

# Half-yearly Secretarial Report 2020-2021

Lacrosse Groningen Gladiators  
Secretary: Kelly van Hienen

Groningen, February 5<sup>th</sup> 2021.

This is the half-yearly secretarial report, written for the half-yearly general members' assembly 2020-2021. In this report you will read about the relevant progress regarding the club, activities of the board and the committees. The committees contributed to this report and will be asked to elaborate on their activities and their plans for the remainder of their committee year.

## 1. Member count

At the last general members assembly in October our association counted 81 members. However, since two members only had a half-year membership, as they had to leave Groningen, we currently have 79 members — consisting of 46 female, 33 male, 61 playing and 18 non-playing members. Because of the lockdown we were unable to gain any new members at the start of the second semester.

## 2. ESN meets ACLO

As we are currently living inside a pandemic and the Netherlands is under a lockdown, it is not a surprise that ESN meets ACLO has been canceled. Nevertheless, it is very unfortunate as that does not give us the opportunity to get more internationals acquainted with our sport and association. That said, the introduction committee has decided to move the introduction period to April. Of course under the condition that we have to be able to practice again, and that there are more lenient COVID-19 measures in place.

## 3. Focus points

### - Members

This year, we did not have a focus point on growing our membership count to a certain number, as we knew that a pandemic might not be a stable enough time to realize growth. Nevertheless, as our current number is around eighty members, this does bring us closer to our goal of ninety members in the year 2021-2022. Especially as our clubhouse will open up in a few months, which will expectably attract more new members, and as by then hopefully enough people are vaccinated.

### - Clubhouse

→ *Instating a 'klus,' bar and tournament committee*

As mentioned in, among others, the previous GMA's multiple year plan, we wish to install three new committees over the next period. The first two are to be working together closely with the Parabool, namely the projected Klus committee (DIY committee) or KlusCie, and the Bar committee or BarCie. The KlusCie will work on projects in and around the clubhouse. This will for example include reparations of broken pieces of furniture, and the installation of the recently sold nameplates. The BarCie will man the bar, as the name implies. They will be serving beer, as well as other beverages and snacks to the members, and to guests on game days. Lastly, we will also be installing a tournament committee. This committee will plan and organize tournaments, both intern as well as extern. Their first project will be a winter tourney, to be held during the 2021/2022 season.

The KlusCie will be installed around the start of april, to help with the completion of the clubhouse. The BarCie will be installed with the opening of the clubhouse, expected to take place in May. During the same period, we will be installing the tournament committee.

#### → *Opening clubhouse*

The progress of construction of the clubhouse has been a little rocky. Over the past half year, there have been set-backs, as well as proper steps on the way to completion. A number of changes have been made to the design of the clubhouse, these include the cancellation of the installation of a dividing wall, the redesign of the bar as a consequence of this, the choice to install floor heating instead of wall mounted radiators, the alteration of the material for the floor itself to PVC, as well as many other decisions. To name all would be outside the scope of this update. The most important thing to know is that the current date for the completion of construction, and hence the delivery, of the clubhouse is the week of March 29th. From that point on, we can install the remainder of appliances, the bar, install the nameplates bought during the recent crowdfunding livestream, build and place chairs, tables, and overall complete our new home. The projected completion of this will take place in May.

#### **- Financing**

##### → *Compensation (certified) trainers*

Talks with the sports centre have revealed that it would be possible to compensate trainers that have a certificate. We are currently investigating the possibilities of making this happen.

#### **- Lacrosse**

##### → *More level 1 refs and level 0 umpires*

At the start of the season, some of our women went to a level 0 umpire course, which led to our club having an increase in umpires. However, all succeeding umpire and referee courses got cancelled due to covid restrictions.

##### → *(Foundation of) permanent lines*

In the coming years, the ACLO will build expansions to their facilities. They have provided us with the insight that when the construction will be taking place, we will have a bigger chance to get their approval on the installations of permanent lines. With our current financial situation in mind, we do not deem it wise to pursue this goal any further if we are to pay large sums to its completion.

##### → *Improving name-acquaintance lacrosse*

We have been in communication with the NLB on their plans for the increase of national recognition of our sport. They have provided us with guidelines for our social media, as well as tips that are to provide us with an increase in clinics. We are currently working on the prospects of adult sport in Groningen, with the goal to increase not only the member count of the Gladiators, but of our sister association Martinistad Lacrosse as well.

#### **4. Sponsoring**

During the past half year, we have pursued a number of potential new sponsors. For some, the groundwork has been laid in previous years. For others, only a renewal of the contract was necessary. We have seen that the majority of our sponsors, potential and current, have been affected by the ongoing pandemic. We have compromised with these sponsors in a variety of ways. Examples include DressMe, which has frozen our cashback for one year as well as De Brouwerij, who will be paying us by the amount of events we hold at their establishment.

#### **5. Material**

The material committee has cleaned up the container and has disposed of unusable material, such as sticks that were beyond repair. Regarding the container, it will be sold to 'Tandje Hoger,' a cycling student's association for around €675 minus half of the costs of moving the container. The container

will be moved when the club house is built and the material has been moved to the new storage space in the club house. Lastly, the material subsidy will be used to purchase new jerseys for the women's team, as these are in need of replacement.

## **6. Athletic performance**

Women:

This year we got a lot of new women, of which the majority became playing members. Because this year we only have one team, it is a full one. The team currently consists of 31 women, of which only a maximum of 23 can join for each gameday. We decided on keeping track of the attendance at practice to determine who can join for the game days. For the one game we did play this year, we did not have to implement this rule, since not everyone was free for that game.

The team has played and won one game so far. The team played against the Domstad Devils and won with 10-5. This one game led to the team being in second place in the competition.

Men:

This year we have 28 playing members in the men's team. Due to the coronavirus, the team has not played any games so far.

## **7. Home game days**

Women:

The women have two home game days planned for this season, one on the 21st of March, and one on the 18th of April. Both of the game days this year will be held at the ACLO fields.

Men:

The men have two home game days planned as well; on the 7th of March and on the 16th of May. Both of these game days will be held at the ACLO fields.

## **8. Committees**

### **- Activity Committee**

*Thibault, Pleun, Rochelle, Jessica*

We started the year with Thibault Scherer (President), Rochelle Mulders (Treasurer), Pleun Broekhuizen (Secretary) and Jessica Ancker (Communication). In October we hosted an online Halloween challenge week; not too many people attended since it was online but we were still satisfied. Our November event, the online game night, was more popular; we hosted games like all black cards and among us. For Christmas we created a small online pub quiz with some prizes.

In January we had a cozy online movie night using teleparty (netflix party) with 5 attendees. We plan on bringing back the game night in February as a collaboration with the IntroCie. I think even though the online environment has impacted the social drive to join events, we were still able to make the events as fun and social as we could and are satisfied.

### **- Clinic commissioner**

*Maarten*

(This section will be added before we send this off to the members on Thursday.)

### **- Introduction Committee**

*Ola, Eva, Ritten, Ella, Julia*

During the past half year, the introcie was busy with attracting new members despite the corona measurements. The first activity that was organised was the open training in November. Three new people showed up for this training and they really liked it. They are planning to join the introduction period and hopefully become real gladiators after! The introduction period was originally planned in February, after the esn meets aclo event, but sadly this event was cancelled. The introcie tried to organise an event themselves instead, and hoped for promotion from ESN to reach possible new members, but unfortunately this was not an option for ESN. Despite all this, the introcie stays positive and is planning to move the introduction period to April, after the open training, and hopefully have a couple of great weeks with dinner & drinks and other fun activities. One of the things that keeps the motivation up, is the committee clothing of the introcie. One of our committee members made a wonderful design with lacrosse elements so we stand out during the next kei and esn week. Overall the introcie has lots of ideas to attract new gladiators; it's hard to implement them with the strict corona measurements, but the introcie keeps positive and cannot wait to organise an introduction period!

### **- Material Committee**

*Joren & Joris*

In the first half of the year, we started with high hopes for a good season of lacrosse. In the first few months we cleaned up the shed and threw away most of the trash that was just filling up space. We also made a new list to keep track of who borrowed what from the club and whether or not they paid the deposit. Since we did not have a lot of practices in the past half year, and the practices were with only a few people, the material stayed in a good condition. When we can start practising again, we might have to replace a net of a goal or repair something else. Of course we are also looking forward to having a new shed for the materials in the club house, which we get to keep clean.

### **- Party Committee**

*Max, Oscar, Diego, Cornelia*

We met once in October as a preliminary discussion of what we were planning on doing this year. Next we decided we should organize a pub quiz within the realms of possible corona-virus related configurations – at the time a maximum of three people. The idea had been to have groups of three playing a disease related kahoot whilst having a zoom or similar type conference. We composed questions and entered them into kahoot. We then failed to send out an invite in the week we wanted to host the pub-quiz in. Subsequently, the people-per-household restrictions were increased and we abandoned the idea. Since then we have not been active.

Regarding the Gala, realistically speaking, there is no point in thinking much about it or organizing it given the volatility of the situation. If we were to have a UK-style vaccine rollout we might be able to have a proper Gala, but given the speed of the EU's rollout, it appears unlikely this is possible. Given that an online Gala, in my opinion at least, is a somewhat un-erotic concept, the question might be whether we should have one at all.

### **- Promotion Committee**

*Danoumée, Lotje, Mare & Melanie*

Our job at the PRCie is to promote the Gladiators, both to the public and within the team. This past year, we have done this by promoting the various committees of the club on Instagram and Facebook, which we linked in order to spread the word more efficiently. Currently, we are working on the promotion of the club through the Dizkartes campaign (via Facebook, Instagram and their own campbooklet) and a new flyer for the club that will include a description of lacrosse and the club itself. We've also tried to encourage team-building despite these very unusual circumstances through things like a contest for the new mascot on social media, for which we will include a prize.

### **- Youth Committee**

*Marty & Carolina*

Marty and Carolina are currently the youth committee. The Groningen lacrosse youth currently counts 7 members, with one prospective new member. In Fall, a youth gameday was possible at the far away destination of Bergen op Zoom, and our team, a combination of Groningen, Amersfoort and Amsterdam, the Gromsterfoort Guardians, won against all other youth teams. Unfortunately, there have not been any official competition days since, and adults are no longer allowed to join the training until covid restrictions become more lax. However, the youth team has been able to continue training as youth team sport is still allowed outside. Training has been taking place 19:00-20:30 on Tuesday evenings, and moved forward to 18:30-20:00 during curfew. This year, our training has had specific focus on refining our goalie's skills, since she shows great potential. We have had help from the Gladiator goalies, who deserve a warm thank you! Carolina and Marty are both busy full-time and could really use some helping hands. We are also working on involving the parents more in the club, for example as board members for Martinistad Lacrosse.