

Minutes

British Handball Association Regular Board Meeting

Monday 29th November 2021 - 9.00am-12.00pm
by Video Conference



Present: Paul Bray (PB) Chair

Mike Bain (MB)
Diaraye Diallo (DD)
Anna Garside (AG)
Iain McKinven (IM)
Stevie Neilson (SN)
Colleen Walker (CW)
Scott McMillian (SM) (Part meeting only)

Meeting Opened 9:00am

1. Welcome

- a. Welcome from PB PB
Thanks to AD for minuting this meeting.
Rosie Williams, newly appointed EHA Chair will be joining the BHA Board replacing Diaraye Diallo with immediate effect. RW will join us at the next BHA Board meeting. PB thanked DD for her time and contribution on the BHA board.
Scott McMillian will be joining the meeting at 11.00am

2. Apologies & declarations of interest

- i. Elisavet Manoli PB
ii. No declarations of interest

3. Approve meeting notes of previous meetings

- a. **Notes of 27th September 2021 meeting**
Minutes taken approved.
- b. **Action Items**
- i. All updates are highlighted in the margin on the document.
- ii. Item 5 - Financial Update, CW has draft workbook, just waiting on the Accountants finalising the accounts to complete. CW
- iii. EHF Account still pending answer regarding funds from the EHF PB/CW
- iv. Financial Update – More to do with the National Teams. Waiting on Kevin Matthews to Review draft GB Managers Manual PB
- v. Item 7 – UK Sport & NSSF update still pending. PB
- vi. Calendar Discussions – SN confirmed in process, needs to finalise a few points with John Pearce EHA. SN
- vii. Anti-Doping Assurance Framework submission – 91% submitted/78% approved by UKAD PB

4. Financial Report

- a. **BHA Accounts** CW
CW - confirmed the main account balances are looking good.
- b. **EHF Accounts** CW
CW - Outstanding Query with EHF on Covid funding

c. Approve BHA Accounts 2020-21	All
Approved by All	
d. Approve GB team expenses policy	All
Approved by All	
e. BHA Bursary scheme	MB
MB shared copy of EHA Bursary Scheme, and confirmed it is basic; the tricky bit is the next stage. EHA to judge it on a case-by-case basis, with an independent person. The criteria are not set in stone yet; we don't have anything further other than what is in the document. PB - confirmed to keep this item open.	
5. BHA Strategy 2021-24	
a. Agree goals	All
<p>John Bulls notes came back from the discussions back in July. PB asked the group for direction on issues raised, resource issue and how to address it going forwards.</p> <p>PB confirmed that his position will run until July 2023, but he may leave earlier to allow successor time to get in post before next round of UK Sport funding bid begins.</p> <p>Given this scenario, further discussions and thought are needed regarding support, and how the work load can be allocated. There are a lot of jobs in orange on the NSSF Programme, a considerable amount of work is still needed to turn these points to green. Once the Programme Coordinator is settled in, the list of jobs can be looked at, agree what is manageable.</p> <p>IM - Creative how we get opportunities for those athletes to keep them involved whether or not they are in GB. Suggested more resource onto the BHA board by bringing in a Performance Board Advisor, non-voting board member with specialist knowledge that can gain experience.</p> <p>MB – From EHA perspective, we need to keep looking at that longer term picture. Really supportive of Scott McMillan coming on board as a special advisor for Commercial affairs, having an independent helicopter view. We need to decide on what the next steps are here very soon for all Associations.</p> <p>PB –Not sure of creating a Special Performance Advisor role, as the danger there is that you could have a complete overlap and need to see how Performance Coordinator fits in.</p>	
b. BHA membership structure (potential new members)	
<p>SN – Met the Chair of the Isle of Man Handball. Mick Hegarty – suggested we have representatives on Board from IOM and Channel Islands, but not sure on how the representation would work. PB confirmed that MH has previously been given a letter of support to say that players of the IOM would be welcome in the GB pathway if they were good enough, which would help with their local funding.</p> <p>MB – Not familiar as to what happening in the IOM Handball, wouldn't like to make our structure even more complicated, makes sense for Wales to be part of what we are doing going forward. MB to look into IOM and CI Handball activity.</p>	PB/AG
MB/SN	
6. IHF Funding Update	
PB confirmed he was still chasing IHF but no update.	PB

7. UK Sport NSSF programme

a. **General update**

GB Senior Men's Team - World Championships. Ricardo was really pleased with the overall team performance, and the trip was a great experience. Thanks to the great support and communication from Kevin and PB, and especially to Ricardo for his professionalism with the whole Team whilst in Finland and the lead up to the championships.

GB Senior Women's will have their first camp in December, may have issues depending upon the latest Covid rules and travelling abroad. All will be updated in due course.

AG confirmed that we had received 13 applications for the Performance Coordinator role, had interviewed two, and selected Joanna Cook who would start as soon as contract was finalised. UK Sport Funding – Coach Course to help with female athlete development - cost £700 per person, BHA have £2000 ring-fenced for this. Focus is to put through the leading coaches of the female teams. The course can be started at any point, and lasts twelve months. PB/AG - Prioritise by immediately enrolling GB women coaches Paul Dempsey and Zoran Lucac, wait for our position with the EHF/IHF Funding, then put Bill Baillie through and maybe Amy Hardwick at that point or in May when we are into the next funding with UK Sport. CW and PB to discuss off line what is the best way to pay for the course, and do we support the coaches in contributing towards it?

b.

PB welcomed SM to the meeting and each Board member gave a short introduction. SM thanked the BHA and gave a short introduction regarding his background.

PB thanked SM for the introduction, the great opportunity of working together and welcoming his views and confirmed the areas of support that are important to us going forward.

SM summarised his thoughts around the importance of grass roots handball. Developing a common theme that could be branded jointly with England and Scotland that would support joined-up thinking. SM suggested that Sponsorship would be something he could potentially help with. SN would like to engage with the wider handball community to help inform his thinking.

Feedback was heard from each member of the board.

Board members broadly agreed with SMs thoughts, MB suggested that it was important that there is no mission creep regarding grass routes development and this should not be confused with the purpose of the BHA. Discussion took place around the development of a Terms of Reference document that would provide the appropriate remit of the work Scott might under take. PB and SM to discuss what this might look like

CW – biggest concern is money, support with funding, and how to sustain the process. SM agreed with this, the idea of reaching out to all of our networks to look for opportunities from grass roots level to local and national business.

PB confirmed to SM that he would send out collective emails to members to set up meetings.

AG

PB, CW

PB,
SM, AG
MB, SN

<p>8. Performance Group update</p> <p>a. Anna gave an overview of performance activity.</p> <p>b. Covid Protocol. BHA and EHA taking a similar approach to Covid protocols – Lateral flow tests required prior to competition and or training (BHA)</p>	All
<p>9. Anti-Doping Strategy update</p> <p>a. Proposed resolution 'BHA agrees to adopt and abide by the IHF Anti-Doping rules'</p> <p>The Board agreed unanimously to this resolution.</p> <p>Paul outlined Bobby Whites role in supporting BHA anti-doping policy.</p>	PB
<p>10. Risk Register</p> <p>PB discussed items on the risk register and confirmed the biggest risk to BHA activity was still potential issues around COVID and travelling abroad.</p>	CW
<p>11. AOB</p>	All
<p>12. Date of Next Meeting 21.2.2022</p>	PB
<p>Meeting closed: 11.58pm</p>	