



GENERAL GYMNASTICS DEVELOPMENT MINUTES 21st February 2021

Present

Lisa Davis – NLGACC, Charlotte Barker – Aireborough, Kirstie Whittles – Phoenix, Helen Monks – Rothwell, Rachel Revell – Brumby, Evie Lane – Eclipse, Gemma Mitson – Utopia
Kate Storr – Grimsby, Paul & Mary Foster – Astre, Kayleigh Horne – Ecco, Christine Bowker – Greenhead, Dorothy Wood – Nidderdale, Susan Shaw – Barnsley Premier, Tracy Ashton – Ashton, Alison Hickling – Allegro, Sarah Shaw – Ecco, Danielle Kitchen – Utopia

1. Introduction & Welcome

- Some volunteer position that were left vacant at the end of the AGM have now been filled and should be voted on by the committee.
Helen Monks – Welfare Officer (proposed by Lisa Davis, seconded by Charlotte Barker, - **vote passed by majority show of hands**)
Kirstie Whittles – Competition Manager South (proposed by Lisa Davis & seconded by Charlotte Barker - vote **passed by majority show of hands**)

2. Welfare Proposal from Helen Monks

- Helen has put forward a proposal that all officer positions should be subject to DBS check, current and appropriate level of BG insurance, a current Safeguarding certificate, current Yorkshire Affiliation, and references. The suggestion is that a virtual club is created so that all the relevant information is readily accessible for the Welfare Officer. **Passed by show of hands, One abstained.**

Christine Bowker suggested that the Board of Control meeting would also be interested in the information and process.

Lisa Davis explained that at this point it is purely an information gathering exercise that would ensure that appropriate people are in the committee roles.

A Welfare Officer for each event should be identified as early as possible as part of the host clubs duties - **Passed by show of hands**

The Committee Welfare Officer would be available for support and guidance, as necessary.

- A post competition debrief / welfare summary to discuss potential issues, observations and near misses etc., and discuss if there are any concerns that need to be taken further and can anything be improved upon for the next events. **Passed by show of hands with two abstaining**

Paul Foster asked about GDPR in reference to the above-mentioned issues. Suggested that resumes are submitted in order to apply for committee positions.

Lisa Davis highlighted that the checks are not currently in our terms of reference, but perhaps they should be incorporated.

3. Accounts Security Procedure

- New Signatories are needed as Judy Clark and Alex Smith have retired from their roles.
- New Mandate is needed, and the proposal is that in addition to Lisa Davis, who is currently the only signatory on the account, the other Exec. Members of the committee have access as signatories on the account.
- Barclays Bank have a two-signatory system, where by one person would request that a payment is made, and a second signatory would be required to approve the payment before any funds are transferred.

Christine Bowker questioned the need to have more than two signatories on the account (Chair & Treasurer). Lisa Davis responded that we need a minimum of three signatories if a payment needs to be made and one signatory is unavailable. **Vote passed by majority show of hands.**

4. Website Approval of Spending

- Charlotte Barker has been working on the Yorkshire GG Website and has given the committee a brief overview.
- The cost of the website is as follows:
 - The Domain Name £21.60 For 3 years
 - The website fee is £194.40 on the combo plan for 3 years.

Funding for website approved with show of hands. This will be revisited at the next meeting if the cost is wildly different to the current costing's proposal.

- Charlotte has also agreed to investigate having email address for the committee roles linked to the website. She will investigate the costings for the next meeting.

5. Education and Development

- Evie Lane has been looking at the best way forward with regards to education and development for GG in the region. She has put together a communication that will go out to all clubs offering support to each individual club either by email, Zoom or phone, depending on what the clubs feel most comfortable with.
- Looking at courses and workshops for Coaching and Judging

2021 Competitions

- We are still waiting on an update from the Government which will tell us when we are likely to be able to get back into the gym.

- To keep gymnasts interested and motivated we could potentially look at virtual competitions done in the home setting which would limit it to Profile / Conditioning Competitions in line with what BG say we can do at home. Lisa has discussed this with Jack Duggan and the main concern from a BG perspective is that all risk assessments need to be completed. BG – Competition in a Box? BG are very clear on what can and can't be done at home
- Also looking at submitting footage of floor routines and vaults instead of an actual meet, but this will depend on what the Government announcement regarding when gyms will re-open.
- It was stated that if we cannot make the competitions safe and comply with GDPR, the virtual competitions will not happen.

Gemma Mitson has raised the issue of fair entries, and how it would be monitored.

- Entries would have to be approved and submitted by the coaches / through the club.
- Categories / Age Groups would be the same as the usual competitions; dependant on how many hours per week the gymnast (usually) trains.

Sarah Shaw from Ecco raised the point on how it would be Judged

- As with previous competitions, each club entering would have to submit judges. Footage of the routine / conditioning would be submitted and sent out to the judges to be marked.

We will take further suggestions from BG about this and have further discussion with the competition managers.

Boys Competitions – Kate Storr and Charlotte Barker have been collaborating and putting together a draft criteria. This will be distributed via email to clubs with the meeting minutes with a view to encouraging more clubs to get involved with selecting criteria at this stage.

- Draft criteria for 6-piece boy's competitions was discussed and shared with the clubs present. GG would like to provide apparatus competitions for Boys who are not on the MA pathway. .
- At this point, we are trying to gauge the level of interest in competitions that are more than just floor and vault for boys.
- Boys would have to compete floor and vault but competing the other apparatus would be optional.
- Charlotte and Kate would form a sub-committee to further refine the criteria for boys. Evie Lane think she may have a coach at her club that would be interested in the Boys Comps Sub-committee. Other clubs are welcome to join the group.
- GG Level 2 Coaching Qualification should be sufficient level for Boys GG Comp as the criteria would ideally not exceed the L2 GG Skill Set. However there are add on MA courses available to bump your coaching skill set. Kirstie Whittles has already attend one which she enjoyed and benefitted from

Dorothy Wood has asked if we could look an arranging for an add on course to be run locally. Lisa will discuss this with Iain.

Evie Lane has suggested a workshop explaining what the skills are and what judges would be looking for. Could be done via Zoom?

Paul Foster has suggested cross referencing with the MA L1 syllabus on the BG Website. Girls 4 Piece Competitions Update – this is something we are still looking into however it was put on hold due to the current situation with Covid.

- Sarah (Ecco) / Josie (SIV) & Tracy (Ashton) to form a sub-committee to discuss beam and bars criteria along with any other clubs who would like to get involved.

18+ / Adult Competitions – Dorothy Woods has asked that this be discussed during the meeting.

- Could 18+ / Adults be folded into the oldest age group we currently offer? Several people have said that this age category may feel uncomfortable / embarrassed to be competing in the same competition as gymnasts much younger than them.
- Could we create an additional age grouping in our current competitions?
- We would need to look at the demand for this however, 6 of the clubs present at today's meeting have expressed interest.
- We could create 2 additional categories, 16 – 18 and 18+. Helen Monks has brought up a Safeguarding issue with potentially having a 16 – 18 and 18+ competition as 18+ are adults and have different welfare concerns to 16 – 18, which are still classed as children.

Disability Competitions – Update

- General Gymnastics, in the region, have historically supported disabilities and included gymnasts in our competitions on request. Lisa outlined that she would like the region to be pro-active as opposed to reactive to be able to provide opportunities for as many children as possible to take part in appropriate competitions.
- Should they be folded into the GG competitions? Lisa Davis has made some enquiries with BG and has been told that Disability Gymnastics comes under the Artistic Umbrella.
- Christine Bowker has offered to further research this and will contact Catherine Lethbridge.
 - What is the pathway for disability gymnasts to follow to reach the likes to the British Championships?
- We have been informed by Lyn Smith (advisor on disabilities gymnastics) BG has reviewed and updated the judging criteria for those in the learning difficulties group within disability gymnastics, but we are still to review physical disabilities.
- GymFusion Events have a large turnout for disability groups. Kirstie has suggested that Jo Dicken may be able to help and provide more information. Paul Foster has also suggested that Jo Dicken may be a good contact on this topic and offered to find out on behalf of GG.
- Alison Hickling has said that her disability gymnasts prefer the term “Additional Needs”

6. AOB

- Paul Foster requested some clarification on the Accounts Presentation.
 - Lisa clarified that there is no presentation as such, and that we wanted to ensure that all our bank procedures etc. are as transparent as possible hence they were presented. She has also mentioned that the move to LTD and the requirements that this will entail will make things clear and transparent.
 - Christine informed us that the LTD company now employs an accountant to complete the accounts process for YGA . Kirstie Whittles advised Christine that she would do her best to ensure the accounts keeping came up to standard.

Date of Next Meeting – Sunday 18th April (TBC)