

## MINUTES – SEMLA General Committee Meeting

*7pm Monday 6 February 2017*

**In attendance:** Trevor Rogers (TR), Ben Jessup (BJ), Peter Compton (PC), John Maynard (JM), Peter Mundy (PM), Peter Rawsthorne (PR), Tracey Woodall (TW)

### **1) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from: Miles Whittle, Simon Peach, Gabbi Simmonds, Henning Schmidt, Harry Collins, Jacqui Hicks, Rob Gooch, Nik Roberts, Ray Wood

### **2) Acceptance of minutes**

There were no objections to the minutes, and they were passed by the meeting.

### **3) Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4) President's Report**

There was no update for the meeting.

### **5) Treasurer's Report**

BJ shared a verbal report of Miles Whittle's Treasurer's Report.

### **6) Secretary's Report**

BJ reported that he received a player transfer form for James Tiley, moving from Welwyn Warriors to Cardiff Harlequins, and an under-16 dispensation form from Sean Boyle of Walcountian Blues.

He also shared that he has been formally elected to the Board of English Lacrosse for a 3-year term.

### **7) Youth Development Committee's Report**

RW has had an accident and broken two ribs, so TW was asked for any other enquiries. She reported that there had been a successful game day at Portsmouth, with photos shared via social media. Pythons' U13s played each other, with older junior players from Reading, Spencer, Foxes and Pythons in taking to the field in another fixture.

The next Youth Development Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, with discussions expected to include the possibility of moving Junior Flags to 12<sup>th</sup> March.

### **8) University Liaison Report**

BJ informed the meeting that BUCS' Lacrosse Championship Finals are taking place at the University of Bath on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **9) South Manager's Report**

There was no update for the meeting.

### **10) Disciplinary & Complaints Panel's Report**

It was mentioned that Croydon launched a formal complaint against Purley following the January meeting, regarding the latter's perceived attempts to secure Croydon's home ground. JM recused himself so Trevor Rogers took the lead on . TR requested Purley response and received. Croydon acknowledged response and noted as closed.

### **11) Referees Secretary's Report**

There was no update for the meeting.

## 12) Fixture Secretary's Report

There was no update for the meeting.

## 13) Development Officer Report

TR shared a verbal report from Nik Roberts, stating how English Lacrosse's Sport England funding has been reduced from £3.4 to 2.8 million for the next 4 years, with redundancies expected as the ELA seeks to adjust. As a result, the South may well lose a Regional Development Officer, with the Plymouth Community LDO post cancelled with immediate effect and Reading's ending at the end of the season. It was noted that the ELA are unfortunately cutting down on front line staff.

BJ then shared a verbal report from Gabbi Simmonds. She is looking at running some Level 2 officiating courses in response to the number that have taken Level 1 online, and is also looking to run a Level 2 coaching course as there has been some significant interest. There have also been talks of development with the University of Bedfordshire who are seeking to develop a team again, but talks on this are continuing.

## 14) NLC Liaison Report

PR reported how the National Lacrosse Committee met at the end of January in Warwick. Recruitment of officials had been a topic of conversation there, including the development of the BluesFest model into other competitions. There was also some discussion of FIL rules as per the paper circulated prior to this SEMLA GCM, and PR commented that the regional budget had been well received.

The meeting heard how there is no funding available for SEMLA representation at the Nick Kehoe trophy this summer, but Dave Coldwell (National Development Manager for English Lacrosse) encouraged a reapportioning of the existing SEMLA budget.

There are now close to 7000 registered ELA members, with photo ID being planned for the 2018/19 season. PR also shared how there had been some discussion regarding non-conformity with registration, and how John Sharples (of NEMLA) had urged for national consistency on a disciplinary process.

PR informed the meeting that every club must now have a Welfare & Safeguarding Officer, regardless of the age profile of their membership. The role description was circulated with the GCM papers prior to this meeting, and there is also a job description for a regional post.

AED access had also been discussed by NLC, and an event calendar has now been shared with SEMLA following the NLC meeting, with the SEMLA committee adding dates for South-focused events. This will be shared more widely when it is completed in due course.

**ACTION** – PR to contact clubs regarding AED access (BJ to share mailing list).

## 15) Summer League

BJ shared a verbal update from Henning Schmidt on the progress of Summer League. The dates are now set with provision for six men's games, three junior games and three women's games. The junior games require some planning, but this is underway, and some additional activities including a beer festival are also being worked on.

Dates as below:

		Mens	Womens	Youth
03/06/2017	GD1	1		1
17/06/2017	GD2	1		1
08/07/2017	GD3	1	1	
22/07/2017	GD4	1		1
05/08/2017	GD5	1	1	
19/08/2017	GD6	1	1	

## 16) Any Other Business

The meeting heard that concern had been expressed by Spencer following the 4 February fixture between Spencer and Hampstead. It was briefly discussed how unless the players in question are not registered with English Lacrosse, there are limited options for taking this forward. The meeting noted that the danger in legislating against such recruitment is that the committee does not want to hamper participation for anyone, however it was mentioned that the route could be to legislate against those with professional playing status.

BJ also commented how the email contacts for some clubs in the South are out of date, so he will be working to update these moving forwards.

**ACTION** – BJ to contact ELA r.e. Hampstead player registrations.

**ACTION** – BJ to update club contacts and circulate a revised list to the SEMLA committee in due course.

**Please note that the date and time of the next meeting is Monday 6 March at 7pm.**