

GBSC AGM – Cathedral Hotel Lichfield 10th June

Apologies have been received from Andy French and Chris Ellis

The previous year's minutes were approved by Mimi Quarta and seconded by Jason Murphy

Chairpersons Report

The GB year started off with the **Olympic Qualification for the Women** held in Astana Kazakhstan GBSC were represented at this tournament and from the photos this looked a fantastic place. Won 1 Lost 2 (narrowly losing to Poland) finishing in 3rd place. GBSC Player of the Tournament Katie Marsden

It was then the **GB Sledge Hockey** team who travelled to Japan for their WC as you are aware our own Ian Offers is the head coach. The scores were Loss 12-0 Czech, 6-0 Japan then 1-0 against Slovakia who they then lost again to 5-1 in the Bronze Medal game

GBSC Player of the Tournament Ian Warner

The **GB under 20s** went to the fantastic city of Budapest, again well represented by GBSC. Unfortunately, Tom Watkins could not make this trip so Martin Grubb took over the coaching position. There were around 15 changes from last year's team that won Bronze. They were relegated suffering two overtime losses, against Slovenia who finished 3rd and penalty shots against Poland who finished second.

It was nice to see 3 players from U18 representing the U20s

IIHF Player GB Glen Billing / GBSC Renny Marr

Our **Under 18 Women** were in Katowice in January, in Div. 1 Group B., with around 13 changes from last year's team they finished 4th in their group. Won 1 Draw one (OT win against China) Loss 3. GBSC were again well represented in Katowice.

IIHF player Casey Trail / GBSC Emily Harris at only 14 years old was presented with her award by Mark and June Fogg.

The **Under 16s** took part in an international tournament in Dumfries late December. Beating Belgium, Netherlands and on their last game Spain to become worthy winners

They then competed in a tournament in the Czech Republic finishing 4th, they lost out on the bronze medal in a dramatic 3-2 shootout against HC Junior Melnik. It is always good to see the Junior teams competing in these tournaments.

Then to **Women and U18 Men** who had to travel to Gangneung Korea Mark and June Fogg travelled as GBSC members.

U18s could not maintain their position of 4th finishing 5th. This year, it is always tough for the U18s with the change in team, there were 16 new players from the previous year. Won 2 otl loss (of a penalty shootout to Estonia), 2 loses

GB Cameron Pound / GBSC Ben Solder

The **GB Women** maintained their bronze position with 2 wins, 1 loss against PKR and 2 losses, only losing 1 goal against 2nd place team Netherlands. There were around 8 changes from last year's team and it was nice to see Angela Taylor back in the squad.

Special congratulations to Katie Henry who got engaged during the tournament.

IIHF player of the tournament Louise Adams / GBSC player of the tournament Angela Taylor

GB Men

Excellent again to have the Norway/Poland Warm up games for the seniors hoping that this is something IHUK can continue given our promotion and achieve eventually for all GB Teams.

I think we were all apprehensive when the city of Belfast was announced. Firstly, I would like to congratulate the SSE Arena, Belfast Giants and more importantly IHUK for pulling off a fantastic world championship. The people of Belfast were some of the friendliest I have ever met and by the mid-way point of the tournament they had really taken GB to heart.

It was difficult to coordinate everything this year with the fans being in different hotels/apartments but we still managed to host our Music Quiz, – special thanks to Shaggy and theme day was also a great success.

Congratulations to Colin becoming the all-time leading goal scorer (Modern Era) he now only has to score another 5 goals to break the record of 45. Also fantastic to see young Sam Duggan in the squad after following him all these years at U18/20.

Rod being there with Penny and Rachel of course drew a lot of media coverage which only helped raise the profile. Rod and family were presented with two Replica shirts. A massive thanks to Paul Braisby for giving up his shirt.

The atmosphere in the GB block was electric at times and the chanting after the games in the concourse. The feedback we received from non-GB Members was fantastic they could not believe the noise the GB Barmy could make and we hope to see many of them next year.

Ben O'Connor received defenceman of the tournament with Colin Shields receiving Forward., GBSC player tournament Evan Mosey

A massive special thanks go to Jim Graves for letting us take over Rockies for the week. He and his staff were fantastic hosts.

I am not going to talk about any of the games as the results speak for themselves but that feeling of elation and finally tears of happiness after the last couple of years' disappointment cannot be put into words

It was great for the fans that travelled that they were rewarded by seeing the team win that elusive gold we have all been waiting for. It was a special night.

IHUK lost a good friend to GBSC earlier in the year in **Bob Wilkinson**, you could find Bob at every junior tournament he was a great ambassador for not only the GB Teams but all of Ice hockey in the UK

This year GBSC lost one of our beloved members, **Beryl Nuttall** who was a regular on the trip with her "Saga Friends" as they liked to call themselves, we recently saw Bernard at the Elite league finals and he is looking to travel again with GBSC.

Also congratulations to GBSC Members Stuart Lawton and Adele Burson and also ex committee member Melanie Johnson who have recently become engaged.

Special thanks as usual to the committee for their hard work, the non-committee members, Ian for updating the website/fb/twitter not only during the year but at the games with the fantastic daily

photos. Phil for guess the score, Mark and Jack for their continued help during the EPL Finals Matt and Justyna for their help at the Friendly games and a special thanks to John King known as Dad for all his help during the friendlies and Belfast – we could not have done it without you.

Vice Chairpersons Report

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I Group A

In Budapest, Hungary, 22-28 April 2018

Participants: Slovenia, Italy, Kazakhstan, Poland, Hungary, Great Britain

Accommodation is available. 4-star hotel £43 per night incl. B&B

Flights into Budapest

LHR – BA £220, LUT – Whizz, LGW - EasyJet, STN – Ryanair, BRS – Ryanair B'ham, Whizz Man – Jet 2. Prices not yet released for April 2018

Eat Mids – Ryanair Jet 2 ,Leeds Jet 2, EDI – Jet 2 Ryanair Glas = Whizz Liverpool – Whizz

We will be holding all our usual events. Mini golf is sorted. Theme day – GBSC Meal, Music and General knowledge , guess the score, meet the players, bag raffle and Day trip

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey U20 World Championship Division II Group A

In Dumfries, Great Britain, 10-16 December 2017

Participants: Great Britain, Japan, Romania, Estonia, Netherlands, Korea

Premier Inn and Travel lodge best two options for accommodation

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 World Championship Division II Group A

In Tallinn, Estonia, 1-7 April 2018

Participants: Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Korea, Great Britain, Australia

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship Division II Group A

In Bled, Slovenia, 7-13 April 2018

Participants: Netherlands, Great Britain, DPR Korea, Slovenia, Australia, Mex

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey U18 Women's World Championship Division I Group B

In Krynica, Poland, 6-12 January 2018

Participants: France, Denmark, Poland, Great Britain, China, Australia to be announced

2018 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship

In Copenhagen & Herning, 4-20 May 2018

Anniversary committee meetings commence next month. Info on celebration to be announced

Para Ice Hockey – Ian Offers (Head Coach)

Para Ice Hockey is the new name for Sledge Hockey and in November 2016 the GB Para Ice Hockey Team travelled to Tomakomai for the World Championships.

Joining the team this year is a fellow GBSC member in Shirley Packwood who is our Team Manager and medic.

Travelling with a small squad the team weren't helped when 2 players were injured in game 1 and another fractured a vertebra in the final game !

The team lost all of their games, but improved as the tournament progressed and it was a good experience for the players.

With Russia being expelled from the IPC at present GB have been invited to take their place in the Paralympic Qualification tournament in 2017 but are likely to decline the invite to instead concentrate on developing the squad, especially after a number of the current squad have retired from the sport.

The sport receives no funding, and everyone who travelled to Japan had to pay their own costs, which were around £2.5k each. GBSC once again sponsored the shirts and we are very grateful for your continued support.

Treasurers' Report and Approval of Accounts – Accounts approved by Sheila Duers and Mags Morgan

We have made a surplus of £3.2k this year, after donations totalling £5.8k to the teams.

Tournament costs and income are down on 15/16 due only running the trip to Belfast as there was no Olympic qualification tournament this year.

Fund Raising has fallen slightly but last year's figure included the additional fund raising and raffles in Cortina.

Merchandise turnover has increased from last year after running some roadshows and a successful stall at the play off finals and GB friendlies along with running a stall at the Belfast Tournament. Leanne will come on to this in her report.

The donations to the Olympic and ring-fenced funds have remained static this year. I would like to thank those of you who donate to these funds and if anybody would like to donate to these funds please let one of us know.

If you look at the balance sheet we are holding on to £33K in cash, mainly in the Building Society account which is interest bearing, the remainder we have kept in the Bank accounts as working capital plus a healthy amount of stock.

The stock figure has decreased slightly from last year due to running the additional roadshow in Belfast at the end of the season.

I am also pleased to be able to announce a further £1.5k donation to IHUK for 2017/18 increasing our contribution to the trams for this year to £5.5k

Any questions on the accounts?

Funding Report

The 2016 raffle was successful. After deducting stationery costs of £275.70 from the total income of £1550, we were left with a profit of £1274.20p

The response rate from those who received tickets to sell was 45.16%

Our top individual sellers were in first place Ian Cosford £232, Gordon McQuade, £170, Joint 3rd Lisa Botting and Bobbie Wishart with sales of £120.

We received prizes from IHUK, EIHA, Guildford, Coventry, both Sheffield clubs, Nottingham, Streatham, Cardiff, Peterborough, Manchester, Bracknell and Fife. There were also individuals who

contributed prizes and we are grateful to them all, organisations, clubs and individuals for their support.

Lastly we would like to thank all those who sold and bought tickets, without whom we couldn't have raised any money!

The 100 Club remains strong with just over 70 members raising over £400 per month. After the monthly prizes of £150, £50 and £25 have been deducted, the 100 Club contributes over £2,000 a year to club funds. If anybody here would like to join, please speak to me later. We are very grateful to all those who contribute to this worthwhile fund raiser.

The ring-fenced fund continues with the same small number of contributors. We are grateful to them for their continued support. This fund raises money specifically for Olympic Tournaments and team training camps. If you are interested in becoming a contributor, please speak to me later.

Other people contribute to our fund raising on an ad hoc basis. Phil Sutton with the "guess the score" competitions at GB games, Lesley Bridson with the Tat Bag raffle when we are on tour, and raffle ticket sellers at the formal meal. If I have forgotten anybody, I apologise, but we thank those I named and those who I may have inadvertently omitted from the list for their sterling efforts.

I would like to thank our Club Reps for their work and the support they provide both to the committee and the membership. Help with the annual raffle, obtaining prizes and their contribution to road shows does not go un-noticed.

Lastly, thanks go to Mark and Jack Symonds who help Jim and I at the EPL Finals every year for no gain. Hopefully next year we can report on the NIHL Finals weekend at Coventry replacing the much loved EPL Finals weekend.

Membership

Membership renewals have been quite steady this year, with a few people joining as a result of the World Championship being in Belfast and the majority were Belfast fans. Membership currently stands at 254 with 207 outstanding that will potentially renew, and will be sent a reminder.

Of our current members 114 are female 44.88% and 140 are male 55.12%

Our oldest member remains as Robert Barr who is a sprightly 91 years young. Our oldest female member is still the effervescent Willi Brown from Coventry, who is a little over 21.

Our youngest member has changed and is now Theo Ward who will be 1 in July.

15 members support only GB and 6 people state that they support a team no longer in existence, namely Newcastle Vipers and London.

Best supported Club Teams within GBSC are:

1. Nottingham Panthers	44	17.32%
2. Coventry Blaze	25	9.84%
3. Guildford Flames	24	9.45%
4. Sheffield Steelers	20	7.87%
5. Telford Tigers	14	5.51%
6. Bracknell Bees	12	4.72%
7. Cardiff Devils	12	4.72%
8. Belfast Giants	11	4.33%
9. Manchester	11	4.33%
10. Fife Flyers	10	3.94%

As per the last few years, we remain a multi-national club with members in Norway, Japan, Germany, USA and Canada, with a number of our "Honorary" Brits travelling most years to the World Championship to lend their support to the Barmy Army.

The membership gift has been well received this year and, as always, if anyone has any ideas or suggestions for a new gift would they please let any of the committee know as these are much appreciated.

There have been a number of issues this with year the membership email address. The old FS Mail addresses were shut down by Orange and so ours closed. We had set up an email with btinternet which became inaccessible to me. This has now been resolved and all membership enquiries should go to membership@gbsc.co.uk to be forwarded on to the membership secretary.

I have to announce that I have decided to stand down from the role of Membership Secretary after 14 years due to pressures of work commitments. I cannot give the time needed to undertake the role and feel that the members deserve someone better placed to do so. It has been a pleasure working with all the Committee over the years, and getting to meet all the wonderful people that became members.

Thank you for the opportunity!

Merchandise 2016.

As the committee virgin I trust you all to go easy on me, so no heckling please

Firstly I'd like to say a special thank you to everyone who has helped us out at roadshows and the final weekends this year, and of course to Dad for being chief stock man in Belfast (and my permanent postal address/delivery man)

Although not here I would also like to say big thank you to Brenda and Chas Bailey again for producing our sticks. Unfortunately, due to Chas's ill health they were unable to make it this year and it is likely these gold sticks will be the last ones

Onto the roadshows, we've had some good roadshows this year along with the 2 final weekends, warm up games and of course who can forget that trip to Belfast. With trips to MK, Guildford, Hull, Coventry and Ice Sheffield

Next year we will hopefully get the roadshow to more rinks, I have to apologise for this as me not managing to keep injury free on the hockey rink disrupted a lot of my planned trips. We've already made plans to visit Braehead and Dumfries for the U20's

With the good news that Gordons Hoody Mountain is now resembling more of a Hill I'll also be looking to introduce some new lines again this year, with last year's introduction of the ¼ zip tops being particularly popular. Along with the new t-shirts courtesy of cross check clothing which proved a hit with the players as well as fans, the mini sticks and new style pin badges.

On a final point the online shop is now fully up and running and we'll be looking at putting on sales and offers through the year

Appointment of the Committee for the following year

As Jim is standing down from Membership Secretary all GBSC members will be able to nominate themselves for this position. Email details to follow to all members.

Any other points, questions from the Floor

The subject of the Fifth line magazine was brought up and the majority of fans miss receiving this. Ian would look into an on line solution.

The members are on the website is now live and all members will receive an email with log in details.

Andy Buxton/Gary Brine.

Handover to the new Committee

Meeting Closed