

## Minutes

British Handball Association  
Regular Board Meeting



**Thursday 11 March 2021 - 10.00am-1.00pm**  
**by Video Conference**

**Present:**       **Paul Bray (PB) Chair**  
Mike Bain (MB)  
Diaraye Diallo (DD)  
Iain McKinven (IM)  
Anna Garside (AG)  
Lucy McClements (LM)  
Stevie Neilson (SN)  
Julia Stenhouse (JS) - minutes

**Apologies:**     Elisavet Manoli (EM)

Meeting Opened 10:05

### **1. Welcome**

- i. Welcome from PB
  - 1. Condolences to SN regarding the passing of his father
  - 2. Welcome to Diaraye Diallo (DD)
  - 3. Thanks to JS for 25<sup>th</sup> November minutes

### **2. Apologies & declarations of interest**

- i. PB declared an interest as his son as part of GB squad

### **3. Approve meeting notes of previous meetings**

- a. Minutes of 25 November 2020 meeting
  - i. Approved
- b. Action items
  - i. Success for EHF online portal regarding ITC progress with SCO & ENG separate administration
  - ii. EHF declined SCO access to European Wheelchair Handball Event as being an EHF/IHF joint event
  - iii. UK-wide strategy. SHA strategy currently missing.
  - iv. Joint sponsorship strategy
    - 1. AG "Joymo" streaming platform partnership opportunity.

- a. 'Joymo' platform not right channel for EHA events
- 2. EHA developing new strategy 2022–25
- v. Broadcasting Rights.
  - 1. Point regarding using EHF platform or UK platform.
- vi. Request for Level 2 coaches' names to be sent to AG

Actions:

- IM to send through 2021-25 strategy
- PB to chase EM regarding Joint sponsorship strategy
- MB & DD to send a list of Level 2 coaches to AG
- PB/EM to pick up with DD regarding BHA sponsorship strategy

#### 4. Financial update

- a. Bank balance looking healthy.
  - i. Waiting for IHF funding next tranche of funding 1/2 for final year's payment.
  - ii. The EHF have confirmed that the liquidity aid amount (€18000) is permanent funding.
  - iii. W19 currently have no budget for this year's Euros (2021) as this was to be taken from next round of IHF funding, if secured. Funding to be used from EHF liquidity fund. No issue for W17.  
LM proposal: potential to use COVID-19 funding (€18000) for W19 championships.
    - 1. Proposal Approved
- b. Hummel partnership
  - i. Mizuno kit is on last legs
  - ii. Hummel kit deal – potential all 6 squads to get home and away kit with x24 staff kits (3-year deal, with initial costs £3000-3500). Additional with potential for 120 leisurewear kits (£90 ea.) Savings in admin pot funding the new kit costs.
    - 1. Kit Deal Approved (depending on final costs)
  - iii. Discussion regarding old GB kit & crowdfunding
    - 1. Suggestions around holding kit or donating kit. Hold for now.

Actions:

- Discussion for EHA/SHA/BHA regarding potential for joint kit proposal
- AG to discuss with Performance Group (PG) re selling/donating/disposing of kit
- SN to review his stock of old kit

## **5. UK Sport funding update**

- a. BHA has successfully secured UK Sport National Squad Support Funding. Waiting for confirmation of final figure. Money will be ring fenced for senior squads.
  - i. Thanks given to all who contributed to the UK Sport submission

## **6. IHF funding next steps**

- a. Next stage of writing funding application.
- b. PB suggests entering into a 3<sup>rd</sup> round of IHF funding.
  - i. Discussion on needing a wider strategy discussion with workshops & include grassroots transition to national level.

### **Actions:**

- EHA/SHA to send paragraphs of activity over last 12 months.
- BHA/EHA/SHA to discuss model of funding/ wider strategy through a workshop (near future). Potential for adding Wheelchair/Beach handball as an element of this workshop. Potential for including EHA strategy professional to help the workshop.

## **7. Performance Group update**

- a. Sticking with current strategy due to more positive response from GB players.
- b. GB training camps
  - i. Youth age groups have returned to training.
  - ii. Sport Scotland Elite Athlete Exemptions
    1. In Scotland, no age group-elite athletes have exemption (apart from Olympic pathway). As soon as travel restrictions lift, Scottish athletes can travel. Current guidance is 26 April in Scotland to reduce to Level 3 (however still with travel restrictions).
- c. Covid situation
  - i. Review of Covid Protocols and testing
    1. AG requests a review of COVID-19 protocols. Asks if approval is given for 2-day training camps in April (M18 formal request & Senior Men's informal). Discussion regarding financial viability of multiple testing. Domestic overnight stay allowed in England from 12 April. Points raised regarding overnight stay for minimal returns, with requests for effort to be put towards administration of travel and covid regulations/mitigations for international travel to competitions. Discussion had on board decision regarding GB participation in international competition this summer. Discussion regarding 'tone setting' of following protocols & following governmental rules.
      - a. Board consensus to reject request for over-nights stays currently and review when the UK government guidance is expected to change on 12 April. There is potential of

- allowing overnight stays when guidance changes in England, but with no financial/personal responsibility held by BHA.
- b. BHA Board to schedule separate meetings to discuss GB team participation in summer competitions
- ii. Financial support for Covid mitigations
- d. Coach terms
  - i. Review and recruitment process
  - ii. Coach contract/agreements
- e. Female athlete development
  - i. AG give update on plans, potential working with 'Well HQ'. EHA update on work on female development with Coaches & Coach Ed.

Actions:

- PB to lead a review on impact of risk regarding travel to EHF competitions (COVID)/ create worst-case scenarios for each team. Three documents potential: Risk matrix, Worst Case scenarios and Pros & cons
- PB/AG to speak to the teams to stay that the plan is compete however we have to keep an open mind as the covid situation does change.
- PB to arrange Board meetings to review summer competition status
- MB to help AG with coaching contract

**8. Risk Register**

- a. Need an update for including risk re travelling to international competitions.

**9. GB/Club Calendar**

- a. Ratification of 2021-22 GB calendar
  - i. Board to look at the calendar, once circulated after meeting. GB weekends are fixed. Appetite for M & F U21 league from clubs, however cost will likely be an issue.
- b. GB league play-offs
  - i. Confirmed date: 21-22 May 2022 at Oriam, Edinburgh. Agreed that SCO will host the next 3 years (SN/MB discussed ahead of Board meeting).

Actions:

- SN to circulate GB calendar to board & ask Board to formally approve the dates.
- EHA/SHA to create an agreement for liability etc for the GB Playoffs.

**10. AOB**

- a. EHF rejected request for SCO to be represented under own flag at EHF/IHF wheelchair handball.
  - i. Potential to devolve the responsibility to SCO (for the short-term) under GB flag. EHA happy to explore the potential for joint GB team. Long-term suggestion for BHA to incorporate in wider strategy.
- b. IHF Congress
  - i. SN discussed his intention to stand for Executive position on IHF at November 2021 IHF Congress. SN Asked for his nomination to be supported by BHA board by 6 Aug.
    1. SN nomination is approved by BHA
- c. LM term completes in 4-year term in summer 2021, discussion regarding future recruitment.
  - i. LM will not be seeking re-nomination.
  - ii. PB & Board members thanks LM for the huge impact she has had on the BHA, including her brilliant governance & finance work.
- d. AG potential for recruitment of 'Handball player' to be added to the board. Potential to include this in wider strategy workshop.
- e. EHF Conference
  - i. EHA/SHA/BHA will not attend in person due to Covid.

Next meeting: 15<sup>th</sup> June

**Actions:**

- BHA to confirm IHF Executive SN nomination by 6 Aug
- BHA to look to incorporate wheelchair handball in wider strategy.

Meeting closed: 13:08