
Minutes of the 5th Meeting: 5 September 2000

Pre-Sydney Review

UK Sport is undertaking a comprehensive review of the way in which it invests its National Lottery and "Exchequer" funds in support of sports governing bodies and athletes. Taking account of medium-term projections about the amount of money which is likely to be produced by Lottery ticket sales, the organisation is reassessing its priorities before the forthcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games so that sports know in good time on what financial basis they will need to plan when they return from Sydney.

- 1 The Council made further progress on determining the prioritisation criteria to help guide award decisions after the Olympics. Members also discussed a number of proposals being considered for future award agreements to improve support for athletes. A particular issue which arose in this respect was around the procedures employed by sports for the selection of national teams and squads etc. UK Sport will consequently be collating examples of the selection procedures of different sports with a view to providing guidelines for Performance Directors, which, in particular, take account of new human rights legislation.

UK Awards Panel: Report of Meetings held on 23 May and 19 June 2000

The UK Awards Panel has responsibility for considering and making recommendations to full Council on governing body funding policy and related applications for both Exchequer and Lottery grants.

- 2 Members endorsed the recommendations of the Panel in respect of Lottery awards to:
 - British Bobsleigh Association (BBA) (men's and women's bobsleigh 1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sept 2001)
 - British Bob Skeleton Association (BBSKA) (1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sept 2001)
 - National Ice Skating Association (NISA) (figure skating and speed skating 1 Oct 2000 – 31 Aug 2001)
- 3 Exchequer funding awards were also made to :

- Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain (ASFGB) (1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sept 2001)
 - British Bobsleigh Association (also incorporating the British Bob Skeleton Association) (1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sept 2001)
 - British Gliding Association (BGA) (1 Oct 2000 – 30 Sept 2001)
 - British Curling Association (BCA) (1 Sept 2000 – 31 Aug 2001)
 - International Coaching Conference - British Olympic Association (BOA)
- 4 Two new appointments were made to the UK Awards Panel: Anne Marie Harrison (Executive Director, Scottish Sports Institute) and Rod Carr (General Secretary, Royal Yachting Association).

UK Sports Institute

UK Sport is in the process of setting up a "Central Services Team" to coordinate the UK Sports Institute network.

- 5 Members noted that, as a result of the Government's recent Comprehensive Spending Review, UK Sport will be receiving an additional £4 million pa grant-in-aid as from April 2001 to meet the costs of the UKSI Central Services Team.

Report of the Major Events Steering Group held on 26 July 2000

The Major Events Steering Group has responsibility for considering and making recommendations to full Council on major events policy and applications to the Lottery-funded World Class Events Programme

- 6 Members endorsed the recommendations of the Major Events Steering Group in respect of the following forthcoming events
- 2000 World Gymnastics Grand Prix Final (Glasgow, Dec 2000)
 - 2001 World Senior Amateur Boxing Championships (Belfast June 2001) (in principle support at this stage)
 - 2003 Surdiman Cup and World Badminton Championships (Birmingham) (award made in respect of bidding costs)
 - 2003 World Triathlon Championships (London) (award made in respect of bidding costs)

- 7 Two new appointments were made to the MESH: Stephen Rubin (Chairman of the Pentland Group, Mervyn Elder (Director of Client Services, Belfast City Council) and Jean Stone (Technical Secretary to the Sports Council of the International Paralympic Committee),

Sports Dispute Resolution Panel

Members received a presentation by Jon Siddall (Director) about the work of the Sports Dispute Resolution Panel. UK Sport is providing central funding for three years to Sports Dispute Resolution Panel Ltd. for the purpose of developing an independent dispute resolution system for sport in the UK. UK Sport supports the principle of an independent resolution system for sport for several reasons.

- It may reduce demands upon individual Governing Bodies of sport to administer expert legal panels for disciplinary matters
- It may reduce the prospect of disputes being taken into court, and the time and expense this may incur for both parties.
- It provides the possibility of a more timely and less complex approach to dispute resolution than has existed hitherto - specifically through mediation.
- It may allow disputes between athletes and their Governing Bodies to be managed in a less adversarial way.
- It may remove the need for legal representation by an athlete and/or the Governing Body in a dispute hearing