.

We produced a top fans leaderboard game which is ongoing.

What a year

Lee Stanley

Social and Content Committee Member