



Minutes of the 129<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Ulster Management Board, held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.00pm by Zoom conference call

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

**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 AR, seconded ML
Matters arising	Co-option of Neal Lucas (NL) to the Management Board – BP, MS & PK provided summation of meeting with NL and all Board members had received a profile.  Co-option proposed by BP, seconded ML. All Board members in agreement.
Standing Committee Reports	<b><u>Executive Manager's report</u></b>  MS provided a report, drawing attention to the following areas:  <u>125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</u>  The working group met on 12 <sup>th</sup> February to discuss the programme of events.  It is hoped that a celebration dinner can be scheduled for late 2021 alongside some form of challenge matches to mark the occasion, however these are very much dependent on the restrictions at that time.  A series of video interviews is planned for 2021 involving notable figures from Ulster Hockey's history including international players and long terms administrators.

A 'festival of youth hockey' to mark the return to hockey in August/September 2021 and providing a vehicle through which our younger members can get involved in the celebration is planned on a regional basis (restrictions allowing). This also provides a possible 'debut' opportunity for the Hockey Huskey.

A commemorative logo is being commissioned.

#### 70 Minute Challenge

The Domestic Hockey Officer is co-ordinating a '70 minute challenge' where clubs and schools will be challenged to submit a collective of miles run in 70 minutes.

#### Good Relations

The 2021/22 Central Good Relations Programme closed for applications on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February. An application has been submitted seeking an increased award of £40,666 through which we would hope to support a full time GR Officer as opposed to the current part time provision.

#### Strategy

The Consultant has undertaken the desk top research element of the project and has indicated that a meeting of the Associates engaged in the process is taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> February with a view to compiling an initial outcome of this research.

The Consultation phase will be commencing in the coming weeks with a 'top down' approach, starting with engagement with organisations to which we may look to align our strategy (i.e. Department for Communities, Sport NI, Hockey Ireland), followed by engagement with the Board and Staff and finally external stakeholder such as clubs, schools, volunteers and members.

#### Youth Hockey

The YDO is currently developing a Youth Forum, which in time will be linked to the decision making processes for Ulster Hockey through representation on the Youth Committee.

#### Club Development

Saintfield Hockey Club and Ards Ladies have had confirmation that they have achieved Clubmark.

#### Sports Sustainability Fund

An application has been submitted and UH awaits the outcome. MS noted that Nicki Bayes should be highly commended for the work she has put in to date in the application process.

#### Finance

Minutes from the Finance Committee meeting on 9 February circulated.

Thanks to Nicki Bayes are noted for providing financial papers in a timely manner.

The amended presentation of the financial figures was outlined.

An update was provided regards the collection of outstanding fees. A further letter to go to clubs with a final date for payment outlined and a statement regards potential discounted fees next season based on UH adopting a 'cost neutral' position.

ML confirmed that this was aligned to the position of the Finance Committee.

### **Schools**

AR advised there was little to report as there had been no hockey activity.

Conor Savage has been in contact with schools to determine appetite for any form of competition should restrictions allow.

### **Competitions**

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

IK outlined the outcome of the EYHL consultation forum:

- A split in opinion on EYHL2 was noted.

IK outlined in detail the wider consultation and stakeholders involved.

Proposals for the competitive club and schools hockey were discussed, subject to restrictions allowing. It was noted that Conor Savage was co-ordinating a survey with clubs to determine the appetite for hockey out-with the traditional period.

It was confirmed that the Provincial Leagues were to be abandoned at all levels with 2020/21 structure to remain for next year.

The Board commended the work undertaken by the Committee over the last few months and pass thanks to all of those involved in the meetings.

### **Umpires**

There has been minimal activity.

Noted that there has been a good response by Umpires regarding availability for competitive hockey should restrictions allow.

### **Coaching**

No formal update from the Committee.

It was noted that the Committee would be managing a formal process for contracts to be provided to all casual and appointed coaches.

	<p><b><u>Disciplinary</u></b></p> <p>No update required as there has not been any hockey activity.</p>
UHU Events	No events
Hockey Ireland	It was advised that Hockey Ireland are seeking Life Member nominations.
Correspondence	No correspondence
AOB	<p>MS advised that Immediate Past President Terry Templeton has offered to donate a cup for any UH event deemed appropriate.</p> <p>BP advised that the Board are to consider 'post-restructure' Board constitution at the March meeting.</p>
Date of next meeting	<p>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March (by Zoom)</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20.45</p>