



Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby

Record of Domestic Management Group, 18th September 2013

Present:

KC Kirsty Clarke GBWR National Development Director
LB Lorraine Brown GBWR Performance Director
AT Amanda Thomas GBWR Regional Development Officer Wales & South West
LS Lee Stutely GBWR Events and Competition Officer
BW Brian Ward GBWR Head of Officiating
SA Susan Aldridge Official
RC Ryan Cowling West Coast Crash
MI Muhammad Islam West Coast Crash
DW Daniel Wade MTWRC
JP James Price MTWRC
DW Daniel Wade MTWRC
DM Darren Matthews MTWRC
GW Gavin Walker MTWRC
CP Chis Perkins Westcountry Hawks
VB Vince Barton Solent Sharks
JF Justin Frishberg LWRC
LW Luke White LWRC
TS Tony Stackhouse North Wales Dragons
RD Rebecca Daley North Wales Dragons
KJ Keith Jones South Wales Pirates
DD David Durston South Wales Pirates
DH Donald Hutton [video conference call- Caledonian Crushers]
NT Noel Thomas North East Bulls
JC Jonny Collingwood North East Bulls

1. Apologies

Paul Arnold GBWR Regional Development Officer South, East and London
DH Daniel Hook GBWR Corporate & Membership Secretary

2. Safeguarding

- 2.1.** KC introduced the safeguarding policy, and asked for final comment. Stated that it had been approved by the CPSU, and achieved preliminary standard.
- 2.2.** GBWR to bring a consultant on board to develop training packages and meet with clubs about the implementation of the policy.
- 2.3.** JA, North and Midlands RDO leads on safeguarding and will become the GBWR Safe guarding officer. Clubs asked to look at nominating a person



who will be appointed the club safeguarding officer to coordinate club requirements.

- 2.4.** DBS replacing CRB, and the consultant who comes on board will put in place a process to ensure this is streamlined and made easy for all clubs. There is recognition that there are differences within the home nations.
- 2.5.** JF, asked about who would need to have a DBS. KC stated club requirements would be reviewed by the consultant.
- 2.6.** CP asked if it was just for children, KC stated that at the moment it was just children and young people. However the policy does cover vulnerable adults.
- 2.7.** KJ, asked if youth players playing policy included. Was sent separately, and that this had been a significant debate for the sport over the past 12 months. At the last DGM
- 2.8.** JF, asked about the burden for the clubs. KC, replied the RDOs along with the consultant will be tasked with supporting clubs as a priority.
- 2.9.** SA, asked if officials were having to get checked, KC stated this would be reviewed by consultant.

3. Super Series 1

- 3.1.** LS leading the organisation of the league
- 3.2.** LS stated that all the team rosters were completed and on time. But that team list for the SS1 were due to within the next few days, She then went on to explain the difference between the Team Rosters and Team Lists, and why team lists were required prior to participation in the SS competition. This in the main was to ensure that all players are registered.
- 3.3.** BW was then asked to make comment on the SS1 - division 1. Due to availability of officials, although the timing would remain the same, only difference is who teams are playing. This is due to official availability for the weekend, and the new roster would be sent by week commencing 23 September 2013.
- 3.4.** LS stated that as a result of feedback from clubs in respect to availability and logistics of getting coaches together there would be no coaches meeting on the Friday prior to the start of a SS weekend. If there are any issues prior to the start of a SS, clubs are asked to email the week before so these can be resolved before the start of the competition.



- 3.5. AT stated that there would be no classification at SS1, although workshops are to start to be conducted in September to develop additional classifier, and that from this classification panels will be developed and attend SS2 & SS3.
- 3.6. LS stated that there was not much spectator space at Leicester for SS1 – Division 2. There is a need to have consideration of H&S, but as much as possible will be done to provide spectator space, of course this will be easier when only one game is being played as the other court space can be used.
- 3.7. Discussion was had about parking as this is limited at Leicester, and LS stated that the Parking at the back of the sports centre will be available.
- 3.8. KJ Pirates, stated that they are struggling for players and asked about the potential for others to help them out. LS stated that this would have to be classed as a transfer if other players drafted in.

4. Chair support funding

- 4.1. KC stated that the funding application process had opened, and clubs needed to let their RDO know if interested in apply.
- 4.2. KC stated that this fund is only available for England based clubs. The basic criteria is based on a match funding to purchase two chairs, that is if
 - 4.2.1. a club raise £3,000 , GBWR will match with an additional £3,000,
 - 4.2.2. Genuine player need
 - 4.2.3. Demonstrated increased participation
- 4.3. DS asked if it was only available for the purchase of ROMA Chair, KC stated yes

5. Club Updates

- 5.1. LWRC – AGM a few weeks ago. Train Mon/Tue/Wed, new website up and running. Two teams, Storm - stronger team, and second team more development team.
- 5.2. Pirates - Struggling for players with only 3 or 4 attending training. Trying to link up with university and Ospreys. Fulfilling vacant club board positions through a local on-line volunteering organisation on-line. They anticipate the move to Swansea will be positive as they will be able to link up with other partners. Although a positive the Gloucester team is a short term



Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby

threat, as they are attractive for their players who live nearer them and this new club are regularly getting 10 new players. There may be a need to train together until both teams can play independently.

- 5.3. **Dragons** - New players, low pointers, fundraising positive. AB volunteers, new website. Would like more new players. Linked up with local development officer. Looking to apply for charity status.
- 5.4. **MTWRC** – the two teams will be governed by a new charity Marauders Leicester tigers. But either known as Marauders (Sheffield) or Leicester Tigers. All players of these two teams will pay subs into the one organisation. Marauders to be linked to Sheffield university to with an anticipated launch of Marauders immanently. Marauders Leicester Tiger's now working officially with Leicester Tigers and the partnership now officially recognised. This will be launched through press and media and launch. Similar to Sheffield, the Tigers are looking at developing a link to Leicester university.
- 5.5. **Marauders** – DW stated that they are now much smaller than they would have liked since the formation of the two teams. With the help of Jo they have held taster sessions at spinal unit to try to attract additional players. They still need her help and assistance for chairs etc. DW stated that the response has been positive and the spinal unit's interested in setting up a team.
- 5.6. **Crash / Burn** train together. Phil Zealey new coach, after the departure of Paul Shaw. Mike and Alan will deliver, with Phil developing the annual plan, training sessions etc. Difficult to find a coach, and highlights a wider challenge for the sport. As a club they have a challenge in bridging the gap between experiences and novice players, but excited for the season with new players.
- 5.7. **Solent Sharks** Two teams in Division 2 - A team called Sharks, more experienced players seeking promotion and the B team called Hammerheads is a development team looking to remain in division 2. They train, Sunday morning 9.30-12.00, wed 07.00-09.00 and Friday 12.00-2.00. Coaching is currently shared between Aaron Phipps and Mylo Pearson. Southampton Solent University have purchased a treadmill wide enough for a rugby wheelchair which will be used to support club athletes, testing VO2 etc. They have been supporting the GBWR taster sessions at Salisbury Spinal unit.
- 5.8. **Caledonian Crushers** – Good attendance, and regularly getting 10 players. They have been successful in securing sponsorship through Digby Brown



Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby

solicitors, which will cover their training costs for the next three years. They are to host a pre-season tournament next week, and really excited about this. They are interested in the feedback as they feel there are both good venue and hotel options.

- 5.9. **Westcountry Hawks** - Train once a week, staff coaches and 2 technicians, two outreach projects, and two in pipeline. Devon disability games. Players come from Cornwall and Devon.
- 5.10. **Bulls** - Durham university link, and getting volunteer support for development of a committee, risk was that people would then leave but succession planning already a consideration. Lots of low pointers, working with local basketball team. Applied and received funds for money from EDF to get equipment and kit. Attending Scotland.
- 5.11. **Officials** – 11 referees, 5 foreign would like to get more home grown; 17 table officials, still looking for more (numbers are approximate). Pathway being developed with Level 1,2,3 submitted to GBWR. Should have in place soon.
- 5.12. **DM** (Tigers) Asked if clinic could be run – KC stated that demand and funding biggest issue. If demand is big enough then GBWR would look at putting something in place.
- 5.13. **VB** asked if there was more opportunity to link up with rugby clubs, KC stated that yes it is currently being looked at.
- 5.14. **RDO** – Good work, with partnership building with clubs and RDO's looking at taster sessions. Two workshops for Classifiers in Salisbury – getting in contact with players to help with the practical part of the course. Building a panel of classifiers. Cornwall/ Exeter – rugby wheels programme 19/20 October. This programme is an inclusive participation initiative to allow players in other disabilities to participate.
- 5.15. **Performance update:** LB provided an update on the summer campaign, and that the year is of two halves. Target achieved with a podium finish at the Europeans, gaining world Championship qualification, and putting in place the Performance Staff team. The staff had already conducted a review process and started the planning process for the next three years, and in particular the next 12 months programme. The next camp will be one of player review, testing and individual performance plan development for the players in the Elite Squad. LB stated that there is a real desire to work collaboratively with clubs and club coaches in ensuring that GB players compete and participate in the GB leagues in club environments that support their development. This would include club visits by the GB



Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby

Coaching team of PS and JF. An open invitation was extended to club coaches to attend and observe GB training camps. There is also the desire to have a coaching conference / seminar / meeting in November to start this process of collaboration, and to share the long-term development of coaches, and the coaching pathway. Feedback was that coaches want take away, useful information from any coaching meeting.

6. AOB

- 6.1. **Coaching** – KC stated that there was some positive movement. skUK have agreed to fund a small number of consultancy days to support initial review, and development of the GBWR coaching pathway, learning outcomes and development of the qualification and pathway. ASPIRE, Stanmore skills active to be an accredited centre. Basic leadership award. Formal update to be provided at next DMG.
- 6.2. GB coaching conference – need to ensure that there is take away detail.
- 6.3. KJ, Pirates – Asked about the AGM for the future. An update from the last meeting was provided to him, and he was advised to relook at the last DMG minutes.
- 6.4. Marauders/Tigers. Felt that with all the talk about other impairments what was happening with links and a regular presence at Spinal Units. Stated that this is a priority, and that the RDO's have been working hard with clubs to ensure that there is regular contact. In fact most spinal units now have links with clubs/ GBWR presence there.
- 6.5. DM asked about what the current position was on the SS rules in respect to a draw at the end of a game. BW stated that it was a challenge due to time constraints with. Significant debate was undertaken by all those present, reviewing all the different options. A vote was taken by those present and it was unanimous and agreed that the games would be played to the IWRF rules in deciding a game should it end in a draw at full-time.
- 6.6. Bulls asked that if a player is registered for GBWR but then is classified out of the game would they get a refund? KC will get back to the DMG

Date next meeting November – Wednesday 13 November 2013