



**MINUTES OF AGM
Held at Apollo Hotel, Birmingham
Saturday, 15 November 2008**

Present:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Executive: | Ray Stafford | Mike Whitehouse |
| John Ramsay - President (Chair) | Steve Cowan | Ismay Cowen |
| Rodney Francis | John Haynes | Duncan Rowlands |
| Matthew Thompson | Aidan Byrne | Joan Whitehouse |
| Peter Smith | Janet Huggins | Andrew Reynolds |
| Alan Gardner (Treasurer) | Peter Huggins | Marc Chapman |
| Karen Saunders | Jean Francis | Edith Haynes |
| Norman Randall | Eileen Buist | Carole Seheult |
| | Rochelle Dazeley | Simon Axon |
| Jan Jukes (Minutes) | Maggie Maynard | |

| | | ACTION |
|----------|---|---------------|
| 1 | <p>General – Meeting opened at 1130 Apologies for Absence: Jed Beardmore, Penny Spink, Karen Greenwood, Maggie Lloyd-Jones John Ramsay welcomed everyone and introduced the current Executive Board and explained the difference between an Executive and an Elected Board. He also listed the many achievements of England Fencing throughout the year including the incorporation of EF and was well aware of the shortcomings, perhaps most notably with communications. He then outlined the bid that Piers Morgan (BFA-CEO) had submitted to Sport England (as they only recognised the BFA) and stated that we would know the outcome in December. Until that time there was no point in speculating the outcome. Honours – Karen Greenwood and Carole Seheult were awarded Bronze medals. Penny Spink was award an Honourary Vice President along with Alan Gardner, for all their hard work for EF.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Minutes of Meeting held on November 2007 These were passed and approved</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Accounts – Available on website Alan Gardner stated that these would run until June 2009 to give the Auditors time to represent for the 2009 AGM. He also stated that despite the current ‘credit crunch’ EF finances were in a strong position and he intended to keep it that way. The accounts were passed and approved.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Elections – Available on website The Chairman congratulated he following members who had been elected on to the Board - Duncan Rowlands, Ray Stafford, Steve Cowen, Maggie Lloyd-Jones, Jed Beardmore & John Haynes</p> | |
| 5 | <p>Auditors The meeting approved and passed the motion that Manningtons should continue as auditors.</p> | |

AGM closed at 1210

The AGM was followed by an OPEN FORUM

1. Accounts to 14 November 2008

Alan Gardner circulated the above accounts and stated that since D/Debit had been rescinded and there was now social membership, income had decreased considerably. However, he hoped to carry forward approx £80,000 to the next financial year especially in the light of the economic downturn. Free banking with HSBC was to be until 2010. A question on clubs being BFA members was clarified regarding insurance and club officials being covered against any claim although school clubs did not need to be members.

2. A letter from Joe Gibbons was read out by the President.

3. Competitions.

Discussion arose concerning competitions and whether a fencer had to be a member of an affiliated club and Peter Smith responded by stating that new proposals would be announced and a decision needed to be made before 2009.

4. Coaching – Norman Randall

Norman briefed the meeting on the following

- a) Coaching Conference that would take place at Loughborough University on 29 March 2009. Details of which are now on the EF website.
- b) First Aid – a new Declaration could be signed by coaches – details now on EF website
- c) Future structure regarding communication between clubs
- d) Coaching Reports
- e) National Coaching Framework – how EF coaches will ‘fit into’ this framework.
- f) Norman informed the meeting that Bob Bales was unwell and good wishes were forwarded to him from EF.
- g) Coach Educators – Coaches can apply for these posts and will be tested, along similar lines of Sports Coach UK.
- h) YST – This is now posted on the EF website

5. Referees

The meeting expressed strong concerns to the Executive of the lack of referees and the uncertain and unsatisfactory situation regarding this issue at the present time. They asked that perhaps the President could ‘move things forward’ with the BFA to resolve this matter.

Meeting closed at 1415