1.1 UKU AGM Minutes – 2nd November 2019

Supplementary information to these minutes can be found on the presentation for the AGM and the recording of the AGM (which was held online) on the UKU Youtube channel.

2. Attendance & Introductions

Present: Graham Mynott, Wayne Davey, James Cooper, Jimmy Moore, Jessie, Mark Bignal, Xenia, Mara, Luca Love, Joe Wyatt, Ant, Alisdair Brown, Katie Bottomley, Dayana Guzman, Iain Campbell, Rich Jones, Chris Bamford, Simon Hill

3. Agenda

Graham Mynott (GM) welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an outline of the agenda.
- Introductions
- About UK Ultimate
- Strategic Plan 2018-22 - Core Functions
- Strategic Plan 2018-22 - Strategic Themes

4. About UK Ultimate

Graham Mynott (GM) gave a brief introduction before Si Hill (SH) outlined the responsibilities and activities of the organisation. SH then gave an overview of the 4500 members, 7 staff members and lots of volunteers who make up UK Ultimate. Of particular note in 2019 was the scale of the GB programme, with 50+ volunteers involved across 21 Great Britain squads.

5. Strategic Plan 2018-22 - Core Functions

SH then moved on to discuss the strategic plan published by UK Ultimate in 2018. Wayne Davey (WD) presented a summary of the finances of UK Ultimate in 2018, highlighting the impact of hosting WUGC 2016 and the continued impact of that, in allowing UKU to invest in a fixed term development role. SH gave a summary of membership, with membership numbers remaining static at around 4500 total members, despite a significant turnover of members each year.

Management and oversight of the 21 GB Teams has been a significant part of 2019 and SH ran through the results, with 8 medalists and 9 teams placing in the top 3 for SOTG. Given the financial transactions that go through UK Ultimate for the GB teams they do represent a notable risk for the organisation.

Some changes to the process’s around SOTG with results now published in full after events, without being anonymised as they have been previously. The School Games have been very interested in SOTG in Ultimate, even looking to adapt some SOTG practices in other (non-ultimate) areas of the school games.

6. Strategic Plan 2018-22 - Strategic Themes

Anthony Bailey (AB) spoke about Schools and Youth Ultimate, talking through the introduction of Ultimate into the School Games project. UK Ultimate has prioritised a mixed version of Ultimate in school games and participation figures show almost a 50/50 gender split. This included qualitative and quantitative feedback from school games. AB concluded with a summary of headline figures from UKU’s School Affiliation program and an update on the first ever World Schools Ultimate Championship, which saw the English representative earn silver medals.

GM reminded the meeting that Ant’s role was a fixed term investment by UK Ultimate that is coming to an end at the beginning of 2020 so passed on thanks to AB for his work over the last 2 years.

SH returned to talk about coach education, giving an overview of the headline figures for 2019 whilst providing some information about how UKU’s coaching courses are structured. Chesca Weddell (Coach education
coordinator) has made some significant progress in promoting and celebrating individuals who are involved with coaching across the UK, in particular developing a coaching profiles website.

SH noted some progress in a few areas with regards to Gender Equity, with the gender split in our school games activity being almost 50/50 and seeing some slow movement towards that split at university level. This is also apparent inside UKU’s competitions with University Women’s Indoor Nationals having a second division for the first time, the introduction of University Women’s Bucs leagues, the largest ever Junior Women’s Indoor Nationals coming up, the first ever Women’s Beach Nationals and the introduction of Club Women’s Indoor Regionals in 2020.

In the final area of the strategic themes SH discussed the challenge of broadening access for adult players. Currently UKU’s structure that makes it difficult to direct effort and resources in this area so trying to engage and work with local groups is likely to be key here. Beyond this UKU are looking to develop competition structures for those who find our existing competition is not accessible to them (most often due to the time and financial commitments required to compete in them).

SH finished by congratulating all our 2019 Nationals Champions, EUC, WU24’s, EUMC and EUCF representatives and thanks to all players, clubs, GA’s and other volunteers for helping making Ultimate happen in 2019.

7. Questions

SH opened the AGM to any final questions from attendees and briefly spoke on questions about encouraging new clubs to play in UKU competitions, multiple year memberships, competition structures in 2020, how UKU gathers feedback and regionals development plans.

Jimmy Moore (JM, Chair of the SOTG committee) spoke about the support materials for SOTG. JM also outlined the continuing work that committee is doing to support clubs with regards to SOTG and provide oversight of the SOTG scores at UKU events.

There was no other business, and so the AGM was closed.