

## BOARD PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE WL CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

### 1. OVERVIEW

- 1.1. The purpose of this paper is to present to the General Assembly (GA) the background to the Board of Directors proposed votes being taken on changes to the World Lacrosse (WL) Constitution and Bylaws at the WL GA in November 2023. The changes are attached as appendices to this paper.

### 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. During this year, a review of the WL Constitution and Bylaws was undertaken by WL Committees and Commissions and proposals for changes were made. These were then reviewed by the WL Governance Committee and Board. As a result, the WL Board is proposing the following changes to the WL Constitution and Bylaws (please note that numbering and spacing are affected by the redline and will be cleaned up and corrected following the GA as we incorporate the changes):
  - 2.1.1 Acronyms (both documents) – the introduction of the use of acronyms throughout the documents, particularly in relation to the most commonly used words.
  - 2.1.2 Definitions (C1.1) – more definitions have been added to explain words and phrases used in both the Constitution and Bylaws.
  - 2.1.3 Subscriptions (C1.1, C1.6.2.16, C1.7.2.2p, BL1.1.12.4, BL1.1.13.5, BL1.1.14.3, BL1.1.15.2) – adding the approval of subscriptions to the role of the General Assembly and the annual review of subscriptions and proposal of changes to the role of the Board. In addition, removing the amount of subscriptions to be paid by members as this will be reviewed annually by the Board and any proposed changes taken to the GA.
  - 2.1.4 Attendance at General Assembly (C1.6.4.2) – to reduce the notification timelines for submitting names of delegates and observers to the GA from 30 to 5 days, to reflect immediacy of modern-day communications.
  - 2.1.5 Re-ordering sections (C1.6.9, C1.6.10) so there is a logical flow.
  - 2.1.6 Committee or Commission reporting (C1.8.3). This reflects changes made to the Committee, Commission and Working Group Procedures.
  - 2.1.7 Role of the Ethics Commission (C1.11.7) – changed to reflect the role of the Commission, following a review of its procedure and practice.
  - 2.1.8 Membership (BL1.1) – changing the definitions of membership categories in the Bylaws to be consistent with the wording in the Constitution.
  - 2.1.9 Board composition (BL1.2) – following the decision of the Board in March 2023 to transition to a strategic Board over the next three years, some of the functional positions have been removed.
  - 2.1.10 GA Meetings (BL1.4) – deletion of the organizational requirements for a GA meeting as this information is too ‘granular’ to be included as a bylaw.
  - 2.1.11 Voting at a GA (BL1.4.5.4, BL1.4.6.4) – as we now use an electronic voting system, these clauses have been updated.

- 2.1.12 World Event Revenues (BL1.5.2) – update to the event revenue arrangements between WL and the Local Organizing Committee.
- 2.1.13 International Visits (BL1.7) – removed as will be included in Member Rights and Obligations going forward.
- 2.1.14 Recognition and Awards (BL1.9) – the titles of the WL Awards and Awards presented at WL Events have been deleted to allow for future changes.
- 2.2** The Board discussed and approved these changes at their meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023.
- 2.3** Following circulation of the GA papers to Members, a Stakeholder Webinar was held on 5<sup>th</sup> October to discuss them. The Constitution and Bylaws were updated to take on board the comments made at the webinar as well as those sent in by two Members.

### **3. LEGISLATION CHANGES**

- 3.1** The following clauses of the Constitution and Bylaws will need to be edited if the recommendations are accepted:
  - 3.1.1 Redline Constitution June 2022 (attached) – 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 1.10, 1.11, 1.12, 1.13.
  - 3.1.2 Redline Bylaws December 2021 (attached) – 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9.

### **4. VOTE TO THE GA**

- 4.1.** The motions at the GA in relation to the above changes, proposed by Sallie Barker and seconded by Fiona Clark, are:
  - 4.1.1 “to accept the Board of Directors proposed Constitutional changes as highlighted in the attached redline Constitution (2/3 majority)”
  - 4.1.2 “to accept the Board of Directors proposed Bylaws changes as highlighted in the attached redline Constitution (2/3 majority)”
- 4.2.** If any Member wishes to bring forward for separate discussion and vote any specific part of this legislation, they need to write to the Finance and Governance Director and include the wording of the vote accompanied by a proposer and seconder. This should be received by close of play on 31<sup>st</sup> October so that WL can prepare for the GA.