

MINUTES

of the Veterans Committee Western Australian Hockey Association (Inc)

meeting held on Tuesday 7 April 2009
in the Board Room at Perth Hockey Stadium, Bentley

PRESENT: Peter Westlund (Chairman), Ian Arblaster, Lorraine Browning, Bill Campbell, Kerry Foote, Rob Lawson, Jane Marshall, Andrew Rahim, Mal Skinner, Fiona Stuart, Kevin Knapp (Staff Liaison), Gemma Francis (High Performance Officer), Karenne Griffiths (minute taker).

OPENING: The Chairman opened the meeting at 6.35pm and welcomed those in attendance.

Standing orders were suspended.

Kevin Knapp, Staff Liaison was introduced and invited to speak. Kevin introduced Gemma Francis (High Performance Officer) and Karenne Griffiths (minute taker) and spoke about his role as Staff Liaison, the role of Gemma in an operational capacity and Karenne as minute taker. Kevin advised he looked forward to assisting the Veterans Committee. Standing orders resumed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

09-0387 ***IT WAS MOVED BILL CAMPBELL/KERRY FOOTE THAT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 3 MARCH 2009 BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND ACCURATE RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS.***

Carried unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING:

08-0359 **Policy Document for Veterans Travel, Accommodation and Local Transport Criteria**

Document in the process of being created regarding the level of support for booking of state team travel. Bill Campbell advised feedback is being gathered from players and managers who travelled last year. It was noted there is a difference between the women's and men's travelling teams. Final document will be ready for distribution to committee members prior to the May meeting for discussion at that meeting. Staff Liaison offered administrative support, if required, in preparing the document.

Action: Committee Members

Rob Lawson requested feedback on the Rising Stars tenure of contract and confirmation as to whether the veterans are included in that contract.

Action: Staff Liaison

08-0366 **Australian Women's Veterans Delegates Meeting**

Kerry Foote advised the review of current state player eligibility paper is yet to be finalised.

Action: Lorraine Browning/Kerry Foote

08-0375 **State Off Field Team Nominations**

Mal Skinner advised that the meeting scheduled for 8 April 2009 for Men's Managers will not go ahead due to the lack of response and that he will follow up with the Managers to reset the meeting in the coming week.

Action: Mal Skinner

It was confirmed that acknowledgement letters have been sent confirming appointment to positions of all OFT personnel. Committee noted that the length of time taken to send the letters was too long. Staff Liaison advised the appointments are endorsed by the CEO then by the HWA Board which takes time. Committee agreed that letters need to be sent to all OFT nominees who were unsuccessful.

Action: Staff Liaison

A replacement needs to be sourced for the O45 Men's Manager position due to the resignation of the appointed Manager.

Action: Committee Members

08-0379 **Memorandum of Understanding – AVHC – Host State**

Mal Skinner advised he had only received comments on the Memorandum of Understanding – AVHC – Host State from Bill Campbell and Andrew Rahim. Further comments from the committee are to be submitted to Mal Skinner by close of business Wednesday April 8.

Action: Committee Members

08-0382 **O55M Outstanding Invoices**

A memo with details of the adjustments breakdown for the O55M outstanding invoices was tabled by the Staff Liaison. Discussion ensued at length regarding the outstanding invoices. It was noted the members of the committee were still unclear as to the breakdown of invoices and expressed concern that certain amounts being charged might be inaccurate.

IT WAS MOVED BILL CAMPBELL/ANDREW RAHIM THAT THE AMOUNT OF \$63.50 FOR ALL O55M PLAYERS WHO PAID TO TRAVEL BE WRITTEN OFF INITIALLY TO THE VETERANS RESERVE ACCOUNT, AND IF PROVED THAT THE \$50.65 WAS INCORRECTLY LEVIED, THEN THAT AMOUNT BE CHARGED TO HWA. IN FAVOUR 5, AGAINST 2, ABSTAIN 2.

Motion Carried

Action: Staff Liaison

All those who owe more than the \$63.50 to be asked to pay the balance within 14 days otherwise they become unfinancial. It was noted that the decision to write off the total amount of \$889.00, being \$63.50 x 14 in no way was to set a precedent for any other amounts outstanding by other veteran players and that once resolved the Veterans Committee considered the matter closed.

Action: Staff Liaison

09-0386 **Grading**

Draft grading has been circulated to club veteran's contacts. Fiona Stuart advised a letter had been sent to HWA from YMCC with concerns about the number of teams in each division. There are only 6 teams in Division 1, 10 in division 2 and 10 in division 3. The committee discussed the in-balance in the number of teams in each division and possible solutions for next year. It was suggested possibly joining division 1 and 2 together to play off and from that reassess for the following year the teams strong enough to play division 1 and those that need to be in division 2. It was also suggested looking at an age based structure. Rob Lawson suggested it was too late to do anything for this year. It was determined that these ideas should be looked at mid season and alternative structures distributed to veterans contacts to gauge interest. Item to be carried forward on veterans committee agenda.

Action: Staff Liaison

REPORTS:

09-0388 **AVHC**

Mal Skinner reported on two proposals from AVHC, the MOU National Men's Veterans Championships and the Business Advisory Group - Operating Memorandum.

IT WAS MOVED ROB LAWSON/MAL SKINNER THE OPERATING MEMORANDUM TO ESTABLISH A BUSINESS ADVISORY GROUP BE ENDORSED.

Carried Unanimously

Further discussion ensued. Bill Campbell raised several concerns from the memorandum. Mal Skinner advised that no feedback was offered in time to raise matters with the AVHC. Rob Lawson spoke favourably about the business advisory group advising they will be working to find other financial means to support veterans hockey around Australia and that they would be very active in seeking sponsorship.

Mal skinner also reported that at the recent AVMC meeting it was proposed to hold an O35M Veterans Championships. The proposed timing for this event is to coincide with the Champions Trophy in December. Expressions of interest were called supporting this proposal. Discussion ensued and the committee determined that the information should be distributed to metropolitan and regional club presidents, veteran's contacts and men's coaches for feedback. Committee to hold an out of session vote based on the feedback gathered.

Action: Staff Liaison

STATE TEAMS:

09-0389 **Coaches Meeting:**

Fiona Stuart advised that the sub committee has not met as yet. She also discussed the fact that all state veterans male and female coaches had recently been invited to David Bell & Neil Hawgood's presentation and that it was well attended and well received.

09-0390 **Player Nomination Form for Hockey WA Western Australian 2009 Veterans Teams:**

The draft form was circulated to the Committee for discussion. Several items from the form were raised including "Nominations received by individuals will not be accepted". The reason for this wording is that in the past there was the problem of receiving nominations from non-financial members. Nominations must come through a club. If received individually, the form is to be returned to the individual for submission by their club.

Item 8 - Indicative costs are to be finalised before distribution including the uniform costs to be confirmed, men's and women's airfare and accommodation is to be indicated individually.

Item 8 amend wording to: Selected players, and their non-playing supporters using Hockey WA booked travel, must pay \$500 towards the cost of their trip within 7 days of player selection.

With the above amendments, the form was endorsed. To be emailed or posted to last year's players, placed on the web site as soon as possible and circulated to coaches and managers.

Action: Staff Liaison

09-0391 **Manager's Report:**

Report from Lynne Bengtson was discussed, specifically the difficulties in running a raffle.

IT WAS MOVED LORRAINE BROWNING/FIONA STUART THAT HWA APPROVE THE CONDUCT OF A RAFFLE FOR WOMEN'S STATE VETERANS TEAMS HOCKEY.

Carried Unanimously

Action: Staff Liaison

It was noted that manager's packs need to be amended to include information on the conduct of fund raising activities.

Action: Staff Liaison

09-0392 **State Team Training:**

Peter Westlund advised the following dates have been booked for state team trials:

17 May to 28 June on Sundays from 6.00am to 8.00am on PHS 1 & 2. Bookings at Aquinas are also being looked at. Awaiting response from Old Aquinians.

The following times have been booked for training:

Men – 2 August to 20 September on Sundays from 8.30pm to 10.00pm on PHS 1 and 8.00pm to 9.30pm on PHS2

Women – 1 August to 26 September on Saturdays from 6.00am to 8.00am on PHS 1 and 2.

It was resolved to secure these bookings. It was also noted the importance of ensuring HWA ground controllers have the grounds lit and ready to go to commence training on time.

Action: Staff Liaison

Nominations to be called for State Team Selectors.

Action: Staff Liaison

The details of the selection process are to be circulated to players. It is noted that country week is not the sole selection trial for country players.

Action: Staff Liaison

LOCAL COMPETITION

09-0393 **Fixtures:**

The O55 Men's fixtures were discussed. It was noted that there are 6 teams in the grade and only 12 games per year for each team with 6 byes. Peter Westlund advised that with the byes, one team has umpiring duty whilst the other has a bye. The committee believe that grades with teams playing 12 fixtures with 6 byes is unacceptable. Discussion ensued at length.

IT WAS MOVED MAL SKINNER/IAN ARBLASTER THAT THE VETERANS COMMITTEE RECOMMEND HWA REVIEW FIXTURING IN VETERANS GRADES WHERE THERE ARE AN EVEN NUMBER OF TEAMS TO TRY TO REDRESS THE IMBALANCE BETWEEN GAMES PLAYED AND BYES AS THE COMMITTEE IS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS IMBALANCE MAY CAUSE PLAYERS TO LEAVE THE GAME.

Carried Unanimously

Action: Staff Liaison

GENERAL BUSINESS:

09-0394 **State Team Selection Policy:**

The memo circulated with the agenda from the Audit, Finance & Governance Committee regarding the suggested introduction of a rule that precluded selection to a state team for the following year if the player did not pay their team fees within the required finance rules timeframe. This policy wording was discussed. Bill Campbell suggested the word “precluded” was too harsh.

IT WAS MOVED BILL CAMPBELL/FIONA STEWART THAT THE WORDING ON THE POLICY BE CHANGED TO “THAT A PLAYER, UNLESS THERE IS A SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION (THE PROCESS OF WHICH IS DOCUMENTED IN THE SELECTION POLICY AND/OR FINANCE RULES), IS PRECLUDED FROM SELECTION TO A STATE TEAM FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR IF THE PLAYER DID NOT PAY THEIR TEAM FEES WITHIN THE REQUIRED FINANCE RULES TIMEFRAME.

Carried Unanimously

Action: Staff Liaison

09-0395 **Terms of Reference – Review – Rules of Staff Liaison:**

Kevin Knapp, Staff Liaison addressed the meeting regarding understanding the role of the committee, the committee convenor and the staff liaison at committee meetings. He advised that committee recommendations should be addressed through the staff liaison, not individual HWA staff members.

CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING DATE:

Meeting closed at 9.35pm. The next meeting is to held Tuesday 5 May at 6.30pm.

ACTION ITEMS

Minute Number	Action Required	Responsibility
08-0359	Document to be created regarding the level of support for booking of state team travel. Confirmation on whether the veterans are included in the Rising Stars tenure of contract.	Committee Members Staff Liaison
08-0366	Comment on the review of current state player eligibility being prepared by Australian Women's Veterans when received.	Lorraine Browning/ Kerry Foote
08-0375	Meeting of Men's Managers. Send letters to all OFT nominees who were unsuccessful. Replacement to be sourced for O45 Men's Manager.	Mal Skinner Staff Liaison Committee Members
08-0379	Comments on Memorandum of Understanding – National Men's Veteran's Championships	Committee Members
08-0382	Write off \$63.50 to the veterans reserve account for all O55M outstanding invoices. Request payment from those who owe over \$63.50 within 14 days.	Staff Liaison
09-0386	Alternate structures for grading Women's Veterans competition to be reviewed at a date to be decided.	Staff Liaison
09-0388	Distribute information regarding O35M Veterans Championships.	Staff Liaison
09-0390	Amend player nomination form for WA 2009 Veterans Teams and distribute.	Staff Liaison
09-0391	Approval by HWA for running of a raffle for Women's State Veterans Teams Hockey. Manager's packs to be amended to include information on running of a raffle.	Staff Liaison
09-0392	Turf bookings to be secured. Ensure ground controllers are prepared for these bookings. Call for nominations for State Team Selectors Selection process to be circulated.	Staff Liaison
09-0393	Review of fixturing for grades where there are even team numbers.	Staff Liaison
09-0394	Amend wording to State Team Selection Policy	Staff Liaison