**ENGLISH LACROSSE ASSOCIATION Ltd.**

Minutes of the English Lacrosse Association Ltd. Board held 1pm on Sunday 11th October 2020 TEAMS conference call.

Present: Hannah Bowe (Chair), Nikki De Kretser (NK), Mark Coups (MC) CEO, Hamish McInnes (HM), John Neal (JN), Susan Gordon (SG), Gavin Devine (GD), Jane McCarthy (JM), Sallie Barker(SB),Sue Livock (President), Neil Edgar (NE) Ex-Officio, Abi Merrill (AM) Ex-Officio, Helen Amos (HM) Ex-Officio, and Paul Coups (PC) Ex-Officio (minutes).

**Section 1: Routine Business Matters**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Michael Estill (ME), Prashant Jobanputra (PJ) and Chrissie Owens (CO)

1. **Conflict of Interest Declarations**

SB outlined her new role with World Lacrosse, identifying that she is an observer at present. JM reiterated her trustee commitments with the Lacrosse Foundation and Senior England Men’s Squad.

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

PC outlined the amendments to the minutes 7th July 2020 which were approved as a true record with the amendments.

1. **Matters Arising and Action Log**

There were no matters arising.

1. **CEO Report and Action Log**

MC tabled paper 1 (b).

MC reviewed the membership and affiliation report and identified risks with this area. MC updated the board on the current figures highlighting the positive position which demonstrates the resilience of the participants and their acceptance of rule adjustments. MC added that the regions have been supportive in managing the messaging and policing the system.

MC outlined that the game had begun fixtures (Saturday 10th October) using local flexible leagues. This format will support the issues that will be inevitable in the coming weeks and months.

MC summarised the current University Lacrosse Officer programme, identifying that this had expanded again (to 45 from 35) and are in place to stimulate university and community lacrosse.

MC reiterated the positive financial position (already reviewed the AGM) but outlined that budgetary planning will be a challenge and impacted on by the current health crisis.

JM highlighted issues with planning at National Squad level and challenges to the calendar. MC outlined that he has raised this with World Lacrosse and will be attending a meeting to take this forward.

JM highlighted the current events group and the lack of information regarding the next steps.

**Action**

* MC and AM to pick up with JM and SB after the meeting.

**Section 2: Key Strategic Business**

1. **National Lacrosse League**

HB invited AM and HA to present an overview of the National Lacrosse League to the board.

AM and HA presented a slide deck to the board on the National League (to be circulated with the minutes).

The board had a broad discussion on the concept.

The key themes from the discussion were;

* What is the purpose of the competition?
* Format of competition
* Where in the calendar to reduce conflict?
* Costs to players considering current performance player outlay
* Geographical differences (north-men, south-women)
* Mindset of men’s lacrosse at club level
* A need to use the future direction as the springboard for the concept
* The implications of using the current structures and loyalties
* The potential for licensing and franchising
* Is this a priority for EL?

MC outlined that EL will be looking to support regional leagues through a digital league management system through the coming 12 months. This will support the calendar process and engagement with the current league structures and will be for all leagues to use as part of EL digital engagement / user experience. It will enable us to have generic formatting for leagues sat in one place.

The board approved the concept and for AM and HA to report back on the next steps. MC suggested that if board members were available, assistance to the staff would be appreciated. JN and HM offered their assistance.

**Actions**

AM and HA to develop the concept and consider:

* Purpose
* SWOT analysis
* format
* finance
* calendar
* licensing the league.

1. **AOB**

* Safeguarding “line” to be produced
* HB reviewed ME email regarding membership and the positive position in the current circumstances.
* Board evaluation due to be circulated prior to the coming weekend (17th October)
* AM to circulate doodle poll for 2021 meetings.

The meeting closed at 1.56 p.m. with thanks to the Chair.

**Dates for 2020**

Tuesday 8th December

**Distribution:** Hannah Bowe, Mark Coups, Prashant Jobanputra, Hamish McInnes, Gavin Devine, Michael Estill, Nikki De Kretser, Jane McCarthy, Susan Gordon, John Neal and Chrissie Owens.

Cc:, Sue Livock, Sallie Barker, Neil Edgar.