

# Revised Root and Branch Review Committee –

## Summary Minutes of Meeting 10

The Tenth meeting of the Revised Root and Branch Review Committee took place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2011 in the Louis FitzGerald Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin at 7:30pm

### Attendance:

Original Review Committee Members:	Region D:	Ger Healy
Joe Corcoran		Ray Heney
Dermott Quigley	Region E:	Frank O'Mahony
Ann Stevens		Nial Murphy
Angela Henehan	IRCA:	Kevin Barrett
James Coleman		
Region A:	Convenor:	Michael Irvine.
Paul Lyons		
Sean McHugh		
Region B:	Apologies:	
Noel Devlin		
Roy Stewart	Region C:	Kathryn Keogh
Region C:		
Ed FitzGerald		

### Matters Discussed:

#### 1. Minutes

Minutes of last meeting, having already been circulated, were approved as a record of the proceedings of that meeting. Noted also that Summary Minutes (also circulated and no comments having been received) were already published on MI website.

#### 2. Documents Circulated since last Meeting:

Noted as Draft re Appendix 101 & copies of Submissions as received from Clubs – see Below re both.

#### 3. Submissions from Clubs

Noted that submissions had been received from 10 Clubs (ALMC, Carlow, Cavan, Connacht, Cork, Mayo, Monaghan, Skibbereen, TDC, Tipperary). MIrvine felt that there was, in basic principle, little enough difference between them in general, and that the primary points made were that the organisational framework as currently structured was fundamentally sound except that the function of the CAC needed significant reform, that better liaison/representation was required with and from the Clubs, that the sport should be better promoted at Central level, and that the circulation of Summary Minutes was a welcome exercise. Others felt that the idea of promoting and protecting the grass-roots level of the sport was also mentioned more than once, and others noted the mention of the requirement for economic competitions, especially at entry-level, the computerisation of processing and in particular all records in the MI Office, a caution re the possible financial implications of a new ASN, and of a mechanism being required to better represent at Committee level, Clubs who organised a disproportionately large number of events in a particular discipline.

There was general agreement that return rate from Clubs was disappointing. Whilst some felt that some Clubs may not have responded due to being reasonably happy, others that it would be preferable if they have noted this satisfaction in writing.

It was agreed that, in general, they could be taken as supportive if the overall thrust of the Committee's work and direction, but that it was essential that the Clubs be kept informed and that they felt an "ownership" of the process, and also that any new structure would ensure the inclusion of the Clubs to the greatest extent possible.

#### 4. Appendix 101

The draft as pre-circulated was discussed. It was noted that it was designedly short on detail as regards composition of groups as suggestions on this should originate from the committee. It was agreed that

the regional sub-groups as previously constituted would each produce a single document for circulation before the next meeting and that the draft Appendix 101 would be revised in light of comments made.

There was a detailed discussion on the issue of Nomination of the chairs of the various discipline committees, some stating that they felt that the ethos intended was very much "from below up". However, following contributions from others in relation to the practicalities of this and the fact that, in practise, the existing system worked well in many ways, but with general agreement also that it was vital that the system be seen to be representative, and was not so seen at present, agreement was eventually reached that the incoming Chairmen would be proposed by the President in consultation with the relevant Committees and outgoing Chairmen for ratification by the MSC. There was also a suggestion that there should be a position of "incoming Chairman", i.e. that a new Chairman would be appointed 1 year before actually taking up office. This met with some support, but no decision was reached.

It was agreed that the existing "rolling" system for Club Representation on Committees worked well in principle, but needed to be revised to allow for the greater Club representation intended for the larger Committees in particular, and some fine tuning of the procedures for dealing with Clubs who no longer had events in a discipline, or for Clubs newly entered into a discipline. It was noted that all active Clubs were represented permanently on the Race and some other Committees, and that that arrangement worked well, but all accepted that this principle could not work where there was a significantly greater number of Clubs involved in a discipline. It was agreed that that the documents from the 4 groups (see above) should contain, as a central element, proposals in this regard.

Some felt that it was important that the MSC have sufficient nomination rights to the various Committees, etc., to provide for reasonable continuity and stability, but most importantly that it was the experience that some Club nominees proved unwilling to contribute strongly to either the decision-making process or workload of a Committee, and that it was therefore necessary to have some strong MSC nominees.

All agreed that all Club nominations to committees, and to as many as possible of all other positions, should be made by the end of September of the previous Year.

## **5. Executive Council**

JCorcoran gave an update on the position re the Executive Council membership, stating that the change in the Constitution to allow the additional Regional Rep would be approved at the next IAC and that the appointment of this additional rep could be put in place immediately thereafter.

## **6. Meeting with Clubs**

There was some discussion as to whether there should be 3 regional meetings in place of one National meeting, but it was eventually agreed to stick with a single meeting.

It was queried whether any proposal should be put to the IAC before putting to the Clubs, but it was pointed out that CSparks has specifically requested that the Committee revert to the IAC/IMF with a definite proposal, and it was agreed that the proposals would be put to the Clubs first.

In addition, it was agreed that the submissions made would be taken into account in the discussions of the 4 regional sub-groups

It was agreed that as two further full Committee meetings were required before meeting with the Clubs, that this meeting could not take place until late February.

## **7. Next Meeting:**

Agreed as:

**Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Naas Road Dublin**

**7:30 pm Tuesday 10 January 2012**

(Noted that Regional sub-groupings would be meeting in the interim)

(Also agreed that **Meeting 12** would be on Tuesday 31 January 2012, same time/venue).