



One Governing Body



Irish Ladies Golf Union (ILGU) & Golfing Union of Ireland (GUI)

14th Set of Discussions on One Governing Body for Golf in Ireland

21 February 2017

Notes of the Meeting – The Discussions Group agreed to produce briefer and more succinct meeting notes, due to the desire to move into 'Active Proposal Development' mode.

Discussions Group (DG)

Frank Bowen (FB) – Golfing Union of Ireland

Teresa Byrne (TB) – Irish Ladies Golf Union

Pat Finn (PF) – Golfing Union of Ireland

Sinead Heraty (SH) – Irish Ladies Golf Union

Brege McCarrick (BMcC) – Irish Ladies Golf Union

Ethel Ruddock (ER) – Irish Ladies Golf Union

Kevin Stevens (KS) – Golfing Union of Ireland

Apologies

Iggy O'Muircheartaigh (IOM) – Golfing Union of Ireland

Facilitator

Jane Williams (JW) – Sia Partners

Project Manager

Sarah Crowe (SC)

Progress of Working Groups

Organisational Structure (OS)

The OS Workshop was very positive and it produced an outcome which was similar to what the DG were envisaging in terms of the future structure; divisible by four, reasonably equal in size and areas and loyalty to current province or district was not as strong as the DG imagined it would be. It was very apparent from the workshop that Game Development and Club Services emerged as the most vital services for the members of the new organisation.

FB provided the DG with a number of recommendations around the legal structure of the future OGB and these will be considered by the DG at future meetings.

Communications

SC provided the group with an update on the communications aspect of OGB since the last meeting, including; the new OGB website (www.onegoverningbody.com) which was created at a minimal cost and the website will be launched in tandem with the next DG statement, alongside the OS workshop report. This will be done in the coming weeks, once feedback on the OS report is received.

High Performance

The first High Performance WG meeting is due to take place next week and more information will be available after the initial meeting.



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Finance

The WG are pulling together the ILGU and GUI consolidated accounts for 2016 and the WG will review them and use them as an information basis for the financial profile of the new OGB.

A discussion ensued around the future financing of the OGB and how this would be done to ensure the best provision of club services.

Volunteerism

The WG has met twice and they are beginning to develop a framework for volunteering in the new OGB and should have a proposal ready to present to the DG for the April meeting. A survey has been drafted and the WG are planning to send this to all current GUI and ILGU volunteers.

There is an overlapping area on the volunteering WG in terms of the scope of the group and the scope outlined for the OS WG. DG members decided that provincial council matters should lie with the OS WG.

Future Club Formation

This group has been up and running for some time and a draft proposal is currently being reviewed and finalised by all group members. One-three members of the Future Club WG will present the findings to the DG at the March meeting.

Club Services

The first WG meeting has taken place and group members are conducting research in a number of areas including international governing bodies. The WG are now planning to conduct a survey of clubs, asking them to rank a list of club services in terms of importance from 1-10.

Game Development

The group had their first meeting in early February and their meetings will take place on Saturday's to facilitate all members. The group members talked about what has happened in the game over the last number of years, making reference to some recent relevant reports. They also touched on the topic of course design, amongst many others.

Championships

The Championships WG initial meeting has taken place and they are reviewing what inter-club competitions and championships both unions can conduct together. Group members are looking at how the current ILGU and GUI championships programmes can be combined moving into the future and how this would be structured.

Rules

The initial WG meeting is due to take place within a week.

Course Rating/Handicapping

Two meetings of the WG have taken place. The initial meeting was spent information sharing and gathering. They have three more meetings scheduled and hope to report back to the DG in April.



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Reports of the action items from the last meeting

The DG talked through some outstanding action items from the last meeting and progressed these further through extended discussions. They asked FB to pass on their thanks to Frank O’Riordan for his work and input on the legal elements of the process.

Proposal Structure

The DG spoke about the draft proposal structure document which had been populated by individual group members since the last meeting. The group reviewed the document to ensure it was moving in the right direction and covering all aspects of the future proposal to be presented by the DG.

Consultation 2016-2017

The DG reviewed a document based on the next stage of the consultation process and how to manage it. The DG discussed next steps and reached a consensus that a meeting of both ILGU and GUI Board members would be most appropriate and timely.

Work Plan

The DG members touched briefly on the proposed work plan for the group and will review and provide feedback for future discussion.

Papers/Reports

FB provided the DG with feedback on attending the Provincial Council meetings and the positive response he received.

Other Topics

KS updated the DG to let them know that Sport Northern Ireland (NI) have committed to giving the OGB project £10,000 per annum for the first three years, beginning 1st April 2017.

KS provided the group with an update on the presentation Amanda Bennett, Fair Play Enterprises gave on governance to the Sport NI Governance Network meeting. She is heavily involved with the Golf Union of Wales and the integration of governance into Golf Clubs.

Summary Review

The DG reviewed how the meetings are and have been working to date and will continue to move forward at the current pace and with the same process as is currently used.

AOB

Date and venue of next DG meetings

- Friday 24th March 9am– 3pm - GUI Offices, Carton House
- Wednesday 19th April 2pm – 6pm – Milltown Golf Club
- Thursday 20th April 2pm – 6pm – Milltown Golf Club
- Tuesday 23rd May 9am – all day – GUI Offices, Carton House
- Thursday 22nd June 10am – 3pm – Galway Golf Club