

GBBA and GBL Administration AGM Report season 18/19

Presented by Isobel Greaves

### **GBBA Administration**

**In terms of day to day administration most GBBA work relating to Finance and Web has been carried out by and Dave with Jo, supported by Adam, responsible for the GBBA Facebook page.**

**Cass took over finance from Dave at the back end of the season following many delays in bank account transfer and has prepared the accounts for presentation at the AGM. Cass has also seen an increase in Disciplinary matters to be dealt with this season..**

**Geoff has led on the administration of Inter-county and Schools competitions.**

**Ian has managed the increased number of games and competitions this year and has ensured that the number of games postponed have been rescheduled minimising the number of forfeits this season.**

**Jenny, stepped in to support the increasing administration responsibilities this season and did a fantastic job in organising the court for the finals and the fundraising effort on the day.**

**Adam and Joe researched the possibility of a new website, however feedback suggested that there were few practical benefits over the current web site. Alterations to the current webpage have been made by Dave and this appears to be working well.**

**Sadly, Ken Nottage was unable to continue as Chair due to work commitments and I have been acting chair since the new year.**

**The committee has met six times this season and the Finance committee twice.**

**We are attempting to set up a sub committee to look at youth development and Andy Steckbeck is leading on this.**

**Joe continues to have involvement with school's development in his role with Gloucester Saxons.**

**We developed budget lines which aim to aid us in our development of the league, its players and officials. By doing so we are more transparent and accountable as a committee. Those will be reported on by Cass in his fiancé report to the AGM.**

**We set up and action plan following the AGM , which again has assisted with roles responsibility and accountability and is transparent to teams in terms of the work carried out by the committee and associates on their behalf This will be published on the Web page for review prior to the AGM**

**We have sought to increase activity with forward planning and increased the number of executive members and roles.**

**Newsletters have not been as frequent as I would have liked, however this was mainly due to a health problem which lasted much longer than anticipated which limited the time I had available.**

**Similarly I started to keep a number of stats relating to Free Throws , individual points scored , three point shots scored and team players attendance at matches, again I had to drop that due to the backlog, but hopefully we can reinstate it for next season, if felt useful?**

**Ian has reported on activity in relation to referees, table officials and competitions. However, it is worth reiterating some points ...**

The pre-season meeting was hosted by International Referee Richard Stokes. The aim was to go through the new rules, look at individual roles and agree a standard which would work for all teams and game organisers/officials.

Feedback suggested that this was welcomed and should continue. Collective change was limited, however it was agreed that in terms of league/player development officials played a major role and attendance should remain mandatory. All secretaries and referees were provided with feedback from the session. Some evidence of individual change was seen throughout the season.

A further session was held by Richard Stokes in January for officials and coaches to feedback and ask questions on performance and new rule application and interpretation. 50% of officials attended, no coach representation was evident.

We have also offered referees the opportunity to purchase rule and interpretation manuals at a much-reduced cost.

Much focus has been placed this season by players on the accountability and responsibility of officials. this season. However, it has also been noted by officials themselves that there is a wide differential between those who attend development sessions or engage in developing further either at the level they have obtained or to progress.

This has led to questions being asked about the increase in fees across the board for officials as instigated at the 18/19 AGM with a proposal for change included in the rule change proposals.

The Charity Cup finals offered an opportunity for officials who had shown a desire for feedback to be assessed by Dave Finch, hopefully the feedback was beneficial for those concerned.

In terms of official development for next season the AGM proposal is that those who wish to will have dedicated feedback assessment at some stage in the season and those who wish to progress will have intensified feedback /assessment opportunity with a view to having financial support for next year's referees camp.

Referees with less than two years' experience will have at least one dedicated feedback session

Pregame meetings were heralded as a success, although noticeably not always undertaken by officials and rarely include table officials, a reminder will go out pre-season. Suggested that a proforma for items should be provided for referees with particular attention to the language used, which at times it is suggested, antagonised teams rather than brought the parties to a greater understanding.

Referees Course: A level two course was organised by Gloucestershire School of basketball, tutor Richard Stokes, the GBBA sponsored 5 officials on this course one was a junior referee transferring to senior match officiating.

The positive impact for the league is that we have increased the number of level 2 officials with one remaining level one official. The aim is to have all officials at level two and to do away with support for a level 1 course.

The offer of a financially supported table official's course was not taken up by any club/team. We will continue to look for ways of developing the knowledge and skills of table officials, and to enhance the role of the table official as a member of the officiating team, with role responsibilities and accountabilities equal to referees, including appropriate fees for qualified table officials.

**Communication: Still remains an issue between the league and team secretaries. We have yet to identify how secretaries and referees communicate information to their players, if at all? The league is still happy to email individual players direct. At our meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May a rule change proposal re communication has been added.,**

**The GBBA web site continues to hold more information ie minutes of meetings, policies, updates and news.**

The cup finals in May proved to be another successful day not only for the Cots for Tots but the players involved. The venue and format was a success, and the committee have made notes of learning for next season. One item for consideration is the continuation of the All-Star game, this will be further discussed at the AGM.

This year we introduced three new trophies,

The Respect Trophy, which can go to a player or a team. This year it went to team Eagles.

The University Challenge Cup, which saw UOG play Hartpury, future years may see external universities being invited.

The achievement award which went to two officials Adam Scott and Andy Steckbeck, who in one way or another tested, reflected and acted upon their desire to improve/progress.

Our thanks go to Jenny for her fundraising efforts on the day and her release of the streaming material for viewing by teams and officials, to Joe for this streaming and photography and to the UOG Cheerleaders who had never performed at a sports event previously, but look forward to returning next year.

Our thanks also to the table officials who gave their time and undertook to officiate two matches to the officials, team players and supporters and those who contributed to the auction/ raffle. A packed, if not exhausting day.

Feedback from a number of sources made comment on the atmosphere throughout the day and in particular in the clubhouse where the auction and medal presentation took place.

#### Day to Day administration:

The method of relaying results and scoresheets has allowed information to be updated onto the Web sometimes on the same day and at the latest the next morning. I have however had to remind a significant number of teams (or the same teams a significant number of times!), re the need for results to come in on the day, so much so that I have recommend the return of penalties for noncompliance.

We continue to publish Technical and Disqualifying fouls and penalties.

Recommendations are being made for change to the league rules given the change to BE rules and the impact this has had on our system. We are advised we should continue with the penalty points but have recommended a reduction in terms of automatic disqualification arrangements.

We will continue to work with players, coaches and officials to improve Respect within the game. This season has seen a number of challenging referrals to the Discipline Officer.

As yet one team has responded to the request for feedback and two teams have provided the pre-season initial entry form. This impacts on recommendations we can bring forward to the AGM.

**We know that Cyclones will return again next season and that Hartpury will not play in the league but will join UOG in the cup competition.**

**We have attempted in a number of ways to increase the number of junior players playing in the senior league and improve school's involvement as well as increase the number of teams in the league.**

**We concluded at our April meeting where Andy Steckbeck attended and provided a progress report, that there were a number of reasons for stagnation:**

- **Cost of hiring facilities and officials' fees**
- **Opportunity to play non-competitive basketball which meant less cost, less commitment and less planning.**
- **The of leaders for basketball development within schools**
- **Difficulty for Under 18's to integrate into a senior team.**

**We therefore concluded that at this time we would remove ourselves form school's involvement and Jnr player development. I have altered the Officials development package to reflect this.**

**We will through Andy Steckbeck as Youth Development Lead and Jo Grainger as Saxons Chair, continue to receive feedback and seek further opportunities in those two areas. We will look to support a candidate/s through the Aspire programme by way of Paul Christensen's fund**

**My recommendations going forward are:**

- **To continue down the path we are travelling, hopefully the positive will overcome the negative.**
- **Focus on the role of the GBBA and GBL**
- **Work collaboratively**
- **Develop Officials and Coaches**
- **Support team secretaries sell the role and gain true team support**
- **Increase communication**

**In conclusion I would like to thank the Executive committee for the number of voluntary hours they contribute to the season, not only in attending meetings, and carrying out role functions, but in the hidden extras like the regular email communications**

**Isobel Greaves**