# Goalball UK Competition Committee – Minutes

Wednesday 27th October 2021, 6.30pm (Conference Call)

In attendance: Alex Bunney (AB), Tom Dobson (TD), Dina Murdie (DM), Dyfrig Lewis-Smith (DLS), Dani Dillon (DD), Paul Holloway (PH), Sarah Leiter (SL).

## Welcome & Apologies

DM opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

Apologies received from Kate Coghlan and Sammie Korosi.

## Return to Play Update

2.1 COVID-19 Competition Measures Review and Feedback

AB confirmed Goalball UK are reviewing COVID-19 measures after each competition. So far, the current measures have been well received.

Goalball UK will continue to monitor local and national restrictions.

AB noted the time taken to conduct cleaning after each game (10 minutes) has put pressure on scheduling.

## Competition Round Up

3.1 Current Entries and Player Numbers

Novice after tournament 1 = 15 teams and 63 Players

Intermediate North after Matchday 1 = 5 teams and 23 Players

Intermediate South after Matchday 1 = 6 teams and 29 Players

7 Intermediate teams (4 North & 3 South) and 9 Elite teams are yet to compete.

3.2 Feedback & Issues

AB and TD highlighted some of the small internal snagging issues experienced at the start of season and the process in place to make corrections.

Reminders around rules and procedures have been sent to teams after each event, this a new feature for 2021/22 aimed at improving the knowledge of the rules and procedures within the teams.

3.3 Region B Decision

The committee discussed an on the day decision taken at the Region B Novice tournament regarding a club’s results and the formation of a composite team due to player availability.

## Competition Plans 2021/22

4.1 Venues Update

TD confirmed all venues for 2021/22 are now booked. The final outstanding Region A Novice - Tournament 3 venue will be communicated to teams in the coming weeks. The committee thanked TD for his efforts in securing the venues for all the 2021/22 competition dates.

4.2 Cup Entries

To allow for scheduling AB confirmed there will be the following maximum entries:

* Novice Shield = 12 Teams
* Intermediate Trophy = 16 Teams
* Goalfix Cup = 8 Teams

Any second team entries will be managed as per regulation 4.6.4.

The committee acknowledged that for 2022/23 and beyond there needs to be consideration for how national cups are delivered with the number of teams likely to outgrow individual event schedules.

4.3 Goalfix Cup 2022 & UK Sport Funding (AB)

AB confirmed Goalball UK have made a bid to UK Sport to improve the profile and delivery of the Goalfix Cup for the next three years. Improvements may include:

* Sport presentation
* Streaming with commentary
* Venue look and feel
* Ticketing
* Specialist court
* Digital marketing pre, during, and post event

If the bid is successful, the event may move to being delivered on one court across three days - Friday to Sunday. The committee discussed the potential challenges this may create for teams and workforce with availability but agreed if enough notice (6 months) is given it is an appropriate step to take to develop the event.

## Updates

5.1 Communication

The committee discussed and reflected on its internal and external communications regarding a number of recent decisions.

5.2 Event Staff / Coordinators

AB confirmed Goalball UK are still working to develop an appropriate job role and description to recruit additional event staff / coordinators.

5.3 Goalball UK Referee Course 2022

DD, DM, and AB confirmed plans are in place to run a Goalball UK Referee Course in February 2022. Work is ongoing to re-structure the course including creating a pre course online module. Course promotion and recruitment will begin in November 2021.

5.4 Transgender Inclusion - Home Sports Councils’ Review

DLS confirmed Goalball UK have now received ‘Guidance for Transgender Inclusion in Domestic Sport’ from The Sports Councils’ Equality Group.

AB and DLS will establish the work required to review the current Goalball UK policy and update the committee at the next meeting.

## Issues Received to The CC

6.1 Player Rating

The committee agreed to change an individual player rating. The player and club will be informed immediately.

6.2 Appeal

The committee has received a matter expressed as an appeal. This matter will be dealt with in accordance with the Goalball UK Complaints Procedure, and the parties involved will be notified.

## Date of next meeting

Wednesday 5th January 2022.

## AOB

None.

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