



RECORD OF DOMESTIC MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING 12 NOVEMBER 2015

Present:	KC	Kirsty Clarke	GBWR National Development Director
	JA	Jo Arnold	GBWR Regional Development Officer (North)
	LS	Lee Stutely	GBWR Events & Competition Officer
	LB	Lorraine Brown	GBWR Performance Director
	DH	Daniel Hook	GBWR Corporate & Membership Secretary
	DD	David Durston	Gloucester Wheelchair Rugby Club
	AS	Adam Simmons	Westcountry Hawks Wheelchair Rugby Club
	GK-A	Graham Kamaly-Asl	Marauders Tigers Wheelchair Rugby Club
	SP	Steve Palmer	London Wheelchair Rugby Club
	BO'S	Bob O'Shea	Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Rugby
	VB	Vince Barton	Team Solent Sharks Wheelchair Rugby
	JM	Jonathan Marsh	Canterbury RFC: Canterbury Hellfire

Apologies: Amanda Thomas, GBWR Regional Development Officer (Wales & South West)
Paul Arnold, GBWR Regional Development Officer (South)
Stuart McLindon, GBWR Youth Programme Manager
Luke White, GBWR Projects Officer
Rygbí Gogledd Cymru Wheelchair Rugby
The North East Bulls Wheelchair Rugby Club
Caledonian Crushers
Woodbridge Wheeled Warriors
Liverpool Lions Wheelchair Rugby Club
Yorkshire Lions
West Coast Crash
Ospreys Wheelchair Rugby Club

1. Minutes from last meeting

1.1. Agreed.

1.2. Super Series 15-16 invoices queried.

ACTION: DH confirming VAT status before issuing invoices to teams

1.3. Nationals 16

1.3.1. 2 days of competition is preferred.

1.3.2. Division 2 relegation may not occur due to potential new teams joining.

1.3.3. Sheffield EIS as venue, with third court for warm up, changing areas and facilities around court, and gallery viewing area.

ACTION: KC to confirm venue

1.3.4. To be promoted around the local area.

1.3.5. Reduced budget in comparison with 2015 Nationals.

1.3.6. Opportunity for filming if broadcaster wishes to.

1.3.7. The proposed schedule was accepted.

ACTION: LS to distribute confirmed schedule

ACTION: LS to identify accommodation options

2. Game variant

2.1. An update was provided on behalf of Luke White.

2.2. Some Members and clubs have already presented an interest

2.3. Consultation with clubs being arranged by Luke White. It was advised that consultation should be complete following Christmas.



- ACTION:** **Clubs to contact Luke White if interested**
- 2.4. Classification models being tested, to be distinct from Paralympic classification.
- 2.5. Protection of the Paralympic game from a faster / commercially more exciting game was discussed. GBWR's primary grassroots sponsor is Sport England, and the variants are not offered without the Paralympic game.
- 2.6. It was discussed that GBWR is leading on game variants in the international community.
- 2.7. Insurance position of the game variant was questioned.

- ACTION:** **KC to confirm**
- 2.8. Discussion around the need for the game variant to have its own DMG.

3. Classification

- 3.1. It was noted that clubs had previously requested guidance on how to identify a 4.0 player.

ACTION: **KC to follow up with Amanda Thomas / Sarah Leighton**

- 3.2. Concern was raised that over point players are not covered by insurance, and it was discussed that such players are needed by some clubs to exist. The importance of rules within the sport was noted, however not to the detriment of new / struggling clubs and the DMG should have the power and flexibility to support these clubs.

ACTION: **KC to confirm insurance details**

- 3.3. Where a new player presents to a club and there is concern that they will be a 4.0+ player, it was advised that honest conversations should be had with said player.
- 3.4. It was questioned whether players who have paid for GBWR Membership but are later classified as ineligible are able to receive a refund.

ACTION: **KC to confirm**

4. Coaching update

- 4.1. KC thanked Paul Arnold and the TCG for their contribution.
- 4.2. Level 2 accredited coaching course to be piloted with 8 coaches in Dec 15 and Feb 16. This will be a 4 day course consisting of generic training, wheelchair rugby specific elements and an assessment day.
- 4.3. A Level 1 has not been developed as it was considered too basic for current club coach needs.
- 4.4. Paul Jenkins and Rob Tarr will be the first coaching tutors.
- 4.5. It was confirmed that the 8 coaches had been selected for the pilot, which is funded by GBWR.
- 4.6. Following feedback from the pilot, the course will be going out to all club coaches. There is a view to having 2 courses next financial year, and a model is in development to offer Members preferential pricing over non-Members who wish to take the course, potentially with external funding support.
- 4.7. The long term goal is to have all club coaches with a level 2 qualification.

5. Youth player update

- 5.1. Following discussion with the Lead Safeguarding Officer (LSO) and Youth Programme Manager (YPM), the minimum ages and Membership requirements are to be amended with immediate effect. It was noted that this is new territory and is under constant review.
- 5.2. Those aged 8 – 11 years (inclusive) will be directed into a youth programme, and where none is available in the local area, the feasibility of initiating a programme will be reviewed.



- 5.3. Those aged 12 – 17 years (inclusive) will be able to participate in adult clubs. Those aged 12 – 15 years (inclusive) may only attend training / competition with a parent / guardian present. Those aged 16 – 17 years (inclusive) may only attend training / competition with an identified responsible person present.
- 5.4. Those aged 12 – 17 years (inclusive) must now have the following in order to participate: Club Welfare Officer acknowledgement, Doctor's note of approval, LSO & YPM agreement (both to meet child and parent to review the child and club setup), and CEO approval.
- 5.5. It was discussed that a review panel was in development, drawing on experience to best assess individuals' suitability.
- 5.6. It was questioned whether the coaching course would include elements specific to child coaching.
- ACTION: Paul Arnold to confirm**
- 5.7. It was queried how the requirements would apply to existing Members.
- ACTION: LSO and YPM making contact with clubs**
- 5.8. It was questioned whether a DBS certificate is sufficient for being in charge of children, and it was advised that the parent / responsible person will have ultimate responsibility but completing a safeguarding course is recommended.
- 5.9. It was confirmed that youth players may only participate in adult specification sizes (in youth sizes), where youth specific chairs do not have the strength to endure the adult game.
- 6. Club affiliation**
- 6.1. Anti-doping compliance was questioned.
- 6.1.1. It was confirmed that club compliance extends to making information available to players and reinforcing the message, with no responsibility for maintaining a record of medication.
- 6.1.2. It was noted that anti-doping checks were not expected at the Super Series or Nationals as international competition is the target, however it was discussed that it has been done at past Nationals and the coaching conference indicated the potential for this to happen in the future.
- ACTION: LS to confirm**
- 6.1.3. Use of GlobalDRO was advised to assist checking of medication.
- 6.1.4. Therapeutic Use Exemptions were discussed where banned medication is necessary.
- 6.1.5. It was outlined that appeals can be made firstly to the World Anti-Doping Agency and then IWRF.
- 7. Performance calendar**
- 7.1. The Performance calendar for camps and competition was presented, outlining the focus on providing experience against the top 4. The calendar would be sent out to the DMG following the meeting.
- ACTION: LB to distribute calendar**
- 7.2. The use of TeamUp as an online calendar was discussed, with a view to GBWR holding central access and sharing visibility with clubs. This would provide an up to date calendar of Performance camps and competition, and also allow clubs to submit their own calendars for inclusion. The importance of security was noted to prevent other countries having access to the GB schedule.
- 8. AOB**



- 8.1. Classification: it was reiterated that all classification requests should be directed to Amanda Thomas.
 - 8.2. Super Series costs: it was confirmed that D1 and D2 weekends each cost £250, whilst D3 day competitions each cost £50 and £150 for the final weekend.
 - 8.3. Officiating
 - 8.3.1. It was requested that clubs discuss with Amanda Thomas when selecting a referee to attend with a team for international competition.
 - 8.3.2. A campaign is to be held to recruit new officials, to minimise reliance on international referees.
 - 8.3.3. It was confirmed that there is no current Head of Officiating, however Amanda Thomas is presently leading on strategy and scheduling.
 - 8.3.4. Officiating courses were discussed, and it was noted that 2 have been held this year, and future recruits will be signposted to D3 weekends to shadow existing officials.
 - 8.4. Transfer proposal (submitted by SP)
 - 8.4.1. It was discussed that this should be held for further discussion at a future DMG where more clubs are represented.
 - 8.4.2. The proposal was outlined as no in-season transfers, however unlimited transfers between end of Super Series and Nationals. There would be exceptions where a team is only able to field a team of 6.5 points or under, with approval of GBWR and 75% of the DMG.
 - 8.4.3. Advantages: removes any unfairness around barring transfers between teams but not between clubs, allows development of teams within Super Series, and promotes competition for the Nationals (which provides an entry route for the Europa Cup).
 - 8.4.4. Disadvantages: unfair advantage for clubs able to load a team for the Nationals, and a team can vary greatly between the Super Series and Nationals.
 - 8.4.5. It was considered that this proposal could apply to D1 only as these teams have automatic Nationals entry.
 - 8.4.6. It was suggested that additional options should be proposed for the DMG to vote on.
- ACTION: KC to include as AOB for next DMG meeting**
ACTION: DH to distribute SP's proposal to the DMG

9. DONM

9.1. Agreed as 11 February 16.

ACTION: DH to book

[post meeting note 1: some feedback indicated a positive response to using Rugby House, Twickenham Stadium as the meeting venue. To avoid the difficulties this would cause clubs based further north, there is an intention to alternate the meeting between the Leicester Marriott and Rugby House, Twickenham Stadium]

[post meeting note 2: the Leicester Marriott has been confirmed as the venue for the next DMG meeting, 11 Feb 16]