

Ireland Lacrosse

Annual General Meeting

27th July 2013

1pm, UCD (Room A004, Health Science Building (behind the Student Centre))

Minutes

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

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the AGM of 25th August 2012 (circulated)

MK reported that the Minutes from the AGM of 25th August 2012 were circulated to the members in advance of the meeting, and that these would be taken as read unless any member wished to have any matter raised. No matters were raised.

2. Ireland Lacrosse – Annual Report

MK presented the report, highlighting three key functions which an annual report such as this serves: 1) it would be normal for an organisation such as Ireland Lacrosse to report annually at its AGM. Such a report provides a comprehensive overview of all the activity that the organisation has been involved in over the previous year; 2) this report is also used to supply information to the members of the Irish Lacrosse Foundation (based in the USA) about the organisation's activities, including at their AGM which normally coincides with the US Lacrosse Convention in January each year; and 3) the report serves as a very useful historical record of the organisation's events and achievements, and can be made available to members of the public and/or other professional bodies (such as the Irish Sports Council) to illustrate the extent of the work being done in pursuit of the organisation's aims and objectives.

The Annual Report is a simple report which includes bullet points highlighting the key events and milestones in 2012-2013. MK went through these key events and milestones in the report, highlighting and summarising some of the different activities. Members and attendees at the meeting were encouraged to supply additional information about events where some information was lacking, and to include other events not listed. The following amendments/additions was noted: regarding the 2013 NILL (indoor) season, it was noted that the league ran for 8 weeks – 7 weeks of league play and 1 week designated for an All-Star game.

2a. Annual Financial Report

On behalf of the Financial Director John Frame (JF), MK summarised the various details of the Financial Report. Key points in relation to the financial status of the organisation are as follows:

- The accounts look very healthy but they do not reflect the fact that most of the women's player payments for the 2013 World Cup have come in yet only a little over €8,000 has been paid out. It is

budgeted that about another €30,000 is still to go out. We have also had payments from the Men's Celtic Cup which again are giving the account an artificially high balance.

- It was further noted that when looking at the accounts, it is necessary to focus on our income which pays our day to day expenses, in reality this income comes from membership and apparel/equipment sales. A more simplified break down (excluding costs/income related to tournaments) would be:
 - Income €2,700
 - Expenditure €3,941

- It was noted that there is one debtor on the account which is carried over from last year, this debtor is Dublin Lacrosse which has managed to reduce its debt substantially by €500.
- Ireland Lacrosse is exempt from corporation tax and are registered as a not for profit organisation. After discussions with our accountant Brian Hogan & Co it was decided that we will have to make allowances on our books for when we have received a lot of player payments from tournaments but as of yet have not paid out on all the tournament costs. This becomes relevant should we be audited and to explain the large cash surplus we may have at the end of the year.
- JF investigated the possibility of registering as a charitable organisation – however, there was no obvious benefit in us doing so as we are exempt from corporation tax already and are not VAT registered. If in the future should we reach a point that we are registered for corporation tax & VAT then it would be worth looking at again.
- **Insurance** – at the request of some members JF went to the market to investigate other insurance policies. There are not many companies in the sports insurance market that offer a range of competitive policies. JF spoke with one company and two brokers and have highlighted BHP insurance as being the best option they prepared a presentation on what they suggest. JF proposed to go with them for the following:
 - Public Liability which has been quoted substantially cheaper than what we pay now.
 - Personal Accident, this would cover all members but JF would suggest funding this through addition of a premium to be added to all national team players payments. In a year when there are two national teams competing it would be around €60 per player and when there is only one team competing it would be around €120 per player.
 - Travel insurance, JF did not feel there is a need to buy separate travel insurance as long as we buy travel insurance from the airline to cover us if someone needs to change flights to fly home early due to injury.
 - There would be some merit in getting Directors & Employers liability insurance but JF did not feel we are in a position to fund it at the moment.
 - In summary, if we are to take out any other policies other than public liability, JF feels the members should vote on it as there is not the capacity in normal income to fund it and so it would have a direct impact on players.

3. Elections to Ireland Lacrosse Executive Board positions

- a) Chief Executive Officer** – Michael Kennedy was nominated, seconded and elected.
- b) Secretary** – Michael Kennedy was nominated, 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) **Irish Lacrosse League (ILL) Chairperson** – MK proposed that this position be abolished and that it be rolled into the Membership Director role. The Membership Director would Chair the Clubs Committee, which would have ultimate responsibility for organising and running the Irish Lacrosse League (ILL). This change would help ensure that the league is run collectively by the clubs, and no individual person (such as a Chairperson) is given all the power or has to assume all the responsibilities associated with running the league. This motion was seconded and approved.
- j) **Communications and Marketing Director** – Conor Walsh was nominated, seconded and elected.
- k) **Any additional or new positions** – MK proposed to establish a ‘Grassroots Development Officer’ position. This motion was seconded and approved. Martin Scanlon was nominated for this position, seconded and elected. MK and Martin Scanlon agreed to work on the role description for this position.

Action: MK to work with MS to draft role description for the Grassroots Development Officer position.

- It was proposed that for future AGMs, the election of officers should be undertaken at the very start of the meeting, so that the discussion around subsequent agenda items – especially planning for the next year – can be undertaken knowing who will be responsible for what areas. This was agreed.

Action: As Secretary, MK to ensure agenda of 2014 AGM includes election of officers at the start of the meeting.

4. Irish Lacrosse League (ILL) 2013-2014 planning, inc. Gameday scheduling, Club Committee, officiating, Beginner Blitz, NILL (winter indoor league)

a) IL Clubs Committee report

- Paddy O’Leary and Martin Scanlon presented a number of options for the re-formatting of the ILL season. The various options were discussed by the members in attendance at the meeting.
- The main proposal was that the ILL be split into an autumn ‘Fall Ball’ season and then a spring season devoted to the ILL proper. There would be 3 Gamedays in the autumn, and 6 Gamedays in the spring.
- The autumn Fall Ball season would be devoted to the Newtownards Cup. It was proposed, and agreed, that this competition would revert back to a 10 v 10 players format (and not 8v8). It was also proposed, and agreed, that the option of holding the final Fall Ball Gameday (Newtownards Cup 3rd place game and final) in Newtownards itself.

Action: MK agreed to explore the option of holding the Newtownards Cup final Gameday in Newtownards (just outside Belfast).

- It was proposed that the final details of the Newtownards Cup and ILL schedule would be agreed by the Clubs Committee.

b) IL Clubs Committee Terms of Reference (revised)

- The revised terms of reference were presented to the attendees at the meeting.
- It was proposed and agreed that further consideration of the terms of reference should be undertaken by the Clubs Committee, with a view to agreeing and finalizing them, and then subsequently submitting them to the Ireland Lacrosse Executive Board and the next AGM for final approval.

5. Ireland Lacrosse policies and procedures (for approval)

a) Disciplinary Procedures

b) Policy on Organisational Financial Management

c) Credit Card Control Protocol

- It was proposed in relation to these policies that they be posted on the Ireland Lacrosse website and that members be provided with an opportunity to comment on them and provide feedback, this was agreed.

6. Coaching Development Committee report

- It was noted that this committee met on several occasions to plan the delivery of the level 1 coaching qualification training course. This work is continuing and further information regarding this will be made available to members in due course.

7. FIL Women's World Cup – Oshawa, Ontario, Canada (11-20 July 2013) review

- Katelin Billups (KB) reported that the overall experience of the Irish Women's Team at the 2013 World Cup was a very positive one.

8. Celtic Cup 2013 (15-18 August 2013)

- MK reported on the progress regarding the 2013 Celtic Cup tournament, which will be held in less than one month.
- It was noted that there will now be a referee training session as part of the Celtic Cup which will be run by Dick Pepper.
- It was further noted that we were successful in obtaining a grant from Failte Ireland for €5000 to contribute to the running of the 2013 Celtic Cup tournament.

9. FIL Men's World Championships – Denver, Colorado, USA (10-19 July 2014)

a. Selection Camp: 25-27 October 2013

- These dates were noted by the members.

10. ELF Women's European Championships 2015 – details TBC

- MK noted that the ELF has voted to separate the men's and women's European Championships tournament. As such, the next women's Euros tournament will take place in 2015 and the next men's Euros will take place in 2016. We are waiting to hear from the ELF about the bidding process for the 2015 women's Euros.

11. FIL World Indoor Championships 2015 – 18-26 September, Onondaga/Syracuse/Buffalo

- These dates were noted by the members.

12. World U-19 Championships (Men) – 7-16 July 2016, Coquitlam, British Columbia, Canada

- a. 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)**

- These dates were noted by the members.

13. AOB

- a. Ireland Lacrosse sunglasses proposal
 - MK noted that he has been working with Aoife Ferguson on the production of custom Ireland Lacrosse sunglasses. These were produced and sold at the 2013 Women's World Cup and continue to be on sale. This merchandise has helped to raise money for Ireland Lacrosse.
- b. World Mini-Games event, 24-25 August in Ballincollig, Co. Cork
- c. FIL Women's World Cup 2017 – Guildford, Surrey, England
- d. FIL Men's World Championships 2018 – Manchester, England
- e. Just Sport Ireland – affiliation
- f. Federation of Irish Sport – membership (fee is €175 annually)
- g. Sport History of Ireland conference – 14th September, Derry/Londonderry
- h. Farwell to Paddy!

