

International Masters Hockey Association

10 Warwick Street
Dunedin 9011
New Zealand

Fax: 64 3 4536487 Phone: 64 3 4534494 Email: nggreene@ihug.co.nz

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

Date: 27th October 2009.

Venue: Hong Kong Football Club.

Time: 1900 hours.

1. Official Welcome:

IMHA Chairman Mr. Ben Rea welcomed Delegates and Observers and opened the meeting at 7.00 pm.

Mr. D Peebles (Treasurer) was appointed as acting Hon. Admin Manager for the meeting.

2. Apologies:

Neil Greene, Hon. Admin Manager.

3. Identification of voting delegates.

Scotland submitted an application for full membership of the IMHA following its participation at the 2007 and 2009 Tournaments. The application was accepted. **Proposed:** Australia. **Seconded:** England.

Voting Delegates in Attendance: Australia (P Sweeney), England (J Stuart), Hong Kong (R Worth), Malaysia (Thavanayagam Chinniah), Scotland (G Paton), Singapore (Eric Tan Toh Chin).

Non-Voting Delegate in Attendance: Ireland (A Nye)

Non Attendance: New Zealand, Austria and Korea.

A voting Quorum was declared.

Observers from Australia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Singapore and Ireland attended.

Ms Peri Buckley (Technical Officer) attended via Skype.

4. Minutes of previous meeting held in Birmingham 2007

These were read and confirmed as accurate. It was noted that the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with FIH had been executed at the 2008 FIH Congress. There was an instruction from the 2007 IMHA AGM that FIH recognition should not result in any financial imposition upon the IMHA. This is covered in section 4.3 of the MoU. The MoU was read into the minutes.

5. Reports

Honorary Administration Manager:

Neil Greene's written report was read and adopted.

Chairman's Report:

This verbal report on the year's events included a particular focus on a meeting between the FIH Competitions Committee Chairman Ken Read, FIH Secretary Dennis Meredith, IMHA Chairman Ben Rea, and WGMA Chairman Peter Child. Points of that meeting were appended to these Minutes. The

intention is that further meetings between the relevant bodies should be held to discuss issues relating to developing Masters Hockey around the world.

Essentially, FIH would like to form an umbrella committee, involving appropriate FIH, IMHA and WGMA officials, to take responsibility for the development of all future Masters' tournaments. They also want Masters Hockey to be self-funding.

Overall the relationship and understanding between the 3 bodies has been enhanced this year.

Treasurer's Report:

There was no presentation of a formal balance sheet or income report as the IMHA has generally funded tournaments through the fees which have been set for each tournament and the annual membership fees paid by member nations attending a tournament.

\$100 US was carried forward by the Honorary Administration Manager and membership invoices of \$1650 US were issued to Delegates. Expenses of £250 GB / \$400 US were to be paid to the Chairman for his attendance at the FIH Meeting and the remaining expenses incurred by the Treasurer in attending the FIH Congress. Once all fees were collected and expenses paid, it was expected that the IMHA would have a small surplus to carry forward. The treasurer intended to seek approval for raising IMHA funding through increased annual membership fees and would develop an appropriate business plan over the coming 12 months.

He recommended that increased funding was necessary to cover the expenses relating to:

- Formal legal incorporation of the IMHA and associated insurances;
- The development of an IMHA web site;
- Expenses incurred by IMHA Officials attending FIH Congresses.

6. Election of Officers

- Chairman (currently Ben Rea)
- Vice President – Europe (currently John Stuart)
- Vice President – Asia (currently Amarjit Singh)
- Administration Manager (currently Neil Greene)
- Treasurer (currently David Peebles)
- Technical Officer (currently Peri Buckley)

All the retiring Officers were nominated for re-election and were elected unopposed.

Proposed: Australia. **Seconded:** Hong Kong.

7. General Business:

The development of Ladies Master's Hockey

A recommendation was made that a European Women's Development Officer post should be created in Europe to facilitate this area for development. Such a post could be easily accommodated without a need to change the Constitution and John Stuart and Peri Buckley would use the 2010 Nottingham Tournament to source an appropriate person.

Proposed: England. **Seconded:** Singapore.

Future Tournaments

General discussion ensued on the FIH proposal that there should be Masters Hockey tournaments for all ages and both genders hosted by the UK adjacent to the 2012 London Olympics. It was agreed that these were a priority.

There was some debate surrounding the continuation of the IMHA bi-annual tournaments in the light of the FIH request for tournaments to be held in the UK in 2012. Since Singapore was next in the normal IMHA rotational schedule, there was a feeling that they should be offered the opportunity to host the 2011 IMHA tournament. In Asia, Singapore and Australia were prepared to host, with New Zealand

(NZ) having priority over Australia. As there was no NZ Delegate in attendance, their position was not known.

Ireland indicated a desire to host the 2011 IMHA tournament in order to promote Masters Hockey in their country. However it was decided that Singapore be offered the 2011 tournament and that Ireland could promote Masters hockey development in Ireland through hosting countries which would enjoy playing their hockey on tour in Ireland.

Singapore suggested dates which would be around early November 2011. They also committed to providing a Women's competition with host nation team(s).

Hong Kong were in full support of the expansion of participating countries, but expressed the wish that non-national participants, such as a combined (under age) Italy/Korea in the 55s competition, should be allowed to enter IMHA tournaments. David Peebles pointed out that Malaysia SAS was not a National Association endorsed team and yet had participated from the earliest days of the IMHA tournaments. The Constitution had been specifically written to support non-national and/or social based teams, and the IMHA expected to continue this social enabling flexibility with regard to age dispensation and entries.

Tournament Host Guidelines

The IMHA Tournament Regulations have been developed by Peri Buckley, submitted to and approved by FIH. The Regulations have been adopted by the Executive and circulated. Mr Nissim (Tournament Director) indicated that there were only a very few small differences between FIH and IMHA Regulations; e.g. white socks have been allowed. Therefore the new Regulations are compatible with the running of Tournaments.

It was agreed that every Masters tournament, including the Trans-Tasman and 4 Nations ought to be governed by these Regulations. Attention needs to be focused upon areas such as age dispensations or players doubling up in age groups. Such 'non-approved' ad hoc arrangements should be formalized to guide decision makers for future tournaments.

Business Plan

The Executive intends to develop a business plan for the IMHA to cover all aspects including risk-assessment, governance, tournaments, finance, participation, etc., for consideration by Delegates.

Life Membership for Mr. Ted Jones

Malaysia commented that Mr Jones life membership had been approved at IMHT Seoul but no advices had been issued to Mr. Jones. This was probably due to the limited number of participants in Seoul and the subsequent transfer of secretarial responsibilities. It was determined that Mr. Jones be formally advised by the Hon. Admin. Manager. **Proposed:** Malaysia. **Seconded:** Australia.

Communications with Delegates

Malaysia noted that much progress has been achieved in the past 2 years but there had been little in the way of communication with Delegates (i.e. outside of the Executive). Delegates supported the idea of regular communications regarding Executive decisions now that AGM are held every 2 years.

Delegates supported the early establishment of a web site with links to FIH and NAs. Executive were required to adopt this approach as a matter of priority although members may need to be levied with development costs as current levels of funds were inadequate to cover indicated costs.

Meeting closed 8.15pm