MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD MEETING 2/2019 – 2 May 2019

The minutes of meeting 2/2019 of the Melbourne University Sport Board held on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, Nona Lee Sports Centre.

PRESENT:

- Professor James Angus (Chair)
- Ms Alex Lawlor
- Mr James Marburg
- Mr Shawn Ingle
- Ms Joanna Weston
- Ms Anna Traill

APOLOGIES:

Professor Richard James Ms Bridgid Junot

Mr Jean-Luc Garlick

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr Tim Lee (Director) Mr Rod Warnecke Mr Connor Bradley – (item 1.3) Mr Chris Bunting – (item 3.1) Mr Eugene Toh (minute taker)

1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome

The Chair welcomed all present and noted Joanna and Anna's first meeting as Board members.

1.2 Apologies

Apologies were noted.

1.3 Club Presentation – Lacrosse Club

Mr Warnecke introduced Mr Connor Bradley, President of the Melbourne University Lacrosse Club. Mr Bradley presented the 'Club Strategy – 2019 and Beyond'.

Mr Bradley outlined the different programs the club offers, the demographics of the participants and the skill level of members. Club members are drawn from across Victoria including the University, local community and surrounding high schools. The club has recently engaged VicHealth for partial funding of a program called 'ReLax', designed to reintroduce participants back into regular sporting competitions. The club is planning to expand with a focus on improving club culture and performance. Mr Bradley presented the club's membership numbers, noting that participation numbers had declined over the last few years. The club is planning to increase female participation.

The 2018 season finances were presented to the Board. The increased expenditure in 2019 was due to the club being required to pay its annual membership fees to Lacrosse Victoria based on last year's membership.

The club's purpose is to foster a Lacrosse playing community amongst the University of Melbourne's student and alumni members. The club is planning to increase female participation numbers through a partnership with MacRobertson Girls High.

The Board discussed junior members playing at University clubs. Although they are part of the club, the junior members are listed as playing for their school team and no previous issues have arisen regarding juniors to date.

Mr Bradley concluded the presentation and requested guidance in developing recruitment strategies due to the decreasing club numbers. Ms Traill asked whether the decrease in club recruitment numbers is representative of a broader drop in Victorian Lacrosse numbers. This was confirmed, however other factors such as fees and rule changes have acted as barriers to participation.

The Chair asked the Board whether there was any concern with junior members participating in Club sports. It was noted that other clubs such as the Women's Football Club have junior participants and that no issues had arisen. The Chair requested a breakdown of junior member numbers and any potential risks involved through their participation.

Resolution

The Board noted the Lacrosse Club presentation.

Action

Mr Warnecke to report on junior members in clubs. Mr Bradley left the meeting at 6.30pm.

1.4 Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

1.5 Confirmation of Circular Resolutions

There were no circular resolutions to confirm.

1.6 Business Arising/Action Item Updates

1.6.1 Sport Capital Planning

Included in Director's Report.

1.6.2 Stakeholder Relations

Included in Director's Report.

2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

There were no matters for decision.

3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Policy

Mr Bunting, Pride and Diversity Coordinator, outlined his role and that he was presenting due to the absence of Ms Junot. The LGBTQIA+ policy was presented, noting it underpins the University's diversity and inclusion policy. The development of the policy involved consultation with internal and external stakeholders and the next stage involves presenting the policy to the General Club Forum.

Mr Bunting noted that MU Sport is leading the tertiary sector in developing safe and inclusive programs and services. Mr Bunting described the four P's of inclusion which informs all activity in this area (Programs and Promotion, Partnerships and Policy). MU

Sport has signed up to the ACON Pride Index which provides a benchmark of LGBTQIA+ programs in sporting organizations across Australia.

Ms Lawlor commented on the importance of having a concrete policy to assist when a test case inevitably arises. Mr Marburg considered the grievance procedures and the complexity of dealing with situations which may require external resolution processes. It was noted that these procedures will develop over time, however they will likely be consistent with the University's grievance policies.

The Chair recommended that a robust framework can be developed through the use of hypothetical test cases. Several contacts in Chancellery were also recommended who may be helpful in developing the policy.

Resolution

The Board supported the policy and noted the stakeholder engagement plan.

3.2 Representative Sport Uniform Policy

Mr Warnecke presented on the evolution of representative sport uniforms. The issue has arisen as the result of conversation between the Director and Ms Lawlor about a possible sponsorship of the Rugby 7s team leading to engaging the Board in the development of a formal policy.

In the early 2000's the representative uniforms lacked a consistent look as teams ordered their own apparel and over time the staff took over the process to ensure a more consistent look. US colleges examples were presented to demonstrate how their sport uniforms represented the university brand in a consistent and dynamic manner.

Ms Lawlor noted that there are differences between the Australian and United States sporting/university environment that may leave policy gaps in this area. Ms Weston suggested that for many sporting clubs/teams these sponsorship opportunities provide significant financial help.

The Chair suggested an audit of how the UoM compares with other Australian universities in guiding the policy. Mr Marburg asked if different sponsorship rules could be introduced for different sporting competitions at the university. The Director noted that there is an existing practice and that MU Sport is seeking Board support to develop a policy.

Mr Warneke outlined that several other Rugby 7 teams were sponsored and asked if the Board had any concerns with sponsors logos appearing on UoM representative uniforms. Mr Marburg stated that he was unsure as were other Board members. The Director outlined that further advice would be sought from the University's Marketing and Communications team to ensure alignment with wider policy and practice.

The Chair recommended filtering the different sponsorship issues into categories which can then be used to decide test cases. Starting with the principles behind the MU Sport sponsorship practice, there should be clarity with where the policy sits within the current University framework. Engaging with stakeholders may involve educating them on the value of these sponsorships and whether or not it may dilute or damage the University brand. Ms Lawlor also recommended that Advancement be involved in the policy development.

Resolution

The Board noted the Representative Sport Uniform Policy paper and presentation.

Action

Develop the proposed representative sporting uniform policy

4. MATTERS FOR NOTING

4.1 Director's Report

The Director presented the Director's Report.

The Board discussed the recent launch of the Strong Women's Program. Ms Lawlor commented on the significance of the program and how fantastic her mentee is.

The Chair referred to the MU Sport response to the 'Enhancing the Student Experience' project and proposed the idea that students spend one-two weeks at the University's Dookie campus. Mr Warnecke outlined the 'Active Campus Program' and a proposal for international students to spend a weekend at the Dookie campus to experience regional Victoria.

The Chair asked for an update on the Facility Capital Plan Projects. Ms Lawlor asked about the involvement of University Planning in the process. The Director noted that the project is on hold and that University Planning would be approached to support and endorse the process.

The Director updated the Board on the vacant Board positions. One internal and one external contact have been approached.

The Board noted the abbreviated Strategic Plan and its relationship with the Operational Plan. The KPIs and targets attached to the Operational Plan will be distributed to the Board at the next meeting.

Resolution

The Board noted the Director's Report.

4.2 Finance Report

The Director outlined the preparation of the 2020 Budget Strategy to be distributed at the next Board meeting. The original budget distributed to the Board in September 2018 was based on the previous SSAF allocation model and grant scheme. The budget that is being reported against does not reflect this change hence the significant variance in reporting of SSAF funds.

The Board noted the work in progress to reopen Lincoln Square Fitness in approximately semester 2. Ms Lawlor queried variations in the income and expenditure of the Finance Report related to LSF. Relative to the loss incurred from the closure of LSF, the Beaurepaire Centre has increased participation numbers. These numbers will become more apparent in semester 2 once LSF reopens.

Resolution

The Board noted the Finance report

OTHER BUSINESS

5.

6. MEETING FINALISATION

6.1 Meeting Close

The Chair asked staff and observers 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

Next meeting on Thursday 27 June at 6.00pm

7. IN CAMERA SESSION

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MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY SPORT BOARD ACTION SHEET 1/2019 – 2 May 2019

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Minute no.	Item Title	Action	Person/s	Current Status
			Responsible	
1.3	Junior Club Member Statistics	Provide a report on junior club member statistics	Mr Warnecke	Update in Director's Report
3.2	Representative Sport Uniform Policy	Develop the representative sport uniform policy for further consultation	Mr Warnecke	In development – will be brought to a future Board meeting.

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Signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record:

C Chair Professor James Angus

26/6/19 Date

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