

The Camanachd Association (CA)
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Wednesday 31st May 2017
6.00pm, Alexandra Hotel, Fort William

Directors Present:

Jim Barr	JB	President
Keith Loades	KL	Vice-President (Competitions)
Daniel Palombo	DP	Director (Finance)
Steven MacKenzie	SM (B)	Director (Communications)
Willie MacDonald	WM	Director (Youth) (6.45pm – 9.05pm)
Colin Cameron	CC	Director without Portfolio (6pm – 8.15pm)
Angus MacVicar	AM	Director (Officials)

Attendance:

Jock Turner	JT	Chieftain
Astie Cameron	AC (CA)	Operations & Events Manager
Alan Clark	AC (SS)	Sportscotland Partnership Manager
Siobhan Thomson	ST	Womens Camanachd Association
Derek Keir	DK	Chief Executive Officer

Apologies:

Stuart MacKintosh	Player Representative
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1. Welcome

1.1 JB welcomed all to the meeting.

The tragic passing of Duncan Rodger, Kilmallie & Fort William and Donald Lamont, Kilmallie was recorded with sympathies extended to both families.

1.2 The Agenda & Starred Items were agreed.

1.3 No Conflicts were recorded.

1.4 The Minutes of Previous Meeting were approved. (Prop SM, 2nd AM)

- 1.5** MA Point 1.5 – 1.2 Membership Categories – Ongoing. Student Members are now on the list & School Membership is ongoing with player details of those participating in Festival on morning of MacTavish Cup Final to be recorded. [JB]
- MA Point 1.5 – 1.3 Budget savings for 2017 – Ongoing. [JB/KL]
- MA Point 1.5 – 2.3 ST advised she had spoken to Affric Estate and was awaiting a response from the owner. [ST]
- MA Point 1.5 – 3.3 JB advised that a letter had been sent to Kilmallie, which they had acknowledged.
- MA Point 2.2 JB advised that no decision had been made on whether to contest the Sportscotland Clawback. [JB/KL/DK]
No progress on offering the Insurance to a Broker, will be pursued for 2018. [DP/DK]
- MA Point 3.1 Letter sent to [REDACTED] meeting to be arranged with JB / KL. [JB/KL]
- MA Point 3.2 Further letter sent to Macaulay Association [KL]
- MA Point 3.3 No Competitions Committee since last Board Meeting [AC(CA)/KL]
- MA Point 3.4 JB has spoken to NS and he has the date in his diary.
Half Time feature in Celtic Cup Final programme on BBC ALBA likely to be WCA feature.
ST advised that she suggested to WCA to submit an Awads for All application but it has not progressed.

MA Point 5.2 AM advised the letter was sent to clubs appealing for referees, it has received a lot of media interest but little response from clubs.

MA Point 8.4 JT advised that WC had stood in the local elections and was now standing for Westminster. **[JB, KL & DK]** - to meet Wendy Chamberlain (WC) when general election has ended.

2. Finance*

2.1 Update Paper approved.

DP advised the Sportscotland Clawback was to be reduced due to a transition support grant of £3000 for DK moving into CEO role. JB recorded thanks to AC for identifying and processing this.

2.2 2017 Budget

DP outlined the updated budget which showed a projected deficit of £3645, down from £7095 at previous meeting.

JB advised continued vigilance over expenditure required and increased income avenues to be explored.

2.3 2016 Annual Accounts

DP presented the Draft 2016 Annual Accounts [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. Draft Accounts Proposed KL seconded AM with permission granted for JB to sign off final accounts when fully vetted by DP. Copies will then be issued to Clubs for their information **[DP]**

2.4 Sponsorship

DP advised we received £500 from Tullochs for Primary School Competition.

DP advised a payment to Fixtures Live from 2015 for £450 had been missed and now had to be made retrospectively following a search of our records prompted by Fixtures Live.

KL advised himself & JB had a very good meeting with Liberty. Liberty are supportive of shinty, they have joined the Business Club [REDACTED]

KL advised that Anderson, Shaw & Gilbert had agreed to be Match Day Sponsor for the MacTavish Cup Final on 10th June, [REDACTED]

KL advised Wills Bros had agreed to sponsor the Silver Mounted Caman at the MacTavish Cup Final [REDACTED]

JB advised Scottish Building Society are to consider a proposal for 'Business Club Plus' at their June Board Meeting. KL thanked JB & DP for the work on the budget.

3 Competitions

3.1 Update Paper –

KL Presented the Update Paper.

KL advised that a decision from Kilmallie was awaited on playing the MacTavish Cup Final on 10th June in view of recent events. (A telephone call was received from Kilmallie later in the meeting to confirm that they wished to go ahead with the fixture on scheduled date.)

3.2 International Update.

KL advised arrangements are in hand for the International on 21st Oct.

- The Irish Party are staying in the Mercure Hotel.
- The Scottish teams are staying in Jury's Hotel.
- Both the Awards Ceremony and After Match Reception are booked for the Mercure.
- The Irish are flying into Glasgow this year, which will result in increased cost of bus hire. Alice MacRae & Richard Gall are looking to get best deal on bus hire.
- Ronald Ross has agreed to continue as Senior Manager for another year.
- Alan MacRae is in the second year of his term as Under 21 Manager.

KL advised the follow up meeting with the GAA had not taken place in May as agreed. Pat Daly had proposed that the CA join the GAA in Ireland and Brittany and the Irish & Welsh Rugby Union in forming a Pan-Celtic Alliance. **[KL]**

3.3 WCA

- ST advised that arrangements for the trip to Dublin on 14th – 16th July are progressing well. The squad have been selected and training sessions are going well. Flights from Glasgow – Dublin have been booked.
- Stuart Reid, WCA Manager has taken up a position with the Camogie Ass in Ireland but would be in charge for the July match.
- The match against the English Camogie in August will be held in either Manchester or London Jeanette MacGregor is likely to lead on this match due to SR's non availability.
- WCA Publicity Campaign progressing with the players identified. HIS have donated [REDACTED] towards this. It will be completed by end of summer.
- The Primary School Girls Festival was a big success.

3.4 Match Balls & Byelaw 1

JB outlined the position with Match Balls. It is likely that the majority being used in all competitions for the last 6 months do not meet criteria stated in Byelaw 1.3. The Board agreed the issue of a letter to clubs as outlined with a proposal going to 2017 AGM to change the wording in the Byelaw [JB]

3.5 Helmets & Byelaw 4

WM advised that the recent Youth Meeting discussed the problem with a number of Helmets being used by Youth players not being fit for purpose. The Faceguard used by some is designed for Hurling and as such it does not stop a Shinty Stick going through the bars. In addition a number of players have removed Bars, to improve visibility, which is weakening the Faceguard and also allows Shinty Stick to go through the gaps.

The Youth Committee want the wording of the Byelaw changed to say the Faceguard must be a Mycro Approved Shinty Faceguard. Mycro have advised the Faceguard could be changed on the Helmets which are not Shinty Approved.

Mycro have advised they can produce or re-work 200 helmets per day so they have the capacity WM proposed that it is Mandatory for all Youth Players to wear a Faceguard that doesn't allow a Shinty Stick or ball to go through between the bars.

Unanimous agreement that this needs to be addressed.

SM (B) proposed a period of grace for clubs.

JB suggested that we indicate to clubs mid-season with the intent to change all Faceguards prior to the 2018 Season with Byelaw 4 to be re-worded. [JB/WM]

4 Development

4.1 Update Paper

WM presented the Summary Paper. CA are on track to meet 2017 – 2018 Targets.

AC(SS) advised that Derek Welsh had taken up the post of Partnership Manager – Coaching from Ruari Davidson & GC would be dealing with him going forward.

4.2 Quality and Inclusion - Sportscotland Supplementary Funding Application (£28k)

AC(SS) advised that this application was unsuccessful as the programme had been oversubscribed by 100% with 37 Applications received. The CA bid was potentially expensive per head of inactive people being encouraged into active sport. JB contested that the rural nature of our communities is a major hurdle when it comes to orchestrating mass conversions. No specific feedback was available.

Comic Relief Funding Application.

JB advised the application which was been submitted to Comic Relief on "Improving the Position of Women in Sport" for £50k for 3 years was unsuccessful ostensibly because we had no track record in delivering such a programme. However, no specific feedback was provided to confirm this "Pick List" rationale.

5 Officials

5.1 Update Paper

AM gave a verbal Update. 3 meetings have taken place so far for Re-grading & Referee Allocation. We have lost 2 refs (Neil Ferguson & Alan Harrison) & gained Graham Fisher during the season. AM attending CRA meeting on 11th June.

5.2 Area Meetings (Officials)

AM advised that the Workshops on 10th May were well attended and received positively by all who attended. The Development pathway for Officials was agreed by the meetings as a positive step. AM will pull together the salient points. [AM]

5.3 Disciplinary Statistics – Update

Misconduct Statistics for YTD discussed.

JB advised that himself & WM had met with Kilmallie about their Disciplinary issue & Kilmallie had met their players prior to meeting the board, Kilmallie had drafted a Code of Conduct for their players which will have to be approved by the Board of Kilmallie. A copy will be given to the CA once approved. The code of conduct includes internal discipline measures for players considered to have conducted themselves inappropriately by the Kilmallie Board. The response from Kilmallie to their current situation is viewed as both positive and constructive, The President wished them all success with the proposed measures.

6 Operational Plan

6.1 Update Paper

JB Presented the Operational Plan and outlined the issues of concern.

6.2 Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020

DK advised a meeting was held on 12th May with the majority of the Staff.

The dates for the Roadshows have been confirmed: -

Wester Ross 5th July
Inverness 12th July
Fort William 13th July
Glasgow 2nd August
Inveraray 9th August
Oban 10th August

[KL/DK]

AC(SS) stated that Sportscotland invest in. The current Strategic Plan should be the starting point for the 2018 – 2020 Plan.

The views of Members, Sponsors and Partners will all be included.

JB suggested meeting with Stuart MacKintosh (Player Rep) to encourage players to attend the meetings. KD concurred and agreed to arrange a meeting with Stuart in Inverness. [DK]

7 Governance

7.1 Presidential Elections

JB advised that the process for election of a President Elect had commenced. KL confirmed, in response to a question, that he was seriously considering putting his name forward as a candidate for President Elect and this was generally well received.

[KL]

8 AOCB

8.1 Correspondence

None

8.2 Risk Management Grid

JB went over the Double Red categories. **Budget/Sponsorship/Officials.**

8.3 Co-opted Director Vacancies

Outlined in Matters arising **JB, KL, DK to meet WC.**

AM asked about a potential IT Director person. ST indicated that her father was willing to give CA a few hours of his time and expertise to review our current set up and offer some strategic advice. It was suggested that DK needed a few weeks to settle in and find out what we have before this would be fully effective. Meeting with ST's father to be set up when DK ready and JB available. [DK/JP/ST]

Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 26th July at 6.00pm by Teleconference.

Meeting Finished 9.05pm