



SUS COMPS Meeting

Friday 16th February 2007 at Napier University

Present

Stew Fowlie, SF (in the chair)
Euan Smith, ES
Mark Ritchie, MR
Matt Adcock, MA
Ross Campbell, RC
Graham Smith, GS
Andrew Mallon, AM
Chris Wilson, CW

Apologies

Raleigh Gowrie
Paul McPate
Angus Stevenson

1. Welcome and scene setting

- a. In absence of RG, SF acted as Chair.
- b. CW recorded minutes and agreed to circulate them

ACTION – CW

2. Homologation

- a. Previous minutes to be amended – AM had been omitted and spelling of Graeme was incorrect. SF to amend

ACTION – SF

- b. Matters Arising
 - i. Insurance – SF reported SUS are now covered as sport organisers and additional insurance shall be sought on an ad hoc basis for specific items eg. Trampoline equipment
 - ii. SDC and SGB seminars – SF reported that both seminars took place as planned and that both were regarded as a success.
 - iii. SDC appointments and finance – SDC's appointed for all sports with exception of equestrian. Majority of SDC's signed up for two years but a strategy for replacing these will be required. SUS has distributed just over half of the overall budget. MA was commended for his hard work to date as rugby SDC. A discussion took place on individual accounts and for practicality reasons it was agreed that holding a central fund isn't viable due to the already heavy workload of SUS staff. However new smaller accounts can be managed centrally.
 - iv. Medals – Central office has purchased a large batch and these can be purchased by individual sports at a price of £3.75 each (VAT included). A discussion took place on whether each sport has to buy SUS medals. Decision was to allow each sport to choose what medals they purchase but SDC's are encouraged to purchase new SUS medals. This may become a requirement in future seasons.
 - v. Kit – All SUS branded kit has arrived and is being held in the SUS office. Each sport should direct representative athletes with kit needs to SUS office. Kit open to anyone to purchase – aim of kit is to spread SUS brand, not necessarily a money making venture. SF expressed no worries about selling the kit as it can be carried over to following years.
 - vi. Rep Sport – hockey – MR and ES reported hockey rep trials and rep team have been put on hold due to limited nominations and uncertainty over the competitive fixture calendar. AM raised issue about possible implications for

blues awards, though it was agreed that it was up to each institution to make appropriate decisions in the absence of the traditional criteria.

c. Sport Programmes/ Action plan Update

- i. Domestic cup competitions – SF reported cup competitions were going well and achieving their aims of providing more competition between Christmas and Easter. Both term dates and BUSA knockouts were avoided. A slight problem of new contacts not being circulated was identified. A discussion took place of localising rounds, though it was noted that most leagues are organised this way and many teams had indicated a desire to play other opponents if possible during the cup competitions.
- ii. BUSA premier league playoffs – The following Scottish teams will be challenging for entry to Premier Leagues:

Basketball (Women's) – Edinburgh
Fencing (Women's) – Edinburgh
Netball – Edinburgh
Rugby (Women's) – Edinburgh
Squash (Men's) – Edinburgh
Table-tennis (Men's) – Edinburgh
Golf - Stirling

- a. SF informed the committee BUSA would make decision on promotion and relegation of teams affected by those teams opting to enter premier leagues.
 - b. RC stated SUS should encourage teams to stay within Scottish leagues not only for the good of Scottish sport but for the individual teams' sake too.
- iii. SUS Waterpolo – SF provided point of information on this matter – SDC's are discussing a suggestion from the St. Andrews coach on a new format for competition. Discussions are on going and ES suggested they could adopt a similar model to that used in Squash.

A lengthy discussion took place on the purpose of this committee and why individual sports were discussed here. It was asked if individual sports issues should be discussed and resolved at Competitions Committee or whether this was more appropriately addressed by the SPM and the relevant SDC.

Conclusion - this committee should meet more often and needs to remain to be strategically minded. It may be worthwhile highlighting specific examples or problems, but only inasmuch as the lessons learned can be applied elsewhere within the COMPS programme.

The second half of the meeting was perhaps more agreeable to the members, as a number of tangible items for action between now and June were considered.

d. Projects for completion/Priorities

- i. SUS Calendar 2007/08 – need to take last years work and build on it – accurate info is required from institutions in order to make this happen. New sports should be incorporated into the process this year – specifically swimming, gaelic, waterpolo, shinty. There should also be a bidding round for hosting SUS tournaments and events. Once all these details are collated we should be able to see where potential problems may occur and major items can be brought back to competitions committee. The final calendar should be made available to all AU presidents, Club presidents and Directors of sport. Various issues over waiving fees and developing a 3 year plan/cycle for hosting events were discussed.

ACTION – RC and GS

- ii. Annual report and accounts – template required to allow each SDC to report on a summary of events, results, participation levels, positive / negative feedback and finance. Each SDC should have this completed by MAY 2007.

ACTION - SF, MA, MR

- iii. SUS Awards – there remains a wish to present various awards at the annual SUS conference. Confirmation of categories and a mechanism on how to determine winners is required.

ACTION – AM

- iv. Comps Promotional material – SUS requires more bannering, flags etc. for making events (particularly outdoor ones) more visible to the public. Ideas were discussed and estimates for various options are to be gathered.

ACTION – GS

- v. Best practice guides – discussion took place. MA and ES are to put together broad guidelines for further discussion at subsequent meetings

ACTION – MA, ES

- vi. SUS SDC – It was agreed another SDC forum meeting should take place with plenty of advance warning. Format of meeting could be interview based with simple scenario to annual report template. Further thinking is required around this subject and this will form part of the agenda at the next meeting.

e. AOCB

- i. Golf Match-play – The clash with the R&A Bursars tournament was noted and the group acknowledged that this will affect SUS match-play competition. Discussion took place and SF agreed to relay views of committee to Rob, Golf SDC. Possible solutions included trimming the team element from 10-a-side to 8-a-side.

ACTION SF

- ii. Rugby – SF informed committee that a new league structure has been suggested by Heriot-Watt. It is now intended to seek feedback from relevant parties before deciding whether or not to implement the suggested new format.
- iii. Rep Teams – Discussion took place on what criteria should be used to select teams. There was broad agreement that it was a performance based team so should select the best regardless of whether they've competed in a SUS league/event. A clear SUS statement on this matter is required to clarify who is eligible.

ACTION – MR, ES

- iv. Rep Nomination forms – MA questioned if this could be done on SUS website in time for November 2007. The group agreed that this would be preferable and have encouraged the SUS office to ensure that this is achievable for next season.

ACTION - SF

Summary of ACTION POINTS

GS – Promo material and Fixtures scheduling

AM – SUS Awards paper

RC – Fixtures scheduling

MR – Template for reports and accounts and Rep selection criteria

MA – Best practice guidelines

ES – Rep selection criteria

SF – Communicate Golf thoughts to Golf SDC, Amend previous minutes, revise nominations procedure

CW - Minutes

Meeting Closed 3.20pm

Next meeting scheduled for 23rd March at Glasgow University.