

**SUS Competitions Meeting  
Minutes:  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2007,  
University of Stirling**

Present

Raleigh Gowrie (RG), In the Chair  
Matt Adcock (MA)  
Euan Smith (ES)  
Graham Smith (GS)  
Andrew Mallon (AM)  
Chris Wilson (CW)  
Paul McPate (PM)  
Angus Stevenson (AS)

In attendance

Stewart Fowlie (SF)

Apologies for Absence

Mark Ritchie (MR)  
Graham Smith (GS)  
Ross Campbell (RC)

**1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND SCENE SETTING**

1. RG welcomed to the meeting and thanked Stirling University for hosting the event.

**2. HOMOLOGATION**

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
2. SUS Cup competitions: SF reported that further discussion and debate would take place with SDC's about developing cup competitions in a number of sports in spring 2008.
3. Discussions continue apace re; developments within waterpolo. SF to promote the need for waterpolo and swimming fixtures to be aligned more closely. SF
4. MA & SF outlined that the current organisation for Scottish Conference rugby leagues will remain the same for 07/08. However, they would discuss and review current provision with club captains and consider new competition formats with them. MA/SF

**3. PROJECT UPDATES**

1. Fixture deadline planning: Progress delayed somewhat with failure of some institutions to return appropriate information. RC to liaise with SF and to circulate to member institutions draft BUSA Scottish Conference match fixtures schedule for comment as early as possible. RC
2. SF presented an internal paper that outlined the amount of SUS competitive activity undertaken in the past 12 months. It is clear that there is a plurality of provision amongst member institutions in relation to hosting SUS events. There is a need to reach a balanced approach when requesting facility access for SUS competitions. It was agreed that SF should gather information from SDCS on their requirements for specific SUS competitions and to outline the institutions that they feel are appropriately placed to host specific events. SF to gather information from member institutions (both Sports Unions and Departments) on their interests in hosting SUS events and the activities that they could best support. SF
3. Annual report forms have been circulated to SDC's. SF to collate data into report form ready for SUS AGM in June if possible. SF
4. Limited applications had been submitted to date re; SUS Awards. It was agreed to extend the deadline date to end of 17<sup>th</sup> May for SF to circulate applications to Comps Committee and an outline of ranking procedures for Committee members to feed back to RG for RG to collate data and identify successful candidates immediately after this. SF/RG
5. Promotional materials: In the absence of GS, this would be addressed at the next meeting. GS

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6. Best practice guides: MA outlined progress to date. Discussion centred on the nature of information required to be published. It was agreed to establish a help document for University Sports Clubs that provided useful information and timeline information related to communication with SDCs, team entries to competitions, membership of SGB's etc. MA to continue with developments and to report on progress at next meeting.

MA

**4. ACTION PLAN REVIEW**

1. RG initiated discussion about SUS Comps progress to date, outlining that we hold a better understanding of SUS competitions structures than before, that we increased levels of competitive activity and that we had gone some way to enhancing the student experience.

Moving forwards, there was a need to establish targeted areas for development for Comps to lead and direct for the next 2 years. Relevant discussions outlined the following areas for SUS Comps to progress with:

- Engaging more students in meaningful and appropriate sports competition related to their desires, interests and abilities.
- Modernising the sports competition structures and providing sustained, progressive competitive opportunities for students to participate in
- Ensuring that SUS resources are being utilised efficiently and effectively.

RG/SF agreed to pen a draft briefing paper for next year's Comps Committee to consider.

RG/SF

**5. REPRESENTATIVE SPORT**

1. SF reported on the volume of representative sport played over the past 12 months. The Comps Committee acknowledged the particular challenges associated with this and commended SF on his work in ensuring fixtures in certain events.
2. SF reported that Edinburgh and Heriot-Watt have submitted a joint bid to host 2008 BUGS, with a decision pending. Comps Committee endorsed the bid whole-heartedly and extended its thanks to Ed Nicholas (Edinburgh) for his work in submitting the bid.
3. SF identified the need for continuity planning and encouraged Comps Committee to consider the nature and extent of representative sport for 2009.

SF

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**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Comps Committee members outlined their intentions on standing for continued positions on SUS Comps Committee for period 2007-9. Current Committee members expressed their willingness to stand for positions from 07-09 with the following exceptions:

RG to step down as chair in June 2007. RG happy to be considered for a Committee position from 07-09.

The need to nominate a new chair for 07-09.

ES to step down as Department representative and outlined his intentions to nominate Mark Huddleston (Glasgow) as a potential replacement.

The need for 2 newly elected Athletic Union Presidents to be nominated.

The need to explore the intentions of Mark Ritchie for 07-09.

2. RG thanked the Comps Committee members for their commitment to SUS over the past 2 years.
3. RG thanked SF for his commitment, work and support to SUS over the past 2 years.
4. On behalf of the Comps Committee, PMcP thanked RG for his work in acting as SUS Comps Committee Chair during its start-up phase within SUS.

RG/SF

8. NEXT MEETING - to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 12.45 hrs with a vote of thanks to all present.