



COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE CONGRESS

Committee: Competitions
Date: 9th August 2017
Submitted by: Willard P Harris, Chair

I) INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The Competitions Committee met on seven (7) occasions via Skype Meetings in 2016/2017 and once in person here in Lancaster (eight in total) to discuss specific matters or for general updates.

Member participation at such meetings was greatly improved although there were a few times where communication connections with one or two members were challenging.

II) UPDATE OF PROJECTS FROM STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLAN 2016-2017

Events 2016:

Successful completion of both Junior Pan Am Championships in Tacarigua, Trinidad & Tobago (Women) and in Toronto, Canada (Men). Both were qualifiers for the 2016 Junior World Cups held in Chile and India.

South American Championships 2016 (M&W) – This was held in Chiclayo (PER) and also served as World League R1 for one of two such FIH events held in the region. This event was well attended with seven countries (M&W) participating.

This event was a learning and educational event for host, Peru as they move forward to hosting the Lima Pan Am Games in 2019.

September 2016, saw the CADP Technical Officials Seminar & Indoor Event once again held successfully in Panama City (PAN).

Events 2017:

The Pan Am Cup (M&W) 2017 – This event was coordinated by the US Field Hockey Association (USFHA) with involvement by PAHF Development Coordinator and the Secretary of the PAHF Competitions Committee working closely with them. But for the very late withdrawal of Barbados Women the organisation has progressed well.



II) UPDATE OF PROJECTS FROM STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLAN 2015-2016 (Continued)

Events 2017 (continued):

The CC was successful in negotiating with the FIH for the Indoor Pan Am Cup to be held no later than 31st October 2016 given that they needed six (6) clear months to market the latter.

To have this event earlier would have meant a possible clash with the Pan Am Cup and/or a challenge for national associations to take entry, fund and participate in either.

The indoor event was awarded to Guyana and introduces them as a first time host of a Pan Am event. Eight (8) Women and seven (7) Men's teams have taken entry.

Due to the response of the countries in the Central America and the Caribbean a new CAC Games Qualifier will be held in Kingston, Jamaica in November 2017. This event qualifies one (1) or two (2) countries (M&W each) to participate in the 2018 CAC Games scheduled to be held in Barranquilla, Colombia depending on whether the host country participates. Six (6) Women and five (5) Men's teams have taken entry.

Technical Officials:

Training & Development – The Committee successfully completed and published with Board approval in January 2017, its development plan for technical officials in the region.

It highlighted a classification of officials into Elite, Elite Development, Continental, Continental Development and Continental Trainee Levels. This new classification and the process outlined in the document makes transparent the process by which a technical official may progress from level to level and where their expectations in terms of appointments should be. This was shared with the FIH.

In conjunction with the FIH Academy a Level III Technical Officials Course was held in Lancaster targeting participants mainly from North America and northern Caribbean and Central America.

Two other Courses are currently being organised. A similar Level III Course is scheduled for Georgetown, Guyana at the start of the Indoor Pan Am, for Southern Caribbean and Central American participants.



Technical Officials (continued):

A Level V Course is being organised for the Elite & Elite Developmental officials in Kingston, Jamaica at the beginning of the CAC Games Qualifier in November.

Plans for another Level III Course for South American officials is in train either at the ODESUR Qualifier or at the ODESUR Games.

Tournament Officials Register – The Competitions Committee held a Technical Officials info update and re-registration drive amongst all PAHF Members in 2016. Subsequent to this the List of registered Technical Officials in PAHF was updated and published on the PAHF website in January 2017. This list is updated quarterly.

Other Matters:

World Ranking - PAHF's Proposal on World Ranking points and weightings was considered by the FIH CC after the OG Rio 2016. The FIH CC had requested the PAHF CC to review and provide a ranking methodology for NA's from 9th to 26th following the Pan Am Games 2015 which was accepted and used as CF base ranking points.

The PAHF CC was successful in lobbying for the change in weightings for our CF top ranked teams. Unfortunately, the weightings were reduced for CF ranked 3rd to 8th as these teams did not perform well against European and Asian teams of similar rank during the four year period prior to the Rio Olympics. With much better performances by USA & TTO (Men) and URU & CAN (W) against European teams in the recent World League R2 2017 it is hoped that this will form the foundation for the next review of World Ranking points and weightings allocations.

Beach Hockey/Hockey 5's/Indoor – The PAHF CC provided significant input into the publication of FIH Rules for Beach Hockey.

Development of these three complementary forms of hockey in the PAHF continues to be a challenge. The CC has requested information from member countries via a Survey so that it will be able to better assess their development approach for these forms of hockey.