# Goalball UK Competition Committee – Minutes

Tuesday 7th February 2023, 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).

## Welcome & Apologies

Apologies: Dani Dillon and Sammie Korosi.

DM opened the meeting at 6.30pm.

## Return to Play Update

2.1 Update of Covid-19 Measures including current plans for 2023/24

AB confirmed competition Covid-19 measures have been further relaxed in relation to cleaning. The intention is to reintroduce swapping ends and substitute paddles at the start of the 2023/24 season.

## Competition Framework Development

3.1 2023/24 Competition Structure Planning Update

TD presented the proposed 2023/24 calendar. The calendar will be released to teams and officials in March with some venues still ‘to be confirmed’.

Key challenges remain in finding suitable and available two hall venues to support Super League and Intermediate competitions.

Due to rising costs and the potential introduction of an international teams event hosted in the UK, the traditional end of season tournament will not take place in 2024.

3.2 Player Rating Consultation

The committee discussed and finalised the consultation documents. The consultation will take place during February and March 2023. The committee will discuss responses at the next meeting.

3.3 Super League - Divisions ranking method for 2023/24 season

The committee confirmed the final overall 2022/23 league placings will be used to create the divisions for the start of the 2023/24 season. Any new teams will join Division B. Confirmation of how many teams there are in each division will be determined after the 2023/24 league entries have been confirmed.

## Issues requiring CC update / discussion / action

4.1 Permanent Kit Exemption

AB confirmed a permanent kit exemption has been granted (until further notice) for an individual player on medical grounds. Teams attending relevant competitions will be informed.

4.2 Super League Tournament 2 – use of new balls

The committee discussed an enquiry regarding how often the ball is changed at Super League tournaments.

4.3 Super League Goal Scorers Division A vs Division B goals

The committee acknowledged there are complications in ranking the overall goalscoring statistics in relation to goals scored by players in Division A and B.

The committee will work through a number of potential solutions before making a decision and confirming the outcome to teams.

4.4 Player Rating Change Request

The committee discussed and confirmed a player rating request change from 4 to 3 with immediate effect. The club and player will be informed.

4.5 Goalfix Cup 2023 – Team Ranking Method

The committee confirmed the final 2022/23 Super League rankings will be used to rank teams for the purpose of creating round robin groups.

4.6 Confirm Goalball UK Shield Entry (12 teams max)

The competition will have a maximum of 12 team places.

Goalball UK predict the competition is likely to be over subscribed for first teams.

The committee confirmed all teams including second teams should enter within the deadline. If the number of first teams exceeds 12, Goalball UK will draw first team entries out of a hat to fulfil the competition.

## Updates

5.1 20th January Player Meeting Feedback

PH and SL presented feedback from the players and teams meeting.

In the main comments were positive regarding developments this season.

The main areas of discussion were the player rating consultation and how the Super League – Tournament 2 would run across two separate venues.

5.2 This Girl Can Open - Event Feedback

31 players in attendance with 8 dropouts because of the train strikes.

Positive feedback received from players, volunteers, and parents involved.

To allow more GB women's team players and staff to attend in future, it was suggested that the project could coordinate dates with the GB coaches/performance lead.

The This Girl Can project group will now meet to plan future activity.

## AOB

None.

## Date of next meeting

Wednesday 22nd March 2023 via Zoom

Document Ends.