**Competition Committee Meeting 03.04.17 – Notes**

1. **Player Grading**

The CC committee discussed players from recent Novice and Intermediate tournaments and concluded the following:

**Novice players moving to Intermediate:**

Sheraz (Lancashire Lions)

Harvey Blowfield (New College Worcester)

There is also the following recommendation that the following players should be looking at moving up a level for next season:

**Novice**

Amelia Robertson (Lancashire Lions)

Daniel Clarke (VI Bees)

**Intermediate**

Dom Roper (Fen Tigers)

Joe Roper (Fen Tigers)

1. **2017/18 Season Format**

As an ongoing process the CC discussed the current format of all levels and changes that could be made for next season. Here are the following proposes.

**Novice**

* Format remains the same with 2 regions and final competition.
* Where possible the matches will be 2 x 5 minute halves
* 2 substitutions that can be used at any point during the game instead of one in each half.

**Intermediate**

* The committee agreed the best step is to go back to 3 regions for next season with the outlook of potential 2 court venues at the end of the season in central locations in each region.
* Goalball UK will welcome suggestions from clubs on how to break down the 3 regions fairly and evenly.
* A proposal of 2 options will be sent to the goalball community for a vote for next season’s regions.

**Elite**

* All agreed the current elite format works and will remain at The Factory next season.

1. **Head Injuries**

In recent Elite competition there have been several head injuries and play has continued. It was concluded that a Medical timeout should be called right away for an accessment and depending on severity player will be medically substituted and not allowed to play for the remainder for the game – this applies for all levels.

1. **Players Playing for Difference Clubs at Different Levels**

There has been a few occasions where players have played for different clubs at difference levels. It was agreed that this will be allowed in “Exceptional Circumstances” however the CC need to communicate this better so there is no confusion from other clubs.

1. **GB Women Players / Intermediate Standard**

It was agreed by the CC that allowing GB players to play in the intermediate league increase the level of competition and is a positive thing. However having 3 GB women on court at one time has been highlighted as downfall of this rule. In addition it has been suggested that developing male players should be allowed to play Novice/ Intermediate or Intermediate / Elite to aid development.

The following proposal was agreed by The CC and will be enrolled next season:

There will be a 1 – 5 ranking system for players as followed:

1 = Novice

2 = Novice/Intermediate

3 = Intermediate

4 = Intermediate/Elite

5 = Elite

(NB. All GB men were rated as 5)

Then clubs can field the following players for tournaments:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Combined on court points total** | **Possible player combinations** |
| Novice | 5 or less | 1/1/1 = 3  1/1/2 = 4  1/2/2 = 5 |
| Intermediate | 6 to 11 | 2/2/2 = 6  2/2/3 = 7  2/3/3 = 8  2/2/4 = 8  2/3/4 = 9  3/3/3 = 9  3/3/4 = 10  3/4/4 = 11 |
| Elite | 12 or more | 4/4/4 = 12  4/4/5 = 13  4/5/5 = 14  5/5/5 = 15 |

By introducing this system it would stop there being an Intermediate club that have 3 very strong players and also allow for developing players to play at two levels to make the transition up to the next level.

More information will be sent to clubs about this at a later date.

1. **Communication**

It has been highlighted that apart from the CC no one else in the goalball community are aware of decisions made. Therefore following every meeting and CC discussion there will be a document produced that will be on Goalball UK website and sent to club leads to update all clubs.

1. **AOB**

End of Season Awards – A Nomination form will be sent to clubs for player of the season to create a long list. Goalball UK will narrow it to a shortlist the CC will vote for the winner. Same applies for service to sport.

Juniors – the CC discussed what the lowest age should be for junior competitions. It was agreed that Goalball UK will scope out the average age of players currently player and determine a lowest age from there.

Officials Representative – There is a need to have an official representative on the committee.