



Meeting of the UK Board of Directors

5th December 2023 starting at 10 am

BOA Offices / Teams

Present:	Ian Beattie (IB) Chair - Teams David Abrahams (DA) - Teams Jack Buckner (JB) David Ovens (DO) - Teams Steve Perks (SP) Gary Shaughnessy (GS) Wendy Sly (WS) - Teams Jennifer Thomas (JT) Mike Whittingham (MW)
Observers:	Anna Blackman (AB) - Teams Jason Gardener (JG)
In Attendance:	Tracey Carey (TC) Paula Dunn (PD) Tom Solesbury (TS) Vickie Armitage (VA) – note taker

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chair (IB) welcomed the Board members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Marilyn Okoro and Andrew Heyes.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Minutes

The Board minutes of 24th October 2023 were **approved**.

Actions, Matters not on the agenda

IB confirmed that all the matters from the previous meeting had been actioned.

5. CEO Report

JB referred to the SportsBeat presentation that had been sent to all Board members and explained that the work with this partner is proving hugely beneficial with increased numbers and interaction throughout all social media platforms.

MW confirmed that he had attended his first World Athletics Competition Commission meeting. The major decision had been the introduction of the repechage system up to 800m in which the 26 losers



go into another race with the potential of a return to four races per event. The semi finals and finals will have 9 lanes. This will have an implication on the points table.

6. Finance Update

- Projections 6.1 Paper

TC updated the Board on the financial papers.

7. Discussion re: Financial position

Further discussion ensued around the financial position of UKA and the progress being made.

8. Governance

TS confirmed that the UK Sport Governance work remained on track. He asked the meeting to approve the change to the Terms of Reference (Appendix 7) for the Board in which the number of Board meetings increased to six per year. This was **approved**.

9. Age Group Change Proposals

TS confirmed that the Board had received a brief paper summarising the Age Group proposals along with the recommendations from the HCAFs and the report by the Rules Committee including all recommended rule changes.

The Board **approved** all other rules changes as detailed by the Rules Group.

IB explained the difference of view between the Rules Group and the HCAFs. As this is an area of home country focus and impact and the HCAFs are unanimous in their support of the changes, IB recommended that the rule change is a strategic decision, and the Board should support this.

It was agreed that the HCAF Chairs would abstain from the vote due to a conflict of interest. The Board unanimously **approved** the Age Group Changes.

10. Safeguarding Report

This was noted.

11. Sustainability Update

This was noted.

12. Performance Update

PD joined the meeting on Teams and was welcomed to her first Board meeting by the Chair. She confirmed that the selection Policies for the WIC are expected to be published shortly and invitations to staff have been extended. She confirmed that the WCP newsletter would be restarting with the first issue due before Christmas. This would help provide clarity around WCP coaches and athletes.

JB and PD will be undertaking a Roadshow during the first two weeks of February to meet with athletes and talk around the WCP. There needs to be improved clarity and communication around the WCP and the philosophy of the teams and team performance. The Roadshow will visit 9 venues around the four HCAFs. Staff education is being progressed particularly with alignment around the Olympics and European Championships. JB suggested that Board members attend some of the Road Shows.



13. Any Other Business

JG confirmed that he was now attending his final Board meeting having served as President of UKA for eight years and a Non-Executive Director for seven years. He had seen turbulent times but could now see the energy the current Board is bringing to the sport and suggested that Athletics has a bright future.

IB thanked JG for his time with both the Board and Members and confirmed that JG had seen many challenges, but he had always tried to bring people together. He appreciated JG's knowledge of the sport and personally thanked him for his great contribution.

IB thanked the Board for what had been a challenging meeting and reminded members that staff would be informed of the results at 8.30 am on 6th December with the Athletics Weekly interview on line at 9.00 am.

GS asked who will brief the UKA Members? IB confirmed that the draft financials will be circulated today with further discussion at the AGM on 12.12.23.

Meeting closed at 2pm.