

Meeting Minutes of

IIHA

EGM

City North Hotel

1st Nov 2009

Attendance:

To be provided by IIHA. Evelyn Kelly and Liz Higgins controlled access to the meeting by checking members against a list provided by the IIHA Exec. It should be noted that several people came into the meeting late and may not have been “checked” in correctly.

Agenda:

- 1) Treasurers report 08/09 by Jonathan Dunne.
- 2) Interim directors report.
- 3) Election of Executive board and Directors.

Meeting started:

Chairman Simon Kitchen opened the meeting at 3:50pm. SK welcomed everybody to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

Treasurers report 08/09 by Jonathan Dunne

IIHA treasurer Jonathan Dunne started his report, a copy of which will be made available to all.

JD noted that the report was not yet available on the IIHA website.

Some noted points from his presentation:

- The fees listed under IIHF congress expenses include 22,274 Euros paid in ITC fees for IIHA A League players.
- Team Ireland expenses increased to 34,387 due to sending the Senior team to NZ and U 18's to Turkey.
- IIHL expenses increase by 6,683k. This was mainly due to IIHL RD end of season tournament.
- National team replica Jerseys were bought as stock for online sale

- Storage fees increased to 4,224 euro per year.
- Rent 1,914 euro for office at Sports HQ.
- Cost of insurance policy has also increased.
- Expenses related to Post and Packaging increased with 1200 Euros for 2008 AGM postage.

Robert Byrne posed a question in regard to postage? He stated that he never received any letters from the IIHA in the post.

Kate Morrison: said that email should be sent wherever possible.

Pat Kelly asked how the cost for postage was paid in arrears i.e. Last years cost is reflected in this years accounts. He said it was normal to pay for stamps upfront and therefore incur the cost at purchase time.

JD explained that postage is paid by way of expense to exec board members. Board members pay the postage and then claim it back by way of expenses

Jonathan Dunne made some recommendations

- 1) Exec need to cut back on expenses, an example is the cost of mobile phones.

Wayne Hopkins: Do we have to have the accounts audited every year?

John Hogan pointed out that the IIHA is required to do this under law

Sonia Mcahanenay: requested a break down of expenses related to the recent ladies trip for the women's development program?

JD agreed to provide a breakdown to the members.

Pat Kelly: asked a question on sundry expenses. JD replied that the sundry item related to expenses for a guest speaker to attend the 2008 AGM.

- 2) Appoint a manager for each National team for next year. JD said it was important to put these people in place ASAP so that they can start fund raising for the trips to Greece and Mexico in 2010

At this point Mick Higgins declared that he wanted to withdraw his name from the election list as the meeting would not be recognised by IIHF.

2) Interim directors report.

Seanna Conway read the interim directors report on behalf of the interim board.

The Interim Directors would like to report the following regarding their last 60 days as Representatives of the IIHA:

Both the Recreational Division and the IIHL have started. Originally, games were supposed to be taking place in both Charlestown and Dundalk, but because Charlestown

was not up to standard and some proposed improvements will not be happening, for the foreseeable future our games will be taking place in Dundalk. Due to the tireless efforts of Jim Pepper and Wayne Hopkins as well as the Dundalk Ice Dome, all Charlestown games were moved to Dundalk. IIHL games are on Saturdays at 8:30pm and Sundays at 6:30pm. IIHL RD games are on Sunday evening and Monday evenings, starting from 8:30pm and 8:15pm, respectively. Although it is never possible for every team to be happy, we believe the League Chairs have done their best to arrange a suitable schedule for everyone. We thank all the teams, A and B alike, for their patience regarding the issues with Charlestown.

There are a few teams in the IIHL RD disappointed that their games may be the later ones week after week, but we are sure that there was never any intention by the IIHL RD Chairman to favour any team over any other. It must be understood, that a 60 day term is not very long. Starting work in September, which should have been completed early on in the summer, was nearly impossible, and although we have made mistakes, we have done our best in a very short period of time, to at least have hockey up and running.

While in Tunisia at the IIHF Semi-Annual Congress, Seanna Conway and Sean Dooley participated in meetings regarding both the Men's Senior National Team and the U18 Team. The Seniors will in fact be traveling to Greece this year, as their new government was elected, and is supporting the tournament. The U18 Team will be travelling to Mexico for their tournament. The IIHF has handed out strict protocol in relation to the H1N1 Virus and it imperative that we all abide by it to the best of our ability to minimize transmission of the virus to the best of our ability. Practice and game schedules were voted on, and we also learned of issues at the tournaments including Doctors, Skate Sharpening, Accommodation, etc.

Another major development at the Semi-Annual Congress was the Restructuring Proposal from the IIHF, which affects our country greatly. We have made copies for everyone here today and we hope you all read them and get back to the new Executive and Board of Directors with your thoughts as we will be required to submit our concerns and problems with the Proposal to the IIHF by November 15th. This must be one of the very first tasks of the new Executive.

Moving forward, we believe that there are a number of major issues that need to be addressed/dealt with by the IIHA:

- a Child Protection Policy needs to be put in place, implemented, and a Child Protection officer nominated*
- Registration should be done during the summer, as we did not have enough time to implement the system in place, and to enforce rules strictly*
- League Rules and Regulations need to be looked at annually*
- the 4 point system needs to be changed and cannot be used in either league*
- a coherent Junior Development program needs to be implemented and perhaps a Junior Development Officer appointed*
- the Senior National Team Coach needs to be appointed ASAP and training should begin for all National Teams soon*
- As mentioned above, the IIHA needs to respond to the IIHF's Restructuring Proposal ASAP, by November 15, 2009.*

We thank you for your support, patience, and dedication to ice hockey. We are very grateful for being given the opportunity to represent this Association. We wish every player, parent, team, and fan the best of luck this season, and we look forward to cheering on our Senior National Team and U18 Team in Greece and Mexico in 2010.

Yours in Hockey,

The Interim Directors

Questions:

Wayne Hopkins: Is it true that you were sent as guests to Tunisia? Did you have a vote at the meeting?

Seanna replied that Sean Dooley and Seanna were in attendance as full delegates with voting rights, however no voting took place, most voting takes place at the General congress.

Mick Higgins: Indicated at this point that "he had the thing that recognises us to the IIHF", The Document is the 1996 IIHA constitution lodged with the IIHF, if we failed to operate by that Doc our involvement with IIHF and in the Celtic Cup with the Scottish IHA is at risk.

Mark Bowes: this opens a whole can of worms, Mark summarised "the gist" of what Mick was saying is that "This AGM is null and void"

Mick Higgins said that the meeting is null and void according to the constitution.

Cliff Saunders explained that the constitution was sent to the IIHF when we started in the IIHF, they know we are developing nation, they have given us leeway in the past. We worked with Arthur Cox to draft a new M and A (memorandum of Association) which the IIHA started to use. Points in there needed to be looked at. Changes made in 2007 to 2 points, more changed the last few years. Cliff signed off on those changes

Pat Kelly: con sent in 96. Are we not entitled to change it?

What's it got to do with the IIHF if we change it? They cannot stop us from doing that.

John Hogan: IIHA solicitor addressed the meeting "The 96 con is irrelevant, the IIHA have moved on from that doc", he explained that such documents are living documents and are subject to change over time.

Clarify: revenue commissionaires also need to be provided with any update to the IIHA M and A.

OIC are only an approving body

Cliff we are in limbo.

John Hogan agreed we are in limbo and indicated that the 96 Document would be an embarrassment to where the IIHA have moved to today.

Cliff: that embarrassment has paved the way for hockey in Ireland.

John Hogan: Said that he commends them to you. I believe he was referring to the M and A.

Seanna: asked cliff why this info only came to his attention last week

Gerry confirmed no emails regarding Hors lickner (???)

Seanna: IIHF have copies of emails from interim directors.

Seanna read out the email where Anna Eskola (sport coordinator with IIHF) responded to a notification sent by the interim directors to the IIHF where the details of the August AGM were outlined.

Mick Higgins: stated that the 96 con was not an embarrassment,

Simon requested copies of 96 cons for meeting.

Pat Kelly: this is a waste of time, old ground, we have moved on. This has nothing to do with what we are here for today

R.Byrne: When did you go to the man in the IIHF to get this info? RB made the point that all former Execs agreed to assist the Interim directors and not go behind their back.

Mick Higgins responded that it was 2/3 weeks ago.

R.Byrne: you should have let the Interim directors to do it not you.

Seanna: Asked Mick why are you going contacting the IIHF?.

Niall Kerley: observation: MH contacted 3 weeks ago, why wait to forward info on Saturday last?

Surely the IIHF would not stop the IIHA from progressing.

Wayne Hopkins: was it true that their was a conversation between Mick Higgins and Mark Bowes, he then corrected himself and said he had a recording of a conversation between Mark and Kevin Kelly where they were discussing matters related to the current topic.

Simon Kitchen stated that the meeting will take two more Questions only

Guy with glasses (Did not get his name).....Why are we still discussing this? It's a waste of time and we need to move on

Kate Morrision : it's because the IIHF won't recognise us if we move forward with a vote and that could mean we cannot play hockey internationally

Seanna Conway said it was not appropriate for people to hold the members to ransom in such a fashion

Mark Bowes: lets elect 5 members, send the m and A to the IIHF and move on....show is over.

Cliff: stated that he will not stand for President and was withdrawing his name

JD: Proposed that the meeting should extend the interim period and allow the interim board to stay in place

Simon Kitchen seconded this and thought that was a great idea, we should keep them in place. We Don't know who is telling the truth, emails, notes everything.

Sonia Mcahanenay: they are recognised...people voted them in last August

Cliff asked who in the IIHF had sent an email to Seanna

Java kummula is the IIHF person who emailed seanna. Cliff requested that we note this into the minutes.

Sean Gibson wants JD to be given his voting rights back

RB: We need an uneven number of Execs, complication abroad if people go behind the boards back.

Willy Fay: We can't have 6 execs.

Pat Kelly : Can put 6 back. M and a voted in last august.

Cliff: were the ballots kept from August?

MH: we are not recognised

At this point, the Interim Exec's got together.

Simon Kitchen called for a 5 min recess at 4:50pm as the interim directors wanted to discuss how to progress the meeting.

Simon Called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

Proposal from the Interims directors along with JD and John Hogan, we vote in new exec but hold off incorporation.

Aidamar: did we not agree to incorporate in August. Ask Robert Byrne who chaired the meeting

RB: are the minutes not available.

SK: vote was not in the meeting minutes.

Niall Kerley: clarify, Have IIHF accepted us into the 2010 champs.

SDOOLEY: IIHF warned us not to play illegal players.

Cliff: Frank .meredith: was of the opinion everyone in north is British.

Liz Higgins: scared that IIHF will pull the plug, and she wont be voting

PatK: remembers we did vote the M and A in, but he had a counter proposal: vote in new exec and incorporate.

JH: suggestion is you vote to incorporate today, incorporation will happen after the OCI, IIFH approve that the process is given the green light

PK: withdraws his counter proposal.

RB: will cliff/mick interfere after the meeting, sports council will not recognise it.

Rb: walked across the room saying that cliff indicated that he believed he never resigned as President in August.

Evelyn: The Ladies raised their own money.

Voting began at 5:25pm. Members were given their voting slips and placed these into a closed ballot box on the top table, this was supervised by the meeting Chairman.

The vote was counted by Simon Kitchen (Meeting chairman), Keith Daly (Meeting Minute taker), Kate Morrison.

Vote count concluded and results were announced at 5:50pm

3) Election of Executive board and Directors.

Total Ballot was 59 voting slips. There was 1 spoilt vote in the Director of Players Ops vote. This ballot paper had both candidates marked down. Keith Daly has the ballots in his possession and will hand these to the Exec.

President: William Fay Elected

As Willy Fay was the only candidate. He was elected unopposed.

For the record a review of the papers showed:

President		
Name	Count	Elected
Total Ballot	59	
Willy Fay	47	X
Cliff Saunders	2	
No votes	10	

General Secretary: Dean Kelly elected

General Secretary		
Name	Count	Elected
Total Ballot	59	

Dean Kelly	42	X
Mark Bowes	13	
Mick Higgins	1	
No votes	3	

Director of Player Operations: Wayne Hopkins Elected

Director Of Players Operations		
Name	Count	Elected
Total Ballot	59	
Wayne Hopkins	38	X
Sean Gibson	19	
No votes	1	
Spoilt votes	1	

IIHA Directors: Seanna Conway, Kevin Kelly, Vytautas Lukosevicius Elected

IIHA Directors election		
Name	Count	Elected
Total Ballot	59	
Seanna Conway	53	X
Vytautas Lukosevicius	51	X
Kevin Kelly	43	X
Philip Darcy	17	
No vote	1	

Treasurer: Jonathan Dunne elected unopposed.

Vice President: Aigers Brensis elected unopposed

PK: congratulated the New Executive on behalf of Dundalk Bulls and said he looked forward to working with them.

4) Approval of accounts

Proposed by Pat Kelly seconded by Kate Morrison.

Members voted to approve the accounts.

Seanna thanked John Hogan for his assistance.

Evelyn Kelly told the meeting that Kevin Kelly thanked the membership for their vote

Kate Morrison: Question: when will the other positions be filled and who decides..

WF/DK said that those positions will be advertised and people selected if vacant

Kate: Asked that we have a Northern Ireland officer in the future.

John Bickerstaff: suggested that the IIHA make the website the main point of contact with the members.

Michael O'Neill: can we take down the IIHL.ie. Who put it up?

Gerry Roche said that the IIHL.ie was owned by IIHA, but is now registered to Jonathan Dunne.

JD said that he had registered the website on behalf of the IIHA, he made suggestions to improve the IIHA website some of which were not taken on board, Gerry replied that some changes were not practical due to time constraints.

Sean Gibson said that he put up some content as he was requested to do so because access to information was being denied to IIHA members

SG: There should be transparency to its members going forward. Keep members updated in the future.

Dean Kelly agreed.

Dean Clarified that the offending content will be removed.

Wayne thanked Sean. Sean was told his ideas were noted.

Meeting closed at 18:10pm.

These minutes are final as of 22:00hrs on November 5th 2009. The minutes should be approved by the IIHA executive board as soon as possible and then approved at the next AGM by the members.

Kind Regards

Keith Daly