



Amateur Boxing Scotland Ltd Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday 13 October 2011 18:00hrs
5 Nasmyth Court, Houston Industrial Estate, Livingston, EH54 5EG

Present: Andrew Caulfield (AC), Willie Burns (WB), Frank Delaney (FD), Richard Thomas (RT)

In attendance: Fraser Walker (FW)

1 – Apologies for Absence

Alan Clark (ACL) sportscotland Partnership Manager.

2 – Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3 – Approval of Minutes 17 May 2011

Proposed by WB and seconded by FD.

4 – Actions

A Development Commission meeting was held with Danny Lee and Jimmy Dunn on 26 September 2011. It was agreed that activity must be constrained and delivered more locally due to a lack of funding. The cost of sending teams to competitions such as the World and European Juniors has resulted in there being limited Development Commission budget until the financial year end.

5 – Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6 – Chairman's Report

The Chairman provided a verbal report.

6.1 Cashback

The ABS Cashback Programme will be officially launched on 19th October 2011 at the Lochend Gym, Edinburgh and the Justice Minister, Kenny MacAskill will be in attendance.

There needs to be clear communication that the Cashback programme is not a facility re-development programme but designed to provide diversionary activities for young people aged 10-19. ABS must target clubs in socially and economically deprived communities and deploy non-contact coaching within these areas.

An equipment catalogue will be produced for clubs involved in the Cashback programme which will allow them to receive limited sundry kit items.

There is confidence if we do the right thing and have an impact with the Government, Police and Education Authorities, there will be a strong case for more, longer term investment. The aim for this year is to grow the numbers of our affiliated clubs and then request further investment for continued development.

The programme will be non-contact and will consist of three different tiers focusing on 10-12, 13-15 and 16-19 year olds. It must be made clear that diversionary activities delivered through Cashback are completely separate from other programmes such as Active Schools.

ABS will select circa thirty clubs and their coaches to deliver its Cashback programme based on the Scottish Government's Social and Welfare statistics document, as of 23 September 2011, which highlights key areas of social and economic deprivation.

6.2 Co-opting of new Directors

Board members were provided with CVs from Kevin Bell, a legal expert and Peter Evans, a child protection expert. Feedback and support was sought from Directors to co-opt and appoint Mr. Bell and Mr. Evans.

RT explained the co-opting of the two applicants will bring balance and is a positive step forward for the board. The two applicants have limited knowledge of boxing but both have different areas of expertise and can bring informed opinions to the organisation. Mr. Bell can provide guidance on all legal issues and Mr Evans on all child protection matters in addition to their fiduciary duties as Directors.

FD raised concerns over the fact that they may not know much about ABS and amateur boxing in Scotland.

RT commented there was a need to appoint new directors and such appointments will only be made following a transparent, robust application process. Board Director roles had previously been advertised and will continue to be.

With no further discussion, the Board unanimously agreed to co-opt Kevin Bell and Peter Evans as ABS Board Directors.

6.3 OIC Training

Official in Charge training is essential. The OIC role needs to be re-named to Technical Delegate. The Technical Delegate role will require clearly defined roles and responsibilities which will be identified in due course as per the AIBA rules with the focus on the welfare of the boxer.

As an AIBA Technical Commission member and an AIBA ITO, RT will attend more events to support Technical Delegates, identify what current levels of experience exist and what areas of require improving for the future delivery of ABS shows. Training will be provided for Technical Delegates and standardised documentation produced for them to complete at each show.

WB enquired with regards to the National delivery of R&J courses as the matter had been raised at the October 2011 Eastern District meeting.

RT confirmed R&J development is a high priority for this coming this year and he will work with AC to accelerate matters. ABS needs more of the right people to deliver courses.

6.4 Criminal Charges – Boxers

Through a number of press articles and correspondence, it has been brought to the attention of the Board that registered boxers have recently been charged with serious assault charges.

There was unanimous agreement, in the interests and reputation of the sport, to withhold the registration card of any boxer currently facing any serious criminal charges, in particular matters relating to violence, until such matters had been investigated further and/or dealt with by a court of law. Boxers being charged with serious crimes are bringing the sport into disrepute.

Individual cases will not be discussed as these are private and confidential matters.

7 – Director Reports

7.1 Director of Coach Education

WB presented his report.

The ABS Introduction to Coaching course will take place at the Stirling University Conference Centre on 03 December 2011. John McIntyre will assist with the delivery of the introductory course. There has been a very positive reaction to the introductory course and there will be circa 35 attendees in Stirling.

Thereafter, ABS will run a refresher course for more experienced coaches in spring 2012.

RT highlighted ABS must show a united front on the Introductory coaching course. It would be prudent for FD, Director of Performance, to attend and enforce the benefits of the course.

WB suggested establishing an ABS Coaches Commission to provide coaches with a voice and give them the chance to input on relevant strategy and policy development.

7.2 Director of Performance

FD provided a verbal update on the performance programme.

FD stated he cannot praise ABS, its boxers and coaches highly enough for the medal success achieved in the past eighteen months through the performance and development programme. In comparison to other sports with bigger performance budgets we are punching above our weight.

Josh Taylor did himself proud in the 2011 World Championships held in Baku, Azerbaijan, and is a credit to his coaches and Lochend ABC.

ABS should have won two gold medals in the 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games held in the Isle of Man.

8 – sportscotland – Investor update

There was no sportscotland update due to the absence of Alan Clark who offered his apologies.

9 – Equity

FW gave an update on achieving the Equity Foundation. This was still on course to be achieved in early 2012 and ABS has further meetings scheduled with sportscotland in November to progress the matter accordingly.

10 – AOCB

There was no other competent Business.

11 – Date of next Meeting

14 December 2011, ABS Ltd Office, 5 Nasmyth Court, Houston Industrial Estate, Livingston, EH54 5EG.