



ENGLISH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION Ltd.

Minutes of the English Lacrosse Association Ltd. Board held on Sunday 6th October 2019, Hilton, Warwick, CV34 6RE.

Present: Hannah Bowe Chair (HB), John Neal (JN), Gavin Devine (GD), Mark Coups (MC) CEO, Nikki De Kretser (NK), Sue Livock (SL) President, Neil Edgar (NE) Ex-Officio, Jane Powell (JP) Ex-Officio, Caroline Royle (CR) Ex-Officio, Paul Coups (PC) Ex-Officio and Abi Merrill (AM) Ex-Officio.

MC, on behalf of the board, welcomed Hannah Bowe to take the Chair.

Section 1 Routine Business Matters

1. Apologies for Absence

Michael Estill (ME), Ben Jessup (BJ), Chrissie Owens (CO), Hamish McInnes (HM), Prashant Jobanputra (PJ), Sallie Barker (SB).

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

NE highlighted that all the board need to sign their conflict of interest statements.

HB reviewed discussions with BJ and his declared conflict of interest. The board had a broad discussion as regards the position of BJ. All agreed that asking BJ to excuse himself for identified agenda items is not a sustainable situation.

GD highlighted that he considered the game knowledge provided by BJ as important to board discussions and that BJ had made a valuable contribution to the direction of EL.

MC outlined that at present BJ was new to his new role but identified that the politically sensitive nature of his employer alongside being an EL board member had the potential for BJ being placed in a compromising situation.

NK suggested retaining BJ in the board sub-group structure, currently Governance and potentially NLC.

It was agreed that HB should undertake further discussion with BJ and suggest a role in the board sub-group structure.

MC reviewed the composition of the board and the need for a recruitment process to be undertaken.

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes approved.

4. Matters Arising

- GD highlighted that an organogram with names had yet to be circulated, PC apologised and would circulate.
- MC reviewed the Bye Law revisions and the role of NLC, highlighting that there would still be amendments and adjustments to make.
- Action log from the last meeting – NK is progressing with the actions from Remcom.

5. CEO Report

- a) MC provided a position statement in relation to the Men's U19 safeguarding concerns.

- MC outlined that the 7 recommendations have been taken forward.
- MC highlighted that an appeal has been lodged against the recommendations.
- JN has responded declining the appeal.

MC reviewed the success of the Men's Box Lacrosse team at the World Championships, reiterating comments made by JN at the AGM.

- MC highlighted that the team, coaches and management had represented England in a highly professional manner and were a credit to EL.
- JP highlighted that the standard and professionalism demonstrated by the team warranted further discussion with them on how best for EL to support going forward.
- MC identified that to support the box team further, EL would need to develop a better facility offer as per discussions in the AGM.
- MC outlined that EL will work with the men's box to develop an EL "offer" to take forward into the next plan.
- MC informed the board that discussions with the chairs of the regions were ongoing and had been positive, adding that it is his intention to re-engage in December/January.
- MC outlined that the regions had identified communications with clubs as being a barrier to moving the regions forward.
- HB highlighted the support by CO in reviewing the EL communications, as a board only email MC asked if this could be circulated to staff. CR advised the board that the staff were to have a call with CO in the coming 5 days.

The board had a broad discussion on the priorities of EL and the challenges that are to be met in making ground on brand and income, set alongside the role of an NGB.

Actions

- MC to circulate CO email to relevant staff.

Section 2 Key Strategic Business

6. Business Plan Development

The board reviewed paper 3. GD suggested ensuring some on-line input was made available. PC outlined that the "your sport your voice" survey would allow that.

All agreed to progress with the process outlined.

Actions

- PC to implement process.

7. Lacrosse Festival 2020

AM delivered a presentation on the proposed lacrosse festival, highlighting that 67 institutions had been involved in generating the insight which framed the presentation. AM identified that this event would address a current gap in the lacrosse event market, and it would be appropriate and opportune for EL to develop the product to fill the gap.

The board had a broad discussion on the event and some key points were outlined.

- HB highlighted staff capacity and pressures in delivering the product.
- GD highlighted the need to maximise current EL events before undertaking a new venture.
- NK identified the need for a longer lead in time, perhaps looking at 2021.
- MC reviewed the ambitious direction for EL at the previous two May meetings and the festival forms part of that direction.

The board agreed the following actions:

- more in-depth research to be done targeting a 2-day event in 2021;

- formation of a working group to steer the event;
- consultation on the formats involved in the event;
- outline a marketing plan; and
- identify dates.

8. **AOB**

- GD outlined his discussions with Tracey Crouch on adaptive formats.
- NE reviewed the cash position in regards minutes from the last meeting and reiterated his position in relation to Q2 accounts.
- It was agreed that a member of the commercial group attends the events group meeting.
- The board formally thanked JN for his tenure as chair over the last three years.

The meeting closed at 3.50 p.m. with thanks to the Chair.

DONM

Dates for 2019

Tuesday 2nd December 3pm Landmark, Euston House, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1DB.

Distribution: Hannah Bowe, Mark Coups, Prashant Jobanputra, Hamish McInnes, Gavin Devine, Michael Estill, Nikki De Kretser John Neal and Chrissie Owens.

Cc: Sue Livock, Sallie Barker, Neil Edgar.