

Ireland Lacrosse

Annual General Meeting

2 July 2011

1.30pm, UCD (room to be advised)

Minutes

1. Welcome given by Mike Kennedy (MK).

2. Ireland Lacrosse NGB status and strategic planning:

Item 1: The setting up of Ireland Lacrosse (IL) was discussed in detail. It was explained that Ireland Lacrosse had been incorporated as a legal entity. It was stated that the ELF (European Lacrosse Federation) and the FIL (Federation of International Lacrosse) had fully recognized Ireland Lacrosse as the National Governing Body (NGB) for Lacrosse in Ireland. IL has received a letter from the ELF confirming this and one has been requested from the FIL.

Item 2: The process for recognition from the Irish Sports Council (ISC) for IL as the NGB was discussed. A copy of the recognition criteria was circulated and it was explained that over the last 12 months IL had been putting in place structures, policies, committees and processes to comply with this criteria. The remaining requirements were discussed and it was explained that while a Memorandum and Articles of Association were developed at time of incorporation these will probably need to be revised and a Constitutional Review completed to establish a new organizational constitution. It was proposed that MK would progress Strategic planning and draft a document that would be initially reviewed by the board then ordinary members would be consulted on their opinions.

Action: MK to continue with strategic planning and draft a document to be reviewed by the board initially then James Agar, Martin Scanlon, Conor Walsh and Aisling would be consulted for their input.

Item 3: It was proposed that disciplinary procedures would be developed through the Clubs Committee it was also explained that club subscriptions being paid into the NGB is a pre-requisite for recognition by the ISC

Item 4: The web Site was discussed it was stated that the role descriptions and documents regarding the NGB would be moved to a new Documents Section to be established on the website. It was also mentioned that when Ireland Lacrosse was Googled we weren't first, we came second and that the fact that a website IrelandLacrosse.com which mirrored to the ILF website appeared first was to be resolved. It was stated that we had 900-1000 unique visitors from the USA, UK and Ireland. IL is also on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. It was mentioned that some of the clubs had difficulty with their club section on the IL website. Sean Gibson (SG) agreed that he will open up access for content to Julie Clarke, CM, Katelin Billups and Paddy O'Leary as authors. 1 Club representative per club would have higher level access to do anything on their clubs sections but change the appearance. It was queried regarding moderation of comments on the website. It was agreed that all comments would be approved from now unless they were defamatory. SG stated that he hoped to have an editor appointed in a year or so to manage the website functionality.

Action:

SG to develop Documents Section on the IL website. The board is to look at shutting down the IrelandLacrosse.com website. SG will sit down with the club representatives at first game day or the beginner blitz to show how to edit their sections of the website

Item 5: The floor was opened up to discuss the previous items. It was questioned how long the process to get ISC recognition would take. MK answered that IL would like to get an application submitted in the next 6 months, the ISC only meet quarterly, and depending on whether the ISC are very strict on the 3 year accounts requirement or not would also affect the length of time the process takes. MK stated that the FIL has asked IL to give them a letter from the ISC saying that we are applying for NGB status and that Lacrosse is played in Ireland and administrated by IL. This is to allow FIL to apply for membership of Sport Accord which is a prerequisite for Olympic recognition. It was stated that the clubs should make their players aware of all of the work involved in seeking recognition from the ISC. It was suggested that there should always be a paragraph on the newsletter regarding the progress of the ISC recognition.

The status regarding NGB for the whole Island of Ireland was also discussed, John Frame (JF) stated he had spoken to English Lacrosse to clarify that point but that the FIL website would be rectified to show that. It was discussed that the Irish Lacrosse Foundation had donated money to IL, that the split was amicable and they are still representing Lacrosse in Ireland and selling apparel. The point was raised that the Irish Lacrosse Foundation were still putting out teams for exhibition games as Irish teams, it was explained that John Cavanagh was aware of this and sensitive to it, and it would be worked on.

Action: JF to ring ELA to confirm the IL is NGB for whole Island of Ireland and to request FIL to amend their website accordingly. CM to include a section on progress of ISC recognition in the Newsletter.

3. Ireland Lacrosse – role descriptions, clubs committee, ILL rules, disciplinary procedures, IL website

Item 1: It was queried why there were no women in the clubs committee last year, it was explained that the selection of the clubs representative was a matter for the clubs and that it was expected that the representative would discuss any issues with senior members both male and female to ensure they were representing the members views correctly at the clubs committee meetings. It was also reiterated that only 2 clubs had a women's team last season. It was decided that clubs with a women's team could send 2 representatives to the Clubs Committee meetings but only have one vote per club. It was then agreed that the clubs committee for this year would consist of for UCD: Cillian Murphy and Aisling. For Dublin Sean Gibson and Rebecca Headon. For the Prawns it would be Conor Walsh it was still to be confirmed for NUIG and TCD.

It was discussed that Dara McCreary would be helping with NUIG this year but would liaise with Ryan Doran and Sonny Campbell.

It was decided that the Clubs Committee would meet at the rookie blitz and then every other game day with full schedule to be issued by CM when the clubs have confirmed their representatives by email.

It was discussed that it was not deemed viable to have a TCD team this year that we should recruit there for both men and women and bring to training with Dublin and the Prawns but channel them either into the other clubs to boost their numbers until there was a group in TCD ready to take up the mantle. It was suggested that posters should also be put up.

Action: CM to convene a meeting of the Clubs Committee to discuss disciplinary procedures, women's involvement and structure in the league. The committee will also discuss recruitment policy for experienced players to be discussed and established. The clubs need to email to confirm their representatives to CM, the first meeting will be at the beginner blitz and the final schedule of meetings will be decided upon but will be generally every other game day. James Agar is to look at and organize recruitment in TCD with help from Keith Kane. MK and Paddy O'Leary agreed to recruit at DBS.

Item 2: It was explained that there would now be an electronic application form for the European Lacrosse championship 2012 tryouts for both men and women available on the website that would also allow electronic payment of the tryout fee via PayPal.

Item 3: The online shop was discussed, it was explained that MK had been working on getting the background processes in order, the ordering process and the PayPal account etc. It was mentioned that the proposal from the board was to establish a committee to come up with design ideas and that any member could submit a design idea to this committee and once it passed their criteria it would be put in the shop. It was also discussed that at the end of each season each of the clubs would receive a payment for 50% of the profits of any apparel sold of those clubs designs, the other 50% would go to IL to cover the costs of running the shop, administration, production and marketing etc. A report would be generated showing sales of individual items to establish the level of the payment.

Action: MK to establish a committee to help manage the online shop and vet any designs being submitted. Committee to consist of MK, Cillian Murphy, Conor Walsh, Dara McCreary, Leonard Skelly, Tiernan O'Malley and Rachel.

Item 4: The Role descriptions were discussed in length and eventually it was decided that each role would only have a one year term and would be filled by election each year at the AGM. This was proposed, seconded and agreed by unanimous vote. It was stated the role descriptions were on the website for reference. Permission was granted to the board to finalise the role descriptions for the proposed new board positions. It was also stated that Cillian Murphy will remain as referee representative.

Item 5: Elections to positions

- i. Chief Executive Officer – Mike Kennedy was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- ii. Secretary - Mike Kennedy was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- iii. Financial Director – John Frame was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- iv. Director for Coaching Development – John Frame was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- v. Membership Director – Colm Murphy was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- vi. Women’s Director – Julie Clarke was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- vii. National Teams Director – John Cavanagh was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.
- viii. The new positions were then elected;

Chairperson of the ILL – Paddy O’Leary was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.

Indoor Development Officer – Sean Gibson was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.

Web Administrator – Sean Gibson was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.

Women’s Development Officer - Katelin Billups was proposed, seconded and deemed elected unanimously and unopposed.

4. Ireland Lacrosse – draft schedule 2011-2012

Item 1: The 2011/2012 schedule was discussed. Spóirtfeist was discussed. The ECC was also discussed and the viability of looking at sending teams to the tournaments would be looked at. The proposal for Brett Hughes to conduct a clinic was discussed and there seemed to be good level of interest in it. It was discussed that UCD had some money that could be used up front to cover his travel costs and reimbursed via charging players to attend the clinic. A time of late August early September was proposed for the clinic.

Action: Katelin to issue an email to the women members to see if they can submit a team for Spóirtfeist, JAgar to coordinate getting a men's team together. Katelin to look at possibility of sending a women's team to ECC. Rachel to look at UCD sending a team as ILL Men's representative. MK to look at organizing Brett Hughes clinic.

Item 2: The indoor league was discussed and it was agreed that host clubs would try to organise indoor clinics to coincide with the game days to keep the interest up in indoor game and ensure the momentum from the WILC is maintained.

Item 3: It was discussed that Glasgow teams had contacted us looking to send teams over for a weekend during the year and to have that reciprocated next year by teams going from here to Scotland. It was also stated that other European based and English based teams were looking to come over and this would be discussed and agreed later by the board and ILL Chairperson.

Item 4: The Friday night games were discussed and it was explained that they were very useful for newer players and that it would be a good idea to start them up again. This is to be looked at by UCD with details TBC.

5. Financial Management, Budgeting, Fundraising

Item 1: Presented the IL annual accounts, detailing annual income and running costs etc.

Item 2: The floor was opened to fundraising ideas. James Agar had a suggestion of charging players for the game days aside from the club subscriptions. This was discussed at length and it was decided that it would be done on a trial basis to be reviewed in the clubs committee. The club captains would organize and collect the money from their players. The charge would be €5 per game day for men and €2 per women (this would increase to €5 should a full league be established) the funds would be split between IL and the ILL.

Item 3: The national team was discussed, the ration of Irish based players was discussed, it was stated that the IL would seek at least 50% Irish based players but no decisions will be taken on final % until after the tryouts as it depends on the numbers that show up. The coaches for the Euros were discussed and it was explained that anyone who had been involved in coaching with the Irish National setup had been contacted by email to gauge their interest, this was being done by JCav and he would be deciding on coaches in conjunction with the board. It was mentioned that Dara McCreary had been in contact with O'Neill's to see if they can manufacture reversible pinnies for the tryouts. It was then queried if players would get a breakdown of costs it was stated this would be provided in as transparent a manner as possible. JF stated that the aim for the organization was to move from a transaction basis to a budgeting basis with each area keeping records and submitting them to JF for him to maintain a helicopter view of the accounting system.

6. AOB

Item 1: Coaching – It was mentioned that the level 1 course had been completed last year and that the people who completed that course needed to get their coaching portfolios of 30 hours into JF so the level 2 course could be organised. It was reiterated that these courses would be internationally recognised and are an important part of ISC recognition. A refereeing course will also be organised and publicised it was stated that there was a requirements for more referees to become qualified for the league and try to get more than 1 referee per team.

Item2: IL Ball – it was announced that a survey would be issued to get peoples feedback regarding reorganising the Ball and looking at costs and dates etc. The date proposed for the ILL awards was the 29th July after the girls game.

Action:

SG and Conor Walsh to organize a survey to be issued to the IL membership to get input re dates and ticket prices etc. for the IL Ball with a view to rearranging it.