# Goalball UK Competition Committee – Minutes

Wednesday 16th March 2022, 6.30pm (Conference Call)

In attendance: Alex Bunney (AB), Tom Dobson (TD), Dina Murdie (DM), Dyfrig Lewis-Smith (DLS), Paul Holloway (PH), Sarah Leiter (SL), Kate Coghlan (KC), and Sammie Korosi (SK).

## Welcome & Apologies (DM)

Dani Dillon sent apologies.

DM opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

## Return to Play Update (Covid-19)

AB updated the committee of the current measures in place at Goalball UK competitions. AB also confirmed equipment cleaning (including the floor) in between games will remain in place until the end of the 2021-22 season. A review of all cleaning measures will take place at this point.

## 2022/23 Competition Framework Development

The committee discussed the Intermediate and Elite team feedback. Due to the time available in the meeting further discussions will take place 6th April 2022.

## Issues requiring CC discussion and action

4.1 Intermediate North League

The committee discussed and made decisions on the following:

* Scarborough Panthers Goalball Club’s withdrawal from the league
* Blackburn Goalball Club’s withdrawal from the league
* Kirklees Goalball Club’s planned non-attendance at Matchday 4

On behalf of the committee, TD and AB will communicate the decisions to the individual clubs before informing all teams in the league of the decisions.

4.2 Patching Exemption Application Form

AB presented a draft application form for two types of exemption:

1. Use of different patches
2. Full patching exemption

The committee agreed to take forward and implement the application process for the use of different patches in Goalball UK Competitions. The committee agreed not to adopt an application process for full patching exemptions in Goalball UK Competitions. AB to circulate a final version for approval before issuing to clubs.

4.3 Player Safety Guidance

AB presented a guidance note for issue to clubs and officials. The committee agreed to the guidance in principle with agreed amends. AB to circulate an updated version for approval before issuing to clubs and officials.

4.4 Moving Clubs Guidance

AB presented a draft guidance document following feedback from clubs and players relating to players moving between clubs. The committee offered feedback and agreed to adopt the guidance in principle. AB will make amends to the guidance and recirculate for approval.

4.5 Ramadan

TD and SK presented feedback from several players and clubs regarding Goalball UK Competitions taking place in Ramadan. The committee discussed the implications for players, clubs, and the overall structure of the Goalball UK competition season. The committee will keep the matter under review as planning progresses for the 2022/23 season.

4.6 Email received re: stamping and player levels at Intermediate

TD presented feedback from a player following the Intermediate Trophy regarding stamping (noise) and player levels. The committee discussed the matters and agreed TD and DM will issue a reminder of the noise rule (team and personal) to all officials.

## Competition Plans 2021/22

5.1 Intermediate South – Matchday 3 – Reading University

TD and AB explained there had been a change in date to the 27th March following the late cancellation of the original date (26th March) by the venue. Goalball UK would like to thank teams and officials for their understanding and flexibility in ensuring the Matchday goes ahead.

5.2 National Finals – price of hotel rooms

TD informed the committee hotel rooms in the area are very expensive, and due to teams not knowing yet if they have qualified, there is a risk of prices increasing further. SL & PH explained this is a recurring issue for competitions at The English Institute of Sport (EIS) in Sheffield. In the short term, Goalball UK will offer taxi contributions for teams to book hotels further out at a reduced cost. For future seasons Goalball UK is looking to reduce the number of national events at the EIS if other suitable venues can be booked.

## Updates

6.1 Terms of Reference

DLS introduced the anomalies in the terms of reference about length of membership. DLS will liaise with the chair of the committee and the chair of Goalball UK Board to make the necessary changes to the terms of reference and agree current committee members terms.

6.2 Goalball UK Referee Course Update

DM informed the committee the referee course was a success, with all 7 planned candidates attending. Several referees from the course have already gone onto to referee in Goalball UK competitions and the additional numbers are making a real difference. DM and AB confirmed another course is being planned for late 2022 or early 2023 based on the 2022/23 competition dates.

## AOB (ALL)

None.

## Date of next meeting (TD)

6th April 2022 via Zoom

The committee agreed to increase the frequency of meetings to improve the management of arising matters and planning relating to competitions.

Document Ends.