



Minutes of KNA COMPETITION FORUM

held at Kissing Point Sporting club Tuesday 21 May 2019 7pm

PRESENT:

Executive: (Chair) Loraine Unicomb, Jo-Anne Perry (President), Rhonda Dekker (Secretary), Ros Roots(Executive)

Office bearers: Kissane Gray (Grading), Tanya Sinclair (Registration)

KNA Committee: Laura Sheridan-Mouton (MPIO)

Club Delegates:

Berowra	Gillian Boyd
Berowra	Shane Orre
Corpus Christi	Sam Bowie
Corpus Christi	Edwina Stuart
ELNC	Benn Murphy
Hornsby Heights	Nicole Carr
Hornsby Heights	Catriona Dryza
Killara	Louise Grant
North Turramurra	Helen Burns
Wahroonga	Emma Maley
Warrawee	Amber Escott
West Pymble	Michelle McNamara

Attendees: Warrawee – M. Shelley, Killara – C. Sinclair

Apologies:

Lisa Duncan SRSC, Nicole ?? Brenda Williams Patron

1. All Abilities

Discussed All Abilities program and the inclusion in the C1 grade. This is supported by the majority of clubs and for those who have had issues the club has addressed. Deb Frost suggested to look at penalties for forfeits. This will be addressed by the Grading Committee/Executive season end and also at Presidents Forum. - 25 plus registered members in the program with wonderful support from volunteers and as an executive we congratulate the members for their unwavering support of this program. 4 additional new people have volunteered to help with All Abilities in the past 2 weeks.

Sometimes on rotation of these players teams aren't as strong each week but when they are they are competitive. 8 team draw for C1 will remain. Loraine advised if there is any issue perhaps teams can borrow so everyone gets a game and we are not worried about the borrowing guidelines in this instance if you have to borrow cadets etc.?

2: NSG

9 year old rotations - Kissane - new rules this year have generally been handled appropriately for this age level but not so much with the 7/8 yr olds whereby clubs share rotation sheets and the opposition put the players onto the court. A lot of the issues are from clubs not distributing and communicating with their coaches/managers. Grading checks 9 yr score sheets every week for rotations - still some teams not rotating, and there are clubs who don't put rotations down. NSG Convenor checks and follows up Lofberg Road. Seems overall to be running ok - opposition managers are placing teams on the court and that is working quite well in majority of instances.

General discussion about various issues involving the team sheets not being filled out correctly. General discussion - HH has 6 teams, WP 8 teams - most clubs have 3/4 only but numbers change each year

Ros Roots (Executive liaison NSG) - concept of NSG - questioned if parents have information on the rules of NSG and rotating the players? 80 teams this year - everything is given to club convenors to pass and explain to their parents, also is supposed to be on the back of the score sheet - ultimately it is up to the clubs to detail the scoring and rotation of players.

Grading of NSG? Confirmed that teams are not graded but placed in ages/preferred time slots - based around how many parents, coaches and managers can help out. Some clubs do skills sessions which is very beneficial. Clubs should be encouraged to develop these players at grass roots and have a strong pre season development program.

General discussion re time slots - usually comes down to the coaches as to what time they want but it was suggested by EL that we should publish times and set pre season in ages. With combined ages this could be more difficult for achievable.

NT advised with limited training facilities no one to take clinic this year but they did not have a reduction in NSG players even though they aren't doing skills.

HH addressed with concerns teams struggling in incorrect grading The club does NSG Skills sessions, has good support for their coaches and players but would like more support as many going to AFL/Soccer. Ros Roots will follow up

Jo asked: - how about moving NSG to a week night? Some believe it probably wouldn't work for parents trying to get home and get to Canon Rd - Hills do it and it works and Norths do as well. Proposed we do a survey to members and clubs to seek their views with positives and negatives? It is proposed that our 9's (winter comp only) will move to a week night but it should be noted we only have permission to do one competition night per week under lights which will be pencilled for 2020 commencement

General discussion again re grading and level of players and how to make it better. It is a very difficult job trying to accommodate everyone's wishes hence the suggestion to preset timelines like other sports do. Loraine suggested for stronger teams we should umpire differently?

Ros Roots - umpiring at Lofberg - would like feedback from clubs on the current status (positive/negative).

Kissane advised clubs who have do pre season clinics - this is paying off

Loraine requested clubs think about the NSG program. KNA is preparing a new Strategic Plan and send suggestions to KNA Sec will be requested.

NSG Skills - when it was on a Saturday it worked better because of siblings etc helping.

Spirit of Competition

Loraine advised that NSG is a development program - not a competition for the young ones and clubs need to understand that NSG is about participation and fun. If we don't develop NSG and put a strong emphasis on this area being developed we won't have players coming through

3. Spring competition grading

Kissane - last 5 years found it very challenging grading ladies 1-6 - reason is that they can only play on certain nights and times - could make it the same night each week with rotating time slots to make this work - also gives the graders ability to grade the timeslots which they haven't been able to in the past. Everyone agreeable to give it a go - let's communicate early before spring comp registrations open.

4. New training facilities:

The Glade in Wahrenonga is nearly ready for completion. Both Warrawee / Wahrenonga will be sharing as their schools have very limited facilities due to after school care using the tennis courts. Warrawee advised that they would like KMC to provide us access to toilet facilities (Jo will ask KMC before handover)

NSRA at North Turramurra - This facility has now opened and NT would like to thank KMC and STI club for their assistance in sharing facilities with NT.

5. MPIO: Presentation by Laura Sheridan

MPIO Updated by NNSW - 2018 revised and came into effect January 2019 - outlined new updates - not a lot has changed. A summary will be provided to clubs by KNA MPIO of presentation.

Read out what MPP means - safety and welfare of children. Complaints of child abuse must be reported immediately to Police on 131344 of which KNA will do so - 0467 037 108 Laura's mobile if needed. KNA adhere to the MPIO policy drawn up by NNSW. Laura outlined aspects of bullying, sexual harassment, intimidation etc which is totally unacceptable, including social media policy process of raising a complaint - general matter first at club level. Each club should have a MP officer.

Vital that any complaint is treated with confidentiality at club and association level. Clubs must ensure that complaints are handled on the day and not delayed so issues can be addressed immediately. Forms are available at Canoon and the MPIO policy is on the web as well as NNSW forms and advise how to go about appealing including Penalties

Exec advised that teams must go to window and ask for assistance if required. Make sure complaints are made straight away so that we can send an umpire or an Exec member to deal with the issue immediately.

6. Registration:

KNA registrar sort clarification on fee reduction as per prior policies. Advised by Exec that the status quo should continue as per all prior years providing NNSW rules have not changed. Tanya to seek clarification in writing and advise clubs. Registrars are going well on a Saturday. This should also be noted when fees are submitted to members at AGM. Club registrars have been assisting each week as we are short of a Jnr registrar and assistants. This has been good for all clubs to know the process. Tanya thanked the clubs for their support

7. Grading - Berowra advised concern with teams who are getting beaten convincingly not being regraded namely Int1 and Int2. They stated these teams will have a terrible comp and players are already talking about not coming back. As a guidance to clubs, it is imperative that clubs manage this situation and give the teams more support, both at player, parent, coach and manager level. Grading always look closely at teams who have had a bad season the following year.

Kissane explained there has to be a criteria to be regraded which is set in our policies and has been agreed by all clubs - every team can't be regraded as grading is also determined on number of entries per age group and balancing the competition overall plus the availability of courts. KNA require 8 and 6 team grades only. Occasionally a 10 team draw has had to be established but it is difficult to work the grids/court allocations when this is introduced. KNA is one of the very few Associations, if not the only one that regrade their teams at Day 5. This gives us as much opportunity as is available to work through those situations but occasionally it is impossible to do so. Graders view teams from Day 1-3 and then extensively Days 4-5 to get the best possible outcome

General discussion on teams who are bottom of the grade and not being put down. Loraine suggested making a personal development for the team. Often it is an intermediate grade where it happens with the mixture of 13s and 14s but it should be noted that KNA work extremely hard to do the best they can for teams/the competition within the confines of grading and fixtures.

General discussion. Jo advised that we did introduce split grades in the "A" division a few years ago but clubs rejected it after the trial as it was felt some teams wanted to come in 5th so they could win a trophy. General consensus is we put it out to the clubs again and it should be available to all grades not just A grade? Maybe play additional two weeks of semis/finals or perhaps we just let them play an extra two weeks? Ongoing discussion will take place with officials and clubs

Suggestion: In interim take it back to your clubs and let's think about it.

8. UMPIRES:

Umpiring question on buddying -are all clubs required to have buddies. Ros advised it depends on the club as to whether they do it based on resources. Large clubs support small clubs. Ros suggested to ask convenors to keep an eye on their buddies to ensure buddies have support as well. The onus is on clubs to help this happen. There is a very small committee this year and they are under resourced but doing a great job. The umpires committee need more volunteers so that these things can be addressed. Should any club feel they could help buddies of umpires as they go around the courts, please do so but let the KNA Convenor be aware of issues. If they are available they will assist.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm