



Minutes of the 117th Meeting of the Ulster Management Board, held on 21st January 2020 at 7.00pm in the Ulster Hockey Office.

Present: Billy Pollock (BP), Peter Kelly (PK), Gareth Herron (GH), Jamie Aiken (JA), Christine Reid (CR), Mervyn Logan (ML), Iain Kelly (IK), Chris McCandless (CMcC), Ann Rosa (AR),

In attendance: Terry Templeton (TT) President UH, Rosie Rea (RR) Vice President, Marc Scott (MS) Executive Manager.

Apologies: Jonny Rose (JR)

| Item | Comments |
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| Chairperson's remarks | <p>The Chair thanked all for attending the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair advised that the Executive Manager had undertaken the 6 month Appraisal with the Executive Manager and as performance was deemed satisfactory that the 6 month probationary period was complete.</p> |
| Conflict of Interest | None noted |
| President's Report | <p>The President provided a written report outlining activities undertaken in the last month. He added verbally that he was in attendance at the Belfast Telegraph Sports Awards and passed on his congratulations to Eric Cunningham on receiving the WD Paddy Patterson Award for contribution to sport. In addition congratulations were noted for the 5 other nominees from the sport of hockey: Ayeisha McFerron, Greg Thompson, Pegasus Ladies Hockey Team, Katie Mullan and Sean Dancer.</p> |
| Minutes of last Board meeting | Agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting. Proposed GH, seconded IK |
| Matters arising | <p><u>Indoor</u></p> <p>The Senior Indoor Championships (men's and women's) are taking place on 26 January 2020 at Jordanstown. It was noted that there had been some difficulty in securing a date.</p> <p>A query had been raised regards how players in Ulster Hockey squads were covered under Ulster Hockey insurance. It was agreed that there was a misconception that the Willis policy which a number of schools and clubs had taken out was an Ulster Hockey endorsed policy. ACTION – MS to write to schools and clubs to clarify position regards insurance.</p> |

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| | <p>It was also clarified that officially appointed Umpires are covered through the UH policy.</p> <p>Discussion regards how UH can continue to attract and develop umpires, and how UH can better promote the positive side of umpiring. It was agreed that an umpires event should be arranged – MS & JA to discuss.</p> |
| <p>Standing Committee Reports</p> | <p><u>Executive Manager's report</u></p> <p>MS provided a written report and highlighted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quotes had been sought for an upgrade of the IT function. MS to share with GH & JA and prepare proposal for Finance Committee. <p>Some concerns were raised regards communication with the Umpires Committee. MS & JA to meet and discuss solutions.</p> <p>The need for Uh to consider developing its strategy post 2021 was raised with this process to be initiated through a joint staff and Board workshop. Options for facilitators have been sourced and MS is to identify and agree a suitable evening date for this workshop.</p> <p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>Key areas reported by Finance Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The budget is complete but subject to ongoing review; - It was highlighted that the entry under stock was being allocated to the relevant budget heading as much of the kit has been allocated. - A large proportion of the Hockey Ireland levies have been paid. A small amount remains outstanding and will be paid once outstanding fees have been received. It was clarified that a reminder had been sent to all clubs. AR queried whether there should be consideration to fines for late payment. - It was noted that the Millar McCall Wylie sponsorship was not reflected in the budget. - Difficulty in attracting volunteers to cover the gates at events was raised. GH proposed that consideration could be given to paid volunteers. <p><u>Schools</u></p> <p>AR thanked JA for emailing the Umpires for availability to assist with the schools finals.</p> <p>It was noted that Andrew Johnston was meeting with John Minnis to discuss how to mark the 100th anniversary of the Burney Cup. Provisional dates were in place for the Cup fixtures.</p> <p>AR raised the need for an Events Committee to assist in organising events. This could be considered as part of the Incorporation and restructure</p> |

process.

Competitions

The issue with Portrush HC in terms of registration is still on-going and the club registrations are still incomplete. The fine imposed on the club is yet to be paid and IK is liaising with the club in this regard. ACTION – IK to write to the club and advise the need to clear these issues by 7th February or suspended element of fine will also be imposed and the club will be suspended as of 14th February.

It was noted that it was not always clear the status of fines and what had been paid or otherwise. ACTION – MS to devise process for better monitoring fines.

The issue regards Ballymena Men's club was outlined. The club is to withdraw its 1st XI from the Intermediate League and it agreed that it can continue to fulfil its Junior 5 fixtures as friendlies to allow 1st XI to be eligible to play in these fixtures.

A survey has been developed to consult on the future league structures. It was agreed to circulate this survey in the proposed format. IK advised that forum will be held in March to present and discuss the outcomes of the survey.

Umpires

It was stated that the Umpires Committee was content that the Disciplinary process was back on track and operating effectively.

The process for claiming and paying expenses was clarified.

MS & JA agreed to meet to discuss some ongoing operational issues with umpires and communication.


Issues were raised regards Physios coaching from the side-lines. It was agreed that there should be a policy outlining the qualifications required to be listed on the match card as a physio. The match card could be amended to incorporate a section for physios.

It was raised that there were issues with the Technical Table (or lack of) and the match cards at the Denman Shield Final. It was agreed that a review of events management was required.

Coaching

It was agreed that there was a need to schedule a meeting as soon as possible with the working group to develop the Coaching committee structures going forward.

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| | <p>It was highlighted that there were currently difficulties in attracting coaches for the U21 and U23 programmes.</p> <p>CMcC suggested the potential for the National Coaches to lead the recruitment system for U21/U23 coaches.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary</u></p> <p>Minutes of the Disciplinary Committee meeting from 16th January 2020 presented and sanctions noted to be published.</p> <p>Ongoing Rainey Ladies complaint – MS to co-ordinate meeting between MS, JA, RH and HR to discuss the issue. It was agreed that the Umpire subject to the complaint should not umpire any matches involving the club until the issue is resolved.</p> <p>The Board agreed its position that an automatic suspension should be triggered by an accumulation of 3 yellow cards.</p> |
| UHU Events | <p>It was agreed that there was a need to establish an Events committee.</p> <p>There is potential to review the format of the Awards Dinner.</p> |
| Hockey Ireland | MS is still awaiting feedback from the HI Board regards the support for an Ulster Development post. |
| Correspondence | |
| AOB | It was highlighted during the Sport NI Financial Systems Control Assessment that there were a number of signatories listed on the bank mandate who should no longer be listed. The Board agreed to contact the bank and delete names as appropriate. |
| Date of next meeting | <p>Tuesday 18th February</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.45pm</p> |

APPROVED : 
 BILL BROWN
 CHAIR ULSR HOCKEY

DATE : 18th FEBRUARY 2020