

BOARD MEETING

22 SEPTEMBER 2023 (2:30PM-4:45PM)

MINUTES

1. Opening Remarks (JPR)

- A welcome was extended to new board members Joe Bestwick and Clare Griffiths.
- Board dates for 2024 are currently being looked at.
 - *Action – board members to advise JPR of any dates/timings that are not viable.*

2. Apologies and Declarations (JPR)

Apologies

- Chris Hassell

Conflicts of interest:

- JB Jaguars WB: CG Loughborough Lighting WB.

3. Minutes and Matter Arising (JPR)

- All matters closed out except for board training and discussions on app workload management & coaching which are ongoing.
- A request for Sports Governance Association funding was rejected due to being oversubscribed, but JB will talk to UK Sport to see if there is any other funding available.
 - *Action – JB to revert next meeting with a plan on training to inc safeguarding.*

4. RAG Report (JB)

Key points to note in red/amber are:

Thanks to Sam for introducing us to Whitbread and providing the opportunity to run some sessions for them, bringing in an income of £18k. Conversations with Wilson and Molten regarding ball partnerships are ongoing.

- The possibility of holding Performance Camps in one place to reduce costs is being considered and JB has a meeting with Jo Simpson at Nottingham Uni to discuss this further. To meet funding shortfalls in the LA cycle, we are looking for a venue partner, where we can hold all GB training camps and potentially international competitions, in return for reduced costs.
- CWG – There has been no movement on applications to date. Our new content intern, Eilidh has started and is providing great support to Bethan in marketing and content. We have started a new Tik Tok channel and Instagram engagement has been high.
- IWBF Europe meeting of the new board – BWB have been invited to host this Nov/Dec. We have funding to support tis in our UK Sport International Relations budget and they have approved this expenditure. We will host a dinner for them on one night and will invite UK Sport to attend. **All board in agreement for BWB to host this.**
- Our new Workforce Development Manager, Jenny is now in post and is reviewing all our volunteer support. Part of this is looking at officials and how we recruit our workforce.

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- 3x3 – Although we still have no budget for a specific 3x3 strategy, we are talking to BallOut about where we can work together.
- Performance objectives are challenging – we have a target of the number of games we want our senior players to play per season, but for those playing in our national leagues, the opportunities are not as great as those playing overseas. To help manage this we are looking at how we can use the pathway to increase regular playing opportunities.

5. Risk Register (JB)

- The new format has been approved by FRAG and will be updated ahead of each board meeting. There is a longstanding concern about the resource available for marketing, given the need to raise the profile of the sport but current funding models do not allow more investment into this area. JB is talking to UK Sport and Sport England about this, as other NGBs have the same challenge.

6. Finance Report (LiP)

- The board were presented with the Q1 Management Accounts and a draft copy of the statutory accounts. All the documents have been approved at FRAG. The auditors report has been delayed due to the auditors taking longer than usual. is a very small surplus of BWB unrestricted and there is a managed deficit position on the restricted funds. BWB has a new lead accountant who specialises in charities and have employed a new finance manager Ali Smith. The Q1 Management accounts show an overspend on budget which is partly due to an overspend at the Worlds – this was a budgeted overspend and is being managed.

7. Performance Review (DE)

- The Tokyo review showed that the players need to arrive at tournaments in the best physical and mental state. 2023 was an unprecedented summer with back-to-back World and European Championships within six weeks of each other. This has left players and staff feeling mentally and physically drained but this recovery is being managed. The European Championships were our first chance to qualify outright for Paris, which was achieved by both squads. This is a huge achievement and it was noted that it was a significant effort for both players and staff to be resilient and to problem solve on the go. The importance of performance psychology was highlighted by these events and we will be looking at extra funding to support this.
- Outside the championships, we have to conduct our annual performance health check, but we are working with UK Sport on how to design this in a constructive manner that provides more than a single snapshot.
- It was noted that a huge amount of change has taken place within the Performance Team and despite this, both teams have qualified for Paris and team selection, particularly with the women, is better than it has been in over two years. There is an upcoming U30's tournament in Japan to provide experience for the men's pathway players.

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- *Action: DE to check maximum clinical psych cover on APA's private health.*
- *Action: SW to set up a PAG meeting with DE before the next board meeting.*
- *Action: Board to offer check and challenge on the LA Strategy.*

8. DIAP Update (JR)

- The board were shown a presentation on Diversity, Inclusion and Action which UKS have provided additional resources for. An action plan is in place until Mar 25, after which funding is less clear. There is also new working group in place and the first meeting of this is taking place next week.
- Recreational membership has had huge benefits with the grass roots of the sport and team entries have increased by 43% in the past year. The aim is to enhance the sense of belonging within the sport.
- None of the GB coaches are British which has been reflected in the figures for ethnic diversity. There are some very positive stats which are being worked on and research has shown that improvement is needed in junior development so a new member of staff has been recruited for this.

Unanimous approval was given by the board to move forward with the action plan for DIAP.

9. Integrity Report and Classification (LiP/JR)

- Approval was sought on two minor adjustments to improve the communication of the classification process. BWB want to provide more security and clarity so that classifiers have a BWB member with them. There is also a need to provide a clearer information for members around what the minimum criteria for our domestic competition will be.

The amendments were approved unanimously by board.

- SR has returned to working on integrity and safeguarding issues. There is a need to mitigate some of the complaints at club level. JAM consulting has been appointed to complete a review of integrity on the back of recommendations in the White Report and with the support of funding from UKS.

10. AGM (JB)

- A proposal was put forward to move the AGM from December due to previous low attendance and the level of work involved in. The proposal was to move the AGM to June and combine it with a Club Conference and an awards evening. An election will also be held during this due to the end of the first term approaching for CH as a sporting director on board.

Unanimous approval from board for the AGM to be moved to June 2024.

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11. BBF COLLABORATION (JB)

- Due to lack of funding, JB has met with the Chair of BBF to discuss working more closely together. This could be anything from sharing governance information such as policies and procedures, to joint commercial partnership or even camps and events. Further conversations are planned to explore what any collaboration could look like and how this might be effected. UK Sport are also part of these discussions. Any proposals will come back to the board for discussion. **All board members were in approval of future discussions for collaboration.**

12. STRATEGY AND VISION (JPR/JB)

- Feedback was requested on the paper that was presented in the board papers on the BWB strategy which resulted from the board away day in July. The board was asked to consider the direction of the paper and whether there is anything discussed in the away day that was not captured, or if there should be anything added. The strategy will then be developed to come back to the board for approval. *Action – all board members to provide feedback on the strategy to JB via email by cop Wednesday 27th Sept.*
- *Action – JB and SW to discuss behaviours/values.*

13. AOB (JB)

- Thanks were passed by JB to the BWB team for the work they have done through a very busy Summer.
- Anti-doping – any board members who are interested in completing training on this should speak to TH.
- BWB have agreed to be part of a pilot to consider improving sustainability which is funded by UK Sport. The exact nature of this is not yet known but there will be a review of our current position, with recommendations for ways to improve our sustainability as an organisation.
 - *Action: Suggestion to look at board meetings being held in local groups.*

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 6th December 2023

ACTION LOG:

22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Board members to advise JPR of any dates for future board meetings that are not viable.	BOARD
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Revert to board with a plan on training	JB
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Check maximum clinical psych cover on APA's private health.	DE
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Set up a PAG meeting with DE before the next board meeting.	SW
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Offer check and challenge on the LA Strategy.	PAG

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22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Provide feedback on the strategy to JB via email by cop Wednesday 27 th Sept.	BOARD
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Discuss behaviours and values as part of the strategy and vision.	JB/SW
22.09.23	World-Leading NGB	Look at the possibility of board meetings being held in local groups.	JB/BOARD

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