

**Minutes of the NSA Delegates Meeting held at Pretoria High School Old Boys Club  
on Tuesday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August at 18:00**

**Present**

Rodney Wood (EXCO), Cornelia Read (EXCO), Craig Stephens (EXCO), Liz Mackenzie (TUK), Brett Cousins (UIT), Blaar Coetzee (PHS), Bronwen Martin (EXCO), Tinus Havinga (CBCTUT), Michael Pierce (NSF), John McLachlan (CSIR), Bennie Koekemoer (GLE), Koch de Jager (KEN), Deon Groenewald (UIT), Toann Claassen (UIT), Gerhard Fourie (UIT), Duane Rossouw (UIT), Piet Jordaan (PCC), Ralph du Toit (UIT), Mark Southwood (PHSOB), Martin Simon (IRE), Dawid Strydom (PVR)

**Apologies**

Derek van der Merwe, James Daniels

**1. Welcome**

RW welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

**2. Fixing of agenda**

The 2019 calendar was added to the agenda on MP's request.

**3. Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting**

MS proposed.

BC seconded.

**4. Matters arising**

**5. NSA Golf Day – 5<sup>th</sup> of September at Wingate Park Golf Club**

Only 16 four balls were entered for the original date so it was decided that the date would be moved to the 5<sup>th</sup> of September with the aim to get 36 four balls to enter.

RW requested that all clubs enter at least one four ball.

## **6. League matters for discussion**

### **6.1. When should the winter league start and end?**

It was felt that the league season started and ended too early in 2018 and it was decided that the league season should end in the middle of September 2019 and start so that this is possible.

### **6.2. One team per league in 1<sup>st</sup>, reserve and 2<sup>nd</sup> leagues**

TH raised a concern over there being three clubs with two teams in first league and highlighted the negative effects felt by a club when they lose their first league status.

It was agreed that the ideal situation would be to have 10 teams from different clubs in the first league, but that this should not happen by lowering the standard of the successful clubs, but rather by improving the standard of the clubs who are struggling.

The following proposals were made:

1. Keep the status quo – no change to the by-laws
2. Insert the following by-law:
  - 5.2.1 No club may have more than three teams between first and reserve league, meaning a club may have either two sides in first league and one in reserve league or vice versa.
3. Insert the following by-law:
  - 5.2.1 In the event that a club that does not have a first league side (club A) ends in the top 4 in reserve league and a club that has two first league sides (club B) has a side ending in the bottom 4 in first league, then club A will be allowed to take promotion while club B's second side is relegated.

It was agreed that the chairmen from the bigger clubs would meet with and assist in any way possible the smaller clubs in this rebuilding process.

### **6.3. Players being able to play for two different teams in a league season**

The by-laws surrounding the way in which players are allowed to swop between two sides in the same league were discussed, specifically with regard to clubs who put their strong players into their weaker team half-way through the season to ensure that neither team gets relegated. The following proposals were made:

1. Keep the status quo – no change to the by-laws
2. Remove the following by-laws:
  - 6.5.1 Reserves may play for either side in a higher league which has two teams but once they have represented one of the higher teams they must play a match for the lower league before playing for the other team in the higher league.
  - 6.5.2 If A club fielding two teams in the same league wishes to change the players in either of the two teams the club may make representation to the NSA, the NSA may give permission for the club to change the players, however the situation in 6.5 and 6.5.1 will still apply from the first match of the second half of the season.
3. Remove the following by-law:
  - 6.5.2 If A club fielding two teams in the same league wishes to change the players in either of the two teams the club may make representation to the NSA, the NSA may give permission for the club to change the players, however the situation in 6.5 and 6.5.1 will still apply from the first match of the second half of the season.

### **6.4. Outside player definition**

The definition of an outside player was discussed. The current definition is essentially any person who is unable to represent the NSA at the Growthpoint IPT. The following proposal was made to add the following to the existing definition:

7.6.2 Players who have not represented another province in the 8 years prior to the current league season and have played Northern's league in each of those 8 years and are resident in the Tshwane metropolitan area will not be considered as external players.

### **6.5. Current points system for a league match**

TH suggested the implementation of a social point to be awarded to clubs who cater for and entertain their opponents well. It was decided that this would not be feasible.

### **6.6. Number of external players if a club has two teams in a league – from last year**

As per the discussions in 2017 the decision was taken to further reduce the number of external players allowed (from three to two) in clubs with two first league teams. The following proposal was made:

7.6.2.1 A club with two teams in a league will only be allowed to field a total of two external players in both teams combined; meaning that of the eight players in that league six must be eligible to represent the NSA at Jarvis/Kaplan Cup.

### **6.7. No shows by-law relating to fielding a full team and players moving up into higher league teams**

The by-laws relating to no-shows were discussed and it was decided that the following should be removed from the by-laws:

3.5.4.1 In the event that a club is unable to field a full team, but is able to inform the opposition before three o'clock on the afternoon of the fixture, this team will be allowed to enter the name of the player who could not be at the fixture without the penalties being applied.

3.5.4.2 In the event that no communication is received regarding a no show, an email must be sent to [admin@northerns.co.za](mailto:admin@northerns.co.za) so that the necessary penalty points can be applied.

Additionally, the following proposals were tabled for 3.5.4 in the by-laws:

1. 2-point penalty for a no-show with an additional 2 points if a name is not entered:  
3.5.4 Clubs must fill up their league sides from the top down. All no shows on a league night will result in a 2-point penalty for the offending side and the tie being awarded to the opponent. An additional 2-point penalty will be given if a team does not enter a player's name in the offending position/s.
2. 3-point penalty for a no-show, irrespective of a name being entered or not:  
Clubs must fill up their league sides from the top down. All no-shows on a league

night will result in a 3-point penalty and the tie being awarded to the opponent, irrespective of whether a name is entered in the no-show position.

The following proposal was also tabled for a new 3.5.4.1:

In the event of a team earning a negative number of points due to any penalties being applied, the negative points will be deducted from that team's season total.

#### **6.8. Leap frog rule – practical application and understanding**

The leap-frog rule was tabled for discussion and it was decided that it should be kept as is.

#### **6.9. Etiquette during league matches – swearing, knock up and racket abuse**

RW requested that all clubs encourage their markers to take action to ensure proper etiquette on court.

#### **6.10. Blitz League**

The option of making Blitz league compulsory for the top 10 clubs to each enter a team was discussed and it was decided that BC and JM would put a proposal together to change Blitz League.

#### **6.11 Fill leagues from the top**

BC proposed that leagues be filled from the top down to ensure that the only league that might have fewer than ten teams is the last league. This will be done by automatically promoting the next available team into a higher league, if that league has an opening.

### **7. SSA Registrations and League Match Implications for 2019**

SSA numbers will replace NSF numbers for the 2019 league season. Clubs are to ensure that all their players are registered on the NSA website with an SSA number before playing a league match.

### **8. By-law amendments approved by NSF Board for discussion and possible changes for 2019**

All amendments to the by-laws will be voted upon at the AGM and sent to the NSF board for ratification.

**9. General**

The 2019 tournament and league calendar will be compiled before November and circulated for discussion.

**10. Close**

RW thanked the delegates for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:03.