

BLUE SKIES WORKING GROUP PHASE I

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Phase I now completed; see also BSWG PHASE II TOR

The Blue Skies Working Group (BSWG) I was established as a Working Group under section 7.4 of the World Lacrosse (WL) Bylaws.

The Working Group reported to the WL Board of Directors.

PURPOSE

The BSWG Phase I was responsible for recommending to the WL Board and Membership new lacrosse disciplines that best position WL to achieve its Olympic inclusion goal based on a number of key considerations laid out in the key responsibilities below.

WORKING GROUP TIME PERIOD

This Working Group Phase I was set up to run from July 2018 to January 2019. (*extended to July 2019)

The intended timeline agreed was:

Objective 1

October 2018: Initial recommendations on a new discipline presented to the WL Board
January 2019: Final recommendations on a new discipline presented to the WL Board

Objective 2

April 2019: Initial recommendations on a world championship structure, schedule and format*
August 2019: Final recommendations on a world championship structure, schedule and format to the WL Board*

Following 18 months of Working Group calls and rule trials throughout the world for the new discipline and presentations to Members, rule books for the small-sided men's and women's field disciplines were in final development. The intention of the Group was to circulate these to the Membership in February 2020 for additional comment prior to voting at the 2020 General Assembly (GA).

Objective 1 involved far more work than initially envisaged and Objective 2 appeared to need a slightly different composition, so the Board agreed to set up a BSWG Phase II to take forward Objective 2. (see BSWG Phase II TOR)

To finalize the rules sets for Objective 1, a new Technical Working Group was set up involving members of the Rules Committees and BSWG Phase I representatives (see

BSWG Technical Group TOR). Rule books for the new discipline will go to Members for further consultation in June 2020 for voting at or preceding the delayed 2020 GA. This group completed its work in May 2020 and is ready to go to Members for further consultation.

1. COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. The BSWG Phase I consisted of seven people including the Chair. The Composition of the Group was approved by the Board.
- 1.2. The composition for this Working Group was:
 - Steve Stenersen, FIL Vice President and Convenor
 - Fiona Clark, FIL Competition Director
 - Dana Dobbie, FIL Athletes Commission Vice Chair
 - Jane Powell, England High Performance Manager
 - David Ryan, FIL Independent Director
 - Jim Scherr, FIL Chief Executive Officer
 - Scott Seymour, Octagon Executive
- 1.3. The Working Group was authorized to invite other parties to attend its meetings from time to time.
- 1.4. Mara Wager and Terry Harding were added to the group for a period to assist with the development of rules.
- 1.5. The BSWG Phase 1 Technical Group composition was:
 - Brent Nowicki, WL Rules Chair and Convenor
 - Brett Bucktooth
 - Lauren Charwat
 - Dana Dobbie
 - Andreas Rossband
 - Tom Sutton
 - Sachio Yamada

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1. Consider and make recommendations on new lacrosse disciplines that best position WL to expand international participation and visibility, as well as achieve the strategic priority of inclusion in the Olympic Games. The following considerations were fundamental to the working group's considerations:
 - 2.1.1. Sport growth
 - 2.1.2. Rules simplicity
 - 2.1.3. Sport integrity
 - 2.1.4. Player appeal
 - 2.1.5. Spectator appeal

- 2.1.6. Gender consistency/harmony
- 2.1.7. Game duration
- 2.1.8. Tournament duration
- 2.1.9. Pace of play
- 2.1.10. Team size
- 2.1.11. Linear and digital media appeal
- 2.1.12. Competition equity

3. STATUS

- 3.1. BSWG Phase 1 Work completed and handed onto Technical Director and Committees to complete rule books process in May 2020. (see BSWG Technical Group TOR for details)

APPENDIX 1. SKILLS, QUALITIES, EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES FOR MEMBERS OF THE BLUE SKIES WORKING GROUP

These were not required at the time the Working Group was set up and, as the Working Group has not completed this phase of work, are not provided.



APPENDIX 2. GENERIC PROCEDURES FOR ALL WORLD LACROSSE COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

These were not in place at the time this Working Group was working and so are not included.