

# Minutes of the SEMLA GCM Monday 3rd October 2016

**Present:** Trevor Rogers (TR), John Maynard (JM), Nik Roberts (NR), Gabbi Simmonds (GS), Tracy Woodall (TW), Ray Wood (RW), Harry Collings (HC), Pete Rawsthorne (PR), Jon Cooper (JC) (joined at 8pm).

## **1. Apologies for absence.**

Rob Gooch, Jackie Hicks, Pete Compton, Rob Clark.

## **2. Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting.**

Minutes Accepted.

Matters Arising

JC contacted Dave Slaughter – who has said he is not into social media and the committee needs to find someone younger so has declined.

PR reported that at the ELA AGM yesterday Ben Jessup from Hillcroft LC made a lot of good points and was obviously very keen, PR said that he would make a good Secretary or Social Media Officer. HC said that Ben possibly could be interested. HC will ask if he would be able to do either role.

## **3. Treasurers report:** Nothing to add.

## **4. Secretary's report:** Nothing to report.

Mick Chennell has decided to step down, so the committee needs to find someone else. NR will promote on social media to see if can identify any interest. TR asked all Committee to think about anyone who might be interested and to raise this with them.

## **5. Youth Development Committee:**

RW explained that PC and RW are dividing up the tasks between them. They have been trying to promote the under 19 competitions. The idea of this is to promote clubs who form links with universities in order to recruit new players, in relation to the freshers who come into universities who are under 19 years old. If you are a club with 16-19 year old players then by linking with a university club, it will give access to universities for their players to have more playing time. Currently waiting to see what the response will be, have had some positive and negative response. The idea of a tournament based competition is to kick it off in November when new players at universities have had a few weeks to digest the sport. Will need a little financial support to make a tournament work properly as will need umpires etc. As far as younger boys go, PC has prepared a programme of events on the website, the first intended event will be the usual competition which Spencer promote in 2 weeks' time (16<sup>th</sup> October). Invites have not been sent out for this yet. TR noted that Reading unlikely to take part as it is quite late notice.

TW asked RW about under 19 competitions and the age limits. RW explained the players need to be 16 otherwise they need an exemption. The league rules state if you are 15 you will need to complete

an exemption SEMLA form which needs parental permission as well as coaching permission. As soon as they turn 16 they are eligible.

RW also noted that new junior schemes are coming in, Oxford City have started one, Foxes are not doing well but apart from this no other news.

#### **6. University Liaison report: Nil to report.**

TR suggested this gets passed on for now, NR pointed out we are in the middle of fresher's fairs, all universities are asking for equipment, big numbers being signed up, Reading girls signed up 120 and had 75-80 turned up boys signed up 80 and over 40 turned up! Coventry men have signed 60 and girls tipping 100.

Oxford City cannot do under 19 because they don't have the age group, looking at colleges could we link these up.

#### **7. South Manager report:**

As RC not in attendance, TR stated that we had an ongoing situation last time about payment for the south team uniform, situation is still ongoing as the owner of the company in the States is reviewing, we have not yet paid the uniform as agreed at last meeting, so need to wait for the offer which they come back with. Both sides are trying to do their best and hopefully can get resolved asap.

RC has said that John Pordum of East Grinstead has his own investment company and as part of this is providing £500 to the South team for renting playing facilities, possibility of a further £500 if the relationship turns out well. This is very welcome and the Committee need to send an acknowledgement and thank you.

RC is trying to improve the coaching on offer to attract more players. Many of the better players cannot be bothered to turn up and go to trials who are against players with less experience. This shouldn't happen. RC is trying to ensure the more experienced players will want to trial against everyone else. There is now a coach at Hillcroft LC involved.

Rodney Dumpson who was part of the famous Syracuse team in the 90s alongside Paul and Gary Gait has now moved to Putney and has become involved through Spencer and is keen to help coach the South team.

#### **8. Disciplinary and Complaints Panel Report: Noted the report.**

Nothing to report on the playing side, following on from last meeting to look at the new code, with NLC will come back with report at next meeting.

#### **9. Referees report: Nil report**

#### **10. RDO report:**

TR welcomed GS on board who is the new South East Regional Coordinator for ELA. NR noted that the regional team are working hard with university taster sessions and freshers. There is the south

west pre-Bucs tournament coming up. The ELA AGM was on the 2nd of October have not heard anything from this yet. NR has had a discussion with Miles and has been asked to put together some quotes as to what a starter pack is and what is a starter club etc. This will make it clearer as to where new starter clubs might need help.

GS gave some background of her previous roles and explained that having only just started a few weeks ago she is looking forward to meeting everyone and getting out to clubs, universities and schools.

Noted that for those who don't know Henning S is moving back to Germany as of December so will no longer be involved in Hillcroft LC.

#### **11. NLC liaison report:**

Noted the report.

PR discussed the agenda which was sent out in report. The meeting began talking about the regional development plans which SEMLA are expected to put forward as part of the budget, this has to form the basis of the RD plan, expected by end of November, trying to work around the ELA business plans, keen on the part of the plan for creating uni-club transition players. North East plan will be used as a template.

The medical standardisation and update on policies was noted. PR noted that the provision of AED's need some standards from the top in regards to how close an AED's need to be to a pitch before it is useful. PR is asking for a register of current AED devices at clubs and noted that ELA have been working with some charities to try to get some AED's at little or no cost.

Work on concussion is now completed and ready to go out as a document and should be sent out by shooting strings. PR then noted the discussion around safeguarding and that they NLC need a register of every clubs safeguarding officer. They have had some success from this but some are not contributing. A role description has been issued for a safeguarding officer. They will come back with something more simple. PR noted that safeguarding for any player under 18 and vulnerable adults up to the age of 25.

It was also discussed that a regional safeguarding officer is needed and coming up with a role description for this which is due out soon.

PR then noted that there was some talk around the English lacrosse rules and FIL rules and how they will be adopted, or whether they will be. This has been given to a group to come back to January NLC meeting based around recreational and elite lacrosse. The attitude they are adopting is that recreation rules are not suitable for FIL rules so how do we prepare our elite players if we are not willing to adopt them? Regional competitions beings subject to FIL rules and recreational being subject to ELA rules.

PR then noted there was information around the RESPECT code. People should see these when they get registration. Some PDF files for people who want to download and print out.

The NLC have had no contact with umpires and referees. The relationship is under review and they will be invited to next meeting in January 2017. They are looking for a regional point of contact. Simon would be the regional point of contact for the South.

Competitive review - (adults and juniors) to be discussed at next meeting.

National Volunteer reward - All nominations had to be in by end of August reward was made at national lacrosse day. Only two nominations, PR will confirm where these were from.

Committee discussed they were concerned about the cost of the AED's and the difference in cost being promoted.

First aid kit should be in line with chief medical recommendations, where is this document? Keen to identify what is acceptable and what are the standards? Where is the document to prove that we complied with the law? TR noted that we need a precise and clear understanding of what is to be done in which circumstances.

**8pm John Cooper joined.**

## **12. Fixtures sec report**

Noted the report below.

### **Club updates**

Brunel University – have found a pitch and will be fulfilling all their fixtures.

Sussex University – as discussed last month they will not be part of the league this season.

Swansea – have folded and all their games are void.

### **Dates for this season**

The key dates for this season are:

Flags Final	1 <sup>st</sup> April	
East v West play off final	8 <sup>th</sup> April	
Easter Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> April	
Six a sides	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	
BNC	29 <sup>th</sup> April	
Loser of East v West play off v 9 <sup>th</sup> placed Premiership team		6 <sup>th</sup> May

### **Dates for East One and West One**

Due to the deadline for determining the teams for the Premiership playoff match, please would all clubs note the latest date for matches in determining the divisional champions = **Sunday 2nd April**

Any results submitted after this for East One and West One will be treated as friendly matches. The playoff match is on April 8th.

### **Getting results**

Send in your results to the Text results line on **07977-130194**

Twitter - results available on [@SEMLA\\_fixtures](https://twitter.com/SEMLA)

Part of the SEMLA rules are clubs should report to the number by text after a certain amount of time, the standards are getting worse in that they are going on social media but not getting to JC.

It was suggested, do we consider giving a bonus to clubs who do report and clubs who don't get a penalty. It was then suggested by JC that we send a warning, if not complied more drastic measures will be taken. Frustrating that they are not sent to JC but can put on social media.

TR suggested to send a reminder out, put on FB and give number and explain they need to comply to the laws. NR suggested that club responsibilities go on the website on the fixtures page where there could be a headline banner with the phone number saying send in by a certain date in bold at the top. JC will ask Dave Slaughter (SEMLA Webmaster) if he can do this.

### **13 AOB.**

Rodger Okill died 3 weeks ago, had many roles in lacrosse and with SEMLA. Will be remembered for organising SEMLA 6s. TR suggested SEMLA make a donation as a mark of respect. No flowers but donations to St Michael Hospice, funeral is 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016. SEMLA agreed that £50 will be the amount donated.

NR noted that Bath will no longer be playing on the Recreation Ground as of last week. After the Recreation Ground AGM Bath LC decided to pull the plug. NR will let Dave Slaughter have the address.

Referees and Umpire courses for Level 1 will be an online course from December.

**Next meeting 7<sup>th</sup> November 2016.**