



Minutes of the 131<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Ulster Hockey Management Board, held on 20<sup>th</sup> April 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), Neal Lucas (NL)

**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.
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	None
Standing Committee Reports	<p><b><u>Executive Manager's report</u></b></p> <p>MS provided a report, drawing attention to the following areas:</p> <p><u>COVID restrictions:</u></p> <p>MS advised significant changes to the restrictions to be implemented from 23<sup>rd</sup> April, in particular that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Squad training in some sports may be larger but only to the level that is necessary to prepare for competitive sport. This must not be a signal to congregate squads with much greater numbers than the minimum required to prepare for competition.</li> <li>- Competitive outdoor sport can be organised by a club, individual or individuals affiliated, with numbers (including participants, officials, management and essential support personnel) not exceeding 100 and no spectators permitted.</li> </ul> <p><u>125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</u></p> <p>Work on the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary programme is continuing with a social media launch having taken place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.</p>

The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Working Group has continued to meet on a monthly basis to shape the programme of events. Currently the following events are planned (subject to restrictions):

- Interview series with Denise Watson;
- Youth Festival;
- 2 day Challenge Match programme;
- Celebration Dinner;
- Development of an online archive.

A Partnership document has been developed and published to attract corporate sponsors to the planned events. This was provided for reference.

Catherine Thompson – MA Public History graduate from Queens University – has agreed to work voluntarily with Ulster Hockey to co-ordinate the development of the archive and to undertake a research project.

#### Strategy

Consultation workshops with the Board and staff took place week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> March, with further feedback provided to the Consultant. Reports were provided following each session.

A survey is currently live with a closing date of 19<sup>th</sup> April with potential for this to be extended to increase engagement. Focus group sessions with clubs will follow.

#### Club Development

Clubmark – we have now reached 11 clubs achieving Clubmark, Lisnagarvey and Armagh having recently completed the process. 5 clubs visits for presenting the award are pending.

A 'new' Clubmark format is being developed.

#### Finance

Grant Awards of £8,500 have been agreed for 2021/22 and 2022/23 from mid Ulster Council.

#### Ulster Hockey Ltd

Companies House returns – confirmation statement and dormant accounts declaration – have been completed.

It was agreed that all Board members be notified when there is correspondence with Companies House.

#### Competitions

	<p>The Domestic Hockey Officer has issued a survey to clubs, the outcome of which has indicated a considerable appetite for a return to hockey over the summer months.</p> <p>The Competitions Committee are devising the format of a league cup competition with a focus on enjoyment. Clubs are to respond by Thursday 22 April to indicate their entry.</p> <p>Competition will last 6 weeks with an additional finals day. The format will be 4 group matches plus a 'cross over'.</p> <p>Clubs are expected to assist each other where facility access is limited.</p> <p>There is also an exercise to gauge an interest in mixed 'social' blitz events in the summer on a drop in basis. These will be organised by the staff.</p> <p>GH queried the application of registration rules. It was noted that these would not be strictly applied to allow flexibility but it was expected that clubs act within the spirit of the tournaments.</p> <p>LJ highlighted that there had been a good response from Umpires to get involved in the tournaments.</p> <p><b><u>Umpires</u></b></p> <p>There has been minimal activity.</p> <p>Umpires scheduled to meet on 27<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>The Board agreed that under the circumstances of the current COVID restrictions, it was accepted that the Umpires AGM may not comply with the 21day requirement.</p> <p><b><u>Coaching</u></b></p> <p>No update.</p> <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	No update
Correspondence	No correspondence
Ulster Hockey Ltd Board	<p>The Board members have each indicated their intentions going forwards once the Board has restructured.</p> <p>MS to provide explanatory document for next steps.</p>
AGM	To be held on 25 <sup>th</sup> May using the same format as October 2020.

	<p>Reports for Annual report to be submitted to the Executive Manager.</p> <p>Expressions of interest for joining the Board to be sent to clubs and members.</p>
AOB	MS and BP attending the All Party Working Group meeting on 23 <sup>rd</sup> April.
Date of next meeting	<p>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May (by Zoom)</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.05</p>