

**Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the  
Barbados Hockey Federation Inc.  
held on May 8th, 2017 in the  
Training Room, C.O.B. Credit Union Business Centre,  
Lower Broad Street, Bridgetown**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:59 p.m. by the President and Chairman, Mr. Mark St. Hill, pursuant to By-Law 8.8 by way of a quorum, by having in attendance one-fifth of the entitled and voting membership.

**2. Prayers**

Mr. George Bennett offered prayers for the proceedings and the work of the Federation.

**3. Reading of Notice to convene Annual General Meeting**

The Hon. Secretary read the notice and informed the meeting that the 'Notice of the Meeting' was published in the media as required by the By-Law.

**4. Roll Call / Confirmation of Delegates**

**4.1 Roll Call**

Mr. Mark St. Hill	Individual Member & President
Mr. David Rouse	Individual Member & Male Vice-President
Mrs. Kristina Hinds Ph.D.	Individual Member & Female Vice-President
Mr. Hugh McClean	Individual Member & Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Kofi Hinds	Individual Member & Hon. Secretary
Mr. George Bennett	Individual Member & Assistant Secretary
Mr. Justin Taitt	Individual Member, Director & UWI Blackbirds HC
Mr. Jason Robinson	Individual Member & Director
Mr. Ralph Watson	Individual Member & Y.M.C.A.
Mr. Jamal Williams	Individual Member & Deacons
Ms. Katrina Downes	Combermere School Old Scholars H.C. (CSOS)
Mr. Chetwyn Henry	Combermere School Old Scholars H.C. (CSOS)
Mr. Andrew Morris	All Stars Sports & Social Club (All Stars)
Mr. Jeffrey Webb	All Stars Sports & Social Club (All Stars)
Mr. Atilola Harper	Provisional Individual Member
Ms. Cara Briggs	Provisional Individual Member
Mr. Damien Downes	Observer

**4.2 Apologies**

Apologies were offered on the behalf of the following persons:

- Mrs. Audrey Cox                      Director
- Mrs. Kerry-Ann McCollin          Director
- Mr. Ralph Holder                     Individual Member

#### **4.3 Approval of New Individual Members**

The following persons were presented to the membership and formally inducted as individual members, having been approved by the Board and general membership:

- Mr. Atilola Harper
- Ms. Cara Briggs
- Mrs. Kerry-Ann McCollin

#### **5. Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on February 24, 2016**

**5.1** The chairman proposed that the Minutes of the Meeting not be reviewed live in any detail and that they be taken as read.

Mr. Ralph Watson (RW) asked for some time to read the minutes.

The chairman allotted some time for RW to read the minutes.

#### **5.2 Errors & Omissions**

No errors or omissions were offered.

#### **5.3 Adoption**

Deacons proposed that the minutes be adopted. The proposal was seconded by CSOS and thus confirmed by the Chairman.

#### **6. Matters Arising from the 2016 Minutes**

There being no matters raised, the chair proceeded to the next item.

#### **7. Consideration, Approval and Adoption of Audited Financial Statements**

The Chairman asked the Hon. Treasurer to address the membership regarding the BHF's financial position.

The Hon. Treasurer went through the available financial statements year by year. The statements were projected on to an overhead screen for the review and benefit of the membership.

#### **2012**

The Hon. Treasurer presented 2012 statements and invited queries.

Mrs. Kerry-Ann McCollin entered the meeting at about 7:10 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as an Individual Member.

Ms. Cara Briggs (CB) queried the line item "Facilities Maintenance"

The Hon. Treasurer responded saying that "Facilities Maintenance" is everything related to upkeep of the Hockey facility.

Mr. Shawn Foster entered the meeting at about 7:12 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as a delegate from the Barbados Union of Teachers (BUT).

Mr. Atilola Harper (AH) asked if Arts and Sports can be called upon again,  
The Hon. Treasurer indicated that the specific line item citing Arts & Sports related only to national tours in 2012.

Mr. Justin Taitt and Ms. Cara Briggs left the meeting at about 7:17 p.m.

### **2013**

The Hon. Treasurer presented 2013 statements and invited queries.

Ms. Susan Barnett entered the meeting at about 7:20 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as a Director and an Individual Member.

There were no queries.

### **2014**

The Hon. Treasurer presented 2014 statements and invited queries.

The Chairman stated that as we go forward we need to get these payables behind us.

The Hon. Treasurer indicated that the single largest payable is to GEMS run by the Sun Group. The Sun Group has taken over GEMs but not with the debt, so the Sun Group should not have been able to claim the receivables.

He went on to state that the intention is to extinguish these payables in two years using a combination of approaches.

Mr. Shawn Foster (SF) noted that the GEMS expense was for a tournament in 2001  
The Hon. Secretary noted it was for the locally hosted Women's Pan Am Cup in 2004.

SF enquired as to why if GEMS (as an entity) does not exist, how can they be claiming the receivable.

The Hon. Treasurer stated that the bill still arrives.

### **2015**

The Hon. Treasurer presented 2015 statements and invited queries.

There were no queries.

## **8. Director's Report**

The President, Mr. Mark St. Hill, read the report and noted that it was circulated prior to the meeting. Addressing the new functional areas - he noted that it is fitting to mention why the Board has structured the business of the Federation going forward in this manner.

The Chairman gave an update on the new artificial surface, stating that there has been issue after issue, relating to:

- *Sand*
- *Tax waivers*
- *Change of management at Forbex (manufacturers of the artificial surface)*
- *Expiration of the glue*
- *Work Permits*
- *The complexity of the collaboration between the BOA, Arts & Sports Fund Committee, Ministry of Finance, National Sports Council, the TDC and the BTMI.*

Other points raised by the chairman:

- The single biggest disappointment for 2016 was the new surface.
- Considering that we did not have a turf, we were able to host a Festival and a season.
- National senior men's players training and playing in Argentina.

Mr. Aaron Forde entered the meeting at about 7:31 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as an Individual Member.

Points raised by the chairman (continued):

- Answering the question about why we continue sponsor the national program – the chairman indicated that if there was no incentive for people to work towards, the sport would die naturally.
- The Chairman thanked Mr. Ralph Watson for enduring with the Youth Program.
- The Chair mentioned the Hall of Fame and mentioned the wooden poles along the fence at the Hockey Facility. The poles are for advertising space to assist with the national teams.

Mr. Jamar Lashley entered the meeting at about 7:35 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as a delegate from Deacons Hockey Club (Deacons).

Mr. Thabiti Drakes entered the meeting at about 7:35 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as an observer.

Points raised by the chairman (continued):

- The BHF sent persons to the FIH Congress in Dubai. The rationale was for exposure and to get Barbadians on FIH international boards and committees.
- The new Turf has to be seen as the revenue earner.

Hockey cannot exist without voluntarism, which underscores the need for the framework.

The framework consists of 5 buckets.

The Chair acknowledged Mr. Jason Robinson for his operational work and drafting of the operations plan and stated his hopes that the facility can eventually become a real revenue earner.

The Chair also acknowledged Mr. David Rouse and Mr. Kofi Hinds for their work with the Federation.

The Chair discussed the trial of the fund-raising being pushed out to the national teams and confirmed that the BHF will look more at governance for fundraising and selection in the coming years.

One of the things that we wanted to mention was management going forward.

The Chair then thanked and acknowledged the Board for their contribution and thanked the membership for supporting his first year as President.

The Chairman then opened up the floor for questions.

AH asked about the plan for domestic competitions in 2017.

The Chairman stated that we had hoped for the turf this year.

The Hon. Secretary responded with the plans.

AH asked about the plan for lights at the Wildey venue.

The Chairman stated lights will not be in place.

SF asked if there was estimate for the lights.

The Hon. Treasurer noted that he received estimates between BBD \$400k and \$800k. He elaborated that the immediate plan is to make up there safer with security lighting and cap any loose ends, then get some low lighting for physical training.

RW queried the rumors and issues about the turf.

The Chairman responded by saying he can discuss a few points:

1. The BHF was waiting to wire Forbex for the glue.
2. The last correspondence from the BOA is that Forbex was not completing the work permit forms.
3. The last obstacle was that there is a shortfall of about BBD \$50k, but it might come from the Arts & Sports Fund.
4. The communication from Forbex has been poor since a change of management.

RW stated that an omission from the Director's Report is the mention of Adrian Nichols and the Hardcourt Hockey 5s.

The Chairman acknowledged the omission.

Mr. Ricardo Seale entered the meeting at about 8:02 p.m. and was recognized by the Chairman as a delegate from the Barbados Union of Teachers (BUT).

SF asked about how the Federation will raise the profile of the Festival.

The Chairman stated that once we get the turf, the profile will raise as there is a local eagerness for it to progress.

SF tabled that one of the things we need to look at is the timing of the festival. Also that as opposed to having an adult festival, we can have a youth festival.

The chairman replied noting that the current date of the Festival seems to be attractive to most teams.

The chairman also called on SF to put together the framework for a Youth Festival.

AH volunteered to assist SF in this endeavor.

CSOS suggested that a time-frame for the Youth Festival Proposal be put in place.

The chairman indicated that by the next board meeting, we would expect to have a draft.

The Chairman then asked the membership delegates to please return to their clubs and share the information discussed at the AGM.

Mr. David Rouse mentioned that the Youth & Development Committee had actually planned a youth tournament for 2016.

**9. Election of Officers**

The Chairman proceeded to thank all outgoing directors and assumed the role as Sheriff for the elections. The chairman declared the following officer posts vacant.

- Male Vice President: Mr. David Rouse
- Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Hugh McClean
- Hon. Secretary: Mr. Kofi Hinds

The chairman asked for seated delegates to rearrange into clubs, schools and individuals.

**9.1 Male Vice President**

There being no other received nominations, Mr. George Bennett was declared Male Vice President.

**9.2 Hon. Treasurer**

There being no other received nominations, Mr. Hugh McClean was declared Male Vice President

**9.3 Hon. Secretary**

There being no other received nominations, Mr. Kofi Hinds was declared Hon. Secretary.

**9.4 Assistant Secretary**

With Mr. George Bennett having vacated the post of Assistant Secretary and voted in as Male Vice President, nominations for the post of Assistant Secretary were invited from the floor.

Mark St. Hill nominated Mrs. Kerry-Ann McCollin.

Mr. Jamal Williams seconded.

Mr. George Bennett moved that nominations be closed.

Mr. Kofi Hinds seconded the motion for nominations to be closed.

The chairman noted that the motion was carried.

Having closed nominations, the chairman declared Mrs. Kerry-Ann McCollin the Assistant Secretary for a one-year term, ending in 2018.

The President welcomed the new officers.

**10. Election of Directors**

The chairman declared the following director posts vacant.

- Directors: Mrs. Audrey Cox  
Ms. Susan Barnett  
Ms. Gina Belle  
Ms. Leslie Austin

There being only four received and valid nominations, the below persons were declared directors for the two-year term ending in 2019:

- Mr. Jamal Williams
- Mrs. Audrey Cox
- Ms. Gina Belle
- Mrs. Hazel Barker-Dyall

The President welcomed the new directors.

**11. Nomination and Election of an Auditor**

Mr. David Rouse nominated the current auditor, Skeete Best & Company and this was seconded by CSOS.

There being no other nominations, Skeete Best & Company was duly elected as the Auditors for 2017.

**12. Consideration of Resolutions and Amendments**

No resolutions or amendments were presented for consideration.

**13. Fixing of Subscriptions**

No changes were proposed.

**14. General Business**

**14.1** RW asked the Chairman if it past the required date for the AGM.

The Chairman indicated that he took responsibility, but that he delayed to be able to present the audited statements. He stated the he felt it was necessary to be able to present audited statements.

The Chairman then humbly apologized to the membership and stated that the remaining financials (2016) should be coming in the next few weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at approximately 8:27 p.m. with motion to conclude moved by Mr. Atilola Harper and seconded by Mr. David Rouse.

Recorded and typed by Mr. Kofi Hinds, Hon. Secretary.