

BRISTOL & WEST WATER POLO LEAGUE
COMMITTEE MEETING – Monday 21st October 2019 - 7.30pm

Notes

The Bristol Concorde, Filton, Bristol

1. Roll Call

Phil Whiting (PW)
Mike Coles (MC)
Darren Nash (DN)
Paula Manning (PM)
Nick Tod (NT)

Apologies

Harriet Tod (HT)
John Sissons (JS)
Simon Tomlinson (ST)

Not Attending
Daryl Ward (DW)

2. Matters arising from meeting on 15th July 2019

The minutes of the meeting on 15-07-2019 were approved as a true record.

Review of Actions

2019/02 & 2019/12 – Closed as overtaken by events. See Action 2019/23 under item 6 (Instances of Notification and Postponement (Rule 14) and un-played fixtures (Rule 21))

2019/06 – BWPL fixtures now set. Awaiting outcome of semi-final matches. **Ongoing.**

2019/15 – DN confirmed that an email was sent to the Secretaries of all member clubs in July 2019. Referees in the committee reported some improvement in timeliness of expense payments.

It was agreed to remain with the current payment procedure, with a note to remind all member clubs of the preferred practice of payment before the match at the AGM. **Action complete.**

2019/16 – NT confirmed that he had contacted member clubs and had received positive indications from Welsh Wanderers, CoB, Rhys Tamlyn, and Simon Tomlinson of Taunton Deane. **Action complete.** See agenda item 4.

2019/17 – DN confirmed that an email was sent in late July to the secretaries of all member clubs confirming adoption of new FINA rules for water polo from August 1st 2019 in all BWPL competition (league and cup). **Action complete.**

3. League Accounts

A report of the leagues financial accounts was provided by HT. Copy at Attachment 2.

MC reported that a breakdown in communication had occurred between the allocated referees and the fixture Secretary for Taunton Dean, for the J2 Taunton v Swansea match 29/09/19, where one of the original allocated refs failed to confirm availability but did still turn up for the fixture. In the mean-time another ref had been requested and allocated, resulting in three referees attending the match

Ref Co-ord (MC) was asked to email members of the BWWPL ref panel to reminded all refs to confirm attendance when contacted by club secretaries notifying fixtures. **New Action 2019/18**

Taunton Deane paid all three refs expenses on the night and so it was agreed by the Committee that the fees for the third(non-participating) referee should be refunded to Taunton Deane by the league.

New Action 2019/19 on MC to contact Taunton Deane Club Secretary to direct them to pass the expense details of their claim to the League Treasurer to arrange a refund.

Following the repeated success of the recent U13 tournament hosted at the Plymouth Life Centre, it was agreed that the sum of £200 should be donated by BWWPL to the venues elected charity (MIND), in recognition of their ongoing support to the BWWPL event. **New Action 2019/20 (HT).**

4. League Tournaments

PW provided a report on the BWWPL U13 tournament held at Plymouth Life Centre in late Sept. Three BWWPL clubs entered:

Cheltenham
Devonport
Newton Abbot

Cheltenham won the competition.

The committee proposed that DN write to Rob Coleman of Devonport to express the leagues thanks for his continued support in this event. **New Action 2019/21 (DN)**

NT provided a report on the BWWPL U15 tournament held in early September at Newport International pool. Four clubs entered:

Cheltenham
Devonport
City of Bristol

Taunton Deane

Devonport won the competition.

PW expressed the thanks of the league to NT for his assistance in arranging and running this competition.

The introduction of a U19 competition in 2020 was discussed. It was agreed that assuming that the sufficient numbers of entrants remained interested at the time of the Dec committee mtg, the league would ask the interested teams to formally register for a competition to be run in 2020, once approved at the next AGM in 2020.

5. Presidents Cup

Two remaining QFs

WSM v Swansea Seniors, date tba.

Welsh Wanderers v Newton Abbot, to be played Oct 24.

Handicap for WW/NA match set at +18 for NA.

Note: due to conflict of interest, PW was asked to leave the meeting whilst this was discussed and agreed.

Semi Final 1

WW/NA v CoB Barbarians

Semi Final 2

South Glos v WSM/Swansea

It was agreed that whilst Millfield School remained the preferred venue for the final, the date and venue for the finals would be confirmed once the participants were established, to ensure neither was disadvantaged by geography or timing.

6. Instances of Notification and Postponement (Rule 14) and Unplayed Fixtures (Rule 21)

L1 – 21/7/19 CoB Ladies v Cwm Draig Ladies – Second Postponement by Cwm Draig – 2 points and 2-0 win awarded to CoB.

M2 – 28/7/19 CoB Harlequins v CoN II – Second postponement by CoB Harlequins – 2 points and 2-0 win awarded to CoN II.

L1 – 21/09/19 Newton Abbot Ladies v Cwm Draig – Second postponement by Cwm Draig – 2 points and 2-0 win awarded to Newton Abbot.

M1 – 26/09/19 Frome v Devonport – Second postponement by Devonport – 2 points and 2-0 win awarded to Frome.

MC advised that all fixtures still awaiting a date had now been listed on the league fixture list as being held on Nov 30th.

The proposal for a change of scoring league games, raised by Rob Coleman of Devonport Royals (*See attachment 3*) was discussed.

The concept of greater consequence for failing to fulfil league fixtures was unanimously supported by the committee members present. It was suggested that Rob Coleman's proposal:

Win 3 points

Draw 2 points

Loss of played match 1 point

Non playing of match -2 points to postponing team.

Should form the basis for a formal rule change, to be voted on at the next AGM.

In addition, it was considered that in light of the significant number of re-arranged fixtures occurring during the season it would also be mutually beneficial if the option for postponements of fixtures could be withdrawn.

MC then broadened the discussion further by raising a point that had been made to him by James Baker of Exeter WPC, that the league rules as they stand were not very robust, lacked clarity and were open to significant misinterpretation and challenge. James Baker, using his legal background and experience, offered to review the league rules with the aim of making them more exact and easier to interpret and apply consistently.

MC proposed that James Baker be directed to carry out a full review and update of the league rules and to incorporate other rules changes, as identified by the committee, including the matters relating to the postponement and points scoring already discussed. The objective of the task would be to produce a consolidated revised rule set for proposal ahead of the next AGM.

It was agreed that the committee membership should each review the league rules as they currently stand and propose changes to DN to collate in a full consolidated rule change set to pass to MC by end of October.

New Action 2019/22 - Committee

MC was actioned with liaising with James Baker to arrange for the review and update of league rules, including creation of new rules from the consolidated set put forward by the committee. The stretch target would be to have a revised rule set prepared by James Baker for discussion at the next committee meeting in December. **New Action 2019/23 - MC**

7. Adoption of new FINA rules for BWWPL

MC advised the committee of a reported incident that occurred during a recent BWWPL L1 match between Newton Abbot Ladies and Exeter Ladies involving some possible mis-interpretation/application of the latest FINA rules by the match officials. This matter could have influenced the result of the match. It was agreed that whilst this situation was undesirable and the officials involved should be advised of the correct actions to be taken in the reported circumstances for future reference, no action should be taken over the ultimate result of the game.

8. Any Other Business

Alex Johns of Cwm Driag raised a proposal for the BWWPL Junior league in the 2020 season to be for 2003 age group (U18). *See attachment 4.*

The proposal was discussed by the committee but rejected as the change would mean that the Junior league could no longer feature mixed teams since this would breach the Swim England ruling of permitting mixed competition to a maximum age of 16 yrs. MC was actioned with responding to Alex Johns to communicate the committee decision. **New Action 2019/24 MC.**

MC advised that there was a strong possibility that CoB Barbarians would again win the M1 division. It was agreed that whilst the committee understood the object for CoB to have their Barbarians side as a development team, it was made clear after they won the division last year and were allowed not to be promoted, that this could not be repeated. Consequently, any request to avoid promotion should be declined by the committee and CoB Barbarians promoted should they win in the 2019 season.

MC made a proposal to help further promote BWWPL by providing merchandised drink bottles and lanyards for league officials in the 2020 season. NT was actioned to investigate the matter. **New Action 2019/25 NT.**

MC advised that Sarah Tomlinson BWWPL's representative on the Swim England South West Region Water Polo Technical Committee had recently resigned. MC proposed PW as replacement. This was seconded by NT and approved unanimously by the committee present at the meeting.

MC advised that the whereabouts of the BWWPL Premier Division trophy was not known. It was agreed that a new trophy should be bought by the league ahead of the next AGM in Jan 2020. This was approved by the committee and MC was actioned to purchase the new trophy. **New Action 2019/26 MC.**

MC confirmed that he will provide a new trophy for BWWPL J2, for presentation at the next AGM in 2020. **New Action 2019/27 MC.**

MC confirmed that new competition winner medals for the 2019 season for presentation at the 2020 AGM will be pressed type.

9. Dates of next meetings

Monday 9th December

Attachment 1 – Actions

Action ID	Action On	Detail	Progress	Note
2019/02	MC	Amend wording of league rules in line with changes agreed at 2019 AGM.	Closed	See Action 2019/23
2019/06	Committee	Set date and venue for final of 2019 Presidents Cup competition (once 2019 BWPL fixture list is set).	On-going	Await BWPL fixture dates
2019/09	HT	Write to Cwm Driag Club Sec and advise of the imposing of a £30 fine for contravention of Rule 11.1 and requiring acknowledgement within 28 days of the letter.	Complete	Letter sent 23 July
2019/10	DN	Contact all club secretaries to advise of dates/venue for junior tournaments.	Complete	
2019/11	DN	Contact Martyn Thomas to enquire about use of Sandford Lido as a venue for the Masters Tournament.	Complete	
2019/12	DN	Review and revise wording of rule 16.4 to remove limitations applied to clubs with premier league sides.	Closed	See Action 2019/23
2019/13	MC	Secure firm date(s) for Swim England briefing on the application of new FINA rules for water polo.	Complete	
2019/14	NT	Contact Mike Heskith of Swim England to gain permission to distribute Table Official training	Complete	

		course presentations and if permitted then circulate to BWWPL club Secs.		
2019/15	DN	Request clubs adopt pre-match payment approach to referee expenses, indicating that if this did not work, the Committee would consider introducing alternative approaches.	Complete	
2019/16	NT	Contact clubs to poll support for involvement in a BWWPL U19 competition.	Complete	
2019/17	DN	Issue advice to all league club secretaries to confirm adoption of new FINA rules in BWWPL matches(league and cup) from august 1 st 2019.	Complete	
2019/18	MC	email members of the BWWPL ref panel to reminded all refs to confirm attendance of allocated fixtures when contacted by club secretaries.	New	
2019/19	MC	To contact Taunton Deane Club Secretary to direct them to pass the expense details of the third referee paid to attend the J2 Taunton v Swansea match 29/09/19, to the League Treasurer, to arrange a refund by the league.	New	

2019/20	HT	The sum of £200 to be donated by BWWPL to the Plymouth Life Centre venue elected charity (MIND),	New	
2019/21	DN	Write to Rob Coleman of Devonport to express the leagues thanks for his continued support to the BWWPL U13 tournament, held at Plymouth Life Centre.	New	
2019/22	All Committee	review the league rules as they currently stand and propose changes to DN to collate in a full consolidated rule change set to pass to MC , by end of October		
2019/23	MC	liaise with James Baker to arrange for the review and update of league rules, including creation of new rules from the consolidated set put forward by the committee.	New	See action 2019/22
2019/24	MC	Send reply to Alex Johns in response to his proposal, explaining why the proposal was rejected.	New	
2019/25	NT	Investigate the provision of promotional drinks bottles and lanyards for BWWPL officials.	New	
2019/26	MC	Purchase replacement Premier Division trophy for upcoming 2020 AGM.	New	
2019/27	MC	Provide BWWPL J2 trophy for upcoming 2020 AGM	New	

Treasurers Report - 21st October 2019

Bristol & West Water Polo League

Income and Expenditure

Year End 31/12/2019

<u>Income</u>	£	£
Subscriptions	1,935.00	
Referees Pool	86.91	
Rule 20	-	
Fines	186.50	
Junior Tournaments	450.00	
Interest Received	-	
Pool Hire	-	
Refs Course	-	
	2,658.41	2,658.41

<u>Expenditure</u>	£	£
Referees Pool	- 86.91	
Trophies & Engraving	-	
KO Cup Final	229.77	
Junior Tournament	626.67	
Postage	-	
Website	23.42	
Printing	-	
Travel Expenses	332.43	
Affiliation fees	90.20	
Refs Shirts	698.01	
AGM Expenses	50.00	
Refs Course	-	
Match Secretary Allowance	450.00	
Refs Expenses	-	
	2,413.59	2,413.59

Income/(Expenditure) For Year	244.82
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Notes and events for the Report

1. We now have the costs for both of the Junior tournaments.
 - a. Newport (U15's Tournament) cost £523.64 for pool hire and medals. There were 5 teams and they played 10 matches.
 - b. Plymouth (U13 Tournament) cost £103.03 for medals and ref's expenses. We have to add to this whatever we agree to give to charity as a contribution.
2. There are no other notes to the accounts.

We presently have £4,107.21 in the bank.

Attachment 3 – BWWPL rule changes proposed by Rob Coleman – Devonport

- 3 Points for a win (regardless of whether the match is played or a walkover)
- 2 Points for a draw
- 1 Point for a loss to the losing team in a played match
- 0 Points for a loss to the postponing team following a walkover.

Alternative

3, 2, 1, -2

No postponement

Rule 12.3 would need to be changed.

From: **Bristol & West Water Polo League** <mike.coles1956@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, 6 Oct 2019, 15:10
Subject: New message from Alex
To: <mike.coles1956@gmail.com>

I am writing to you to ask for the junior Bristol and west league to have an age group of 2003 in next year's season I am aware that this is the case for this year's season but I believe it will show a more exciting competition for both players and spectators with more experienced players it will be sure to be an excellent show of water polo that is vital to the sport.