



Board Meeting #8 Minutes

03.05.2022

Meeting of the Board of Officials

7:30pm-10:00pm

#8

Approved for Publish

Attendees:

Tom Thornhill (TT) President, Christian Carter (CC) Senior Affiliated League Commissioner, Erik Gustafson (EG) National Teams Programme Official, Lee Manning (LM) Development Official, Earl Dix (ED) Secretary, Chris Deacon (CD) Officials Commissioner

Apologies:

None

8.1 Chair's Welcome, introductions and apologies

TT welcomed the attendees.

8.2 Declaration of Interests

Declarations were as follows: EG Commissioner at LondonSports. LM Currently on a sub-contract with BSUK also associated with LYBL and Herts Baseball, CC associated with Kent Buccaneers Baseball Club, TT Associated with the Norwich Iceni Baseball Club and the East of England Baseball League. CD Associated with Legends Baseball.

8.3 Review and Approval of Minutes of the previous Board meeting(s)

A process for agreeing minutes of Board meetings was agreed.

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed apart from the note that TT would send a WBSC advised letter regarding Ukraine.

The Board acknowledged that BBF Minutes are to be published on the BBF website. The Board agreed that TT will draft versions of the minutes to be published after a Board review of the drafts.

Action: TT and ED to ensure that the undrafted minutes from previous Board meetings are published.

Action: TT to draft Board Meeting minutes to be published after a Board review of the drafts redacting sensitive information.

8.4 Action Points from Previous Minutes

All actions from the previous meeting were cleared a part from:

Action: CD to chase WB-UK for minutes of the joint meeting held. WB-UK had not yet completed the minutes. CD to chase up.

Action: ED to forward the issue regarding facilities with WB-UK, especially where women play or watch. This has not yet been progressed. ED to chase up.

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Action: ED to seek agreement of a suitable LGBTQ+ guidance policy with WB-UK. A collaborative working group had been set up with WB-UK and this was progressing well. A policy has not yet been defined and ED/TT still working on it.

8.5 Ad Hoc Committees and Chairs.

TT proposed a number of Committees as part of the overall governance and administration of the BBF.

CC added that said that the Senior Leagues Committee wanted to review the player disciplinary procedures and that he would bring a proposal to the board. LM suggested that an NBL representative should be included on the committee.

There was a Board discussion regarding the difference between ad hoc and standing committees. The BBF constitution defined the differences. The proposal was to set up to six ad hoc committees in addition to the two standing committees. It was also suggested that a further committee covering Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Safeguarding be created, bringing the total of ad hoc committees to seven. Chairs of both the Standing and the Ad Hoc committees would select members of those committees.

Action: CC to review disciplinary process and consider adding a NBL rep.

Action: TT to consider Terms of Reference for the additional Ad Hoc committee to cover Equal Opportunities, Diversity and Safeguarding, and that a Chair would be named.

Action: EG to set Terms of Reference for the National Teams Committee.

Action: CD to set Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee.

Action: All nominated Chairs for Ad Hoc committees to set Terms of Reference for their respective committees.

8.6 IRIS/UK Sport Terms of Reference

TT opened discussion regarding IRIS/UK Terms of Reference. There was concern that the contract signed between BSUK and UK Sport stipulated that BSUK was the NGB instead of the BBF and it should be modified to ensure that BSUK was not identified as the NGB for Baseball.

Action: EG to propose wording and take this issue offline and to make a proposal in the BBF Slack channel.

8.7 Officials Reports

8.7.1 President's Report (Tom Thornhill)

TT informed the Board of the previous census report that was created in 2020 that was being compared against for the latest 2022 report.

There were no questions from the attendees.

8.7.2 Secretary's Report (Earl Dix)

There were no additions or questions from ED or the attendees.

8.7.3 Finance Report (Chris Deacon)

CD added to his report the notice that WB-UK had used £600 of its allocated development money on equipment. CD also noted that he is hoping that the Finance committee will help

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to establish real time processes to assist with the operational pressures of the Treasurer role.

There were no questions from the attendees.

8.7.4 National Teams Programme Official (Erik Gustafson)

EG added that there had been discussions with Drew Spencer in respect of whether or not players that are not resident in the UK should be allowed to be included in the final tournament rosters for Great Britain teams at the younger youth levels (u12, u15 and u18).

EG summarised the agreement in principle that there could be waivers provided to allow certain non-resident players to play for GB youth teams. EG will revert to the Board if there are any issues that require further discussion in this regard.

LM suggested that EG sits on the Development Committee and LM sits on the National Teams Committee as it was clear these two committees overlapped to a certain degree.

8.7.5 Official Commissioner (Chris Deacon)

There was discussion about operation of MyBallClub App.

There were no questions from the attendees.

8.7.6 Senior Affiliated Clubs League Commissioner (Chris Carter)

There were no additions or questions from CC or the attendees.

- *End of Meeting* -