

Ireland Lacrosse

Annual General Meeting

Friday, 11th April 2014

7-9pm, UCD (Room 116, Agriculture Building)

Minutes

Ireland Lacrosse CEO Michael Kennedy (MK) opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

1. **Matters Arising from the Minutes of the AGM of 27th July 2013** (*circulated*)

MK reported that the Minutes from the AGM of 27th July 2013 were circulated to the members in advance of the meeting, and these would be taken as read unless any member wished to have any matter raised. No matters were raised.

2. **Elections to Ireland Lacrosse Executive Board positions**

- a. **Chief Executive Officer** – Michael Kennedy was nominated, seconded and elected.
- b. **Secretary** – MK reported that this position is currently rolled into the CEO position but didn't necessarily need to be, and expressions of interest were sought. No such expressions of interest were forthcoming and so it was agreed to keep this position rolled into the CEO position. MK proposed that for future reference, minutes should be made more concise and limited to key decisions. Michael Kennedy was nominated for this position, seconded and elected.
- c. **Financial Director** – John Frame was nominated, seconded and elected.
- d. **Director for Coaching Development** – Sean Bodie was nominated, seconded and elected.
- e. **Membership Director** – Colm Murphy was nominated, seconded and elected.
- f. **Women's Director** – Katelin Billups was nominated, seconded and elected.
- g. **National Teams Director** – John Cavanaugh was nominated, seconded and elected.
- h. **Indoor Lacrosse Development Director (Web Administrator)** – Sean Gibson was nominated, seconded and elected.
- i. **Communications and Marketing Director** – Conor Walsh was nominated, seconded and elected (one vote opposed).
- j. **Any additional or new positions** – MK proposed to establish two new positions: Clubs Committee Chairperson and Women's Development Director.
 - i. **Clubs Committee Chairperson** – While in previous years there had been an ILL Chairperson (Paddy O'Leary), and last year it was agreed to roll the relevant responsibilities of managing the ILL and the Gamedays into the Clubs Committee, it was still felt that there would be a need for an overall co-ordinator of this function, and it was agreed that creating the position Clubs Committee Chairperson would serve this purpose. Martin Scanlon was nominated for this position, seconded and elected.
 - ii. **Women's Development Director** – It was proposed to create a new position for the women to provide additional co-ordinating support and which would involve working closely with the existing Women's Director. This was agreed. Aisling Casey was nominated for this position, seconded and elected.

3. **Irish Lacrosse League (ILL) 2014-2015 planning**, inc. Gameday scheduling, National Team(s) tryouts, Clubs Committee, officiating, Beginner Blitz, NILL (winter indoor league) (*circulated*)

MK reported that the draft schedule for the 2014-2015 season was circulated in advance to each club co-ordinator (on 9th April) so that they would have some time to consider this in advance of the AGM and be prepared to discuss the details at the AGM with a view to agreeing the schedule. MK went through the schedule, much of which is based on the schedule in 2013-2014. A number of additions/amendments were proposed and agreed, including:

- **Summer games (Augustana, Cornell, AIST)** – it was noted that these games provided opportunities to sell Ireland Lacrosse gear, including sunglasses and t-shirts. It was reported that Sean Bodie was working on producing t-shirts for this purpose.
- **Get Into Sport programme** – this is an opportunity to recruit new players, through a programme developed by the National Sports Campus to run once per week (Wednesdays) from 14 May to 2 July. Aisling Casey agreed to co-ordinate this and anyone interested in being involved in coaching for this should contact Aisling (any coaching hours can be used to contribute towards the Ireland Lacrosse coaching accreditation certification).
- **High Performance National Development Team Training** – it was agreed to develop two specialist ‘high performance’ training weekends over the course of the year (one in September and one in May) which could be utilized to offer higher-level training and game opportunities. This could include a mini-tournament against good quality teams from the UK and elsewhere, including possibly the England LDOs team. People based in the UK who might be able to assist with this include Jan Guilbride, David Elwood and David Abini.
- **Back Page sports conference (Croke Park, 17-19 Oct)** – MK reported that the organisers of this event had made contact and confirmed that they will reserve a session for Ireland Lacrosse. MK is discussing with them how the session will be organized, format and content, etc.
- **NILL 2015** – members were presented with possible options for this, based around a 6 or 8 week season. It was agreed to go with a 7 week season, with the first week being an open scrimmage, followed by a draft. It was also agreed that the draft would run through having experienced NILL players assign players to teams – this approach was taken in previous years and led to a very balanced competition.
- **Ireland Lacrosse AGM** – as with the current year, it was proposed and agreed to hold the Ireland Lacrosse AGM the night before (Friday night) the final Gameday, with the Awards night on the Saturday night of the final Gameday.
- **Ireland Women’s Development Team** – it was noted that this team has successfully competed in a number of tournaments, and there was a need to re-brand the team (similar to Éire or the ILL All-Stars on the men’s side). It was also noted that the team is in need of new uniforms – this could dovetail with the re-branding.
- **ILL (women)** – it was proposed and agreed that the women’s version of the ILL would be managed by Katelin and Aisling as director’s responsible for the women’s game. The likelihood is that the women would participate in 6 of the 9 Gameday events – further details of this will be published in due course.
- **Clubs Committee meetings** – now that the Clubs Committee Chairperson position has been created, Martin Scanlon will arrange the relevant meetings with the club captains, with a view to having one in the early autumn and one in Nov/Dec to plan for the spring.

4. Coaching Development

Sean Bodie reported that he was in the process of developing the **Ireland Lacrosse Level One Coaching Award Manual** and when this is ready it would be made available more widely. It was also noted that there was a Coaching Development Committee which was looking at developing the Ireland Lacrosse Level One Coaching Certification Course, and that the plan is to deliver this to any current members in the first instance (and also as a test run) and then seek to advertise and deliver it to other constituencies (ex. School PE teachers).

It was also noted that Sean Bodie maintains a ‘Coaching Accreditation Tracker’ to keep track of the stage of qualification for all those involved in coaching in Ireland. To this end, it was also proposed and agreed that anyone who gets involved in

coaching lacrosse should notify Sean so that he can keep track of any such activity and ensure that people get the recognition for this.

5. Financial Report

MK presented this report on behalf of John Frame and highlighted the following points that John Frame also highlighted in his report:

- The accounts are not a full twelve month year, they are running from 1st June 2013 – 31st March 2014.
- The accounts have not been audited so will still need to be verified by our accountant at the yearend (31st May 2014 – this is when our Annual Return is due to the Companies Registration Office and audited accounts need to be submitted as part of this).
- Full audited accounts will be available to all paid members by e mailing jframe@irelandlacrosse.ie
- John Frame has submitted our corporation tax return for year ending 31st May 2012. As per his director's notes last year it may be deemed by Revenue that we are generating too much 'cash' for a not-for-profit organization; if this is the case we may become liable to pay corporation tax. John Frame is investigating registering us for charitable status now to pre-empt that liability arising.
- As we do have a surplus it may warrant investing some of this back into development but in a way that we will see a return. About €12,000 of the cash surplus is down to national team players making their financial commitments, yet we have not had to pay any bills with regards to the World's 2014 yet.
- It was the view of the members, particularly those who are part of the various Irish national teams, that national team players should be provided with overview information regarding the team budget so that they know where their player payments are going. This was agreed.

6. National Team tournaments

MK notified the members of the various upcoming national team events:

- a. **2014 Men's World Championships** – 10-20 July 2014, Denver, Colorado, USA
- b. **2015 Women's European Championships** – 6-16 August 2015, Czech Republic
- c. **2015 World Indoor Championships** – 18-23 September 2015, Onondaga Nation & Buffalo, New York, USA
- d. **2016 Men's World U-19 Championships**
 - i. Age range d.o.b.: 1st September 1996 – 6th July 2000 (dispensation date: 1st September 1994, only applies to residents w/ min. 12 of previous 18 months)
- e. **2016 Men's European Championships** – TBC
- f. **2017 FIL Women's World Cup** – Guildford, Surrey, England
- g. **2018 FIL Men's World Championships** – Manchester, England

7. AOB

a. Sponsorship/Partnership/Merchandise

MK reported that Ireland Lacrosse had engaged in a number of strategic partnerships. There is a standard Partnership Agreement template (available for download on the Ireland Lacrosse website) that can be used by any member of Ireland Lacrosse to explore a potential partnership or sponsorship arrangement. Once a draft version of this is available, it may be sent to the Ireland Lacrosse Executive Board via the Secretary. As a rule, only the CEO of Ireland Lacrosse is entitled to formally sign any such agreement.

MK also reported that there was a new Ireland Lacrosse online shop at:

<http://www.prepsportswear.com/team/Ireland/state/city/Ireland-Lacrosse.aspx?schoolid=2901480>

b. Just Sport Ireland – affiliation

MK reported that Ireland Lacrosse was now affiliated with Just Sport Ireland, an independent dispute resolution service for Irish sporting bodies (<http://www.justsport.ie/>). Just Sport Ireland was established by the Federation of Irish Sport.

c. Federation of Irish Sport – membership

MK reported that in connection with the recent affiliation with Just Sport Ireland, Ireland Lacrosse will also be seeking Associate Membership of the Federation of Irish Sport (fee is €150 annually). Full Membership of the Federation of Irish Sports is restricted to those organisations which are formally recognised as National Governing Bodies by the Irish Sports Council – Ireland Lacrosse will be seeking to apply for this in due course.