**GA Executive Committee Meeting**

**Time: 8:00PM AEDT**

**Venue: Via conference call**

**Date: July 21st 2019**

**Attendees: Murray Elbourn (President) David Tiller (Vice President)**

**Olivia Muller (Secretary) Simon Smith (Treasurer) Warrick Jackes Daniel**

**Morrish (Player Representative)**

**Apologies:**

AGENDA:

1/ AGC’s (including HOF and AGM) (Nominated Teams and Meica’s request through QLD)

2/ National Elite Programs (Senior and Youth)

3/ GA Handbook Project

4/ Youth World Championships

5/ Website, Social Media, Branding and Logo’s for GA

6/ Uni Nationals 2020 and National Goalball 4 Schools Strategy

7/ Upcoming Grant opportunities / Execution strategy

 AGC, David would like to discuss/confirm

* HOF attendance and what the states pay for, if anything... $$$
* Confirm GA support for court tap, eye patches and eye tape
* I would like to talk thorough Medals for All star, 4 x MVP and 4x Highest goal Scorer trophies
* Where are the plaques?
* And the draw, potential not having youth and women play based on current registration

**AGC’s**

David- Nominations received from 4 states

VIC have not replied officially but verbally said 1 women’s and one Men’s

Olivia- confirmed current Teams

4 women (Including Verbal from VIC)

3 youth

4 Men’s (Including Verbal from VIC)

4 juniors

Currently No pool teams, potentially extra players to distribute but not a whole pool team fro NSW or any other state.

Murray- asked why DT was concerned about combining the Women and Youth

Only concern was around number of team entries and scheduling the draw

David- preference to try this new model

DT: to go away and work out the game difference of both models

ME: suggested that David work out the game differencing combining women and youth.

GA would prefer this for assisting the women for Japan preparation.

SS: Highly in favor of the Joint Model

DT: to come back by the end of July

**AGC cost?**

DT: Close to locking in tournament package costs

DT: one topic to discuss-How many referees required?

- 8 financial strain on the state budget

ME: Asked Warrick if it was 4 referees/one from each state

WJ: Still need to have 6 referees per hall

Not every state has equal number of referees and mentioned that it’s important that all IBSA referees would make their certification.

Since that time been advised that any tournament counts to your passport not just states and Nationals

The need for at least 8 comes down to managing work place fatigue and refs being able to take a break.

Warrick said if we go with the 6 fully funded it’s up to the organizing state to decide who from which state and then perhaps partial funding for the other 6 to attend.

ME: Asked Warrick if he has a list of certified IBSA referee’s WJ to send list to Executive and LOC

ME Thinks we should be paying for our level 3 & 2 refs first

Then making a decision about our level 1referees some will have double duties.

ME: ie Simon & Andrew being funded/cost shared by NSW for coaching so will double up as extra refs around their coaching schedules.

DT: Said he confirmed back to WJ that Warrick as being the referee coordinator 1 QLD, 1 NSW, 1 VIC, 1 WA and 1 other as DT said he obviously can’t be full time from SA.

Robyn communicated with DT that we had to have a minimum of 4 refs per hall.

Fully funded have to be doing only reffing.

WJ: has sent out a letter of interest to all referees

ME: confirmed LOC only covers the dinner not flights or accommodation for HOF inductees.

DT asked about tape and 3M and any support that will be given

ME: said we have continued to struggle to nail down the same support as before. But 3M have had multiple changes and head of marketing ect and he has had no success with support so far.

ME: approached a second company not successful.

The tape Number (471) vinyl tape used nationally (can approach 3M locally) WA were successful in this for 2018 AGC’s

ME and DT put a submission together for 3M pharmaceutical representative

WA can source at $9 a box instead of $26

14 in sensitive box 20 in normal

**All Stars 6, Highest scorer and MVP:**

-MVP will be awarded for finals only

-would like a panel to select.

Refs do not want to vote

LOC appoint selectors for each division

-2 separate accommodations (due to Quest Port Adelaide changing their deal but Quest ML remains)

Now will have Mawson Lakes Function Centre and Quest Mawson Lakes 200 Metres away from each other on the same road (so actually a better outcome)

-RSB corporate sponsor (support with Volunteers and busses and logistics ect)

ME: keen for David to reengage with UNI SA

Meica requesting to potentially play in the men’s comp at AGC’S?

-QLD sent an email asking for potential approval if they decide to take this path

Opened up for discussion;

Warrick Doesn’t effect from a ref perspective but questioned what the basis for her wanting to do it, is it just to improve her core strength and improve her game. Thinks she is more than capable and couldn’t imagine the men would have a problem coming up against her.

Dan has known since China, as John and Mikey have been throwing the Idea around since then. Dan thought about it a fair bit can Ming play on our team in WA? Or can I play on the Women’s team? One of our men’s players is not keen at all to play against a women’s player. Dan questioned the message it sends to the other women’s players. Dan would vote against it.

ME: Asked Dan if he thought the majority of men were for or against.

Dan: Obviously John and MIkey are for it but most others I’ve spoke to have not necessarily thought it was a great idea.

DT Doesn’t have a problem with it other than checking if it’s an issue from an insurance perspective. She obviously wants to just get some different competition but in saying that we have to respect the men’s palyers who will be up against her.

WJ doesn’t think it’s disrespectful to her own team mates. And thinks shes more than up to it and would not expect anyone to take it easy on her she is more than up to it.

Olivia doesn’t have a problem with it but thinks it’s important we take the Men’s /players opinion in to it and Seek Pete and Simon’s input.

Simon speaking not as coach was concerned that the men’s players may not throw as hard if she is on the court and thinks it should probably remain a men’s competition.

Murray doesn’t think it’s a good idea and feels men’s is men’s and have to keep integrity in sport. If it was just about Meica it would be fine, we know she is capable but we have to look at the sport as a whole and the integrity of our AUS Championships.

ME: how does everyone feel if we speak to Peter and Simon and Peter can then speak with Meica and the Australian women’s team as a whole and see how they feel about it and then based on that discussion, and then go out to the men’s state players for feedback before we make a final decision at our next meeting.

-No objections to this process

ME: Will write to Peter and Simon and have them engage with Meica and then come back to the executive with what their recommendation is.

If Peter, Simon and AUS Women’s team are happy with this structure we will go out to the State Men players.

-Olivia to have a conversation with Matt Clayton in regards to the Insurance requirements for AGC’S

Blind sports Australia Insurance, check with Matt at BSA (in regards to liability if a women plays in the men’s comp)

**HOF & AGM**

Email to go out to the current Hall of Famers to ask if they would like to sit on the panel for this year’s HOF Nominees.

AGM Thursday 3rd October 2019 @ AGC Adelaide, South Australia

OM: To Lock in AGM notice and send to states 6 weeks prior to the AGM and request members to submit any motions to be included no later than 21 days before AGM 2019

OM: To send out Nomination forms for committee members to be returned no later than 21 days before the AGM 2019

**National Programs:**

-Recent appointments made for the Men’s program

OM & ME conducted those interviews

Greg had final sign off on all appointments and the staff structures.

-Greg wanted 2 Assistant coaches

-A team Manager

OM & ME feel these are really goods appointments for the program

Greg asked us to post those appointments online

The Men’s team had a phone call a week before these appointments were finalised

-PD’s were posted on Sportspeople Jobs website

PD’s were not distributed to states ME believed the best avenue to advertise was through sportspeople.

OM: did send PD’s to Greg to distribute though.

GA received an email from Sam Byrne around the his disappointment in the lack of communication about the advertisement of the Men’s staffing positions and appointments; he was disappointed that they were not formally notified and found out second hand on someone’s facebook page.

Olivia mentioned that perhaps limited people saw the announcement, as it was posted on Murray’s personal page to the GA fb page Instead of directly on GA- Olivia will announce on GA’s Page.

Murray said that;

-No concerns were received around the process

-No point in complaining after the fact otherwise we can’t fix the problem

Player representative to make those things clear, Dan mentioned players don’t necessarily want to go through him.

We obviously can’t make people go through Dan but if people come to Dan with stuff it’s important, he comes to the board with it.

WJ: The team should have been formally told about the appointments.

GA apologises for any communication breakdown that took place.

We like constructive feedback from players that’s how we fix things.

Communication in squads is really important.

Coaching template needs to be followed and if these procedures are not followed we need to decide as a board what happens in these circumstances.

ME You guys tell me how we best manage this.

Seek reasons why because it might be they just need support.

Simon happy to hold people accountable but we need to encourage at the same time.

OM we all agreed on the coaching template, but we do have to recognise that coaches are volunteers. We need to first establish if there are barriers to completing reports and support coaches through it. We are talking about National Coaches though so there has to be a standard, but we have to find a balance.

WJ we all are volunteers but we all agreed on the coaching template but what will the sanctions provide; and sanctions probably do have to be brought in at some point.

We absolutely want to support people though. So If that means offering a staff member then that’s what we do.

Greg to provide report from China trip.

OM:  To communicate with Greg and support this process.

**Youth teams:**

**YWC**

OM: Said we are on track, Coaches are pretty happy with where things are at this stage, would be great to have a couple more camps up there sleave.

Uniforms are on schedule to arrive by the end of the Month. Mike from Garment Exchange has been great cross checking everything.

Sensitive Eye patches are sorted re Jon Potts confirmed. Will not need a doctors letter and will be provided by the LOC.

We are still waiting on a Citizenship approval for Darren Coyle. Ceremony will take place on the 29th July.

Lots of cross checking everything and making sure all our paperwork is filed and ready to go ect but I’m happy with where we are at.

Matt Clayton from BSA has been a fantastic support.

**Simon Verbal report on IBSA Qualifier:**

Happy with how they went finishing 4th good in terms of chances of qualification 3 teams that finished above are all from different regions.

Moving forward still aiming for Regional’s in Japan and just working towards that.

ME Just to clarify for the board, in regards to qualification ME had a discussion with Kari Commissioner of Goalball subcommittee) and Juha the referee coordinator to confirm that this is in place.

Because Australia finished 4th and China and USA automatically qualify then Israel are next in line.

So if either the existing teams that have qualified top 3 and the host country or China or America win their regional qualifications then the first regional qualification winner from that pool of 6 teams that have already qualified the next spot will go to Israel.

If two regional championships come out of those 6 teams the next qualification spot would be Australia.

So regardless of how we finish at Japan, the indication is that if 2 of those 6 teams win their regional championships, Australia has automatically qualified for the Paralympics.

ME has requested that in writing from Kari because there was some conjecture in what Japan had sent out, so he wants clarification but that’s the verbal clarification ME received from Juha and Kari.

So we are in a very good spot to qualify.

Warrick can we also get clarification from Kari that if Africa can’t get 4 teams to their regional championships that none of those in that division go to the Paralympics. Or is IPC going to overrule them again?

ME I think we can ask them for clarification, but I do think there is a n opportunity for IPC to overall IBSA subcommittee on that.

ME thinks whatever clarification we get is not going to be consistent until it’s viewed by the IPC, which is sad really and I understand your frustration.

**Email received from Greg:**

Greg asked if the Men’s team is being endorsed by GA to go to Japan

ME: Absolutely endorsing them to go, that was always the plan. Approx $6500 in funding remaining for the men. Simon to check exact figure.

Uniforms will need to be organized for the men’s team we should have consistent national uniform.

OM looking at a couple of potential corporate sponsorships for the Men’s team.

Full kit cost $350

Jersey’s $55 each

At a minimum Men will need both home and away and blood jerseys.

OM send a copy to DAN.

Commence planning with Belles and storm volunteers.

Joint call to be arranged with Greg and Peter around Staffing and travel for Japan.

Prepare one plan team composition

**Handbook update:**

WJ questioned what’s wrong with the handbook, because Robyn updated it and Tabled it and it was agreed upon at the AGM last year.

ME asked if we have a copy of the updated handbook, Effective date 2018 OM: Confirmed that it was distributed when we took on the role as GA board.

Each board member will look to work on a section of the handbook. OM to distribute.

**YWC (Murray update)**

Planning going well

Email from Malaysia here is our entry form were in unfortunately, they didn’t complete any ISAS information or pay their deposit and they didn’t submit their entry by the due date. IBSA were strong on that. It’s Pretty unfortunate Murray said he did communicate clearly with Malaysia that it was important to meet all of the guidelines particularly the ISAS database entry and the team lists to LOC so that if they did get their sponsorship late we would have been able to accept them.

It will be 6 boys & 6 Girls teams

Opening ceremony 9:30am Monday 5th of August

ME needs to know if any family or friends of athletes will be attending on Day 1 so he can reserve seats as its reserved seating and schools are coming in.

OM will send an email out to families requesting numbers to attend.

First day only is $2 entry and all money will come back to GA as some general funding.

Schools will pay $2 on all days they come in and that will also go to Goalball Australia.

Hopefully raise around $2000 for Goalball Australia to have some general funds/cash flow in the account.

GA website incorporated into the YWC website through the Championship funding. GA will need to maintain the website post YWC and pay any associated fees.

The YWC LOC has agreed to have a legacy fund that incorporates the above mentioned $2000 entry fees and the ownership of the YWC website for the sole use of Goalball Australia post World Championships.

WJ said we just need to make sure that fees and passwords are maintained for the website so as we don’t run into the same problems with the handover of previous websites between leaving and new board members.

ME reiterated that everything is on track for the 2019 YWC and have got great working relationships with Panthers the Hotel (Mercure) and the Playing venue (Penrith Valley Regional Sports Centre) who have bent over backward to support this tournament, massive thanks to them. Very excited for this opportunity and think it will be a great tournament.

Accommodation:

Quest at a reduced rate for families if needing accommodation. OM will re distribute info for anyone that may be seeking accommodation still.

ME had a discussion with Malaysia and encouraged them to look at the opportunity to attend the AGC’’s. OM&DT to follow up with all the tournament details.

WJ asked if India applied to go to YWC? ME No they sowed some early interest but once sent all the requirements did not respond.

OM asked if New Zealand were invited to The YWC, as she had been informed that they never received any info. ME said he sent them the Invitation personally, and that they are not an IBSA member and originally the Invitation only went to IBSA members, but they responded and said they don’t have any Youth Players currently.

**Website:**

ME thanked everyone for taking the time to review it.

ME has gone back to Troy after receiving his frustrations re his feedback and asked him to go back and re try the website properly.

ME sent theW3C Minimum requirements for accessible websites to revolutionize sport as requested by Troy, Ryan and Warrick and they feel they can meet all of those and are going to come back to us this week.

ME said we are taking the accessibility seriously and we want it to be accessible for our players and those with blindness but we have to balance that to some degree for attracting sponsors and branding and a message that we want to send, so it’s a balance.

Warrick- is very concerned that Revolutionise sport and any company that cannot site W3C or inclusiveness does not know how to design websites. This is base level website design 101 it enhances it doesn’t deny sponsorship.

ME said it was disappointing that Ryan focused on the inaccessibility of the images rather than the website.

OM said it was only due to unfortunately, Ryan didn’t see the link attachment

 ME said we need a totally blind person with a screen reader to try and access the website and work through these issues. It’s just going to take a little bit of time.

Murray- challenge is to get the YWC website component up within this model and have resolve and draws, streaming links with the YWC that is paying for this Goalball Australia website.

Needs to be live in the next 3 days to meet IBSA guidelines so we can’t wait till it’s perfect from a Goalball Australia perspective to go live or the LOC will have to remove that funding and then GA will not have a website. The company have guaranteed that they will work towards meeting all those guidelines and Liza and Sophie Murrays PA’s will work to update all our suggestions from the back end.

DT questioned Wouldn’t the accessibility be just as important for the YWC clientele?

Murray- IBSA specified as important was large print and accessible from a screen reader point of view and the changeable color schemes at the top right. The trouble is that Ryan and Troy didn’t review the site. So I have asked them to go back and do that and revolutionise sport are matching basically everything from test W3C to make sure that’s incorporated into the website and said that could be done by end of day tomorrow.

Once they come back and confirm the accessibility is done, we’ll test it and then upload the components for the YWC like schedules and draws ect.

Liza and Sophie tomorrow will add the boards and coaches’ suggestions to the website;

-IBSA rules

-Constitution

-Policies

-HOF

-Player and Staff profiles

-QLD logo and link to be added

At the latest Wednesday should be able to send the executive an enhanced website view with all of the above additions. ME would ask that we please give a quick response/turnaround so the information can be sent out and that website can go live for the youth world championships.

Branding and Logos

Murray said when he met with Sport AUS and the subsequent appeal we did with corporate entities, we had some feedback that;

1. Use of NSW website was not appropriate for the grants that we had been applying for and did not meet minimum requirements. More content and structure needed and information on how we were going to get people moving through the sport for the move it Australia grant that we applied for $186,000 and didn’t get and the website component was the primary reason we didn’t get that.
2. Paralympics Australia had their marketing team come back to us and say our logo is quite dated as it relates to corporate branding and corporate logos that we should consider a rebranding from a Goalball Australia perspective, as we will not get funding under these conditions.
3. As a result, Murray spoke to a couple of marketing professionals in corporate business and the CEO of Netball Aus. Murray had a meeting 2 weeks ago with the CEO of Netball Aus.
4. Murray said we need to think about how our sport is seen.
5. Murray asked do we want to be family focused or corporate focused, who does it represent? Is it a mainstream sport in universities or is it a Paralympic sport or is it a merger of both of those things?
6. Murray through out some initial ideas for the board to look at, they were not well received.
7. Murray would have liked the re branding before youth world championships but it’s not going to happen that quickly, so we will go with the existing logo for the YWC but Murray would like the rebranding to occur before Japan because we are going to be asking for money and funding.
8. Murray asked the board to come back with ideas.

David said it’s disappointing that PA said the reason we are not getting funding is because of our logo, that’s a cop out.

Simon- is open to change.

Olivia- Doesn’t have a problem with the change in logo but thought the mock-ups put forward were quite generic but I am not a huge fan of the “Try something Different” doesn’t represent an Elite sport, Elite athletes or a national logo.

-Elite athletes are not going to want to have “try something different” on their uniform.

-requires separate media campaign

Warrick-Said he is not surprised that Sport AUS thought we were really crap as we haven’t had a website for several months so that’s one big problem.

-Previous website needed some improvements but at least we had one

- The website before that was fantastic but someone on the board at the time forgot to pay the web hosting fees.

-Warrick not opposed to new logo but;

-before we start designing, we need to go back to what are we after?

-what is it going to be used for and what do we want to portray?

 Murray- we must start thinking how we are going to get funding for a universities program. Start thinking about broader things that are going to give us the best chance.

Warrick- asked Webpage when it is handed over from the YWC LOC is there an ongoing cost and can we edit it?

Murray- said he has staff that can jump in and can change that stuff when needed for free and he will get the subscription costs.

Warrick- what do we want to do about the logo moving forward, do we want to run a survey?

-Social media might be more effective

-Ask Goalball community how they feel about a re-branding

UNI Nationals 2020 and National goalball 4 schools’ strategy:

-Grants coming up

-Murray had a good call with the head of UNI national games around things that didn’t work this year and how we can make it successful for next year, July on the Gold coast.

-Positive to get more athletes without a visual impairment involved

-Approach NDIS for a joint grant proposal

-joint open days in conjunction with GA

-target one in each state

-Canberra onboard

-open doors for new coaches and volunteers

Warrick- important that we do evaluation of these projects to determine if we meet outcomes.

-Right down plans and then agree on a set of outcomes before implementing.

-what’s the return on investment, so we can build on it.

Warrick emailed everyone the vision statement, values and plan.

David made comment that Goalball SA had a good inclusive day in conjunction with all three universities and it included Goalball, boccia and wheelchair table tennis. 45 students in attendance.

General business- Warrick asked about the minute’s distribution to the states

Olivia- has set up a google drive for states to access minutes

No other general business.

Meeting closed 10:30PM

**Next Meeting Sunday 25th of August**