

MASTERS ADVISORY GROUP

MINUTES OF MEETING

WEDNESDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2018

HNZ OFFICES, AUCKLAND



Present: Rachel Minton-Smith (HNZ), Tama Jones (HNZ), Sandra Partridge (HNZ) Tania Cassidy (TC), Lee Munt (LM), Nicki Sayers (NS) and Anil Nathoo (AN)

Meeting commenced at 11.10am

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Previous Minutes
 - *No amendments required to previous minutes*
- 3) Matters arising from previous minutes
 - *LM asked for clarification that Sandie Mackie, Auckland, had been contacted as per the previous minutes regarding the House of Travel Package in Barcelona as she had brought this up again with LM whilst on tournament. HNZ stated that she had been contacted directly via email regarding this, but had no further correspondence received from Sandie regarding this.*
- 4) Correspondence
 - WGMA & IHMA Congress minutes
 - *It was noted that it would have been beneficial to have the minutes from the WGMA and the IHMA Congress earlier.*
 - *It was discussed that with the inception of a new amalgamated organisation WMH, What are HNZ's options and process for nominating a Board Member, representative and observer for the new organisation?*
 - *The amalgamation was further discussed – how will this affect us and how do we have a voice?*
 - *With the amalgamation of the two organisations, what is our alignment, their alignment and who plays where?*
 - *It should be noted that the group believes that mixed tournaments are better than single sex tournaments going forward.*

Action Point

- ❖ ***HNZ to seek clarification on the process and policy of our representation and in which competitions we participate in.***

- 5) Feedback from International Grand Masters and International Masters Spain
 - *The standard of umpires was not always good.*
 - *The tournament was generally very good.*

- *LM found that as a member of the M.A.G. he was dealing with a number of ad-hoc enquiries whilst away in Barcelona, leading him to liaise with Jan, the Chef de Mission to organise a set time for participants to meet with him.*
- *Feedback from these meetings included the following*
 - *The size of the tournament was too big, with the organising committee in Barcelona caught out by the sheer enormity of scale.*
 - *The infrastructure was not quite up to scratch*
 - *Great atmosphere*
 - *Too hot in Spain, but somewhat unavoidable and a slight anomaly due to the heatwave*
 - *Cost of accommodation, bus were queried by many as being too high*
 - *The transport was only available for supporters who had pre paid, although for €20 you were able to book a spot on the bus. Where did this money go? That was also too high and was changed to €10 later in the week. Organised by HoT*
 - *Unfortunately due to scheduling of buses, it was almost impossible to watch other teams.*
 - *The buses were well organised*
 - *House of Travel did a great job on the ground and this was appreciated*
 - *No meeting rooms were available at the hotel, despite being told there would be. This was an extra cost.*
 - *The organisational side of things at the HNZ end could have been better – Uniforms, Package, Cost, Transparency*
 - *There was a problem with the uniforms and Lotto running out.*

Action Point

- ❖ ***HNZ to ask Managers to contact their players and ask what they want to do with the \$20 uniform refund (for those who received BizCool uniforms rather than Lotto). Do players want the \$20 refund, or would they like to donate this to the Masters fund?***
- ❖ ***In future give teams options as to how they travel once they are at the destinations.***
- ❖ ***It may also be optimal to have different accommodation options available with different pricing points.***
- ❖ ***Further clarification sought regarding the coach selection process and the emphasis being on suitable coaches, not just available coaches.***

Recommendation

- ❖ ***It would be appreciated if Masters Coaches had access to coaching assistance from HNZ.***
- ❖ ***Player Coaches should not be allowed at International level.***
- ❖ ***The Advisory Group recommend that they have more involvement with the decision making process at International level.***
- ❖ ***Transparency and communication is key***

Sandra Partridge left the meeting

6 Communication

- *A discussion regarding the role of Associations within the Masters space. There seems to be variations across the country, with some associations having specific Masters committees, but these are not the norm. It was felt that more promotion of Masters within Associations was necessary and that any committees would work best when overseen by the Association, to ensure that everyone has “skin in the game”. It was noted that two Associations that are examples of best practice in this area are North Harbour and Canterbury.*

Action Point

❖ ***HNZ to investigate the Masters Advisory Group members linking in with their surrounding Associations to promote masters and to assist Associations.***

❖ ***HNZ to contact Associations to establish who their Masters contact is.***

- *AN discussed the communications that had taken place within the 35+ Men’s team surrounding the decision not to send them to an overseas tournament after their withdrawal from a world cup. After further discussions and investigation, the main issue seemed to be a lack of communication to the players once the final decision was made. In future it may have been helpful to run such things past the Advisory Group and to ensure the appropriate members had been contact via the correct channels.*
- *The Advisory group stated that they would like to take more responsibility for Masters Hockey in NZ. They felt that they could be the face of HNZ Masters as their group represented the varying diverse sections of Masters as well as having a geographical spread. Masters communities should see them as the conduit for information and issues that can then be passed back to HNZ.*
- *The group would like to have input on tournaments prior to the decisions being made and prior to the event itself.*

Action Point

❖ ***HNZ to investigate the potential of delegating some Masters responsibility to the Advisory Group. Relook at the Terms of Reference.***

- *In regard to communications specifically for tournaments, where applicable it was felt that the Chef De Mission should be the main point of contact for communications once at tournament with Managers connecting up with that person.*
- *Whilst on tournament, it is vital that information and images are sent to HNZ so that they can update social media and website.*
- *There will be a timeline for each tournament including organisation and communications.*
- *It was discussed as to how we may be able to connect up coaches and managers after they have been appointed to create a network. There could be several different mechanisms here including meetings and social media.*
- *Recognition and communication for those who were being selected for NZ for the first time was highlighted*

Action Point

❖ ***HNZ to investigate the possibility of a certificate or similar from HNZ to recognise first caps for NZ. These could be presented at Association prizegiving. The presentation of a playing shirt should take place at the***

beginning of the International tournament that the new player is participating at.

7) National Masters Tournament

- *Canterbury Hockey are hosting a South Island Masters Tournament, an annual event, but also key in the absence of a National Masters Tournament this year. The dates for this are the 26th – 28th October*
- *The National Masters Tournament is being hosted by Waikato Hockey - 3rd – 9th March, Gallagher Hockey Centre & Satellite Turf TBC, Hamilton*

Action Point

- ❖ ***Discussion regarding transfers rules presented the following thinking: Players must first make themselves available for their home association, any transfers must be endorsed by the association.***
- ❖ ***Update the rules of NMT tournament to reflect the new transfer list system and any policies surrounding this.***

Recommendation

- ❖ ***Communications regarding NMT out by the end of September to Associations alongside social media advertising***
- ❖ ***Open the transfer list at the same time as team entries***
- *Are we able to make transparent the budget for NMT and make this available for viewing?*
- *Are there sponsorship opportunities for NMT?*

8) Trans Tasman Masters

- *We need to clarify the process of selecting managers for teams, bearing in mind the coach manager relationship*
- *Trials – 1 day is thought to be inadequate, 2 days is preferable. If trials are to be held would it be possible to hold regional trials with selectors present at all of these as it is cheaper to fly them around the country?*
- *LM posed the question if trials were necessary for the upcoming Trans Tasman 2019 tournament? If they were to use NMT for a selection vehicle, that would leave 9 weeks until TT, which was felt to be a long enough campaign. If the EoI form for players is out pre Christmas, with details around costings, dates, expectations etc, then this should be sufficient.*

Recommendation

- ❖ ***National Masters Tournament in March 2019 to be used as a selection process for Trans Tasman Masters in May 2019.***
- ❖ ***All players wishing to play TT will be expected to make themselves available for NMT. There will be a process for dispensation in particular circumstances.***
- ❖ ***Pre-Christmas, communications should be made regarding dates, costs, EoI, closing date and the fact that selections will be built into the NMT.***
- ❖ ***That HNZ look at the uniform and wherever possible, keep this the same as the World Cup uniforms, so only newly selected players will have to purchase a uniform. There should be space on the EoI for this question and a sizing question.***

- *Questions arose around the selection and selection panel itself. Who selects the coach selectors? What training will selectors be given to identify criteria as set out in the selection policy? What will the expression of interest contain?*

Recommendation

- ❖ *Players EoI form should contain a question asking what age group they are looking to represent, with multiple options available. However, clarification in the rules will be necessary regarding age criteria for those “cusp” players and that they must play within their age group in the first instance.*

Action Point

- ❖ *HNZ detailed several policies and processes that had been created for the Masters International Tournament space, including job descriptions, selection policies etc – these drafts are to be sent to the Advisory Group for further input, once the first draft is completed.*
- ❖ *Questions arose regarding what is currently on International Representatives invoices? It was felt that these players should be in a user pays situation and that subsidies should be covered by the player. These invoices should be broken down to ensure transparency.*
- ❖ *The budget should be made available and clearly broken down.*

9) Participation

- *We did not have much time on this subject, however the following points were made: As a group, it was felt that they were required to address the issues that were sitting within the tournament space first and foremost. If they had more autonomy to deal with Associations, this would be where participation came in as they felt that this space sat primarily with Associations.*
- *Sharing of good news stories and best practice in the area of participation would be instrumental in assisting Associations in the Masters space.*

10) AoB – Masters Funds

- *HNZ presented the Masters funds account from the dissolution of the Masters Council until 31st December 2017.*
- *A 2018 account is not yet available due to outstanding accounts and reconciliation from the Masters World Cups.*
- *The group queried the money that was spent on the expenses side of previous NMT and Trans-Tasman.*
- *The Advisory group believe that subsidies for Internationals should not be coming from these funds, but funded by players under a user-pays system.*
- *A further breakdown of these accounts was seen as necessary to achieve total transparency.*
- *Further conversations regarding these funds should be had a future date.*

11) Date and Venue of Next Meeting

- *To be decided*

Meeting closed approx. 3.30pm

