

NOTES OF MAG MEETING SATURDAY 23rd JANUARY 2021

Present: Neil Hurford (Chair), Kevin Buddell, David Maddison, Steve Pratt, Sandy Nash, Phil Ashleigh, Juliet Bertie, Steve Bertie, John Andrews, Dan Simms, Jo Green, Stuart Sherlock, Dean Nabarro, Dave Randerson, Susie Venner (Board Liaison).

Apologies for Absence: Liam McTiernan, John Mackey

1. Chair's Introduction

NH welcomed those present to the first meeting of the new calendar year.

2. Notes of Previous Meeting

Noted.

3. Actions

All actions were either in hand or would come up during agenda items. NH noted that the outstanding actions primarily related to new projects not getting underway. JA had kindly agreed to help get these projects up and running.

4. Current Projects

- a. **Ranking** – NH reported that NH, SN, LM, KB and JG had met with Neil Rogers and Simon Griew to provide MAG input to the second phase of the Ranking Consultation. NH had produced a document that summarised MAG's input to both the phase 1 and phase 2 consultations. This was intended to be a "living" document that MAG would use to record its input into the Ranking Review. MAG also hoped to be involved in the next analytical/simulation stage of the Review.
- b. **Diversity & Inclusion** – JB provided an update on the involvement of JB & SB in the Diversity & Inclusion Group at the meetings in November and December. The November meeting had confirmed the priority areas as women & girls, disability, lower socio-economic backgrounds, and ethnically diverse communities. The December meeting had addressed terminology, particularly the use of the term "BAME" for describing those from ethnically diverse communities. A key thing was to ask the members how they themselves would like to be described. If not defined correctly, they are less likely to participate. It had been noted that some job opportunities had not been advertised as well as they might on the TTE website. Greater use should be made of signposting opportunities via the home page of the website and not simply relying on them being in the "job opportunities" part of the website.

JB confirmed that the initiative was proceeding well and that both her and SB were contributing as they wished to the initiative.

- c. **Club Development** – the "Clubs 4" session had gone well, and the perspectives expressed were consistent with those from the previous 3 sessions. Taken as a whole, the four sessions had provided a lot of data for a report. A decision had been taken not to proceed to a fifth session, as it was not clear that anything new would be added. SP

emphasised that by making “Clubs 4” open invitation, all clubs that met the criteria to participate had the opportunity to do so.

The focus was now on writing up the report and making recommendations to the Board. As a first step, a “Feedback Report” had been produced which summarised the key issues and actions that had been raised during the discussions. This had been circulated to participants for comment.

We had also met with the TTE “Clubs Team” to outline the preliminary conclusions that were emerging from the project.

The next step was to write the final report with recommendations.

- d. **Performance** – the “Performance Feedback” report had been submitted to the Board and its recommendations agreed. The Performance Team were producing an Action Plan to show how they would be taking forward the recommendations of the report. It was expected that the report would be published during February.
- e. **Volunteers** – the response to the Volunteers report was discussed. It was felt it had not quite addressed our recommendations as specifically as we would have liked. We would seek clarification from the Board on how the recommendations were being taken forward.
- f. **Engagement with Counties & Leagues and with Individuals** – no further sessions had taken place, and none were currently planned. This would be reviewed as we addressed various issues post-EGM.
- g. **Perceptions** – Nothing further to report.
- h. **Coaching Projects** – NH/JA to organise Zoom meetings to develop the project briefs.
- i. **IT Systems** – NH/JA to convene a Zoom meeting with DS to work out how to take this forward.
- j. **National Club League** – This had been approved by the Board. NH/JA to convene a Zoom meeting to take this forward.

5. New Projects

- a. **Reducing the Decline in Players in the 18-24 Age Group** – NH, LM & JA to write a project brief.
- b. **Umpires** – NH/JA would convene a meeting of JM, SS and DR to discuss a possible project and prepare a project brief.
- c. **Transparency of Financial Information** – this was one of the issues that had arisen out of the discussions in the lead up to the EGM. This was something that MAG could

usefully address. NH/JA to convene a meeting of those wishing to participate in this project.

- d. **“Bigger Picture Issues”** – In considering our future work programme, there was a discussion about the type of projects that we should be undertaking. The projects we had been undertaking had addressed important issues for the development of the sport – club development, performance, ranking, competitions, volunteers etc. These were undoubtedly important issues for members. But perhaps we also needed to address more fundamental issues. Entirely understandably, an enormous amount was expected of the TTE Board – but it was important to be realistic about what a National Governing Body with limited resources could do.

It would also be useful to address the expertise that the Board was able to draw on. There were enormous number of people in the sport who had relevant professional backgrounds who could help with re-shaping the sport. MAG could help in harnessing this expertise.

NH said the first step was for MAG to meet so it could clarify its own views on these matters. It was expected that this would be a Saturday morning meeting during February.

6. TTE Competition Review

NH confirmed that he had been invited to join the Steering Committee for the Review as the MAG representative. The project brief suggested that this was a much-needed root and branch review of the competition structure. He would keep MAG members informed of developments.

7. TTE Extraordinary General Meeting and Post-EGM Issues

The EGM would be taking place on Monday 25 January. Subsequent to the EGM, MAG would need to consider its role in addressing issues that had arisen in the run up to the EGM. Issues raised during the discussion under item 5d would be relevant.

8. TTE Affiliation Fee Strategy

There was a discussion on the strategy paper prepared by the Board. MAG felt that the best role it could play was in exploring new approaches to Affiliation Fees.

9. MAG Update Note

NH confirmed that he planned to issue an Update Note during February.

10. Any Other Business

None.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Saturday 27 March 2021 at 10.30am

12. Cost of the Meeting

The direct costs of the meeting to TTE were £0.00.