

Member update following the INF Board Meeting July 2017

The INF Board met on July 5th and 7th in Gaborone, Botswana before the Netball World Youth Cup 2017.

The key items discussed were:

Governing with Integrity

INF Congress

The Board considered the agenda for the INF Congress which was to be held on the 6th and 7th July in Gaborone. They confirmed the election process and approved the INF Service Award recipients.

The Board reviewed the Congress Workshop programme that was to be delivered between the 8th and 14th July. The topics were based on the three core strategies of the INF strategic plan Netball 2020:

- Governing with Integrity
- Thrilling World Class Events
- Empowering Through Netball

The Board agreed that in 2018 INF Membership fees will be increased by 5%.

Member Category	2018 Fees £
Up to 1,000 members	607.75
1,001 – 5,000 members	911.63
5,001 – 15,000	2,431.01
15,001 and above	24,310.13
Associates	60.78

Furthermore, it was agreed that a full review of the membership fee structure will be undertaken for 2019 to include a review of the fee structure of other International Federations.

The Board reviewed the **financial position** of the INF and considered the **budget assumptions** for income and expenditure for 2018 and undertook a **review of the key risks** that face the organisation and how they are mitigated by the operational plans.

The Board approved a Governance Policy and agreed to proceed with an Independent review of Governance during the second half of 2017.

The Disciplinary and Dispute Resolution Regulations will be reviewed by the Governance Working Group to ensure they are fit for purpose.

A new Social Media Policy was reviewed and it was agreed that further work was required on this before it was approved.

Thrilling World Class Events

The **Netball World Youth Cup (NWYC2017)** organising committee were invited to present the final preparations for the competition to the Board. The Board were impressed with the progress that had been made and were pleased to see the impact of the trophy and mascot tour in building interest with the Botswanan people of all ages. There were concerns regarding the standard of the budget hostel accommodation that had been selected by three of the teams and the OC undertook to rectify things. The President wished the OC success in delivering a thrilling world class event.

The Board also reviewed the plans for the Fast5 Netball World Series in Melbourne in October 2017, the Commonwealth Games Gold Coast April 2018 and Netball World Cup Liverpool 2019.

The NWC Draw Format Working Group reported on progress to the INF Board. Feedback had been received from Members on the proposed draw format. The Board approved the draw format for Netball World Cup 2019, as well as the bid process for the hosts of the Netball World Cup 2023 and the Fast5 Netball World Series for 2019-20.

The International Umpiring Manager provided the Board with an update on officiating. The Board noted the concern that Members are arranging test matches at short notice and the challenge this presents in umpires. Members are asked to note the INF Procedure for the 'Appointment of Umpires to Rankings Matches' which may be found on the INF website here:

<http://netball.org/game/officiating/international-umpiring-handbook>

Empowering through Netball

INF Media and Communications are continuing to develop well and Members are sending in stories for the INF Netball World Newsletter. The social media campaigns (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram) are all helping to increase the profile of netball. The INF website now has a shop where the Rules of Netball and coaching resources may be purchased.

The Board agreed the work plan for the Sustainability and Development Working Group that will be defining a fundraising and sustainability vision, mission and strategy.

The Board reviewed the progress of Member netball associations around the world. Each of the regional directors gave a report which included progress on the use of the INF Net Effect Grants.

Changes to the INF Board

The President thanked Octavia Gibson for her significant contribution to the INF as Regional Director for the Americas and most recently as Further Director. Following her election at Congress Shirley Hooper was welcomed as Further Director.

Next Board meeting

The Board will meet next before the INF Fast5 Netball World Series which will be held in Melbourne, Australia from 28-29th October 2016.

Member update following the INF Congress July 2017

INF Congress was held on 6th & 7th in Gaborone, Botswana before the Netball World Youth Cup 2017.

Governing with Integrity

INF President, Hon Molly Rhone OJ, CD, opened Congress and welcomed delegates especially those Presidents and delegates who were attending for the first time. A list of the departed was honoured. The President's full address is posted on the INF Website here:

<http://netball.org/archives/8858>

CEO Clare Briegal presented the Board Report focusing on the strategic plan as outlined in Netball 2020 and Ann Tod, INF Finance Director, presented the Financial Report.

The Governance Working Group, led by Further Director, Octavia Gibson, delivered their report to Congress. Proposed changes to the INF Articles of Association were approved by Congress.

Member Applications

Applications for Membership had been received from the UAE, which will be handled through an email ballot. Guinea also put in an application for Associate Membership, which was approved by Congress.

Board Elections

Vice President Sue Taylor was elected for a further four years as Vice President.

Octavia Gibson from Barbados, Shirley Hooper from New Zealand and Mimi Mthethwa from South Africa all presented to Congress for Election of Further Director. Shirley Hooper was elected as Further Director see the INF Website <http://netball.org/archives/8885> for more details.

President Molly Rhone thanked Octavia Gibson for her service over the last ten years and congratulated Shirley Hooper on her appointment.

Thrilling World Class Events

Joanna Adams, CEO of England Netball and Lyndsey Impett, Operations Manager of Netball World Cup Liverpool 2019, presented their latest plans and progress for NWC2019.

Netball World Cup Draw Format Working Group – Joanna Adams, Clare Briegal, Janet Young and Octavia Gibson – presented their report with confirmation on the draw format for the NWC2019.

A presentation was made by Waikiti Bogidrau, President of Netball Fiji on their plans for hosting Netball World Youth Cup 2021 to be held in Suva, Fiji.

Cheryl Danson, Chair of the Rules Advisory Panel (RAP) presented the RAP Report and Congress approved some minor amendments to the Rules of Netball to be implemented from 2017.

CEO Clare Briegal launched the Bidding Process for NWC2023 and Fast5 NWS 2019/2020.

Keynote Speaker

Day 2 featured a keynote speech from Commonwealth Games Federation President Louise Martin CBE – INF was delighted to have welcomed her to Congress. This was the first time a CGF President had been invited to an International Federation Congress. Louise Martin spoke regarding the transformation of the CGF and the shared vision of our two organisations. Her words resonated with the audience and her presence at Congress reflects on the importance of the relationship between INF and the CGF.

Ugandan Netball Captain, Peace Proscovia, also addressed Congress, telling her incredibly moving story of her journey through netball and the challenges faced by young girls in her country and the cultural boundaries in their way.

The theme of women's empowerment continued with the signing of the Brighton plus Helsinki Declaration of Women in Sport by INF. The IWG, based in Gaborone for 2014-2018, invited delegates and observers from each INF Member country to sign the Declaration. The overall aim of the IWG is to develop a sporting culture that enables and values the full involvement of women in every aspect of sport and physical activity. IWG Host Co-Chairperson Ruth Maphorisa addressed Congress before the mass-signing.

INF Service Award Recipients

President Molly Rhone announced the INF Service Holder recipients as New Zealand's Dame Lois Muir and Kereyn Smith MNZM, and Lucille Dell Seymour from the Cayman Islands. See their full citations on the INF website here. <http://netball.org/archives/8915>

Congress 2017 concluded and the President thanked all delegates. The next INF Congress will be held July 10 and 11th Liverpool, England 2019.

Congress Workshops

A full programme of workshops based on the three core strategies from Netball 2020 took place from 8th – 14th July during the NWYC Gaborone 2017. The slides from these workshops may be viewed here: <http://netball.org/inside-inf/congress>

Please go to the password protected page where all the documentation from Congress is available to download. The password is INFcongress2017. We hope that you find these presentations useful.

Member Survey Regarding Congress

We have sent a survey to all Members and to those individuals who attended Congress to receive your feedback. If you have not yet filled in this survey please do so, by 31st August so that we can plan effectively for the next Congress.

The link to the survey for those who attended Congress is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NZ5HDQQ>

And for those Members who were unable to attend is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N5C3RTG>

Clare Briegal
INF CEO