

## Hello Everyone,

Welcome to this month in the IQA. This will replace the NGB digest that was previously sent to NGBs and will be released first to NGBs and later to the public. We are exploring ways to deliver this as a monthly newsletter to inboxes, so stay tuned for more on that. IQA volunteers would love to hear your feedback.

### Staffing

As you may have seen, we have announced a number of staffing changes recently. Andy Marmer, in addition to his role as trustee is serving as interim executive director. Betsy Lewin-Leigh has joined our team as HR director and Albert Coronado has joined as membership director. Pauline Raes has transitioned from gameplay director to events director and Junia Amati has joined as deputy events director, after assistant tournament directing World Cup 2018.

As previously announced, Bex Alley will be leaving us at the end of August and accordingly, we are recruiting for an executive director. Additionally, Nicole Hammer has stepped down as a trustee to pursue other opportunities. Sarah-Louise Lewis has stepped down as head of HR, but will remain with the organization. Marco Ziegus has stepped down as secretary.

We have also begun the process of implementing a more flat organizational structure, which in most departments features a department head, managers who report to them and volunteers. To this end we have been actively promoting internally and recruiting to make our volunteers' responsibilities more manageable and allow us to more actively manage and complete tasks. We always welcome talented volunteers, and while we know volunteer recruitment and retainment is a struggle for us all, we would very much appreciate any referrals.

We have a number of important openings that we're trying to fill. In particular trustee, executive director, gameplay director, and secretary are positions that we could use your help in identifying candidates for. If you have any thoughts, we'd love to hear from you.

## Gameplay

The IQA Rulebook team has finalized the content of the rulebook. The rest of the processing will be done by the IQA communications department who are presently working on the formatting. At the same time, our team of translators has begun translating the rulebook. The release of these translations will have to be determined as this is a bigger project.

Additionally, the Referee Development Team and Snitch Development Team have started on the officials tests that will be released a few weeks after the release of the IQA rulebook. We expect the rulebook to be released on **August 15**.

## Finance

The Finance Department is working on closing out World Cup financials, which includes creating an income statement, an analysis of the budget and an overview of the event. The financials are expected to be finalized the first weekend in August and thereafter will undergo internal review before release to NGBs with a summary to be released to the broader public soon thereafter.

After World Cup financials are prepared, general IQA financials will also be prepared to reflect the current state of the organization. The full year financials will be released as part of the IQA's annual report in or around the first quarter of the 2018-19 fiscal year.

In August the IQA will begin preparing an annual budget for the upcoming year.

## Events

On July 31, we released an update to our bidding materials, which can be found [here](#). We have surveyed NGBs on whether the IQA should run continental games and encourage those who have not yet responded to contact us immediately with their thoughts. While this decision is being made, and in light of the new information, we're extending the bid deadlines to **September 15** for Continental Games and to **October 1** for World Cup bids. If you have any questions or are thinking of applying and want feedback we'd highly encourage you to email [events@iqasport.org](mailto:events@iqasport.org) — we're more than happy to help as best we can to ensure our future events are as great as they can be.

## Membership

Congratulations to Sweden who was awarded the July bursary funds. Bursary applications are due to [bursary@iqasport.org](mailto:bursary@iqasport.org) by **August 15** to be eligible for the **August** disbursement. The Bursary Program is designed to give NGBs a financial boost for building equipment, developing quidditch education programs, and researching how the sport is evolving internationally. Following the August disbursement, as part of our annual budget process, we will be reviewing whether or not to continue this program. We welcome your feedback on whether this is a use of time and money that you think the IQA should be doing or whether you have ideas for programs that we should run in the upcoming year.

The Membership Department is working on bringing the community together through an international NGB Partnership Program. This program will encourage and assist NGBs in trading quidditch resources such as training drills, injury prevention tips, and player outreach as well as other tips/tricks that more established NGBs can provide to newer organizations. Developing NGBs will be paired with fully established NGBs to promote growth around the world. Applications for this program will become available in **August**.

We are also working on collecting information from NGBs regarding the state of quidditch in their country and on resources that already exist at a national level. We are currently in the process of expanding our Membership Department to better be able to tackle these projects and will move this forward shortly thereafter.

## Wrap-up

As you can see from the above, we have a lot of exciting things going on. Expect the release of the rulebook later this month and financial updates on a similar timeframe. The IQA's leadership would love the chance to chat with as many of you as possible, so please reach out through email or social media and we will find a time and method to discuss. We also love your suggestions, so please get in touch through email, Facebook or any other way that you can think of (I don't think carrier pigeons or owls will be able to find us though). We'd love to hear from you and chat about how we can better serve you, our members, and our community.

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