



International **Quidditch** Association

IQA Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 16 August 2020

Time: 19:00 UTC - 21:20 UTC

Minutes: Betsy Lewin-Leigh

Attendance

Voting members

- Austin Wallace (Trustee, Vice-Chair)
- Alberto Coronado (Trustee) (Left 20:45)
- Betsy Lewin-Leigh (Trustee, Secretary)
- Borja Arbosa (Trustee, Treasurer) (Left 21:05)
- Kym Couch (Trustee)
- Pauline Raes (Trustee, Secretary)
- Rahel Liviero (Trustee, Chair)

Invitees

- Mary Kimball (US Quidditch, Executive Director) (joined 19:05, left 19:55)
- Alexis Ewing-Moody (IQA, IT Director) (joined 20:10, left 21:10)

Apologies

- Alex Benepe (Trustee)
- David Jonsson (Trustee)

Agenda

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Confirm Agenda

Review conflicts of interest

Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Committee Updates

CEO/COO Recruitment Committee

Internal update given.

Finance Committee

Meeting with Alex scheduled on 25th and sorting invoices to send out at the latest in mid-September.

IQA World Cup 2021 & Covid-19

Mary and Pauline have had a meeting prior to the IQA Board meeting to discuss the subject. Rahel asks to give an update on what was discussed and what the recommendations are.

Mary and Pauline say that COVID-19 is causing issues in both the US and other NGBs, and is a concern. However, they also want to make sure that the BIPOC committee is being listened to as well rather than just basing the decision on COVID-19. Suggestion to wait a couple of weeks to cancel 2021 World Cup. This gives the BIPOC committee time to meet and start their research, and NGBs time to give feedback in a questionnaire similar to the last one, in order to ensure they are all listened to in this process. We should base the decision on their feedback and COVID-19. Pauline and Mary suggest to make a follow up survey with NGBs to get a feel for what the situation is like in their countries, also important for them to have an outlet for their opinions. They think the important thing to do is talk to NGBs and get feedback over the next week. Even if 2021 is possible it may not give teams sufficient time to train and prepare.

Board member suggested moving the World Cup back to 2022 in order to allow for the pandemic and give the BIPOC committee time to consider all options. Betsy says that 2021 is too early for a World Cup because of the limitations teams have to prepare for the top international event. 2022 might also be too early as getting a vaccine properly distributed could take a while. If it is in 2022, we might have to postpone the event again in a year. We should be proactive and look into how the future is going to look in the next couple of years, and anticipate that. Kym disagrees and says she'd rather plan for the possibility of hosting an event in 2 years. Planning too far out is not the right move, Austin agrees. Betsy asks for reasoning. Austin explains that things die and excitement disappears if you have nothing to look forward to. We don't know if it'll be possible in 2022 but we have to look at the likelihood and the impact of both options. If we plan in 2022 and we're wrong, there's less impact than if we'd plan in 2023 and it turns out to be possible in 2022, there's probably more likelihood of backlash. Betsy disagrees because we have continental games and the public image would be worse if the IQA had to push back an event for 3 years in a row. Albert wants to back-up Betsy on the safety side of things and says we should look towards having the NGBs go back into their season and cycle. Halting the game and sports internationally and then expecting people to jump back in for the World Cup will be a major issue. Another concern would be the legal and immigration issues for teams entering the US, partly based on COVID-19.

Mary asks if we could consult the NGBs and Richmond to see what is best for them - having something in 2 years but it might not be possible and have to get pushed back again, or having something in 3 years where it's more likely to actually go forward. She can see something on both sides but World Cup is also great for recruiting so this might impact all NGBs. Betsy says her concerns are about the public image we have with the NGBs and rescheduling. Betsy asks if 2023 would be possible. Mary says for Richmond it probably depends on facility availability. We

don't know what's possible date-wise for Richmond. It will likely be fine for USQ, the worst blow of the pandemic is likely this upcoming season. There is a lot of optimism in the US community, people want to go back to playing sports. Sports tourism is ready to go again in the US. Austin says that the best action would be to survey NGBs for 2022 or 2023.

We should tell the NGBs we're considering postponing by another year and will have a definitive answer in the next couple of weeks. Pauline thinks it is important for the BIPOC committee to research Richmond fully rather than rushing them if we are already considering postponing, giving them more time to look into the issues. Mary thinks speaking to the BIPOC committee first in order to stop backlash from the community as it could look like we are not fully listening to them. Also thinks that a small update to NGBs this week and then a more fleshed out a detailed announcement is important too. Giving the option to have more answers and less options for them to fill in the blanks themselves. Pauline suggests it also gives time for bid packages to be completed.

Mary suggests involving the BIPOC committee in the COVID-19 choice in order to ensure we are respecting their time and effort and then ask them about Richmond for 2022 or 2023 asking how long they want to research and the viability.

Rahel is worried about the time it will take to inform NGBs and wants to tell them as soon as possible. Betsy suggests telling the NGBs what our deadline would be to inform them about a final decision. Austin agrees. Mary agrees that NGBs need to know soon and be aware of any update, even a timeline update.

Pauline is aware that the 2021 continental games bidding process would need to start pretty immediately. Doesn't want to rush decision-making but also aware that it would need to happen soon in order to prepare for these events. Pauline thinks that we should decide in the next two to three weeks for continental games 2021 in order to open the bidding. Betsy thinks that we need to decide a 2021 continental games possibility before we decide WC timelines. If 2021 continental games are not possible, we do not need to rush a World Cup decision. Austin suggests telling them in our update that we may open continental games bidding in the near future to give NGBs a heads up that it may happen before the decision is made in order for them to start prepping before the decision is made. Mary would prefer a slightly longer timeline for the World Cup decision but understands why it may need to be sooner.

Mary will speak with her public health team about World Cup year options and the safety of all the options and relay this information back to Pauline and the board. Pauline will send an update to the members on slack and make an NGB questionnaire.

BIPOC Committee

Internal update given.

IQA community social media platform

Update on the recovery of the IQA All the Regions Facebook group, and presentation from Alexis on alternative platform options.

Other Business

Next meeting: August 30 - 18:00 UTC