

BRITISH WATER POLO LEAGUE

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING, ASA OFFICES, SPORT PARK, LOUGHBOROUGH, 16 FEBRUARY, 2011.

141/10 Present: David Andrews (Chairman), Chris Ducker (General Secretary/Publicity Officer), Judi Clayton (Treasurer/Competition Coordinator), David Boot (Match Secretary), David Quinlivan (Men's Clubs' Rep).

142/11 Apologies: Michelle Horton (Officials' Coordinator), Lisa Lang (Women's Clubs' Rep).

143/10 Minutes of Committee Meeting, 21 January 2011: Approved as a correct record.

144/10 Matters Arising:

99/10 Cardiff: Cardiff management still to be consulted re high cost of hire charges at the international venue. **Action: DA**

100/10 Annual Financial Review: The committee identified an individual who would be invited to take responsibility for an annual review of BWPL accounts. **Action: DB**

129/10 Referee Assessment: New form in process of preparation, enabling clubs to report referee assessments electronically. **Action: MH/DB**

130/10 Non-fulfilments, 2010 Season: Otter to be reminded of the deadline date for payment of fines re non-fulfilment of two fixtures in men's Division 2. **Action: CD**

132/10 Brutality: Ross Elder confirmed that FINA Rule 10.1(b) applied when table officials signal end of brutality exclusions, viz. on 4 minutes, re-entry of sub signalled by raising the yellow flag along with the appropriate coloured flag.

135/10 Trophy Allocation: The Paragon club welcomed transfer of the Ross Memorial Trophy, originally awarded to winners of the NWPL junior league, to the winners of men's Championship 4.

138/10 Support Staff: Mike Hesketh to be invited to take the role of Match Secretary assistant. Another volunteer to be approached re further help. **Action: DB**

145/10 Chairman's Report:

146/10 Olympics: Chairman contacted British Swimming Chief Executive David Sparkes to express BWPL concerns about the make-up of the BS team that will justify to the British Olympic Association Panel the entry of GB men's and women's teams into the 2012 Olympics (*BWPL Minute 114/10*). The main concern was that the BS delegation exclusively comprised professional members of ASA/BS staff and lacked what the league regarded as the vital element of an amateur enthusiast to speak on behalf of players, volunteer coaches and administrators.

Mr Sparkes stated that the league's views had been carefully considered and, while the "passion and desire to contribute" was understood, it was felt that the team was the strongest possible. It had a deep knowledge of elite water polo as well as issues around the Olympic Qualification Standards and the criteria against which BoA will judge the sport. The BS team would "argue strongly for the inclusion of both teams and we believe we have amassed all the evidence we need to satisfy the Panel."

147/10 Delegates: Chairman had been invited to attend as an observer a meeting of the country's delegates. This had agreed a new, more detailed system for delegates and clubs to mark referee performance with the aim of gathering more feedback than currently available under the good/satisfactory/acceptable/deficient headings. Once details of the format were available, an explanatory note would be sent to clubs. The delegates' meeting also debated the problem of BWPL delegates being asked to officiate in more than six games a day. Chairman to have further discussions with Ross Elder on this issue. **Action: DA**

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148/10 General Secretary's Report:

149/10 Anniversaries: Committee discussed the need for an event in 2012 to mark the NWPL 50th anniversary and NWWPL 25th anniversary. Jim Evans, organiser of the South Derby open air tournament, to be approached for advice. An option might be to add an event to a Super 5s weekend in January 2012. **Action: CD**

150/10 Handbook: Clubs to be asked at AGM if a handbook is required in 2011.

151/10 Shirts: Chairman to obtain prices for new shirts/t-shirts for 2011. **Action: DA**

152/10 Treasurer's Report: Judi Clayton produced stats re divisional costs at all venues. Expenditure in six divisions exceeded original estimates; others were marginally within estimates. These 'calls' were agreed: Men's Div 1, £210.99 per team; men's Div 3, £101.67; men's Div 4, £214; women's Div 2, £163.20; women's Div 4, £16.31. Rebates – Men's Div 2, £20.34; women's Div 3, £11.74. Committee discussed the women's Div 1 deficit, which would have meant a £493.53 call per team. One of the reasons was the additional expenditure (including hotels, travel) caused by the postponement and rearrangement of the Liverpool weekend. It was unanimously agreed that Div 1 costs would be subsidised by a one-off contribution of £1,000 from league funds, reducing the call per club to £368.53.

Action: JC

153/10 Website Adverts: Some advertisers had yet to pay agreed fees. **Action: CD**

154/10 Match Secretary's Report:

155/10 2010 Season: It had been gratifying to receive numerous messages of thanks from clubs, particularly women's clubs, regarding successful organisation of the first merged season.

156/10 Publicity Officer's Report:

157/10 Super 5s: Press release explaining the league's new competitive structure had been well received. Strong coverage on Waterpoloword website.

158/10 Rules: Committee agreed wording of the new BWPL rules. A draft to be forwarded to Roger Hargreaves for detailed analysis; then given final approval by committee prior to circulation to member clubs before the AGM. **Action: CD**

159/10 2011/12 Fixtures: Committee agreed the fixtures plan for next season, which was still subject to final confirmation of some venues. To be published on the website and circulated to clubs as soon as possible. **Action: DB/CD**

160/10 Spring Cup: Agreed that this year's competition would continue to run under existing NWWPL rules; then reviewed for 2012.

161/10 Competition Structure: David Boot said the league should consider splitting its season either side of Christmas. He agreed to produce a feasibility study. **Action: DB**

162/10 Equipment: Mike Hesketh to be invited to take responsibility for maintenance and movement of BWPL equipment. **Action: JC**

163/10 Next Meetings: After AGM on 27 March; then 17 May (provisional).

164/10 Meeting closed at 11pm.