



Record of Domestic Management Group dated 14th July 2014

Present: KC Kirsty Clarke GBWR National Development Director
LS Lee Stutely GBWR Events and Competition Officer
BW Brian Ward GBWR Head of Officiating [via Skype]
LB Lorraine Brown Performance Director
DH Daniel Hook GBWR Corporate & Membership Secretary
RC Ryan Cowling West Coast Crash / Burn
JM Jonathan Marsh Canterbury
GK Graham Kamaly MTWRC
JP James Price MTWRC
DG Dave Goddard LWRC
AH Alyn Humphreys Gloucester
DD David Durston Gloucester / South Wales Pirates
VB Vince Barton Solent Sharks
SH Stephen Hind Woodbridge
CP Ciaran Pryce Caledonian Crushers [via Skype]

1. Apologies
Amanda Thomas GBWR Regional Development Officer Wales & South West
Jo Arnold GBWR Regional Development Officer North & Midlands
Paul Arnold GBWR Regional Development Officer South, East and London
Richard Allcroft GBWR Trustee
Jonny Collingwood North East Bulls
Tony Stackhouse North Wales Dragons
Rebecca Daley North Wales Dragons
Chris Perkins Westcountry Hawks
Darren Ransome Worcester Warriors
Garrett Culliton Gaelic Warriors

2. Competition

2.1. Schedules agreed for Super Series & Nationals

ACTION: LS / DH to distribute schedules once teams confirmed for entry

2.2. Confirming teams for Super Series & Nationals Entry 14/15

2.2.1. Team rosters are to be submitted 1 month prior to season start.

2.2.2. Deadline for new clubs joining 8th Aug (3 months prior to start of season).

2.2.3. A potential D3 was outlined as Gloucester, Woodbridge, Canterbury, Birmingham and Ulster.

2.2.4. The D3 weekend would be held alongside D2.

2.2.5. Discussion was held over potential D2 and D3 makeups and numbers of teams.

2.2.6. It was confirmed that no D2 teams would be relegated to form a D3.

ACTION: DH / LS to clarify D2 / D3 structures

[Post meeting note:

No team will be relegated from D2 into D3

Currently 6 teams in D2, if only 3 teams join this season then they will go into a 9 team D2

When reaches 10 the Division is split 6/4]

- 2.3. Confirming rules and regulations for domestic competition
 - 2.3.1. Clarified desire to have rules agreed prior to season start, without midseason changes.
 - 2.3.2. Forfeiture
 - 2.3.2.1. Wins = 3pts; Naturals losses = 1pt; Forfeit loss = 0pts
 - 2.3.2.2. If forfeiting team is behind on score, the score at time of forfeiture is taken.
 - 2.3.2.3. If the forfeiting team is ahead on score, the score is recorded as 1-0.
 - 2.3.2.4. If a game is forfeited at the start, the score is recorded as 1-0.
 - 2.3.3. Shirt numbers
 - 2.3.3.1. A need for these to be visible to Officials was noted, as identifying numbers effects length of timeouts
 - 2.3.3.2. Many currently sit too low on the vest.
 - 2.3.3.3. Numbers can be taped across backrests if needed.
 - 2.3.3.4. BW highlighted that Officials would not be measuring to IWRF standards, rather the aim is that numbers are visible.
 - 2.3.4. International players
 - 2.3.4.1. JP questioned whether international players should register as Full or Associate members
[Post meeting note: confirmed as per rules that overseas players are eligible for Associate membership]
 - 2.3.5. Promotion / relegation
 - 2.3.5.1. Discussion was held around potential competitive benefits of moving from a 1 up 1 down system to 2 up 2 down.
 - 2.3.5.2. 3 options were suggested: 1 up 1 down; 2 up 2 down; 1 up 1 down with playoff to decide a 2nd promotion / relegation.
ACTION: DH to arrange Survey Monkey voting re: promotion / relegation
 - 2.3.5.3. Teams are to advise if they intend to forfeit promotion when submitting team roster.
- 2.4. Classification
 - 2.4.1. It was discussed that previous understanding of 4.5 players has been vague and that some may have been permitted to participate as 4.0 to encourage development of the club / sport.
 - 2.4.2. KC highlighted a need to manage this to protect the sport.
 - 2.4.3. There is now greater clarity over 4.0 classification and GBWR aims to support clubs in getting all current 4.0 players classified at the earliest opportunity (preferably before the league start).
 - 2.4.4. There is an aim to develop guidance for clubs on identifying the 4.0 classification.
 - 2.4.5. Concerns were raised over fairness of classifying players out of the sport midseason, also as some may have paid for accommodation etc.
ACTION: Clubs to send a list of 4.0 players to be reviewed to DH before start of season
ACTION: Sarah Leighton to produce brief guide to the 4.0 classification for clubs
- 2.5. Challenge tournament and Awards evening
 - 2.5.1. Details advised as 6th September, tournament venue: DMU; evening venue: tbc
 - 2.5.2. The tournament is to be run on an individual basis, with players placed into teams.
 - 2.5.3. The potential for classification was discussed.
- 2.6. Pirates 25th Anniversary
 - 2.6.1. Tournament to be held 27th / 28th Sept.
ACTION: Pirates to advise DH of details
ACTION: DH to promote on GBWR website
- 2.7. AGM
 - 2.7.1. 8th October, venue tbc



- 2.7.2. To be followed on 9th October by Coaching Conference

- 3.** IWRF General Assembly
 - 3.1. KC noted that the full process and details are available via the GBWR website, with membership consultation until 21st July.
 - 3.2. Items 6-15 were noted to be of most importance.
 - 3.3. CEO will vote based on review of consultation feedback.
 - 3.4. LB summarised key motions:
 - 3.4.1. Rule changes
 - 3.4.1.1. This concerns establishing a formal process for rule changes, which would occur after trial periods and only in odd (non World Championship) years.
 - 3.4.1.2. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.2. Anti-Doping
 - 3.4.2.1. Acceptance of WADA rules.
 - 3.4.2.2. Clubs should be aware.
 - 3.4.3. Classification of 3.0 / 4.0 hand
 - 3.4.3.1. To include a 3.5 hand
 - 3.4.3.2. Potential Performance implications were discussed, although it was noted that this generally supports the sport.
 - 3.4.3.3. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.4. Competition system
 - 3.4.4.1. Divisional international tournaments, e.g. 3 Divisions in Europe.
 - 3.4.4.2. Allows more to access competitive sport for development.
 - 3.4.4.3. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.5. Worlds format
 - 3.4.5.1. Proposed change from 12 to 8/10 teams for better competition.
 - 3.4.5.2. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.6. Chair setup
 - 3.4.6.1. Chairs with a single anti tip wheel are suggested to have a mechanical advantage and pose safety concerns, and a ban is proposed.
 - 3.4.6.2. If passed, players would have 12 months to comply.
 - 3.4.6.3. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.7. Use of IWRF balls
 - 3.4.7.1. There would be no change to specifications, however use of IWRF balls would be required.
 - 3.4.7.2. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.8. Technical Delegates
 - 3.4.8.1. Proposed that Technical Delegates should be from outside of the Zone for neutrality.
 - 3.4.8.2. This has the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.9. 2 categories of wheelchair rugby
 - 3.4.9.1. Categories for spinal cord injury and other disabilities.
 - 3.4.9.2. Highlights wider debate over inclusion of other groups, but would restrict the current game.
 - 3.4.9.3. Effective classification negates the need for 2 categories.
 - 3.4.9.4. This does not have the support of the Performance team.
 - 3.4.10. 12 second rule
 - 3.4.10.1. When timeout called in backcourt, it is proposed that the game starts from where the clock was stopped, not restarted.

- 3.4.10.2. This would remove the tactical benefit this brings and opportunity for teams to reassess their play.
- 3.4.10.3. This does not have the support of the Performance team.
- 3.5. The DMG supported the Performance team's views.
- 3.6. KC highlighted that clubs and individuals are still welcome to share views during the consultation process.

4. AOB

4.1. Membership

4.1.1. Renewals are due by 30th July.

4.1.2. Clubs can confirm with DH if they are unsure of the status of any of their members.

4.2. SH noted interest at Woodbridge for coaching, officiating and classification development.

ACTION: KC to discuss

4.3. Referring to point 2.2, VB noted the need for clarity over Division makeups.

ACTION: DH / LS to clarify D2 / D3 structures

4.4. Nationals 15

4.4.1. It was discussed that having a similar structure for the Nationals as the league proved repetitive.

4.4.2. Alternate options were discussed, including a 10 / 12 team tournaments to combine Divisions.

ACTION: DH to arrange Survey Monkey voting re: Nationals format

4.5. GB players / D2

4.5.1. A potential issue with players having GB aspirations moving away from D2 teams.

4.5.2. LB clarified that there is no policy of encouraging GB players to move to D1 teams.

4.5.3. There are benefits for the sport as a whole for players to remain in their home clubs and develop the game through their GB gained knowledge.

4.5.4. It was also reiterated that club coaches are welcome to attend GB training sessions.

4.6. Upskilling volunteers

4.6.1. DD noted a need for upskilling volunteers.

4.6.2. KC advised that GBWR will support.

4.7. Officiating

4.7.1. KC highlighted handbooks developed by BW.

4.7.2. The next stage will be to roll out programmes.

4.7.3. Previous courses were run alongside competition, however with greater capacity there is the potential to run these at dedicated venues.

4.8. Performance update

4.8.1. LB noted that all Worlds prep is now complete, and that the team is well prepared following success in Switzerland.

4.8.2. The Worlds will be streamed, and new players are encouraged to watch for development.

4.8.3. Access to archive game footage was questioned, and LB advised that this can be arranged.

4.8.4. LB thanked the clubs for their continued support in releasing players from training, and continued communication would be helpful for all.

4.9. Officials

4.9.1. BW highlighted that the majority of Officials from last year would be present this season.

4.9.2. BW welcomed contact regarding new officiating interest.

4.9.3. BW congratulated the Performance team on their success.

4.10. JP noted that it was good to see new faces / clubs present at the DMG.



4.11. VB highlighted a paid coaching role available with Solent.

ACTION: DH to advertise on GBWR website

5. DONM

5.1. 18th September, venue tbc