



SPORT COMMITTEE MINUTES

Summary for IAPS Schools

The Committee met on Tuesday 13 October 2020 at 10.30am on Zoom.

Present: Chris Schanschieff (Sports Committee Chairman - CS), Deborah Henderson (DH), Jody Wells (JW), Rob Taylor (RT), Susan Clarke (SC), Gareth Jones (GJ), Jonathan Hall (JH), Marcus Cook (MC), Nick Pears (NP), Sally Garland-Jones (SGJ), Ian Silk (IS) and Greg Evans (GE).

In Attendance: Andrew Nott (IAPS Chairman - AN), William Goldsmith (Vice-Chairman - WG), Christopher King (CEO – CPMK), Mark Brotherton (Director of Education - MSB), Fran Hide (Sport Events Manager - FH) and Emily Connell (Sport Events Coordinator – EC).

Apologies were received from Mike McKaughan (MM) and Sean Price (SP). Jody Wells, Forres Sandle Manor, was formally welcomed. Jody has taken over from John Thorpe as the District 5 representative.

Small School Definition

Following an analysis of school pupil numbers, a small school will now be defined as a *school with less than 30 girls or 30 boys in years 5 & 6 or years 7 & 8 combined except for rugby which will be defined as a school with less than 20 boys in year 8.*

(The less than 30 boys rugby competition will be removed as this is no longer deemed a small schools competition).

England Hockey Update and Clarification

The government has approved the return of many sports based on an evidence based approach that has approval from Public Health England, DCMS and the cabinet office. All sports had to submit detailed risk assessments and mitigation strategies and NGB's have different staged approaches for return based on the risk profile of their sport. The [DfE update](#) that came out at the end of August specifically referenced this framework and encouraged schools to follow the guidance set out.

England Hockey has specific guidance for schools available [here](#) (see schools guidance). As an outdoor sport with limited contact the sport is considered to be relatively safe. In the community game players are required to socially distance outside of play and during the game players only have 'fleeting contact' so there is very limited risk of transmission. As a result of the socially distanced approach teams do not form 'bubbles' and should there be a case in a team or an opposition team players are not required to self-isolate as a result of hockey activity. In a school environment hockey within bubbles or between bubbles carries little risk of transmission as long as bubbles are kept separate outside of the pitch.

COVID-19 & Events

Autumn term

IAPS Sport events for the autumn term were cancelled in September. One of the largest factors for making that decision was schools not being able to host events, as they are not in the position to have external visitors onto site.

Spring/Summer term

Under current guidance IAPS will not be running any national tournaments due to a number of factors: longer travel distances, overnight stays and an increased number of teams mixing. IAPS aims to offer one day festivals in girls hockey, boys football, U11 rugby, girls netball and boys hockey. This will provide schools with an opportunity to take part in events that they missed in the autumn term. The events will focus on having fun and returning to competition slowly and safely.

Indoor events

Badminton, basketball, chess, squash, judo are on hold and will be assessed nearer the time.

Swimming

A venue for the national swimming finals has yet to be confirmed. IAPS has spoken with other possible venues in Crawley, Cardiff and Manchester, with provisional dates on hold. If a finals venue is secured, IAPS may need all schools to do inhouse galas and submit times nationally.

Summer term

The summer term is being planned as normal, as much as possible.

Feedback from districts

A handful of schools in each district are keen to play fixtures. Whilst a few fixtures have taken place this half term and some are planned for after half term, the general feeling amongst districts is that no fixtures will take place until the spring.

Staff have become more inventive with the types of activities and sports they offer.

There is confusion amongst schools as to whether they should be organising fixtures, as AFPE are advising against fixtures whilst the DfE/NGB guidance does not deter this. There is a lot of confusion over what is being allowed at club level vs school level.

One district said one school has done a few fixtures and allowed a small number of parents on site to support. The matches weren't as competitive and elements have changed, such as no match teas. In line with recent guidance changes, parents are no longer able to attend but more fixtures are planned after half term.

Senior schools seem less cautious than prep schools and are playing fixtures already. Prep schools attached to a senior school appear to be playing fixtures, whereas standalone prep and junior schools look not to be playing fixtures.

Director of Sport Conference

The IAPS Director of Sport Conference will be held on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 October 2021, at Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre in Bedford.

Multisport Camp

IAPS is working with Loughborough University to provide a different opportunity for member schools in the form of a residential multisport camp. Dates and costs are currently being discussed.

Mascot – TED

The final design of the IAPS Sport mascot, Ted, is finished and has been launched to schools. Ted is in full use by the IAPS Sport team, featuring in social media posts, on marketing literature and on newly designed feather and roller banners.

Sport App

IAPS Sport are designing a sports app with a company called Insight mobile who provide the IAPS conference app. The app will be primarily targeted at spectators and school staff to use on event days. It will include event information, the event programme and results. There will be a section on the app to include information about any sponsorship and/or partnership deals. The app will launch in January 2021.

Cross Country Championships

IAPS has received a request to host a national cross-country event. The national prep school's cross-country championships are held at Malvern College but they have been cancelled due to bad weather for the last 3 years. IAPS is exploring hosting its own cross-country championships.

Bsporty Magazine

The partnership with bsporty was launched in April 2020. A monthly edition with an exclusive IAPS Sport section has been written since. Schools can sign up for the magazine on our [website](#). There are school or individual memberships available.

Bee Netball

All Bee netball courses for 2020 were cancelled. Replacement courses will be planned for summer 2021.

The 2021 U11 netball tournament will have its final year as 7-aside and then switch over to the stinger stage of Bee Netball in spring 2022.

England Golf Offer

England Golf have a new offer available for independent schools to sign up for, including free training and resources to help schools roll out a golf programme in their curriculum. England Golf are working with a company called Golphin to run the programme. Schools can contact [IAPS Sport](#) for more information.

Dates of future meetings: Thursday, 11 February 2021

IAPS Sport welcomes feedback from districts.

Please contact your [district representative](#) to feedback any information to be discussed by the Committee.