

Minutes: BADMINTONscotland Board Meeting Conference Call

Wednesday 12th January 2021 at 6:30pm

Board:	David Gilmour	Chair
	Frank Turnbull	President
	Carolyn Young	Vice President
	Keith Russell	Chief Executive
	Morag McCulloch	Events Committee Chair
	Jill O'Neil	Engagement Committee Chair
	Christine Black	Performance Committee Chair
	Gordon Haldane	Finance Committee Chair
Invited:	Keith Farrell	
	Penny Dougray	Minute Taker

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Apologies had been received from Ian Campbell, and Ewen Cameron.
2	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2020 (previously circulated)
	The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2020 were approved.
3	PREVIOUSLY UNDECLARED DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	DG and GH received payment for coaching services. Directors would be asked to submit an updated declaration of interest form in advance of the March 2021 meeting.
4	MATTERS ARISING/OUTSTANDING ITEMS
	There were no matters arising or outstanding items. Additionally, prior to the AGM consideration required to be given to the appointment of a new independent Board Director. DG and KR would discuss this further and circulate the result of discussions to the Board.
5	CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
	Complaints. No complaints had been received since the last Board meeting. Covid-19 Update. Following the introduction by the Scottish Government of a nationwide level lockdown, we had updated our guidance and closed the SCRBC to the public. The National Senior Squad were still able to train under the performance athlete exemptions.

	<p>Staffing. All staff continued to work from home in line with current Scottish Government guidance. Nathalie Gordon had started as our new marketing Executive and would attend Committee meetings over the coming weeks to familiarise herself with the business and people involved. It was agreed that the links to social media would be located nearer the top of the front page on the website. Four staff would be put on furlough/part-time furlough until the end of February All had intimated their flexibility around working days.</p> <p>Badminton Europe/BWF. BEC had launched an initiative to create MOU’s with Member Associations to improve their connection and support of the MA’s. The document circulated was consistent with our Strategic Plan.</p> <p>At the BWF AGM on the 22nd May Emma Mason wished to be reappointed to the BWF Council. We required to Emma’s nomination, subject to Board approval. The Board approved this.</p> <p>BEC High Performance Commission – A number of projects had been initiated by BEC and Badminton Scotland were taking an active role in many of them.</p> <p>Facilities. A project was being progressed in Hamilton, to develop a home for Badminton in South Lanarkshire. This project was at an early stage but fitted with our future strategic objectives. Following an approach from Edinburgh Leisure, there was an opportunity to support the development of good quality Badminton facilities at Craiglockhart Tennis Centre, for performance squads and club and community use. Nicky Waterson would progress these discussions.</p> <p>SGB CEO Forum. The final scheduled meeting of the Group had taken place on Tuesday 12th January. The draft report had been circulated and contains a list of recommendations to go forward across four thematic areas. Workstream areas of particular interest to Badminton Scotland were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of sports organisations as Community Anchor Organisations will be explored, with public bodies moving to an enabling rather than delivery model. This should be twinned to encouraging other civic anchor institutions to deliver more sport and physical activity. • Develop a more strategic and targeted approach to the community sport hubs, guided by local need; and • Increase awareness across the sector of community asset transfer and explore new and more available routes and mechanisms for such transfers to take place. <p>KR will provide a further update at the next meeting</p>
6	COMMITTEE REPORTS
	<p>6.1 Finance</p> <p>7.1.1 Finance Committee Report</p> <p>GH reported that initial discussions indicated that we could expect in the region of £120,000 of the £220,000 we applied for. The combination of a grant and loan would provide a buffer of an additional 2 months’ reserves. It was agreed to reduce our Reserves policy to holding 4 months Reserves down from 6 months.</p> <p>With the furlough scheme having been extended to the end of April 2021 a number of staff would be put on part-time furlough. The new scheme was more flexible than previously and</p>

allowed for both part-time and full-time furlough. The furlough scheme covered 80% of staff basic salaries, so we anticipated savings to be in the region of £2,500/month.

Sales of Yonex stock had dropped off however we expect there to be some interest around the timing of the European Mixed Team Championships (16-20 February).

Some Spring/Summer outdoor activities were being planned, and it was anticipated that this would generate further interest in the airshuttles, however this is dependent on the Lockdown restrictions being relaxed.

After reviewing the Risk Register, we had increased the inherent risk of income from other sources due to the current lockdown to a factor of 16 (maximum risk). Mitigation of this was minimal until lockdown comes to an end and clubs can resume playing.

6.2 Performance

GB Badminton - CB advised that on 18 December, UK Sport had confirmed funding for the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics cycle. 4 Podium and 5 Confirmation players would be granted funding, with no funding for the Academy group. Jon Austin the GB Performance Director was due to meet UK Sport for clarification on various points. At the GB Badminton meeting on 13 January, it was advised that the MOU and Lead Home Nations Contract had been approved by all the Home Nations (excepting Scotland). The Olympic and Paralympic Selection policies remained to be finalised.

Scotland had qualified for the European Mixed Team Championships Final which would take place in Vantaa, Finland from 16-20 February. Selection criteria had now been added to the Badminton Scotland website, and a selection meeting would be held on Monday 18 January. The 2021 U15 Quadrangular would take place potentially in October. Selection criteria will be agreed when it is clear what training and competition is possible.

The final version of the Badminton Scotland Clean Sport Policy had been accepted by sportscotland, who would also fund the programme. The new World Anti-Doping Code, and UKAD rules and regulations took effect on 1 January 2021: UKAD sought the nomination of two anti-doping leads from each governing body. Robert Blair would represent Badminton Scotland, with a second lead to be agreed.

Three cameras would be installed in Scotstoun mid-January 2021, to facilitate a project on the analysis of footwork. sportscotland would fund this.

The GB Para-Badminton training camps which had been scheduled for 2020 (and to which 3 Scottish players had been invited) had been cancelled.

The Board approved the 2022 Commonwealth Games Badminton Selection Policy which would be added to the Badminton Scotland website.

Four senior squad players had been suspended from the squad following a breach of Covid-19 restrictions in December. All were now back training.

The following recommendations were formally agreed

To note the nomination of Robert Blair as one of two Anti-Doping Leads and consider the nomination of a second Lead.

To note the terms of the Badminton Scotland Clean Sport Strategy (final version)

To note the final version of the 2022 CG Badminton Selection Policy.

6.3 Events Report

MMcC updated on the following items from the Events Committee report. Ranking events in January and February 2021 were unlikely to be able to go ahead, including the Senior National Championships and the Disability National Championships. The Scottish Open would take place from 25-28 November 2021, the week before the World Championships.

The International Masters Championships (January 2021) had already been cancelled; and Badminton England had confirmed cancellation of the Yorkshire Masters (scheduled for March 2021) and, therefore, the Robert McCoig International Match will not take place. England would host the event in 2022.

A discussion group would be created to plan a series of outdoor AirBadminton events in spring and summer of 2021.

A further Events webinar had been held on 10 November with tournament organisers, providing them with updates on all the above.

The following recommendations were formally agreed

- Postpone National Senior Championships (revised date and venue tbc)
- Postpone National Disability Championships (revised date and venue tbc)
- Cancel all other ranking events up to and including the end of February 2021

6.4 Engagement Report

JO'N updated on the following items from the Engagement Committee report

Webinars in 2020 had been delivered on various topics and all had been oversubscribed. Further webinars would be held in 2021.

Young Sport Leaders courses had been delivered, in person, to a total of 51 YSL in various High Schools during November and December. Some filming had been done at these courses and it was hoped that these could be used for other workshops and be part of our Virtual Learning Environment VLE once online. The planned singles tactics workshop has been postponed but will be reorganised.

As part of the BEC Gender Equality project, a Woman in Sport resource had been developed, which, initially, had been planned for a project aimed at the Girl Guides, but it had been adapted to be able to be used with any womens or girls group. Thanks were expressed to Jane Russell, who had been instrumental in developing the content. The Unconscious Bias workshop has been re-arranged for January 2021. The webinar and the design work for the booklet were being funded by Badminton Europe.

Current membership numbers remained low, though there had been a "push" to clubs, to encourage them to affiliate and take the free membership this year, as well as ensuring that all their members were on the membership system.

The Badminton Scotland Disability Working Group finalised the 3 Year Action Plan at the meeting on 15 November.

The structure of the Engagement Committee had been finalised and noted in the report.

7	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 6.30pm</p>
8	<p>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</p> <p>Sunday 21 March 2021 General Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 12 May 2021 Board Meeting</p> <p>Sunday 6 June 2021 AGM</p> <p>Wednesday 4 August 2021 Board Meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 13 October 2021 Board Meeting</p> <p>Sunday 21 November Half Yearly meeting - proposed</p> <p>Wednesday 12 January 2022 Board Meeting</p> <p>The date of the half yearly meeting remained to be confirmed.</p>
9	<p>AOCB</p>
	<p>Term of President to be extended due to Covid 19 disruption – CY raised the possibility of the Presidents term being extended due to the fact that this season had effectively been cancelled. There was a general consensus that this would be a good idea. KR would formally include this in the recommendations for the next Board meeting and if agreed a motion would be tabled at the 2021 AGM.</p>