

**ISFA Development Committee Meeting**  
**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017**  
**11am – 2pm**  
**Wembley Stadium**

**Attendees**

Ian Bent (ISFA), Rebecca Kemp (ISFA), Mark Dickson (ISFA), Creag Lawrence (FA), Simon Gerrard (FA), Gavin English (Alleyns School), David Burke (Hampton School), Jeff Hawkins (Thomas's Battersea), Richard Stedeford (ISA)

**Apologies**

Leanne Curl (Stockport GS), Fran Hide (IAPS)

**Chairpersons Welcome**

- IB welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

**Minutes of the last meeting**

- All Minutes of the last meeting were circulated, no matters raised.

**Matter arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda**

- None

**Affiliation analysis of quarter one 2017/18**

- The figures that have been reported into the FA at the end of Q1 are very positive, with growth expected across all formats this season, and once again there has been a sizeable growth in the number of teams affiliated under ISFA membership.
- Currently there are 7330 teams in ISFA membership (3517 school teams and 3813 house teams).
- Girls teams also continue to increase year on year and there are now 884 girls teams (411 school teams and 473 house teams).
- Following the recent FA review meeting IB will be working towards some stretched targets for 2018/19. This includes breaking down the numbers and stats further to create a wider more specific picture of what the level of participation in each age group looks like within ISFA member schools.
- A question was asked around if schools would mind filling out a more specific form which breaks down the age groups. The response from those representing schools on the committee was that if it is easy enough i.e. through Survey Monkey or Google Forms it would not present a problem, as other associations do this.

**Structure of ISFA Membership**

- ISFA membership continues to grow year on year, but the increase is in existing member schools running more teams, rather than an increase of new schools. How do we attract more schools? Points from committee discussion:
  - A lot of schools are affiliated to ISA but not ISFA. ISA is the pinnacle of their sporting calendar. As mentioned in the previous meeting the link between ISFA, ISA and IAPS needs strengthening. Schools need to understand that ISFA is the governing body and if they are not affiliated to ISFA they are in fact playing unaffiliated football, voiding insurance. Can we work with ISA to get this message out there? Also, should football tournaments that ISA run be affiliated through ISFA?

- Question proposed around would it be beneficial to introduce a “bottom” tier affiliation for less than the standard fee or free? However, ISFA have introduced this before and it did not work. ISFA have to pay tax and insurance. ISFA would make a huge loss if we were to offer a free membership. Agreed that £25 is not an unreasonable fee to ensure that everything is above board when a school is participating in football. Therefore, no need for a “bottom” tier membership. GE suggested sending the information to the headmasters to send out as teachers likely to pay more attention receiving it from them.
- Agreed that ISFA may use FA logo on all material.
- DB suggested looking at a Coach Education route/offer for teachers whereby schools must be basic members to access. IB is to look at offering a Coach Education/CPD offer to all schools but offering members schools a discounted price more than that of the standard membership to hopefully encourage schools to sign up.
- JH suggested running a free open day in the regions to sell ISFA, and work with the SSP and Independent Schools Council (Julie Robinson, CEO). Question around ISFA losing money to run such event?
- The message about the importance of affiliation need to be clearer and improved regarding who ISFA are and what is their relation to the FA. ISA have a conference could we get the information out at that, either by doing a brief talk or handing out flyers?
- Can we do a general cover email stating the message with a link on how to sign up, and send this out to all Independent schools.
- Actions:
  1. Develop a communication plan. Who can we talk to and how do we talk to them. Consider contacting the Independent Schools Council (ISC), School Sports Partnerships (SSPs) and Head teachers.
  2. Need to produce a clearer information plan including the benefits and importance of affiliating. Get some information from Simon Gerrard regarding this so it is also coming directly from the National FA.
  3. Create a mailing list of non-members to receive regular information of ISFA activities and membership to promote ISFA and benefits of its membership to these schools. It is hoped this will create a benefit in being able to regularly contact non-member schools, and will result in a number of these schools becoming members over time. If ISFA email schools they need to look at Data Protection, the schools need to be able to unsubscribe.
- IB to work on the above and keep the committee in the loop over the next few months. Focus on getting the information out to new schools and leave the current membership/members as it is for now. SG: current KPIs are good so don't need to rush to get it out 2018/19. Look to get it right first!

#### **League/Competition affiliation scheme**

- At the last meeting we had a brief discussion about this committee looking at the possibility of introducing an affiliation scheme for leagues and competitions.
- There are a number of leagues and competitions that are supported by ISFA, but not run by ISFA (mainly regional leagues and competitions) and this is important for the continued growth and increase in competitions and leagues.
- The challenge that this presents itself is that how can we monitor quality, minimum standards, and participant enjoyment? It is still in our best interests, and our responsibility, to ensure football competitions meet all those things, that they are high quality, safe, and enjoyable.
- GE proposed introducing a KiteMark and have “ISFA affiliated schools” for those schools who run lots of tournaments, leagues, and competitions throughout the year, rather than the

school having to affiliate each individual one. I.e. Alleyn's School is sanctioned by ISFA to run affiliated football/futsal competition. Create an ISFA KiteMark which can be awarded to competitions/schools. Discipline procedure and code of conduct must be in line with ISFA.

- Festivals and tournaments run by schools should be affiliated. Can schools who run these send detail of participating school to ISFA to send them the sign-up link. Query around weather schools should be participating if not affiliated?
- Action: Introduce a competition KiteMark first for leagues etc. Create a basic form for competition sanctioning with names of schools (all must be affiliated) and lays out minimum requirements.
- ISFA looking to get all schools ISFA affiliated but realistically is this possible? Who is liable if anything happens and a school is not insured? Inter competition in curriculum activity does not count as FA activity but after school including other schools is FA activity.
- RK to look at tightening up on league/competition affiliation and create a process.

#### **Code of conduct at matches**

- New code of conduct has been published on the website for all age groups. Need to put this in events programmes and as part of the competition criteria.

#### **Girls Development Committee report**

- Successful first ever U11 girls national cup, with national finals day taking place in June 2017 at SGP won by Royal Russell. 12 schools competed at the national finals day, with a total of 43 schools entering the competition via the regional qualifiers, with 17 schools participated in the three regional qualifiers organised by ISFA.
- In addition to the U11 girls national cup, this season we have also launched an U13 girls national cup (same format as U11 girls), alongside the traditional U18 girls national cup (with an U15 girls national cup planned for 2018/19).
- It was agreed at the last Girls Development Committee meeting that the existing U18 girls regional representative programme would be scrapped, in favour of a new U15 girls regional representative programme, that will consist of two talent ID days, a regional representative fixture, and a summer camp, that will feed into the following years U16 national team.
- This year's girls national representative programme is going very well, with a girl's national trials day held at Queenswood school, and the recent Cambridge camp with the U18s and U16s recording 3 victories from 3 games.
- IB is currently finalising a 'Girls Football Strategy' that will outline key aims for the growth of girl's football over the next 4 years, and how ISFA will achieve them.

#### **Futsal**

- Futsal tournaments have been organised in partnership with Kingston Grammar School (first futsal partner school). We will be looking for additional futsal partner schools in the future.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Jan U13 Boys (8 teams) and U15 Girls (3 teams) at Brunel University and Hampton School.
- 11<sup>th</sup> March U14 Boys (13 teams) and U15 Boys (12 teams) at Guildford Spectrum.
- DB informed that the girl's competition has now been cancelled due to lack of interest.
- FA have provided us with some free futsal balls that we will be giving to participating schools.

## Competitions

- The table below shows the numbers and winners for 2016/17 ISFA competitions and the numbers of those competitions closed for the 2017/18 season.

Competition	2016/17 Entries	2017/18 Entries
ISFA Boodles U18 Cup	77	77
Investec ISFA U15 Cup	65	67
Investec ISFA U13 Cup	75	77
ISFA U16 Small Schools Shield	30	30
ISFA U18 Girls Cup	17	23
ISFA U11 Sevens	161	Autumn 113 – Spring Still Open
ISFA Sixes	24	28

- Boodles Cup, Investec U15 and U13 Cups and U16 Shield are now into the quarter Finals.
- Girls 4 schools could not fulfil their preliminary round fixture. This competition is currently in the first round of fixtures.
- 8 U11 sevens were completed last term (Autumn). 113 schools entered with 106 schools fulfilling their entry (2 schools moved to Spring term, meaning 5 dropped out). Essex and Midlands Autumn only had 8 participating schools, look at how we can increase these next year.

Finals confirmed:

Competition	Date & Time	Venue
ISFA Boodles U18 Cup	Tue 13/03/2018 - 19:00	MK Dons
Investec ISFA U15 Cup	Thur 15/03/2018 – 13:30	Burton Albion
Investec ISFA U13 Cup	Thur 15/03/2018 – 18:00	Burton Albion
ISFA U16 Small Schools Shield	Thur 26/04/2018 – 18:00	St. George's Park
ISFA U18 Girls Cup	Mon 30/04/2018 – 18:00	Bisham Abbey
U11 7v7	Tue 24/04/2018 - 11:00	St. George's Park
Girls U11 & U13 7v7	Tue 26/06/2018	St. George's Park

## A.O.B and D.O.N.M

- Add School Region on to the Membership form to help with the U13 representative squads.
- ISFA have begun discussions with Neil Rollings to pilot CPD courses and a conference this summer. Depending on success and interest it is hoped this will become a regular opportunity.
- DB is going to speak to local schools around Hampton to investigate what interest there is in staff looking to attend FA L1/2/3 courses and whether if courses run especially for independent schools (either by ISFA or by local CFA in partnership with ISFA) would be well received and well attended.
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018, Wembley Stadium, 11am – 2pm.