



Minutes of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Ulster Hockey Board, held on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.00pm by  
Zoom Conference call

**Present:** Billy Pollock (BP), Iain Kelly (IK), Ann Rosa (AR), Peter Kelly (PK), Jonathan Rose (JR), Neal Lucas (NL), Mervyn Logan (ML),

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

**Apologies:** Linda Johnston (LJ), Christine Reid (CR), Gareth Herron (GH), Tim Cockram (TC), George Wilson (Vice-President)

Item	Comments
Chairperson's remarks	<p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>BP noted the number of Board members who were attending their last board meeting ahead of stepping down to the Committee structure as part of the restructure.</p> <p>It was agreed that an informal celebration dinner would be held with all Board members attending. Suggested 27<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>It was advised that Kenton Hilman was stepping down from the role of Finance Director due to professional and personal commitments. MS to contact NISF regards Board recruitment.</p> <p>BP registered thanks to Instonians Hockey Club for his invitation to their Centenary Dinner. A plate should be ordered and presented to Instonians Ladies to mark the occasion.</p> <p>It was noted that the Ulster Hockey President had not received an official invite to this event in error.</p>
Conflict of Interest	No conflicts other than standing HI conflict – BP, IK, AR
President's Report	<p>RR provided a written report</p> <p>She highlighted in particular that her schedule had been busy around both club and schools presentations with a number of club based invites.</p> <p>She commended the schools Committee for their work.</p>
Minutes of last Board meeting	Proposed ML seconded AR
Matters arising	BP highlighted that the Finance Committee had challenged that the Board had not formally recorded a vote when rejecting the proposal to increase

	affiliation fees.
Standing Committee Reports	<p><b><u>Executive Manager's report</u></b></p> <p>MS provided a report and highlighted the following areas:</p> <p>It was agreed that £7,500 be committed to the budget for this project in addition to the £7,500 committed by Sport NI. This project is to be tendered once the financial proposal is agreed by the Finance Committee.</p> <p>MS advised that Ulster Hockey's application to the Rank Foundation Start Here programme had been successful and a formal letter of offer was to be provided. The value of the award in £84,000 over 3 years to be used to support the appointment of a Development Coordinator.</p> <p>MS advised that Ulster Hockey had been invited by the NI Human Rights Commission to engage in a pilot programme of developing a Human Rights Policy. It was agreed to engage in these discussions but ensure the work does not become onerous or diversionary from the core tasks.</p> <p>MS presented a scope for a review of the Lilleshall Talent Programme trip. This had been agreed by the Finance Committee and Coaching &amp; Pathways Committee and it was agreed to proceed with this review as outlined.</p> <p>MS presented the concept of a Primary Schools Affiliation fees structure. This would allow better engagement with Primary Schools and would incorporate McCloy &amp; Pearson entry. This proposal was agreed.</p> <p>MS raised concerns on behalf of the staff regards social media posting. This was noted.</p> <p><b><u>AGM</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that the AGM would be scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> May to be held at Stormont Pavilion with a zoom option.</p> <p>It was agreed that it should be proposed that appeals fees should be increased to £500.</p> <p><b><u>Finance &amp; Governance Committee</u></b></p> <p>Financial reports provided.</p> <p>Draft accounts were showing a £9,000 loss however there were a number of accruals to be added including outstanding grants and therefore a profit was forecast.</p> <p>It was noted that number of members on the Finance Committee should be increased.</p> <p>MS advised that a concept for a Small Grants programme for clubs to apply for assistance from UH was under development and that a full proposal would be presented to a future Board meeting.</p>

	<p><b><u>Participation &amp; Development Committee</u></b></p> <p>Terms of Reference for a Review of Competitive Hockey have been agreed by the Participation &amp; Development Committee and presented to the Board for agreement.</p> <p>- <b>Competitions Sub Committee</b></p> <p>IK advised the finals dates and agreed schedule.</p> <p>It was advised that the Newry v NICS match which had previously been postponed and subject to appeal, was scheduled for 23<sup>rd</sup> April.</p> <p>IK raised a special vote of thanks to Nicki Bayes in the office for her assistance around the finals matches.</p> <p>- <b>Schools Sub Committee</b></p> <p>AR noted that it was positive to not a number of new schools having entered the competitions and qualifying for finals.</p> <p>It was recognised that Methodist College had won the Kate Russell and the Board agreed that this was a great achievement. It was also noted that Royal School Armagh had won the June Smith and hosted the event very well.</p> <p>Improved performances by Ulster schools at the John Waring was acknowledged.</p> <p>AR thanked all UH staff for their efforts in assisting with the schools finals.</p> <p>- <b>Umpires Sub Committee</b></p> <p>LJ advised that clubs had worked well in terms of Umpire provision and that there was no need for action under the compliance rules. It was agreed that this was a positive development.</p> <p>It was noted that a list of the Umpires Committee would be provided to the AGM.</p> <p>It was advised that a number of recommendations would be made by the Umpires Committee related to bye-laws at the AGM.</p> <p>- <b>Youth Sub Committee</b></p> <p>No update</p> <p><b><u>Coaching &amp; Pathways Committee</u></b></p> <p>TC highlighted the successes of the U16 &amp; U18 Boys and girls winning the Interpros.</p> <p>The number of Ulster players being selected in National squads was also recognised and is testament to the success of the TDP.</p>
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	<p>It was agreed that a Girls Under 21 Interpros team would be welcomed.</p> <p><b><u>Ethics Welfare &amp; Inclusion Committee</u></b></p> <p>No update regards Disciplinary.</p> <p><b><u>Communications, PR &amp; Marketing Committee</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed that an announcement of new Board members would be made ahead of the AGM.</p>
Ulster Hockey Events	<p>No report.</p> <p>Arrangements for the 125 Anniversary Dinner were continuing.</p>
Hockey Ireland	<p>Feedback was provided regarding the meeting with the HI Chair, Trevor Watkins at Harlequins. This was generally a positive meeting.</p> <p>It was advised that the HI AGM was scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> May.</p>
Correspondence	<p>MS had received correspondence regards inviting the President to the Instonians Ladies anniversary dinner. Process advised to the club.</p> <p>MS had written to Northern Cricket Union to raise some concerns regards quotes attributed to the NCU CEO which were perceived as negative towards Ulster Hockey.</p> <p>The 'Hockey Huskey' had been in receipt of fan mail from the USA. MS to respond.</p>
AOB	<p>A note of thanks is recorded to the outgoing Board members – JR, AR, IK and LJ. Due to the resignation of KH, ML would be remaining on the Board as an interim measure.</p> <p>BP acknowledged the immense contribution made by the Board members over a number of years and noted that the majority were remaining within the Committee structure.</p> <p>Congratulations to Ards Ladies was recorded following their winning the Premier League.</p>
Date of next meeting	<p>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p>The meeting closed at 21.15</p>