

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE
Agenda item no. 1.5

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD
MEETING 4/2019 – 29 August 2019

The minutes of meeting 4/2019 of the Melbourne University Sport Board held on Thursday 29 August at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, Nona Lee Sports Centre.

PRESENT:

Professor James Angus (Chair)
Professor Richard James
Professor Sarah Biddulph
Mr Shawn Ingle
Ms Alex Lawlor
Ms Joanna Weston
Mr James Marburg
Ms Lara McKay

APOLOGIES:

Ms Anna Traill

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Christian Ryan for item 1.3 (Boat Club President)
Mr Dan Wallace for item 1.3 (Boat Club Manager)
Mr Tim Lee (Director)
Mr Jean-Luc Garlick
Mr Rod Warnecke
Mr Michael Fox
Mrs Julie Caundle (minute taker)

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed all present and noted Professor Biddulph's first meeting as a Board member. The Board introduced themselves and shared their connections with Sport and the University. The Director noted that Leadership Manager Ms Junot was unable to attend the meeting and that Mr Fox would present items 2.2 and 3.1 in her absence.

1.2 Apologies

Ms. Traill was listed as an apology.

1.3 Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest.

1.4 Club Presentation – Boat Club

Mr Warnecke introduced Mr Ryan, President of the Boat Club and Mr Wallace, Boat Club Manager. Mr Ryan presented an overview noting that the Club runs as a small business with hopes to align closely with the University. The Club was committed to being one of the finest rowing organizations in the world and the number one club in Australia.

Mr Ryan spoke about how the elite student club members often leave to study overseas. Ms McKay asked if the students would stay if they were offered scholarships and also suggested bringing the students through the colleges and showing them what was

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available. The Director noted that US colleges can let prospective students know earlier if they have a place. Professor Biddulph asked about plans for recruiting students from schools to focus on more of a university program. Mr Ryan provided examples of student club members displaying a flexible approach to their academic studies. The Chair thanked Mr Ryan and Mr Wallace for their presentation.

Resolution

The Board noted the Boat Club presentation.

Mr Ryan and Mr Wallace left the meeting at 6.30pm.

1.5 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

1.6 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

1.7 Business Arising/Action Item Updates

Report on agenda.

2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

2.1 2020 Budget

Mr Garlick presented the 2020 Budget and outlined that the MU Sport Charter tasked the Board with recommending the annual budget to the University and to monitor the financial performance of the organisation.

The paper outlined the 2020 budget financial statement and commentary as prepared by the senior management team in line with the key principles of the Finance Strategy approved by the Board at the June meeting. The updated layout of the financial statement had been developed in consultation with the Board Chairman and the three-year financial forecast included to demonstrate the longer-term position.

Mr Garlick noted the key points which would inform the budget. There was a discussion around SSAF Fee income and how this was determined by the number of students. The Chair noted that the 2022 budget no longer listed SSAF grants as none of the funds would carry forward.

Resolution

The Board approved the 2020 Budget for submission to the University Finance Committee.

2.2 LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Policy

Mr Fox presented the LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Policy for approval. The draft policy had previously been presented to the Board in May prior to further stakeholder engagement.

The draft policy had been distributed to stakeholders including the staff and clubs for feedback. The Chair queried the exceptions appendix and asked if another body within or external to the University would have any oversight or input. Mr Fox responded that it was for internal purposes only. Ms Lawlor had a number of queries around how disputes and complaints would be handled whereby Mr. Fox noted that the policy only covered competitions conducted internally. A Working Group would be established to consider the issues raised.

Resolution

The Board endorsed the MU Sport LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Policy.

2.3 Blues Advisory Group Terms of Reference

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Mr Warnecke presented the Blues Advisory Group Terms of Reference (TOR) for approval. The draft updated TOR and the stakeholder engagement process was presented to the June Board meeting. A discussion paper was then circulated to the University sporting community for feedback.

Mr Warnecke noted that section 8.3 should not include 'the Director of Sport' as part of the appeals process and the contents of section 7.4 would become section 8.4. The Chair stated that it was very important that the appeals process must be determined impartially. The Board endorsed the changes to the TOR.

Resolution

The Board endorsed the updated Blues Advisory Group Terms of Reference.

3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Moondani Yalingwa Indigenous Strategy

Mr Fox presented the draft Moondani Yalingwa Indigenous Strategy and stakeholder engagement plan. Moondani Yalingwa is Wurundjeri language translating to 'embrace today' and the strategy will provide an opportunity for MU Sport to contribute to closing the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students and staff at the University and embed reconciliation efforts across the organisation.

Mr Fox outlined the story of Indigenous student Rylie Womal, who as a consequence of participating in the Raise the Bar Academy whilst at secondary school, applied and was accepted into the University. Riley is now a resident at Ormond College, a member of the athletics club and has represented the University at the University Nationals event in March.

Professor James noted that there was a lot of ambition in the strategy and asked about the resources to back it up. Mr Fox suggested that it would not require additional resources to achieve with the Director outlining that significant progress had already been demonstrated across our programs and clubs. Ms Weston suggested reaching out to other national bodies for support that already provided Indigenous programs.

Resolution

The Board noted the proposed Moondani Yalingwa Indigenous Strategy and stakeholder engagement plan.

3.2 Competitive Club Strategy

Mr Warnecke presented the proposed Competitive Club Strategy and stakeholder engagement plan.

The 2019 Strategic Tasks committed management to develop a strategy to assist competitive clubs to improve performance. The strategy is largely focused on competitive clubs but some of the recreational and instructional clubs also support and provide competitive opportunities.

Mr Warnecke highlighted the reasons for lack of sustained and consistent success by many competitive clubs were varied but increasingly student-athletes elected to remain with their community club because our clubs do not compete at a suitable level or because they are reluctant to break established connections with family, friends and school. For those clubs competing in semi-professional sports, it was also difficult to attract and retain student-athletes at other clubs who were receiving, in some cases, significant remuneration. Students were also making the decision not to join our clubs based on the quality of the club facilities, the level of coaching or a perception that the club was poorly managed.

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Mr. Marburg asked how student only teams would apply to sports like rowing and if this concept excluded the alumni from participating and the impact on club donations. Mr. Warnecke reassured the Board that the strategy did not exclude the alumni but did recommend that clubs should focus on current student recruitment and development. Professor James suggested there should be some guidelines on alumni participation in clubs. The Director noted that the clubs were recruiting the best athletes rather than University of Melbourne students to ensure the ongoing competitiveness of the club. The Chair suggested workshopping the competitive club strategy. Professor James felt there was the need for a complex conversation with the clubs. The Director outlined that the Discussion Paper would be presented back to the Board once section 3.4 covering the development of stronger elite student athlete pathways had been clarified. Ms Traill had provided feedback via email prior to the meeting to Mr Warnecke and a response would be provided.

Resolution

The Board noted the proposed Competitive Club Strategy and stakeholder engagement plan.

Action

The Discussion Paper be presented to the Board after further development.

4. MATTERS FOR NOTING

4.1 Director's Report

The Director presented the Director's report.

Since the last meeting the Lincoln Square Fitness Centre had reopened and the new Fitness Studio at Southbank also opened. The Vice Chancellor visited the Fitness studio on Open Day.

The Chair asked if there were any outstanding club agreements. Mr Warnecke noted that the Boat and Football Clubs were still outstanding. The Chair asked for an update on all outstanding club agreements at the next meeting.

Resolution

The Board noted the Director's Report.

Action

To provide an update on outstanding Club Affiliation Agreements at the next meeting.

4.2 150th Intersarsity Anniversary and Sport History

Mr Garlick presented the 150th Intersarsity Anniversary and Sport History proposal and plan. 2020 is the 150th Anniversary of Intersarsity, commemorating the first boat race and cricket match between the University of Melbourne and the University of Sydney in 1870. A series of events are to be held next year to celebrate this milestone and to reengage with the estimated 5,000 alumni who have represented the University in the last 50 years.

The commemoration will also provide impetus for the significant task of collecting and curating the records and archival material to display during the celebrations and for a proposed Sport History Gallery and Visitor Centre. A Project Group comprising a range of stakeholders would be set up shortly to oversee the commemoration and planning for the anniversary.

The Chair enquired about the University funds currently held in the MUSA account. It was suggested that clubs should be asked to consider establishing a scholarship fund.

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The Board noted the plan for the 150th Intersarsity Anniversary and Sport History Project.

4.3 Finance Report

Mr Garlick presented the financial performance for MU Sport as at 30 June 2019 for noting.

Resolution

The Board noted the Finance report.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

6. MEETING FINALISATION

6.1 Meeting Close

The Chair asked staff to excuse themselves with the remainder of the Board staying for the in-camera session.

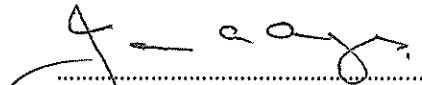
The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

6.2 Next Meeting

The next meeting to be held on Thursday 21 November at 6.00pm

7. IN CAMERA SESSION

Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:


.....
Chair Professor James Angus

21/11/19
.....
Date