

BRITISH INLINE PUCK HOCKEY ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Affiliated to the British Roller Sports Federation



National Secretary
BIPHA
C/O Simply Skate Arena
Rotherham
S65 1SU
BIPHA@outlook.com

Minutes - Annual General Meeting 2019 - Sunday 28th July 2019
BIPHA Cabin – Simply Skate Rotherham - 11am – 2pm

- (a) Minutes of the previous AGM
- (b) Apologies from Officers of the Association
- (c) Matters Arising
- (d) Motions to amend or change the 'BIPHA' Constitution – **None received**
- (e) Motions to amend or change the Bye Laws – **None received**
- (f) Motions to amend the Code of Conduct – **None received**
- (g) Motions to amend or change the 'BIPHA' Rulebook – **None received**
- (h) Annual Reports from the Officers in the following order;
 - (i) National Chairperson – Sarah Finney
 - (ii) National Vice Chairperson – Jeannot Vogtlander
 - (iii) National Secretary –
 - (iv) National Treasurer – Kathy Morris
 - (v) National Events Manager – Dave Shelton
 - (vi) National Technical Director – Dave Shelton
 - (vii) Assistant Technical Director – South – Stepan Ptacek
 - (viii) National Development Officer – Josh Sherrington
 - (ix) National Child Protection Officer – Kath Sherrington
 - (x) National Coach – Eddie Coote
 - (xi) National Assistant Coach – Joel Marrow
 - (xii) Elected BRSF Representative – Kathy Morris
 - (xiii) Reports from any Sub-Committees or Working Parties established during the year - None
 - (xiv) A Report from each of the Regional Executive Committee – **None received**
 - (xv) A report from each of the Associated UK dependant territories - None
- (i) Election/Re-Election of Officers of the Association – **No Nominations received**

Vacant positions are National Secretary

Chairperson Report

Id like to start by thanking my fellow officers for their ongoing commitment to BIPHA, with some officers doing far more than there own position but helping with the open positions that are not filled. We all have family life's which we try to balance with the running of the Association.

The start of the 2018/19 season took on a whole new beginning for me as I was appointed with a new role on the BRSF which I was happy to undertake. For most of the beginning of the season I was busy with my duty's with the BRSF and found most of the daily running of BIPHA just followed with no problems ,

My main concerns from last year was Superleague as with a poor turn out the year before, I felt a change was needed but with no solution coming forwarded Superleague just turned into yet again a very poor turn out, I propose that we suspend next years Superleague and work on other

opening options and look forward to a new adventure over Easter Weekend, (more details to follow).

We sent both Coaches and Referee's to Rome to attend the first World Skate seminar with mixed reports coming back from everyone; we sent our comments back to World Skate and hope they take them on board.

We were disappointed that the Elite League didn't happen this season for the Seniors, with Clubs /Teams having input into how they would like it to run but still a very poor response.

We have, for the past year, been looking at a new logo to try and bring BIPHA into a new era, with a more modern logo that represents our Sport and I hope this season we go forward still working on that.

World Skate updated their rule book with a few changes which seemed to rock the regions with concerns, can I stress we have been in touch with World Skate and BIPHA hold the right to amend as we see fit to our own leagues.

This year's Nationals went ahead with no problems and I would like to personally thank Dave Shelton who used his own holiday days off work to make sure he attended every weekend to make sure it ran smoothly.

Road to Gold days has been a great success this year with plans to carry on.

GB what a year how proud I've been to be part of the 4 teams out in Barcelona building on last year in Italy, and I urge the continuing support to carry on with BIPHA GB looking at rolling a 2 year plan out more information to follow.

Thank You - Sarah Finney

Vice Chair Report

I supported the team at the Nationals for most of the weekends.

Since we did not send any teams to the AAU there was no need for me to support any of the teams at the GB events.

Seeing that work commitments are quite hectic and lots of travel is required there is little time for me to dedicate to my BIPHA roll so I have decided that this is my last year and will be stepping down at the next AGM. If a replacement is found before that time, I am happy to go earlier if that is wanted.

I will still be available to help at nationals and Super league where necessary, regardless whether I am on the committee or not!

It has been a pleasure to serve but I feel it is time for new blood to come on board

Thanks for all your support - Jeannot Vogtlander

Treasurer Report

The 2017-2018 season saw our overall income decrease by 5.31% therefore expenditure adjusted accordingly decreasing by 5%. Whilst the membership income increased by 3.78% YOY, the income achieved from our other activities did not cover the costs resulting in the overall decrease.

More must be done to promote the growth of the association if we are to survive the turbulent economy and deliver our aims and objectives. I don't have a magic wand to make this happen, but

will state that each club can apply for the Small Grants fund of up to £10,000 per year to develop their club, thus increasing participation and membership income.

National events that lose money need to be examined. All events must break even at least or be cancelled, I welcome our chairpersons recommendation that Superleague be replaced with something new. And, whilst it is an aim and objective of the association to provide events, it cannot continue to do so if each event loses money.

Accounts for the 2017-2018 financial year presented.

To enable the Association to continue to deliver its aims and objectives it is necessary to raise the membership fees across all categories. For the 2019-2020 season the National membership fee will increase by £4 for players and £2 for all other membership categories, this is the first significant increase for a number of years. This increase will ensure that event entry registration does not need to be increased, therefore ensuring that it is not only the 'elite' that our contributing towards the Associations development.

There will be a number of financial strains over the coming two-years, with the Inline Hockey World Championships in Columbia in 2020 and the World Skate Games in Argentina in 2021, however these events should not, under any circumstances, deter the National Executive Committee from promoting the development of the grassroots players.

The National Officers commitment to our aims and objectives is increasing, we all have, or at least try to have, a life outside of our volunteer role and most of us work full-time. The criticisms we receive for having to make on-the-spot decisions, based on limited information is becoming beyond what is required of our volunteer committee. The workload has increased immensely over the past five years. Is it time to enforce a regional committee member sits on the National Executive Committee?

I would like to see volunteer development training, coaches training and grassroot development being a priority for the National Executive Committee for coming year.

Every year, we are invited to nominate three clubs for the Sport and Recreation Alliance 'Club of the Year' award. We don't send any nominations – why, because nobody tells us what they are doing to promote our sport, nobody wants to talk to us unless they have a problem, nobody can be bothered to announce their achievements and let us share it.

As a matter of urgency, the National Executive Committee need to appoint someone who can look at obtaining sponsorship. This cannot be the job of the few National Executive Committee officers who dedicate their time to the running of the organisation.

I would like to personally thank everybody within our community who understood the personal situation I have been in since November 2017, but especially Sarah Finney, Jeannot Vogtlander, Dave Shelton and Kath Sherrington who have managed to cover as much of my work as possible during what can only be described as 'the worst time of my life'.

Regards – Kathy Morris

National Event Managers / Technical Director Report

The 2018/19 season has seen some positive and some not so positives moments. On the positive side, the Nationals produced not only some of the most exciting games seen at recent Nationals but also some very positive comments from teams regarding the high level and consistent referring shown across all the age groups. This is due to using a core group of refs and keeping the pairings the same throughout each event which no doubt helped the refs concentrate purely on the game. My thanks go to all the refs, timekeepers and everyone who helped out over the 6 weekends.

On the not so positive Superleague continues to struggle with regions committing to the event. Only South and Central seen to be actively running junior leagues and for Superleague to continue, something that I feel must happen, then maybe it is time to relax the rules regarding play-up/play down players and maybe look at offering discounted prices for regions entering 2nd teams into the same age group. This could also offer better value for money for those parents from South and Scotland. Super League will be played over the May day bank holiday Sunday and Monday this coming season.

A budget will be required from BIPHA to fund improvements to the off-pad infrastructure that I would like to implement as Events Director. Details can be discussed at the AGM but there are no ideas of costs as yet. The planned improvements will enhance the experience for the parents and enable the BIPHA hub to be moved to an area away from the spectators and give BIPHA a secure room, where all our equipment can be installed and left in situ throughout the season.

Regards - Dave Shelton

NTD South Report 2018-2019 season

In the past season there were only few reports requiring NEC attention due to violation of the Rule Book which could be expected. What was not expected that there were 2 instance I know about of physical abuse of official causing injuries .Tis is not acceptable. Unfortunately one of them involved me directly and had to be handed over to NEC disciplinary committee. In the other incident the involved referee could not clearly identify who bit him.

South do struggle to attract more referees but present set are trying their best to cover the games and provide good level of refereeing.

I have tried to attract southern referees to be involved more consistently in National level events and this was supported by previous BIPHA South Committee but there was no significant interest from them. Possibly this could be due to no NEC events held down South this year, amount of travel involved in refereeing everywhere else and number of games they have available to referee back down South.

Stepan Ptacek – Assistant National Technical Director - South

National Junior Development Report

I'd first like to apologies for not being able to attend this years AGM. With traveling so much with Team GB to Barcelona a couple weeks ago and Italy next week, it means I'm having to work a lot more weekends this summer and am very tight with time.

This year has been a successful year for BIPHA on a junior stand point. The 2018/2019 season saw the introduction of the 'Road To Gold' program with the main aim of allowing young athletes who one day aspire to play for Team GB, the opportunity to have an insight into the GB program.

Personally this was a great success with numbers growing each time the sessions were ran. Players were applying themselves and progression was shown when they were placed into more complex situations.

Looking back on the program this year and thinking about where it could be improved on, a tournament would be perfect for the athletes and it would allow them to put into place what they've been working on throughout the year. It also allows the athletes to play against players who they wouldn't usually face and push their ability in different ways with the possibility of playing older players.

A couple of positives to take away from the program would be the development shown by the athletes, the commitment shown by all of the players as well as the parents and finally how

professional everyone looked in their training kit. Its been a good first year of the program with a lot of building blocks in place allowing BIPHA to grow it for the coming years.

2018/2019 has seen has huge rise in the level of junior hockey throughout all of the age groups and this was shown with the amount of close competition on display at the Nationals. It was also nice to see a variety of championships won from different regions.

Overall its been a good year for BIPHA on the junior development stand point seeing the standard grow along with more players having access to the sport at varying levels and I would like to carry on being a part of what is in place.

Josh Sherrington – National Development Officer

National Child Protection Officer Report

I would like to apologies for not being at the 2018-2019 AGM as I am away.

This season in my role as National Safeguarding Officer, I have continued to try to ensure that coaches and officers are DBS registered. I updated the policy towards the end of last year to ensure it aligns with current working practices. This now needs to be put onto the website. Please can someone with access to the website update this.

I have continued to speak with various parents/coaches who may have had concerns over issues on match days or at tournaments, etc. I believe this has helped ensure issues are resolved before they escalate.

I have dealt with several issues relating to members across the regions, but this did not affect BIPHA directly. I have worked collaboratively with all parties involved, and where appropriate have sought advice or worked alongside NSPCC and LADO's.

I am happy to continue in the post next year and I am looking at ways that clubs and regions can ensure people receive training. I have continued to liaise with Kathy Morris to ensure everyone who requires a DBS check receives it.

Kath Sherrington – National Child Protection Officer

National Coach Report

World Championship Barcelona 2019

The tournament format as it is now, where one loss or win can seriously affect your end ranking or enable you to only play for certain positions, we have been told may be changing which might benefit smaller nations. Looking back at the positions last year (2018 Asiago) and the goals I set for the team, each team did well. Junior Men's team's aim was to win pool B / qualify for pool A. It was an ambitious aim given the group that the Junior Men's team were eventually in. After some hard fought games, the Jr men finished 11th slightly improving their ranking from last year. Junior women finished 8th with some close games that could have gone either way, falling back slightly from last years ranking of 5th. Senior women gave a good account of themselves not having a team last year and using several juniors to bolster the team this year- they came 9th only missing out on a quarter final by 2 goals in their final group game. Senior men came in with a ranking of 17th and improved to 12th playing well at times. All teams performed well in tournament with plenty to improve on.

European Championships Asiago 2019

The u18 and u16 tournament in Italy will be a good test for our younger players to gain valuable experience play at the international standard. We look forward to seeing how these teams get on.

Road to Gold training sessions

These sessions were run instead of AAU trip to keep kids engaged with GB at younger age groups. The sessions were well attended, the feedback on BIPHA GB Facebook was extremely positive and we could see the improvement with the players that turned up regularly. Unfortunately, with no games or tournament at the end of the training the attendance wasn't as high as I had hoped for.

Priorities for next year

1. Look at how training is structured, get a team in for a full weekend with on and off rink tuition but less often e.g. a couple of teams at training for a full weekend maybe twice or three times a year
2. Investigate other tournaments for younger age groups instead of AAU (State Wars, Narch etc.)
3. Maximum attendances at all trials (promote asap.) For training look at big ice dates that are already out -May
4. Assign coaches to team ASAP and where possible assistant coaches on teams.
5. Sponsorship for either individual teams or GB as a whole to try to keep costs down for teams
6. Player and parent feed back forms (survey monkey or other) to be used for all team to improve the product/brand.
7. Look at using a variety of tactics with every team which can be called upon during tournaments/games (not just one game plan)

Performance goals for 2019/20 season

Junior men – established team playing in the top of pool B, look towards winning "Pool B"

Junior Women – this team has made the quarter finals two years running so aim for a semi final

Senior Women – Make the quarter finals

Senior Men – look towards winning pool B

I'd like to thank all of the coaches who assisted with both travelling teams and RtG sessions and all of the Management in preparation for what has been an extremely busy year.

Eddie Coote – Head Coach

National Assistant Coach Report

Throughout the year, I have been involved in the renewed Road To Gold development programme.

Along with head coach Eddie, we have designed and delivered specific training sessions which were aimed at targeting areas that we feel the national teams need further development. I feel the renewed programme was strong and gained momentum as the season progressed.

As the assistant head coach I was also involved in the national teams trials and trainings. Again I was involved in planning sessions and delivering them. I was the coach once again for the junior men's team in Barcelona, as they gained two places in the international rankings.

I have continued to deliver the BRSF level 2 coaching qualification through my involvement in BIPHA. Hopefully aiding the level of coaching at grass roots levels of inline hockey. I was also fortunate enough to attend the World Skate International Coaching Seminar. This allowed me to gain more specific inline hockey coaching knowledge and communicate with other international coaches. I feel this is vital to growing the sport in the UK.

Joel Marrow, Assistant Head Coach.

BRSF Report

Well, what a year!!!!

We saw a new CEO of the BRSF appointed, huge congratulations to Sarah Finney. Continuing problems with Skateboarding, far too complex for this forum.

At the World Roller Games in Barcelona:

The BRSF had eight of the eleven World Skate disciplines registered and represented, achieving 3 gold and 2 silver medals, along with most of the other competitors coming within the top 20 in their discipline. For the UK Roller Sport scene this is a huge achievement, especially when you learn from your foreign counterparts that only one medal in any one of the disciplines (of any colour) secures the NGB sufficient government funding to be represented in the 2021 World Skate Games at no cost to the athletes.

All of our athletes, including the skateboard athlete were fully self-funded, unlike our international counterparts. I understand and appreciate that funding is not available in the UK, and it probably never will be (not in my lifetime anyway).

Kathy Morris – BRSF Representative