



# WOKING BLACKHAWKS BASKETBALL CLUB

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## Minutes of The Blackhawks Basketball Club AGM Meeting Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019

Venue: Zoom (Videoconference)

Present: Russell Fernandes (meeting Chair), David Kingstone, Dan North, Jenny Marshall, Martin Marshall, Alex Fogarty, Rachel Geaney, Lisa Bhaura, Ali Strong, Nora Belkhiter, Caspar Lucas, Matt Bromley, Annabelle Hardiman (Secretary)

Apologies: Iain Taylor

ITEM NO.	NOTES	ACTION
	The meeting commenced at 8:00pm	
1.	<b>Welcome from the acting Chair</b> Russ welcomed everyone to the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the Woking Blackhawks Basketball Club.	
2.	<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b> The minutes of the 2019 AGM were discussed and accepted as a true record of the 2019 AGM. The actions from the last minute were reviewed and it was noted that the role of Chair of the Club remain vacant and needed filling. Russ confirmed that the Executive Committee had investigated a variety of options for the Club to receive some form of charitable status and had concluded that it was not feasible for the Club to pursue any of the options. There were no matters arising.	
3.	<b>Section Updates</b> <i>Wheelchair Section</i> Numbers had remained constant (20) across two divisions. Division 1 NL was a tough division involving long journeys and big losses. The team finished bottom of the league and therefore in relegation position. Division 3 (South-East Division) also finished bottom and missed out on several winnable home games at the end of the season.	



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It was uncertain whether British Wheelchair Basketball would allow any competitive play to resume next season. If competitive play were to resume, it was likely that the Club would have only one team who would apply to play in Division 2 NL.

## *Senior Section*

It had been a good season for the Senior section overall, although most teams had hoped to finish in higher league positions had games not been cancelled at the end of the season due to COVID-19.

Notable mentions: Hunters reached the semi-finals of the Karl Taylor Cup; Thunder A reached the finals of the Karl Taylor Plate and the Ladies finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the regional Wessex/Surrey league.

The awards evening, including presentation of the Head of Section Award, had been postponed and would hopefully take place over the summer.

It was highlighted that Thunder B needed a Head Coach for the next season.

## *Youth Section*

The number of players had remained strong with 140 registered players.

For all National League teams, play-offs had been cancelled due to COVID-19 (play-offs were only run for Premier Leagues), so the end league results were based on the positions at the end of March.

Most youth teams finished middle of the team, however, the U16's and U18's boys teams, in particular, did really well, putting the Club in a position to apply for two Premier League spots in the next season for the first time in the Club's history.

Another first for the Club, the U16's NL boys team won their conference and reached the quarter finals of the National Cup.

Three U14 boys had made it onto the Aspire Programme, a talent pathway for the national basketball teams.

The Youth awards had also had to be cancelled and each squad would instead hold individual ceremonies. Russ would be presenting the Head of Youth Award and Costas Rakitzis would be presenting the Volunteer of the Year Award over the summer.

Additional volunteers were needed next season to help with coaching and administration (team managers).

No youth camps had taken place over the season due to a lack of coaches, however, the Youth section were hoping to run summer camps outside, if possible.



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	<p>Wednesday sessions continued to be run successfully, allowing youngsters to get a taster for basketball before potentially joining the Club.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Treasurers report and acceptance of accounts</b></p> <p>Alex Fogarty presented her report of the Club's finances and accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Although there was a healthy balance in each of the section's account, the youth bank balance was expected to reduce to refund players for the months of no play due to COVID-19.</li><li>• The accounts for 2019-20 were examined. Alex notified attendees that the accounts had been prepared following the cash accounting format, rather than on an accruals basis, following the Scrutineers report of the previous year's accounts, and highlighted noticeable changes in the accounts from the previous year. It was confirmed that the accounts had been subject to independent scrutiny, which confirmed that they are internally consistent. The accounts were approved for signing.</li><li>• Both the Youth section and the Wheelchair section had applied for various funds over the year but, as yet, had been unsuccessful. The Executive Committee agreed to appoint a Sports Consultant to assist the Club in applying for grants and funds, on a no-win, no-fee basis (the fee being 10% of the funds received by the Club).</li><li>• The Executive Committee was continuing to chase a former player for payment of the remaining balance owed to the Club in respect of a broken door.</li></ul> <p>The Executive Committee would meet to consider the appropriate transfer of funds from each of the section accounts to the main account, for the purpose of the contingency fund.</p> <p>Thanks were extended to Alex for her diligence to the Treasurers role over the season.</p>	<p>Executive Committee</p>
<b>5.</b>	<p><b>Amendments to the Constitution</b></p> <p>The proposed amendments to the Constitution were considered and agreed. Other than structural and formatting changes, the main purpose of the amendments were to enable the use of HSBC's business telephone banking service and facilitate online access to the accounts.</p>	
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>Election of officers</b></p> <p>The following individuals were proposed and accepted: Secretary – Annabelle Hardiman Head off Wheelchair Basketball – David Kingstone Head of Senior section – Dan North Head of Youth Basketball – Russell Fernandes</p>	





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	<p>Treasurer – Alex Fogarty Safeguarding Officer (separate Safeguarding Officers were elected for each section) – Senior: Lisa Bhaura; Youth: Andy Wale; Wheelchair: Paige Mullins</p> <p>All officers were elected unopposed.</p> <p>Chair – No nominations had been received; the position remains vacant. In accordance with the Club’s constitution, the Heads of Sections to rotate as acting Chair, starting with the Head of Youth. Data Protection Officer – Vacant</p>	
7.	<p><b>Registration fees for 2020/21 season</b></p> <p>It was agreed that the registration fees for 2020/21 would be set by individual sections.</p>	Individual sections
8.	<p><b>Covid-19 – BE Return to Play Roadmap</b></p> <p>Martin Marshall provided an overview of the Basketball England (“BE”) Return to Play guidance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BE had set five levels, where level 0 allowed normal play, level 5 required no gatherings. The levels were not, however, consistent with government levels. Since 4 June, BE has been at level 3, whereby players must maintain social distancing, however, use of outdoor courts is allowed but no competitive play. Level 2 would enable teams to train on an indoor court, expected to be in the Autumn.</li> <li>• Guidance was needed from BE on the measures that clubs needed to put in place to allow play to resume, primarily, the role of a COVID-officer and the checklist of activities required at all training sessions.</li> <li>• There was a concern that school sports halls may not be available for use by external clubs. All venues used by the Club had been contacted to understand their current intentions regarding the use of their sports hall.</li> <li>• The Wessex league were still requiring teams to submit registration forms by the end of July, despite the uncertainty over when competitive play would commence.</li> <li>• The role of the COVID-officer, required by BE, appeared very extensive – the Executive Committee would consider whether this was carried out by one individual or a committee.</li> <li>• BE were recommending the use of an infra-red thermometer to record temperatures prior to all training sessions, followed by the use of an in-ear thermometer to verify the player’s core temperature.</li> </ul> <p>The Executive Committee would consider this further to define the Club’s strategy concerning COVID-19.</p>	Executive Committee





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9.	<b>Any Other Business</b> There being no further business, Russ thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.	
The meeting closed at 8:50pm		

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