



Minutes of the 128th Meeting of the Ulster Management Board, held on 19th January 2021 at 7.00pm
by Zoom conference call

Present: Billy Pollock (BP), Peter Kelly (PK), Mervyn Logan (ML), Iain Kelly (IK), Ann Rosa (AR), Gareth Herron (GH), Christine Reid (CR), Linda Johnston (LJ), Jonathan Rose (JR)

In attendance: Rosie Rea (RR) President, Marc Scott (MS) Executive Manager

Apologies: James Wray (JW),

Item	Comments
Chairperson's remarks	The Chair thanked all for attending the meeting remotely and wished everyone a belated Happy New Year.
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts of interest declared outside of 'standing' conflicts of interest.
President's Report	RR reported that there had been limited opportunity to undertake any Presidential duties as there had been no hockey activity.
Minutes of last Board meeting	Agreed as an accurate reflection of the meeting. Proposed PK, seconded AR
Matters arising	None
Standing Committee Reports	<p><u>Executive Manager's report</u></p> <p>A report was circulated to the Board members. The following areas were highlighted:</p> <p>A working group has been established to consider ways in which the 125th Anniversary can be marked and how UH can better record and celebrate its history met for the first time on 14th December. The group consists of Drew Francey, Ronnie Smyth, Dixon Rose, Michael Graham, Terry Templeton, Norma Gartside, Joan McCloy, Pat Hall and Ann Rosa.</p> <p>Due to some confusion over activities during lock down, and to ensure the UH Management have a robust system for monitoring events, a 'permit' system has been devised where no Ulster Hockey event or activity can take place without Executive Manager 'sign off'.</p> <p>Invoices for Senior clubs have been raised and a number of fees are still outstanding. Nicki Bayes will be sending reminders in the next 7 days.</p> <p>Youth invoices have also been issued. Following a consultation with clubs, these fees were increased. However, following correspondence from clubs and considering the reduced level of hockey and the financial strain on</p>

clubs, the Finance Committee agreed to revert to last years fees for 2020/21 with a view to implementing the increase in 2021/22.

The Finance Officer is currently re-issuing invoices and refunds to those clubs which have already submitted payment.

The process of appointing the new auditor – Johnston Kennedy – has been commenced.

The Consultant has been engaged for the strategic planning process and a project initiation meeting took place on Friday 27th November. The Executive Manager, Chair and Vice-Chair were involved on behalf of Ulster Hockey and Paul Donnelly (PD) on behalf of Edge Ahead. A number of documents have been provided to PD along with a list of stakeholders for consultation.

Sports Sustainability Award - Applications have been received from 12 clubs and an application is being made on behalf of Ulster Hockey.

It was highlighted that Nicki Bayes had contributed a significant effort to helping clubs and an appreciation of this was registered. Seconded by AR.

Finance

There was no Finance Committee meeting in January 2021. Management accounts were circulated.

It was agreed that a position was required on future affiliation fees – i.e. a discount on the basis of funds received through the Sports Sustainability award.

A further ‘gentle’ reminder is to be sent to clubs outstanding fees.

Schools

AR and TT attended the presentation of the John Minnis Burney Cup – shared between Friends and Sullivan.

JR queried the Schools Committee’s thoughts on Saturday morning hockey; AR advised that a wider review was required for youth hockey.

MS advised that this maybe facilitated in the new structure through the proposed Youth Committee.

Competitions

The Competitions Committee are continuing to meet on a 2 weekly basis.

Met on 18th January and are awaiting the outcome of the 6th February review of restrictions before making a definitive decision on the leagues and cups.

Concerns being considered are availability of player and pitches.

	<p>It has been considered that Cup competitions are played in lieu of leagues should restrictions allow.</p> <p>It was considered that it was unlikely that any hockey would resume if there is no start-up before Easter.</p> <p>It was agreed that in the 'worst case' scenario, UH would encourage clubs to play friendly matches to ensure some hockey activity and member engagement.</p> <p>EYHL Review – a full root and branch review is on-going. An Ulster stakeholder zoom consultation is scheduled for 20/1/21. IK is leading the process and has been involved in other Provincial meetings.</p> <p><u>Umpires</u></p> <p>There has been minimal activity.</p> <p>National online course has been launched – there is an outstanding issue to be resolved regards the financial implications of this new process.</p> <p><u>Coaching</u></p> <p>The Coaching Committee has met to discuss the content of a Coaching App.</p> <p>Also discussed was the requirement for a formal coaching contract for all coaches in the system.</p> <p>It was advised that Mark Gleghorne had joined the Committee.</p> <p><u>Disciplinary</u></p> <p>No update required as there has not been any hockey activity.</p>
UHU Events	No events
Hockey Ireland	No update
Correspondence	No correspondence
AOB	<p>BP highlighted the NISF Board recruitment process and highlighted a promotional video in which MS was involved (in the role of Archery NI Chair). This process may be utilised by UH in the restructure process.</p> <p>BP noted there should be more focus and consideration of risk management going forward.</p>
Date of next meeting	<p>Tuesday 16th February (by Zoom)</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20.45</p>