

Scottish Hockey Short Life Working Group – Minutes of Meeting 20th July 2020

Meeting 2 – Monday 20th July 2020

Attended by

- Martin Boag (MB)
- Jamie Frail (JF)
- Euan Cowan (EC)
- Gordon Black (GB)
- Alex Williams (AW)
- Fraser Munro (FM)
- Chris Duncan (CD)
- Siobhan Penman (SP)
- Becky Ward (BW)

The meeting started at 7pm and was carried out over Zoom and the meeting recorded.

Agenda

- Review minutes from last meeting
- Proposals from Group
- Proposals from Outside Group
- Principles

Review minutes from last meeting

MB asked the meeting to confirm accuracy of minutes, there were no changes to issued document.

Dropbox for group is now setup and accessible with recording of first meeting and documents uploaded.

Proposals from Group

MB went around everyone asking if they had any thoughts.

FM – he said Regional / Championships leagues could stay but with all teams being allowed to play homes games own pitch.

CD - raised the following points:

- We shouldn't try to fit every game into a Saturday 12>3,
- We should look at when to play, weekdays, later on Saturday.
- If a team enters a nationally run they should be prepared to travel to play anywhere in Scotland

BW - raised point about calendar and conflicts particularly for youth players.

SP - raised point about Championship 1 being filled with 2nd and 3rd teams and her own club are now jumping from Championship 2 to a National League missing out on paper a more difficult league to play in.

AW – raised point about lack of consultation with wider community i.e. no request from Scottish Hockey to ask for input from all clubs and interested individuals. MB explained tight time frame

made that difficult – but we should consider putting that point as one of our recommendations for future reviews.

MB note added after meeting – the groups end proposal will ultimately be put to the clubs to agree. From group to Management, then Board, then Premiership Group, then all Clubs.

GB – nothing to propose but said he does have questions which will come out in the discussions.

EC – raised points about:

- Match times – could they be varied from the current situation.
- Could there be more games at a central venue, to increase crowd watching, bring hockey community together.

JF – has got suggestions but wanted to hear how discussion goes before introducing them.

MB – shared his suggestions of Premiership with one National League beneath with a National 2nd XI league to mirror the clubs in the Premiership – same for both women and men. If a club does not wish to play their 2nd XI in the National 2nd XI league places could open up for club 3rd XI's.

Proposals from Outside Group

Group talked through each of the external proposals (see separate document with all proposals from Keith Joss, Harry Byers, Bill Garland, Douglas Simpson, Donald Amour (Clydesdale), Edinburgh University.

Key points discussed amongst the group were:

- Preference against one off playoff games.
- More flexibility around match days and times
- Cup games should be played on Saturdays
- Cup games should be played at lower ranked teams pitch
- Look to give cup more kudos by awarding them the 4th spot in European Playoff or give winners a monetary reward
- See potential for professional coaches at a club if games are played Friday / Saturday / Sunday to allow
- Need to discuss further whether 2nd XI's (and 3rd XI's) should be allowed into the National League

Principles and Recommendations

The group started to discuss some principles and recommendations (see external draft document) and will continue to discuss next meeting.

Group decided that next meeting would be Tuesday 28th July at 7pm, with likely other dates being Monday 3rd August and Monday 10th August.

Meeting ended.at 8.35 pm