

## BE Stakeholder Meeting Summary Notes

4<sup>th</sup> August 2020, 4.00pm  
Microsoft Teams

### **Participants**

Jude Matthews (JM) – BE CEO  
Linda Allan (LA) – EHOA Chair  
Jan Cottam (JC) – BEOA Chair  
Gary Parsonage (GP) – Board Director, ERA Liaison (*left the call at 4.40pm*)  
Helen White (HW) – ERA Representative  
Alexandra Bright (AB) – BE EA

### **Apologies:**

Fiona O’Hara (FOH) – Chair  
Bruce Haskell (BH) – ERA Chair  
Chris Tattersall (CT) - Board Director, EHOA Liaison  
Nigel Taylor (NT) – Board Director, BEOA Liaison

### **Items tabled for discussion:**

- Meeting notes from 22<sup>nd</sup> June
- Schedule of Stakeholder meetings going forward (proposed 11.00am first Monday of each month)
- Inclusion of Rider Working Group Chairs
- Working relationship
- BE Advisory Group
- Finances
- Abandonment Insurance

### **Discussion:**

#### **Meeting notes from 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

- Proposed amendments to draft to be considered and discussed/agreed by email.

#### **Stakeholder meetings and relationship going forward**

- Proposed that the style of the regular stakeholder calls should be informal, and suggested clarity was required on how the group should work together going forward.
- Discussion on how the group should communicate and disseminate information.
- Proposed that a terms of reference / service level agreement document could be established in order to agree a framework for how the stakeholder group members work together and each organisation with BE. Concluded that this would not be a priority for now, but it would be useful to have agreements on things like what information will be provided, what is confidential, what can be expected from each other.
- Important to have an understanding of how to deal with confidentiality, onward messaging and transparency.
- Agreed that any items discussed within the group and/or information offered could be labelled as “confidential” by BE and that all Stakeholder Group Representatives would treat items accordingly.
- Monthly stakeholder meetings had been proposed, but Stakeholder Group Representatives were not comfortable with this frequency in the short term. Agreed to hold another meeting in two weeks’ time, and following that a regular fortnightly slot on alternate Wednesdays at 4.00pm, to be reviewed as necessary. Chairman unlikely to attend fortnightly, but JM and Stakeholder Representatives committed.
- In the longer term, meetings to be held ahead of Board meetings.

#### **Suggestion of inclusion of Rider Working Group Representatives**

- Viewed that the Rider Working Groups work well when they are tasked with developing ideas and reporting back on specific items i.e. most effective when targeted/guided.
- Agreed that it would be better to have a smaller group and make the meetings effective.

- Agreed that this could be reviewed /flexible.
- Agreed that HW would be included in addition to BH.

### **Communication**

- There had been some confusion over confidentiality/openness of the previous meeting, which was discussed.
- All were asked to give careful consideration to what information is appropriate for sharing in the public domain and it was agreed that going forward it was best for the group to agree/approve communications after meetings.
- Agreed that all group members should present a positive and united front in order to move the sport forward.
- In respect of member queries, it was felt that concerns should be addressed through the right avenues and that would include collaboration from within the stakeholder group.
- It had been previously suggested to publish stakeholder representatives' contact details on BE member communications.
- It was thought that it would be useful for members to have clearer direction for where to send their queries.
- Discussion on pros and cons of listing individual staff members' contact details on the BE website and Stakeholder Representatives preferred a personal approach.
- Discussion on how to improve communication to the BE membership utilising communication channels via the three groups (ERA, EHOA, BEOA).
- The weekly update/newsletter had started and the bullet point style was thought to be effective. As above, useful to include Stakeholder Groups' contacts.
- Noted that EHOA (Alex Van-Tuyll) sends a weekly communication, with a specific subject header, ahead of the events taking place each weekend. This was thought to be effective and so suggested that BEOA and ERA could do similar.
- It was agreed that the three groups could have an advance copy of the BE weekly update in an editable format in order that they could tailor to their own membership and widen the reach of the central BE messages.

### **BE Advisory Group**

- Request for clarity on:
  - structure of BEAG in relation to the Board / RM&SC / Stakeholder Group
  - authority of BEAG.
- Clarified that the Board had decided to form the BEAG to hear from people who have a lot of understanding of the sport but who are not necessarily involved with the running of BE currently.
- The BEAG have given some views/ideas and made some proposals to the Board, which the Board may or may not wish to take forward. Further development of ideas and consultation will be required.
- The BEAG has no authority for decision making and any proposals that the Board decide to take forward will need to go through the normal channels e.g. appropriate committees.

### **Finances**

- Some concerns reported over the financial future viability of BE. Apparent that communications from BE had been misinterpreted by some members.
- Reassurance given and explained that unaudited figures could not be published.
- Stakeholder Representatives were being asked for sight of BE's financial strategy for 2020 and 2021.
- Broad updates were given at RM&S Committee meetings, but noted that time was limited due to amalgamation of two committees.
- JM felt that the recent IT report had helped to put some things into context.
- Noted that people were not trying to cause trouble but have genuine concern for the future of the sport.

### **Abandonment Insurance**

- Negotiations progressing and currently in progress of agreeing policy wording to apply after settlement of claim. Conclusion was close, but not possible to publicise until agreed in writing.

- Once claim is concluded, the 2019 accounts will be published to the membership. Thought that this may help to dispel some fears but may not remove all concerns/negativity.
- Members' view is that BE should have refunded the entry fees. Reiterated that the entry fees for the seven abandoned events were not held in central funds.
- Explanation of Abandonment Fund and clarification that it was not suitable for reimbursement of entry fees.

**Conclusion and plan for next meeting**

The meeting concluded with Stakeholder Representatives stating that there had been some informative and open discussions. All agreed that having the right information is key to answering questions from their group members.

Agreed that the notes from the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June would inform the agenda for the next meeting, with any other requests for discussion items useful to have in advance.