



Minutes of the 139th Meeting of the Ulster Hockey Board, held on 18th January 2022 at 7.00pm by
Zoom Conference call

Present: Billy Pollock (BP), Iain Kelly (IK), Ann Rosa (AR), Christine Reid (CR), Mervyn Logan (ML), Peter Kelly (PK), Tim Cockram (TC), Kenton Hilman (KH), Jonathan Rose (JR), Neal Lucas (NL), Gareth Herron (GH)

In attendance: Rosie Rea (RR) President, James Wray (JW), Marc Scott (MS) Executive Manager & Company Secretary

Apologies: Linda Johnston (LJ), James Wray (JW)

Item	Comments
Chairperson's remarks	The Chair thanked all for attending the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year.
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts other than standing HI conflict – BP, IK, AR
President's Report	<p>RR provided a report</p> <p>She drew particular attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disappointment that the Kirk Cup & Ulster Shield were postponed, but unavoidable under the circumstances. - Noted the success of the Indoor events which took place over the Christmas period. - Advised that the Banbridge Anniversary Dinner was being postponed from March 2022 until October 2022.
Minutes of last Board meeting	Proposed PK seconded TC
Matters arising	No matters for discussion outside of the agenda
Standing Committee Reports	<p><u>Executive Manager's report</u></p> <p>MS provided an overview of the Executive report, covering all areas in the report due to its late circulation. Report attached as an addendum.</p> <p>MS advised that a new system for Board papers was being established ahead of the February meeting to avoid late circulation of papers. Nicki Bayes would be managing the collation of the papers and sending reminders to the relevant Directors and Committee members.</p>

	<p>It was noted that MS had been appointed Vice-Chair of the NI Sports Forum. BP noted that congratulations should be recorded on this appointment.</p> <p>IK suggested that this appointment and the involvement of MS in the All-Party Working Group sub-meeting regards the development of a legacy paper for this group was indicative of the profile that hockey had developed.</p> <p><u>Finance & Governance Committee</u></p> <p>KH provided an overview of the discussions at the Finance Committee highlighting the following areas:</p> <p>Finance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A meeting had taken place with AEGON which would be an annual review; - There had been a discussion between KH, BP, PK and MS regards the budget on 17th January; - Concerns were raised over the cost of the Lilleshall Ulster squad trip. These costs are covered by parental contribution. <p>Governance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noted that there had been limited progress in term of development of the Transgender Policy in conjunction with Hockey Ireland. MS to pick up in a planned meeting with HI. <p>The Board undertook an initial discussion regards the future staff structure of Ulster Hockey. MS left the meeting for this discussion.</p> <p><u>Participation & Development Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Competitions Sub Committee <p>The escalating number of postponements as a result of COVID was noted.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the Kirk Cup and Ulster Shield had been postponed due to COVID. The semi-finals and finals would be rescheduled for a later date, potentially as a season finale.</p> <p>Leagues were currently being prioritised.</p> <p>It was advised that there were issues with fixtures issued in error due to the league split – predominantly in the ladies’ game. The error had been accepted in the men’s game.</p> <p>It was decide that the split would continue to be implemented and that ‘phase 2’ fixtures were now being issued.</p> <p>A query has been received regards the ‘winner’ of the ‘B’ Division matches post split. It was agreed that a plate would be awarded.</p>
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	<p>The transfer deadline was 31st December for registration and playing. Several late requests were received and discussed on 6th January.</p> <p>Consistent determinations were arrived at based on both the rules and precedent, ensuring fairness to all clubs.</p> <p>2 late registration requests were granted.</p> <p>BP expressed thanks to all Committee members dealing with significant issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools Sub Committee <p>Ann Rosa reported back on the developments in schools hockey, providing a written report. The following areas were highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Notification to be made to schools regards new rules being implemented. - Request received from Kilkeel HS regards rescheduling of matches (away from Saturday AM) to assist with the promotion of the sport in the school. - Advised that the Schools Committee had provided a response to the survey being circulated regards the Interpros format. Advised that there is a possible review of U21 which will allow involvement of U23 players. - Advised that an issue had been raised by a schools coach regards the availability of players due to Interpros <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Umpires Sub Committee <p>Proposed survey for Umpires was agreed by the Board.</p> <p>It was agreed that the 80% compliance rule should be carried over for this season, but that it was to be communicated that the delay in increasing the compliance % was due to COVID.</p> <p>BP noted the positive profile of the Ulster Umpires Facebook page.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Sub Committee <p>Advised that Amanda Morton had been appointed as Youth Development Officer.</p> <p><u>Coaching & Pathways Committee</u></p> <p>TC provided a report on progress in this area. The following areas of discussion were reported following the most recent meeting of the Committee.</p> <p>Agreement made with players regards playing additional matches ahead of Interpros.</p>
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	<p>Discussions had taken place regards a Performance Coach Development Programme to include a year long mentoring programme.</p> <p>Meeting is scheduled with Phil Oakley (hopefully to also involve Adam Grainger) to discuss the programme.</p> <p>BP raised a query around the national indoor series. It was agreed that an All Ireland committee was required but that this would be within the remit of the Participation & Development Committee.</p> <p>RR noted the need for Indoor specific coaching development. Noted that Umpire specific training should also be provided.</p> <p><u>Ethics Welfare & Inclusion Committee</u></p> <p>Verbal report provided by Gareth Herron.</p> <p>The following card statistics were reported:</p> <p>Yellow – Men (67); Women (31) Red – Men (5); Women (1)</p> <p>Meeting scheduled for 6th January dealt with red card issue. Further disciplinary meeting scheduled for 19th January.</p> <p>Advised that all cards and disciplinary action was up to date. Process to be reviewed at the end of the season.</p> <p>It was noted that reporting was still poor through club umpires.</p> <p>BP advised that the HI F&G committee were reviewing the Disciplinary rules and were keen to cascade to Provinces.</p> <p><u>Communications, PR & Marketing Committee</u></p> <p>It was reported that there had been some issues with Game Day – where fixtures were only updating twice per week. This is being addressed.</p>
Ulster Hockey Events	No report
Hockey Ireland	<p>CR advised that she had attended the 4 Provinces meeting. Areas of discussion were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Membership system - HI strategy - Governance review
Correspondence	None
AOB	None
Date of next meeting	<p>Tuesday 15th February</p> <p>The meeting closed at 20.50</p>

