



**AU President's Forum  
24/8/07 at 11am  
SUS Offices**

Present:	Andy Smith	Chair, RGU, Exec	AS
	Kerry Anderson	Secretary, Glasgow, Comps	KA
	Gordon Cox	Aberdeen, PDC	GC
	Eddie Bryant	Heriot Watt, Comps	EBr
	Ed Barker	St Andrews	EBa
	Davie Waddell	Napier	DW
	Steve Rae	Glasgow Caley, Comps	SR
	Lucy Botham	Strathclyde, Comps	LB
	Ian Lowe	Abertay	IL
	Jen Savage	Stirling	JS
	Siobhan Wilson	Paisley, SUSPAC	SW
	Michael Bates	UHI	MB
	In attendance:	Ed Nicholas	BUSA rep
Stew Fowlie		SUS	SF
Niall Sturrock		Non student rep	NS
Apologies:	Anna Anderson	Vice Chair, Dundee, Exec	AA
	Simon Messenger	Edinburgh, PDC	SM

## 1. Minutes

- 1.1 Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
- 1.2 Matters arising
  - 1.2.1 Knockout draws: Template for knockout draws to be issued earlier.  
**ACTION** - AS to raise at Chairs Forum and put a concrete proposal to BUSA
  - 1.2.2 Eligibility: Being discussed at SUS Comps level. KA is putting together a policy proposal.  
**ACTION** – KA to submit proposal by 31/8
  - 1.2.3 Tour policy: AS advises that there is a tour policy in place which clubs should be aware of. NS asks if the Sports Unions should be informing clubs of suitable destinations for tours i.e. countries with well established NGB's in particular sports.  
**ACTION** - AS to circulate tour policy, SF to put this on SUS website.
  - 1.2.4 Hall of Fame: There is some debate about this at SUS Exec. The forum will take a lead from there.

## 2. Standard Wins

- 2.1 EN advises on the current situation. After the vote by AU s the league structure will retain the walkover method. Only 44 institutions replied which was not enough to allow a change to take place.
- 2.2 Quentin Sloper, BUSA Comps Director, is pulling the comments from the response form into a report. KA asks if all the comments will be published

and EN says that it will be only the 'highlights'. AS asks if EN can be involved in compiling the report to ensure that the Scottish voices are not ignored.

- 2.3 AS acknowledges the amount of work put into the proposal by SF and EN that was heavily edited by the BUSA Comps committee before being put to the BUSA members. The general feeling of the forum is that this is not acceptable and ask if AS can air the dissent at Chairs Forum. NS asks that any future proposals submitted to BUSA go directly to the BUSA Exec and not to a specific committee
- 2.4 EN asks if Scottish Conference minutes or a summary of the main discussion points can be sent to BUSA and advises that this will help BUSA/SUS relations.

**ACTION** - All presidents to give any comments on the report to AS when it is published for AS to feed into the Chairs Forum.

**ACTION** - KA to send minutes to BUSA.

### **3. American Football**

- 3.1 Discussion following paper submitted to the forum. The consensus of the forum is that we can only allow our teams to be affiliating to the BUAFLE league recognised by the NGB BAFA.
- 3.2 AS advises that we have a duty of care to our teams to ensure that they are competing in the appropriate league and are fully covered in terms of insurance etc by doing so.
- 3.3 SF asks who is liable for the monies owed to BAFA by BSAFA. SW advises that this is the National Management Board and not institutions previously affiliated to BSAFA.
- 3.4 EN advises that it is highly unlikely that the sport will be accepted into BUSA for at least another season in light of the current situation, internal politics and the issue of multi institution teams

**ACTION** – KA/SW to feed back on meeting on 25/8/07

### **4. An Effective Year**

- a) SUS Code of Conduct
  - i) AS advises that this has been circulated more for reference as to fixture confirmation procedures. The pro forma template worked well last year and it should be continued.
  - ii) SF met with OS, MB, and EN from BUSA after SUS Comps. BUSA are largely happy with it. Standard Wins must be removed. Their other concerns are with the appeals/disciplinary procedures as decisions made by SUS may not necessarily be the same as what BUSA would make for a similar case. To resolve this SF will liase with BUSA on all appeals matters to ensure that they are happy with decisions made and to refer to their case histories. SF has some issues with the umpiring requirements - it is not practical to adopt SHU rules for Women's Hockey, as they require women only umpires for women's matches.
  - iii) NS suggests that it is submitted with sections 1 to 7 with section 8 to follow. Also raises questions on sections 3.2 and 6.2.5. For 3.2 follow BUSA sport specific regs as this allows women to play for golf teams. 6.2.5 applies more for long journeys and the consensus of the forum is to remove the point but that the Sports Unions should be advising teams on the etiquette for providing hospitality.

**ACTION** - SF to put template on web site.

**ACTION** - SF and AS to reword appeals section (section 8) and submit Code of Conduct to BUSA.

b) Business Training Support for AU Officers

The consensus of the forum is that further training would be extremely worthwhile as the training sabbats currently get varies largely from institution to institution. NS suggests that an hour slot for training is added onto the AU Forum sessions and individuals with expertise in a certain field can provide it. The main priorities for the forum were identified as:

- Sponsorship/marketing
- Crisis management issues
- CRB Checks
- Legal Support
- Financial
- Handovers
- Websites/IT
- Service Level Agreements
- Health & Safety/Travel

SF suggests that the documents produced for these sessions could go on the website.

**ACTION** - AS to identify main priorities and tie them into AU forums.

c) SUS Developments

1. AU Forum dates accepted. IL asks that fixtures be circulated on Thursdays for the Fridays on which AU forum will be held. Abertay will hold the next meeting with UHI possibly holding 23/11. The rest of the venues will be decided at a later date.
2. Website Enhancement  
Suggestions to Jaqui Stone. It would be useful to have admin aids online – training etc.
3. Club Contacts  
SF advises that it is critical SUS have up to date contacts. It was also raised that a BUSA Captains contact sheet would be useful.  
**ACTION** - All Sports Unions to submit club contacts to Jacqui by 31/8/07  
**ACTION** LB to start BUSA Captains list and circulate by 7/9/07.
4. Year Ahead  
AS asked the presidents to share targets for the year ahead. Some common targets were identified including: sponsorship, participation, alumni, intramural, facilities, coaching and BUGs.  
GC would like to see an intramural committee set up and has various ideas for the group to work on.  
NS advises that professionalism is key, especially if external people are invited to forum to provide training.  
**ACTION** - GC to set up intramural group and audit all the presidents on what intra mural provisions they currently have.
5. Naked Calendar  
Questions were raised about whether we would sell any, who the target audience is and what we would aim to achieve with

it. It is being discussed at Exec level so we will take the lead from there.

**ACTION** - AS to report back to the forum as to what Exec decide.

## 5. SUS Committee Updates

### a) Exec

AS advises that the Executive Committee have not met yet.

### b) Competitions

- i) LB updated the forum on the first Comps meeting of the year. An implementation plan draft is in place with objective for the coming year. The forum is asked to look through this and give any feed back to LB.
- ii) Comps started tackling some policies including disciplinary, new sports and eligibility.
- iii) There was also a golf skills competition at the Heriot Watt Golf Academy which was won by KA – KA was presented with a SUS mug by SF.

**ACTION** – LB to circulate Implementation plan

**ACTION** – All to give feed back to LB on this.

### c) Physical Activity

- i) SW advised that SUS PAC will allow people to be co-opted onto the committee but that they will not take responsibility for chasing them up.
- ii) Active age is to be held at St Andrews on 30/8 and SW asked if any members of the forum were available to help. EBa and EN volunteered.
- iii) SW invited articles for the newsletter to be submitted to her by 31/8.

**ACTION** – GC to draft an article on plans for intra mural.

### d) Professional Development

GC advised that the first meeting is 10/9.

### e) BUSA

- i) EN advises that the BUSA Exec have met twice since the AGM.
- ii) The first meeting was a discussion of some hot topics including: continuation of BUSA/UCS merger, strategic plan, championship finals, the regionalisation agenda (division versus conferences), eligibility, representation of department staff on AU forums, sport management groups, NGB's and the international level (FESU and EUSU).
- iii) The agenda items at the second meeting included the championship finals, world university games, convention 2008, cricket, and the business plan for the year, rules and regulations and domestic representation.
- iv) EN highlighted that BUSA wanted to reduce the number of teams from the Scottish Conference progressing to the Championship knockouts as we currently have 2 teams compared to 1 from other conferences. This was in light of the increased number of Scottish teams in the Premier Leagues. However, this was successfully fought off by EN.
- v) EN also highlighted that due to the withdrawal of sponsorship by Vodafone less funding will be available for domestic representation. The majority of the money available will be channelled into BUGs and

the presidents are asked to be aware that they may be asked to contribute more for each individual involved. SF advised that the contribution to the men's rugby team from BUSA will be withdrawn which will affect the Scottish Uni team.

AS asked that in future each committee submits a paper to the forum.

## **6. AOB**

- 6.1 NS asked if there could be a summary of the Scottish students performances at the world university games.  
**ACTION** – SF to compile this.
- 6.2 NS advised that as a result of the poor weather this summer it is likely there will be a knock on affect with pitches being unplayable earlier in the season.
- 6.3 Scottish Hockey - NS advised that a few institutions owe money to SHU. This affects the credibility of SUS and the university sector. NS asked that the sports unions step in and sort out situations like this. GC advised that there can be difficulties at various institutions regarding the paying and recouping of debts for and on behalf of clubs.

Close of meeting – 1.15pm