



BLUE SKIES WORKING GROUP PHASE II

TERMS OF REFERENCE

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

The Working Group reports to the WL Board of Directors.

PURPOSE

The BSWG Phase II is responsible for recommending to the WL Board and Membership a new world championship structure, format and calendar that best positions WL for the future considering a number of strategic objectives, including:

- Maximising media, brand exposure and commercial success of world championships
- Improving the quality and consistency of experience for athletes and spectators
- Incorporating IOC, IWGA and Continental Federation (CF) events into an integrated World Lacrosse competition calendar

WORKING GROUP TIME PERIOD

BSWG Phase II is set up to run from February 2020 to August 2020 (*extended to October 2020 with the delay of the General Assembly).

Intended timelines:

2020

Feb. – Mar.	Conduct at least 4 x 90 minute conference calls to reach consensus on primary considerations
April	Preliminary progress report shared with WL Board
April – May	Ongoing Working Group conference calls to refine recommendations
May	Initial recommendations shared with WL Board for comment
May	Refine recommendations as needed based on Board feedback
May 15	Initial recommendations shared with the WL Membership for consideration and discussion at the WL General Assembly (GA); this was revised with the delayed GA date and will go to WL Membership for comment in July 2020.
June – Aug.	Once the GA was delayed, the opportunity for webinars with the Membership will take place prior to the GA discussion
Aug. 14	Final recommendations circulated to the Membership for GA consideration
October	GA to consider proposals

If there is a need for subsequent ongoing work there must be new proposals to the Board.

1. COMPOSITION AND MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. The Working Group consists of 9 people including the Chair. The Composition of the Group is approved by the Board.
- 1.2. The composition for this Working Group is:
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| Steve Stenersen | WL VP and Convenor |
| Fiona Clark | WL Competition Director |
| Mark Coups | England Lacrosse (Chief Executive Officer) |
| Sean Gibson | WL Athletes Commission (Chair) |
| Dana Dobbie | WL Athletes Commission (Vice Chair) |
| Steve Govett | CLA GM, Men's Field Lacrosse |
| Lindsay Impett | WL Director of Events |
| Jim Scherr | WL Chief Executive Officer (CEO) |
| Scott Seymour | Octagon Executive |
- 1.3. The Working Group is authorized to invite other parties to attend its meetings from time to time.
- 1.4. The WL CEO and the Director of Events are the lead staff liasions for this Working Group.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2.1. The Working Group is responsible for researching best practice solutions, moving significant ideas and issues forward on behalf of the Board and advising the Board on implementing the WL Strategic Plan in these areas.
- 2.2. Key responsibilities include considering and recommending a new world championship structure, format and calendar that best positions WL to:
- 2.2.1. Develop and effectively launch a short-term 6v6 discipline event strategy
 - 2.2.2. Maximize media and brand exposure
 - 2.2.3. Maximize event revenue potential for WL and event hosts
 - 2.2.4. Provide a platform and qualification system that supports elite athlete development and competition for each WL Member
 - 2.2.5. Expand international lacrosse participation
 - 2.2.6. Improve the quality and consistency of experience for athletes and spectators
 - 2.2.7. Incorporate IOC, IWGA and Continental Federation (lacrosse specific and multi sport) events into an integrated WL event calendar
- 2.3. Key challenges in the current world championship structure include:
- 2.3.1. The size and scope of current events limit host options
 - 2.3.2. The current event model is not financially viable
 - 2.3.3. The consistency of player and spectator experience at events varies widely
 - 2.3.4. Event timetables allow last minute attendance/withdrawal decisions

2.4. Key questions to be considered include:

- 2.4.1. How can the competition format be simplified?
- 2.4.2. Should world championships be used as a primary international development strategy?
- 2.4.3. Should men's and women's events be unified in some cases?
- 2.4.4. How frequently should competitions in each discipline be conducted?
- 2.4.5. Is it a Member right or privilege to compete in a world championship?
- 2.4.6. What is the ideal event duration for players, spectators and hosts?
- 2.4.7. What qualification process should be used to determine world championship invitations?
- 2.4.8. Should WL consider staging "B" events for Members that do not qualify for a world championship?
- 2.4.9. How will WL raise the profile of the 6v6 disciplines leading into the 2022 World Games?

2.5. Supporting work product. It is anticipated that the following documents will be staff led and Working Group informed and made available to all Members:

- 2.5.1. World event bid books, policies and procedures
- 2.5.2. Hosting & technical manuals
- 2.5.3. Host city contracts
- 2.5.4. Event branding and presentation recommendations
- 2.5.5. Event sanctioning policy

3. OPERATING AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

- 3.1. The Working Group will follow the WL General Procedures applicable to all Working Groups. (see Appendix 2)

4. MEETINGS

- 4.1. Minutes of all meetings will be kept, but these will be confidential to the Working Groups members. A public timeline for the work will be available on the WL website along with the Terms of Reference (TOR).
- 4.2. Summary reports will be provided to the Board against agreed timelines. Interim reports will be made available to the President.

5. DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- 5.1. The Working Group has no delegated authority for decisions or expenditure.



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

These were not specifically required at the time this Group was set up.

Members of the Blue Skies Working Group should aim to uphold the values of World Lacrosse and to encourage these to be upheld across the community.

- Teamwork
- Passion
- Respect
- Integrity
- Friendship
- Inclusiveness



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