



**Minutes of the 102<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Ulster Hockey Management Board,  
held on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.00pm in the Ulster Hockey Office.**

**Present:** Billy Pollock (BP), Peter Kelly (PK), Gareth Herron (GH), Mervyn Logan (ML), Ann Rosa (AR), Jonny Rose (JR) Rory Capper (RC), Chris McCandless (CMcC), Lyn Mills (LM).

**In Attendance:** Adare Brady (AB) President UH, Terry Templeton (TT) Vice President UH, Jill Poots (JP) Executive Manager.

**Apologies:** Iain Kelly

Item	Comments	Decision/ Action Taken
Chairperson's Remarks	BP welcomed all to the meeting.	
Conflict of Interest	GH, AB, TT and ML advised that there would potentially be a conflict of interest if Umpires' Mileage was to be discussed.	
President's Report	<p>The President highlighted the success of the Girls' Under 18 team winning gold in the School Games in Loughborough at the end of August, and the Boys' Under 18 team winning the Interprovincial tournament in Cork last weekend.</p> <p>The Board congratulated the players and coaching staff of all the Ulster teams who took part in these tournaments.</p> <p>The President noted that the new Teamwear Ireland Joma kit looked particularly impressive.</p>	
Minutes of the last Board Meeting	The draft Minutes of the Board meeting on 21 <sup>st</sup> August were ratified unanimously as a true reflection of the meeting and signed by BP.	
Matters Arising	<p>PK advised that he had sourced the policy wording for the UH Clubs' insurance scheme. GH suggested that an umbrella policy should include umpires.</p> <p>AR reported that she had shared the guidance on managing penalty 'run-ins' with the two Schools' Committees.</p> <p>Ireland World Cup Players' awards of £250 for each Ulster player had been previously agreed and will be delivered.</p>	BP & JP to progress



	<p>The Board noted the school competitions' rules' paper for the Boys' 2018/19 season and welcomed the adoption of penalty run-ins in place of penalty stroke competitions in the Burney, Dowdall, Richardson and Ferris Cups, and the Bannister Bowl.</p> <p>Given the prevalence of penalty run-ins in junior and adult hockey, the Board hoped this format would be extended to all Boys' school competitions in future.</p> <p>JP reported that she spoken to Banbridge HC about the payment of an outstanding fine.</p>	
<p>Standing Committee Reports</p>	<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p>The Finance Committee met on 13 September (rearranged from 7 September) and in a late change of plan discussed the ongoing issue of umpires' mileage, with GH invited to represent the Umpires Executive's points. BP explained the background to this meeting and stated he had apologised to the Finance Committee for any inconvenience caused.</p> <p>BP and GH noted correspondence between them following the meeting and a proposal from BP to convene a sub-group to allow representatives of the Board and the umpires to continue discussions. PK had agreed to chair the sub-group.</p> <p>ML presented his finance report and noted that future budget comparisons would be done on a six-month basis.</p> <p><b><u>Schools</u></b></p> <p>AR reported that she was still waiting for a meeting to be arranged to plan an all-Ireland U15 girls' tournament for provincial champions, matching the format of the John Waring Trophy for U14 boys.</p> <p><b><u>Competitions</u></b></p> <p>JP reported that the league fixtures were due to be issued this week.</p> <p>LM urged the Executive team to ensure timely invoicing to clubs. JP said that process was due to start this week.</p> <p>The Board noted that in the event of any additional levies being raised on clubs, a Special General Meeting would be required.</p>	<p>GH to seek umpires' agreement to sub-group proposal</p>




	<p><b><u>Umpires</u></b></p> <p>GH reported that the fixtures were now on the portal and appointments to fixtures were being made. Umpires <del>would</del> <sup>had not</sup> attended the Club Briefings and GH had attended the Irish Hockey Umpires' AGM.</p> <p>GH welcomed the ongoing discussions about umpires' mileage and encouraged the proposed sub-group to focus on agreeing an approach that could go to a Special General Meeting.</p> <p>The Board discussed the strength of feeling amongst umpires on the matter, as well as the financial constraints facing Ulster Hockey. The Board also recognised the significant voluntary contributions made by umpires, coaches and players throughout the Ulster Hockey family.</p> <p><b><u>Coaching</u></b></p> <p>CMcC congratulated the Boys' U18s on their Interprovincial tournament success, and looked forward to the Girls' U16s and U18s Interprovincials that coming weekend.</p> <p>CMcC asked that Talent Coach Shirley McCay be given delegated authority to communicate to schools about the recommended rest periods for high performance players, particularly approaching tournaments. The rest period is based on limiting a player's 'units of hockey' per week. The Board welcomed the approach and agreed to delegate authority to Shirley.</p> <p>CMcC expressed concern that all the national Junior Age Group coaching appointees are now from Leinster. He reported that experienced Ulster coaches had applied for some of these posts but had not been interviewed, and in some instances had not received any further communication from Hockey Ireland post-application.</p> <p><b><u>Disciplinary Sub-Committee</u></b></p> <p>No report received.</p>	<p>JP to add 'Units' information to website</p> <p>JP to ask for feedback from Hockey Ireland's High Performance Director, Adam Grainger</p>
<p>Executive Manager Report</p>	<p>JP presented her report and highlighted the following items:</p> <p><b><i>Website</i></b> – the new website is up and running and the Executive team is working through snags.</p> <p><b><i>Courses/meetings</i></b> – JP would be attending Concussion NI on 19<sup>th</sup> September. BP recorded his thanks to Rosie Rea for attending a</p>	



	<p>previous course on behalf of Ulster Hockey. JP would be attending a School Sport meeting with Grammar Schools on 25<sup>th</sup> September looking at the expense of school sport.</p> <p><b>Operational Plan</b> – this will be presented at the next Board meeting and BP asked for appropriate time to be given to the item.</p> <p><b>Incorporation</b> – the draft Articles of Association had been circulated to Board members. GH asked where umpires would fit in the current membership categories. BP encouraged attendance at a Board planning session on 30 September.</p> <p><b>World Cup legacy</b> – JP had attended a recent meeting between Hockey Ireland and Sport NI re. post-World Cup support and the possibility of a bid for a regional training centre. A further legacy aspect would be the continuation and increase of Active Clubs funding.</p> <p>BP said that Ulster Hockey would need to make its own approach to Sport NI re. legacy, and the planned audit of artificial pitches would help inform a more strategic approach.</p> <p><b>Audit of pitches</b> – JP proposed John Smyth and a member of UH staff be part of the audit group.</p> <p><b>Commercial plan</b> – is being drafted</p> <p><b>Sponsorship</b> – following the success of the Ireland women’s team, sponsorship proposals have been sent to various companies.</p> <p><b>Commonwealth Games</b> – The NI Games Committee has asked for a meeting with Ulster Hockey and Hockey Ireland to explore the potential for a Northern Ireland hockey team to compete in the 2022 Games in Birmingham.</p> <p><b>PR</b> – a contract for media coverage has been awarded to John Flack and will be reviewed mid-January 2019.</p> <p><b>Active Clubs</b> – funding has been received from Mid Ulster Council to appoint a part-time coach for the area.</p> <p><b>Clubmark</b> – more clubs are coming on board to achieve the accreditation and there was a possible hub of Belfast clubs who could help each other work towards accreditation.</p> <p><b>Under 15s</b> – the boys new Super 8 format was due to begin on 30<sup>th</sup> September, with the aim of encouraging clubs who can’t field an 11-a-side team.</p>	<p>JP to invite Adam Grainger to present Hockey Ireland’s High Performance Plan.</p> <p>Board members to pass potential sponsorship leads to JP</p>
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	<b>School Games</b> – JP noted that the Games would now happen every other year, rather than annually.	
<b>UHU Events</b>	None	
<b>Four Provinces Meeting</b>	No Meetings have taken place or are scheduled.	
<b>Correspondence</b>	Letters had been received from three clubs regarding fines for late affiliation forms. These were being considered by the Competitions Committee.	
<b>Any Other Business</b>	Approval was sought and granted for new sponsors for Club KV and Ards LHC.	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	15 <sup>th</sup> October 2018 16	
<b>Meeting Closed</b>	The Meeting closed at 9.20pm	

APPROVED :   
CHAIR ULSTER HOCKEY

DATE : 16<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2018

