

INTERNATIONAL BLIND GOLF ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

15.9.2018

PRESENT

Derrick Sheridan - Chairman

Graham Coulton - Vice-Chairman Finance

Andrea Calcaterra - Vice-Chairman Admin

Garrett Slattery - Director

Gerry Nelson - Director

Linda Port - Director

John White - Representing Dr. Handa

APOLOGIES

None

PROCEEDINGS

1. Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018 meeting were approved.

2. Matters arising

2.1 DS has had no joy with contacting Dr David Mann to present the possible new sight classification system to the biennial meeting.

2.2 We are still struggling to get course ratings from Korea relating to recent scorecards submitted for handicapping.

3. Handicaps

3.1 Scores from the Italian Open will have been entered on the handicaps system to allow handicaps to be updated before the World Championships commence.

3.2 It appears as though some scores have been submitted from Ireland in respect of games played which had not been sanctioned by the Irish Blind Golf Society (IBGS). If such scores have not been sanctioned by the IBGS then the scores may not be included for IBGA handicap purposes. DS will confirm this with Doug Stoutley.

4. World Championships

4.1 Two weeks to go before the World Championships, and there have not been any withdrawals.

4.2 Confirmations have been sent to all players regarding taxi collections at the airport. The 35 Euros per a sedan car can be paid to the driver in cash or by credit card.

4.3 On arrival the hotel will provide information to guests about various prices and schedules, for example there is a daily return shuttle service to Rome for 10 Euros.

4.5 Evening plans:

- 30 September: Welcome appetiser after the practice round.
- 1 October: Nothing is planned.
- 2 October: Gala dinner for the Italian Open.
- 3 October: Official opening for the World Championships.
- 4 October: Nothing is planned.
- 5 October: Gala dinner for World Championships

4.6 A list of buggy allocations will be provided. The cost to players for the week will be 75 Euros. Buggy keys will be collected from the pro shop.

4.7 Draws have been done for the opening day for both events. There will be a two-tee start (on the blue & white nines). The draws for the second days will depend on the results from the first day. Tee times will be from 8.30-10.40 each days.

4.8 AC is still liaising with local optometrists to find someone to do testing on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September. Failing this testing may need to be done on the morning of 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Sight tests will determine the players' sight category for competition.

4.9 Not all countries have confirmed their representatives for the biennial meeting. AC will need to be informed of representatives by no later than 28<sup>th</sup> September or they will not have a vote at the biennial meeting.

5. Finance

5.1 The balances in the IBGA accounts are US\$178,577.30 and Au\$1,226.86.

5.2 Outstanding membership fees from Northern Ireland Blind Golf Association (NIBGA) have been received.

6. Website update

6.1 The website updating has now been completed. By all accounts all is working well and is accessible for screen readers.

6.2 Handicap lists have also been updated.

7. Other business

7.1 AC reported that theR&A released a new application this week for mobile devices which gives access to the new golf roles, including the modifications for disabled golfers (in English and Spanish). This app can be downloaded from the AppStore. The new rules go live in 2019.

7.2 AC has been contacted (through Kyoichi Sugiyama) by someone in India, regarding the possibility of joining the IBGA. They currently have three golfers.

7.3 DS & JW reported that we have heard back from Japan regarding the IBGA's endeavours to assist in Dr Handa's vision for the inclusion of golf as a paralympic sport as part of IBGA's marketing plan. There has been a request for further information on a plan of action and costing.

7.4 DS reported that EWBG had been contacted by an organisation claiming to represent ISPS Handa in all social media, SoapboxLondon. They wished to come and do some reporting on an upcoming EWBG event.

7.5 LP reported back on the marketing experiment at the recent US National Championships. The full event was filmed by Sports Illustrated with the intention of producing a documentary. LP felt that it was the best exposure that we could hope for from an event, and sets the standard for the future. The event also included activities such as the involvement of visually impaired children. LP will request USBGA to submit a funding support request from the IBGA's marketing & promotions budget.

9. Date of next meeting: After the IBGA Biennial Meeting – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 in Rome.