

## 16.2.1

# Board Report - Meeting 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 For Information

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016



### Introduction

1. The latest Board meeting took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> March, the first day of the Nationals.

### Background

2. The meetings are split into four distinct sections:-
  - a. Regular update papers from the Chairman, Chief Executive, Head of Operations (including finance, risk and governance) and a National Council Update.
  - b. Dashboard and Decision papers – the Dashboard provides the Board with a snapshot of progress against the annual operation plan. The full operation plan is provided to the Board on a 6 monthly basis (March and September).
  - c. Discussion papers – Strategic discussion papers which help set the direction of the organisation.
  - d. Papers for Information – papers which provide background to work that is going on but not for discussion at that particular meeting. These are not presented at the meeting but any questions about these papers are fed 'off line' directly back to the author

### Regular Updates

3. **Chairman's update** – Sandra spoke about her pride and joy at the great success at the World Team Championships where England won a bronze medal, the first time a medal had been won since 1983. She also spoke about the Nationals being on TV, again a first for a long time. Additionally England had won the right to hold European Youth Top 10 in 2017. There has been a significantly positive turn around in the standing and credibility of England with the ITTF and it is important we now capitalise on this when considering our nominations for both BOD and committee representation
4. **CEO report** – Sara reported on the current lack of clarity, despite attending consultations, around the new Sport England strategy and the timelines around the new WSP funding submission.
5. Engagement has also begun with UK Sport about bidding for funding for the Tokyo cycle on behalf of BTTF,
6. With qualification for the Rio Olympics an increasingly likelihood for Liam, Paul, and even possibly the men's team, attention is being drawn to finding funding to support the last stretch of the campaign to support their build up and attendance.
7. **Head of Operations report** – Key reports were provided in respect of finance, governance, risk, safeguarding and ethics and complaints. The Board agreed the anti-corruption regulations.
8. **National Council Update** – A full report of the January National Council meeting was made along with a number of the issues raised. Additionally a paper submitted by National Council was considered. As this topic involved a more detailed discussion about the content of the paper would take place at a Board meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May. Additionally the Development department have discussed both the topic presented and debated at NC and the paper and will provide feedback for the 12<sup>th</sup> May.

## Dashboard and Decision papers

9. **Dashboard/Operation Plan** – An update of the Dashboard was provided along with the full operation plan which is provided every 6 months. The development of a new ‘app’ was discussed, whilst it had not been delivered this year, work was being planned for next year with several meetings in the diary.
10. **Coach Licence Paper** – It was highlighted that whilst there were a large number of coaches on the current database only about a third had licences. A way to encourage them to re-licence was key and it was important to overcome perceived barriers to licence. It was also important that coaching courses were relevant with those wishing to coach with a focus on participation being offered different modules to those who want to coach elite.
11. **Club Affiliation Model** – It was agreed that a new tier of free Club registration/ membership would be introduced to grow the database of clubs (as separate from Premier Club) whilst the Club Focus Group would look at further developments in respect of clubs.
12. **Affiliation Fees** – It was agreed that the costs in respect of levies, entry fees and player licence costs would be reviewed holistically by a small working group. It was felt that the current system was not transparent and the levies had not be reviewed in over 10 years. It was also agreed that a paper, as requested by National Council, be taken for discussion, recommending an increase in £2 in 16/17 for affiliation fees with an expectation of further increase in following years.
13. **Budget 16/17** –A detailed budget had been reviewed and discussed at an earlier meeting by the Finance Operations and Risk Group and the recommended budget for 16/17 was presented to the Board. After some discussion the Board agreed the 16/17 Budget.
14. **London Cup Proposal** – Board had previously been provided with a paper and there was a consensus that event be supported ‘in principle’, as it had huge potential. There were still a number of important issues which have to be ironed out and a watching brief would continue to be had.
15. **AGM timelines** - The AGM timelines were presented and agreed
16. **Rules and Regulations** - The current regulations were agreed and a full review of them, working with the appropriate committees, would be undertaken over the next 18 months
17. **England Player Priority Proposal** - The paper focused on in the England squad. It was important that clarity existed in order to manage both the player expectations and those of their coach and club. It would help players plan their year’s activities and support them in choosing events. The paper framed tiers in priority
18. **Sport England WSP Update** - There was still a lot of uncertainty with no clear timelines produced yet.
19. **Network Group Update** - MS provided an update as to actions since the last meeting  
Procurement adviser roles have been advertised.  
The first draft of an appeal review report had been completed and is likely to be finalised in April.

In respect of Regions an options paper has been produced which is with the larger Regional Chairs group and other parties for comment on.

In respect of the Network a review will take place in March/April with relevant staff being involved.

The South East Region now has a regional chair Kim Mudge – both Yorkshire and London are still problematic with a new way of working being reviewed in London.

## **Papers for Discussion**

20. **Workforce** – GY went into detail about his plans to revamp the various coaching courses, with a particular focus on re-introducing a new level 3 course.

GY has been liaising with Stuart Sherlock and Karen Tonge at TOC in respect of Tournament Organiser courses as these had not been run for 3 to 4 years. Additionally National Umpire Courses needed to be reintroduced.

Umpire refresher courses were also going to be reinvigorated with potentially proactive regional courses being held as opposed to the current model of reactive courses being delivered. It was considered important that the umpire workforce was built up.

### **Volunteer Journey**

It is key to engage with clubs – it was important to identify key moments through the volunteer journey - how to keep volunteers in sport – how to re-engage them in the new season – how to develop them. GY has written to the Premier Clubs to help understand this journey and at the same time get the club involved to pilot this new scheme where their volunteers can take part to help the association, and importantly the volunteers themselves determine the need.

This is considered significant as this is the beginning of re-engagement of the club network and the association to develop and grow the volunteer workforce. This pilot will be developed and grown as the evidence base expands.

## **AOB**

18. New Company members were agreed.
19. It was noted that the ITTF is considering changes to the current Officials Uniforms.