

Minutes of the 7th Asia Pacific Lacrosse Union Meeting

6th July 2011, Auckland, New Zealand.

Venue: College Rifle's Sports Club, Auckland, New Zealand
Time: 17:20-20:30
Apologies: Allan Frederick, WonJae Park.
Attendees: Committee members:
Albert Lai, Yasuhiko Hayakawa, Bill Hollins
Member Country Representative and Observer:
Australia: Mike Slattery, Bob Carter
Hong Kong: Albert Lai, Joyce Tai
Japan; Yusuke Sasaki, Yoshihiro Okubo, Eri Shiinoki
New Zealand: Bill Hollins, Gavin Higgins, Hannah Doney
South Korea: Jinkyu Roh, Grace Lee (joined 17:55)
Invited Guests:
Shelley Maher (Director of Women's Lacrosse, FIL)

I. Welcome and Introductions

- All meeting participants introduced themselves.

II. Minutes of APLU Meeting 2010

- The minutes of the 2010 meeting was summarized and presented by Albert and adopted without amendment.
- It was noted that the registration of APLU in Hong Kong as a society requires the officers' personal details and constitution. Company registration is also possible but will incur costs such as auditing. Possibility of registration in Australia is yet to be explored by Fiona.

III. ASPAC 2011 Tournament Report

- Report was given by Bill on behalf of the NZLA – the host of ASPAC 2011 Tournament in Auckland, New Zealand.
- The organizing committee faced problems with logistics with two men's teams withdrawing from the tournament at very late stage. However, a slight profit was made from the forfeited deposit payments from withdrawn teams.
- The NZLA also faced difficulties with financials as up front payment was required for the opening and closing ceremonies. The main source of income was generated by event T-shirt sales. Venue booking costs were covered by grant money available from New Zealand slot

machines funds with discounted rates offered by College Rifles Sports Club.

- Shelly suggested conducting a survey to gather comments from participants and officials to inform organizers of next ASPAC tournament. NZLA to follow up.

IV. Thailand and China Applications to become Associate Members of APLU

- No official application was received from TLA
- Yas reported that CLA has been registered as a limited company in Hong Kong. However, CLA not expected to join ASPAC tournaments in near future due to costs and difficulties in obtaining travel documents. Recognition from APLU might help in getting visa by possible decrease in guarantee bond required by the authorities.

V. APLU Development Activities 2010-2011 by Yas

- Men's lacrosse friendly games between Hong Kong and Thailand held in Hong Kong and Bangkok. The Thai team travelled to Hong Kong before the World Championship and Hong Kong Team travelled to Bangkok in October 2010.
- Kentaro's report on officiating around Asia was presented. The report demonstrates that JLA values officials' development on lacrosse developing countries.
- Shelley commented that FIL can support official development of APLU members in similar ways that the European developments benefited from the development grant to hire coaches.
- CLA which is based in Beijing organized Shanghai Cup to address the players growth in the city. Over 100 participated in the event. (refer to China Lacrosse Friendship Games, Shanghai Cup 2011 report)
- TLA has financial means to hire coaches, and JLA has also given support in their development, e.g. providing officials for Thailand Hong Kong Cup.
- Shelley indicated that FIL grants for development need to be applied for 12 months in advance. The application has to identify a specific need, e.g. 6-hour certifying course for coaching offered by ALA.
- Question was raised by NZLA regarding FIL's plan in helping with raising the level of competitiveness of 'developing countries' which are already in the 'next tier' of development (i.e. not just donation of equipment); are events such as ASPAC tournaments valued by FIL and what kind of support FIL can offer to APLU.
- Shelley clarified that FIL development resources are not available to Full Members.

VI. ASPAC 2013

- No formal application was received for hosting the next ASPAC tournament. TLA showed interest informally but due to the uncertain political situation in Thailand, no application was made.
- Albert expressed that HKLA does not have the ability to host in 2013 due to difficulties in

securing venue for several consecutive days.

- Possibility of changing the women's games to a different year to avoid clashes with the FIL world events was discussed but was decided against since a joint event would be more financially viable for the organizer, and more in line with the principles of FIL.
- JLA can be a possible candidate for hosting the 2013 ASPAC Championship. However, KLA, NZLA, HKLA expressed that due to the clash with the FIL's Women's World Cup 2013, members would have difficulties in sending women teams to ASPAC.
- It was expressed that while JLA and ALA view the ASPAC as an opportunity to develop junior teams while other members send senior teams for more game experience.
- Members voted between options of changing the next ASPAC Championships to 2012 or 2015 since there will be no world senior events in these years.
- HKLA, NZLA, ALA and JLA voted for 2012.
- Formal invitation to be sent to members to host the next ASPAC Championships in June/July 2012. Three questions will be asked:
 - 1) Whether member can join/host in 2012;
 - 2) If not, would joining/hosting in 2015 be feasible;
 - 3) Would member prefer separate events for men's and women's games.

VII. APLU Constitution, Short Review by Albert

- The APLU Constitution was finalized and agreed via email voting. Final version of the constitution was sent to members prior to the meeting, concluding the constitution drafting process, and calls for voting in the meeting for the set up of the formal office.

VIII. APLU Bylaws. Competition, ASPAC, Discussion by Albert

- It was agreed that there is no need for alternating the host of the ASPAC Championships between hemispheres. All issues relating to eligibility and age restrictions to be kept as previously agreed in last meeting.
- All agreed that the ASPAC United team is a good idea as countries which cannot send full team can still participate in ASPAC.
- Mike suggested setting a close off date of 6 months prior to event to decide whether an ASPAC United team should/can be formed.

IX. APLU Officers and Executive Boards Election

- Term of Office: 4 years starting 1st September, 2011
- Nomination for President: Mike
- Nomination for Vice-President: Yas
- Order of election:
President: Mike – agreed by all

Vice: Yas – agreed by all

Executive Director: President to nominate his candidate within 4 weeks (3rd August 2011).

- Executive Board members (3 members) voting by simple ballot:

Albert: 5

Allan: 3

Won Jae: 3

Bill: 2

Yusuke: 2

- Delegation of work among the executive board members will be decided by the President and Vice-President before commencing term of office.

X. APLU Regional and Country Reports 2010-2011

Hong Kong (reported by Albert)

- There are about 200 men's players who compete in the university's and HKLA's lacrosse league.
- There are 80 women's players and ~50 of them are actively playing.
- Lacrosse demonstrations for local schools are planned for the coming year. A pilot program was carried out over 3 weeks for 60 nos of 16-18 year olds in a local school during physical education classes.
- HKLA is liaising with education centers to develop lacrosse programs for children ages 12-17 as an option for the required extra curricular activities under the reformed education system.

Japan (reported by Yusuke)

- There are currently around 15,000 memberships of which ~70% is women. 80% of the members are collegiate players and 20% are graduates playing for club teams.
- Heritage of Lacrosse in Japan presented in the General Assembly in Manchester 2010 was circulated.

New Zealand (reported by Bill)

Note: A report from NZALU is available and was submitted prior to the meeting.

- Youth program was implemented for both men and women. Annual competition in Australia for U-15 teams has been planned.

Korea (reported by Jinkyu)

- KLA has been focusing on developing high school teams for 5 years. However, compulsory 2 years military service for men at 20 years old poses difficulties in the continual players

development. Hence, the focus will be changed to collegiate development in the future.

- An indoor league is also in planning.

Australia (reported by Mike)

Note: A report from ALA is available and was submitted prior to the meeting.

Others (reported by Yas)

- JLA has been working with TLA to develop lacrosse in Thailand and Singapore.
- CLA held first lacrosse league in Shanghai in December. *Note: A report of China lacrosse has been received and circulated.*

XI. Next Meeting Date

- The next Union Meeting of the APLU will be held during the 2013 Women's World Cup in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. The exact date and time will be communicated later.

XII. Other Business

- Albert to prepare the minutes of the meeting.
- Yas expressed sincere thanks, on behalf of the APLU members, to Allan and Albert for drafting the APLU constitution and bylaws.

Adjournment of Meeting

- There being no other business, the APLU 2010 meeting was adjourned at 20:30 followed by a group photo session.

Prepared by

Lai Ho Yin, Albert (HKLA)
Interim Committee Member
Asia Pacific Lacrosse Union
(Drafted on 10-August-2011)