

Minutes

IMMAF board meeting

Date: 22nd July 2020.

Time: 3pm GMT

Online Microsoft Teams Meeting.

Agenda Item	Action
<p>1. Roll Call:</p> <p>Present: Kerrith Brown (KB), George Sallfeldt (GS), Bertrand Amoussou (BA), Tom Madsen (TM), Raymond Phillips (RP), Tatiana Klimenko (TK), Svetlana Odintsova (SO), Wissam Abinader (WA), Han Jiu-Li (interpreter).</p> <p>In Attendance: Densign White (DW), Nick Davies (ND), Gosha Malik (GM).</p>	
<p>2. Apologies</p> <p>Denitza Batchvarova (DB).</p>	
<p>3. Declaration of Interests</p> <p>No interests were declared at the meeting.</p>	
<p>4. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 6/9th February 2020 were reviewed and approved for signature, proposed by Raymond Philips and seconded by Wissam Abinader.</p>	<p>KB/DW</p>

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<p>5. Presidents Opening remarks:</p> <p>a) World Championships 2021 Kazakhstan-KB informed the board that a new General secretary had been appointed in the Kazakhstan federation. The country is still in lockdown due to a spike in corona virus cases. The situation is being monitored and regular calls made to the organiser. The Kazakhstan authorities are not allowing any sports events to take place this year. Deposits have been received in hosting rights fees and further instalments expected in September/October. IMMAF has received an amended contract for the worlds to take place in 2021, dates to be finalised at a later stage.</p> <p>TM asked how far out an event could take place and could it happen in February 2021 e.g., and what other contingencies do IMMAF have to make events happen asap.</p> <p>KB replied that the global situation is constantly being monitored and we are taking our lead from governments, consulting our medical commission. The board was asked to vote for the postponement of the world and Asia championships to 2021 and communicated to the membership.</p> <p>Decision; approved Unanimously; Against 0; Abstentions 0.</p> <p>b) Geoff Wilson consultancy audit- KB found the interview questions interesting. The report should be completed in August. KB will be interested to see the result of the audit. KB asked who was not able to contribute to the process. Representative for Mr Han Jiu-Li reported that it was not possible for Mr Jiu-Li to make the connection for the meeting.</p>	<p>DW/IC</p>

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<p>c) IMMAF social impact projects- KB apologised for the communication that was made publicly about the formation of a new social responsibility commission. KB explained that the new project would enhance the perception of IMMAF with GAISF, conversations had taken place with Patrick Nally (founding father of sports marketing and leading global promotion of poker as mind sport), is working on social inclusion projects with UNESCO. Patrick is also well connected within the Olympic circles. The IMMAF project is led by Danny Corr, Northern Ireland Fed who has been very successful in this space. The plan is to roll out his model with other NFs and KB believes that this will have a major impact. KB suggest renaming commission to task force. In addition to these networks we are also working with Joel Bouzou, Peace and Sport who are also looking to raise awareness of our program globally.</p> <p>GS suggests continuing as a commission with the same terms of reference as all pre-existing commissions and committees.</p> <p>KB asked for a board vote on whether to form this new commission.</p> <p>Decision: Approved Unanimously; Against 0; Abstentions 0.</p> <p>d) Continental structures and development- KB reported to the board the creation of subgroups under the continental regions. Pan Am for example has a Caribbean group, and a South America group. Denitza Batchvarova has been invited to chair the Pan Am group meetings. Central Asia subgroup and Middle East is under control of Wissam Abinader and Africa has English and French speaking subgroups under control of Raymond Philips. With this strategy we can deliver more support and Europe can be looked at on a later date.</p> <p>The President also commented that the UFC relationship is going well. The online petition has exceeded 17k signatures and Densign White has been nominated in the Fighters Only World MMA leading man award category.</p>	<p>DW/ND</p>

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<p>6. CEO Report</p> <p>a) GAISF update- DW provided the observation status rejection letter to the board received in June. Communication with GAISF has continued by phone and a letter will be going out to seek clarification not yet received on the question of compatibility. Work has commenced on updating the online GAISF application files. Our application has been submitted again for consideration and this is likely to happen in November or early 2021.</p> <p>b) WADA update- Communication has been taking place with WADA directly and indirectly. The message we are receiving is that IMMAF is very likely to become a signatory under the new WADA policy which will be released once approved by the WADA executive who next meet in September and in November. The policy must be implemented for 1st January 2021. IMMAF will need to provide an updated application as the current one is 4 years out of date.</p> <p>c) UMMAF arbitration case- DW informed the board of the current situation with UMMAF and the arbitration case. We have new deadlines to provide disclosure of evidence to the arbitration committee which is 31st July 2020 and both sides have until mid-August to contest the evidence. The board informed that DW had been in communication with Ryan Brueggemann UMMAF president. The view from UMMAF was that anything less than full reinstatement was not going to be acceptable. There were various comments from board members that this will not work for IMMAF. UMMAF has had no AGMs in the whole of their existence until December 2019 which was online and questionable if legal at all. Then the switching of the elected president after only two months without calling a new assembly. The only way forward is for UMMAF to accept that they will have to work with the newly set up IMMAF subgroup.</p> <p>d) IMMAF Quarter 1 financial management accounts- DW presented the quarter 1 management accounts. TM had queries about the cashflow moving forward especially since the world championships will not happen this year. DW explained that the host organiser had made already advance payments on the Asia and World championships hosting rights fees which is a fraction of the agreed total fee. The president will be asking for another instalment for September/October which will solve any cashflow concerns.</p> <p>The board was asked for a vote to accept the quarter 1 management accounts.</p> <p>Decision: Approved Unanimously; Against 0; Abstentions 0.</p>	

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<p>7. Membership</p> <p>a) Membership fees 2020/21- KB proposes to cancel fees for federations for this year 20/21. For 21/22 the fee should be 50% and returning to full fee again in 22/23. TM suggested a 50% reduction for this year but would support the majority opinion. BA agreed with TM, however felt that it was good to show some understanding of the NFs position now. GS thought the full discount of the fees would show our members that we support them. RP reported that there were many problems in Africa with members being approached by another IF making many promises and he agrees with GS. The president asked for a vote.</p> <p>Decision: Approved Unanimously; Against 0; Abstentions 0.</p> <p>b) Iran membership application- GM asked the board to approve the application for membership from Iran. There was a lengthy discussion on the merit of the application and also the legality of accepting a new member whist the old member is still under suspension.</p> <p>Decision: CEO to seek out legal advice.</p> <p>c) Barbados membership application</p> <p>Decision: Approved for observation membership</p> <p>d) Netherlands membership application</p> <p>Decision: Netherlands Approved for Individual membership</p>	<p>DW</p>

<p>8. CSO Report- Strategic plan overview 2021/24- ND gave a PowerPoint presentation on the IMMAF strategy for the next 4 years. The planning around the formation of a IMMAF limited company has been abandoned for the time being. After consultation with stakeholders it was decided that now might not be the right time for a separate legal commercial entity. Furthermore, all of the income generating streams could still be developed within IMMAF.org.</p> <p>The board was asked to vote on the strategic plan framework for the next 4 years.</p> <p>Decision: Approved Unanimously; Against 0; Abstentions 0.</p>	<p>ND</p>
<p>9. Date of Future meetings.</p> <p>Date of next meeting – 23rd September 2020.</p>	

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