

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

18th June 2016: 4pm
Crown Hills Academy, Leicester

<p>Attendees:</p>	<p>EHA Board: Mike Briers(MB) (Chair), Geoff Woodall (GW), Sue Whitehead (SW), Clare Henderson (CH), Bill Baillie (BB), Ed Simpson (ES), Chris Smith (CS), Cesar Castillo (CC), Chris J Smith (CJS).</p> <p>EHA Staff: David Meli (DM) (CEO)</p> <p>EHA Members: Brighton Seahawks (Lena Tyter – LT), Cambridge HC (Agnes Foglein – AF, Alejandro Garcia Costa - AC), City of Nottingham (Stephen Keetley – SK), Ealing HC (Paul Bray – PB), Liverpool HC (Stephen Jones – SJ), Manchester HC (Robert Gillott – RG, Emma Horrell – EH), Medway Dragons HC (Tom Middleton – TM), Newcastle Vikings HC (Marlen Slinning – MS, Andrea King – AK), NEM Hawks HC (Donna Hankinson – DH, Nicola Quick - NQ), Oly Cats HC (Bobby White – BW), Olympia HC (Diaraye Diallo – DD, Alexandra Ghinter - AG), Poole Phoenix HC (John Pearce – JP), Reading HC (Jose Lehmani – JL), Ruislip Eagles HC (Marc Fayemi – MF), Stroud HC (Matt Durber – MD), Warrington Wolves HC (Kristian Marsh – KM, Dave Partington - DP).</p>
<p>Agenda Item</p>	
<p>1. Roll Call and appointment of tellers.</p>	<p>MB welcomed everyone to the 2016 AGM and hoped that members had enjoyed the club conference.</p> <p>After introductions to the current members of the board, the meeting was declared quorate by the attendance of 16 clubs with a further 3 clubs providing proxy votes.</p> <p>KM and AF were appointed tellers for the meeting.</p>
<p>2. Resolution 1</p>	<p><i>To approve an amendment to the Articles of the EHA to allow for the role of Chairman to be appointed rather than elected.</i></p> <p>MB introduced the resolution outlining the details that had been distributed in the pre AGM papers. He then invited questions from the floor.</p> <p>SJ indicated that he was concerned that the Board was moving away from the members and that the proposed amendment was another example of that happening. The EHA was owned by the members and therefore the members should have a say in who takes on the Chair's role. He understood that London GD HC had put forward a counter proposal which suggested that the Board select two candidates from an open recruitment process and then those candidates are brought before the AGM to present to</p>



	<p>members who would then vote on their preferred candidate.</p> <p>Radu Miclaus, attending as the Proxy Vote for London GD HC, confirmed that this was the case.</p> <p>ES, on behalf of the board, confirmed that this counter proposal would not meet the requirements of an appointed position. ES went on to outline the reasoning for the resolution in that this was a key role for the EHA, the Chair sets the agenda and leads the board in setting the strategic direction of the association. This requires a specific skill set and the board wished to have the widest possible set of candidates from which to select the new Chair – it did not prevent a member from applying. It was also taking in to account the new sports governance code which is due to be issued in Sept 2016 by UK Sport and Sport England.</p> <p>SJ said that this was fine if you simply wanted to chase the funding but the members still needed to be involved in the process and have a hand in the final decision.</p> <p>AF and DH echoed the sentiment that the members should be more involved.</p> <p>SJ said that he wasn't against the idea of an independent Chair, recruited from outside of the sport, it was more a question of the process that was being undertaken to complete the recruitment process.</p> <p>There being no further questions, MB put the resolution to a vote. With 9 votes for and 10 votes against the resolution was not passed.</p>
<p>3. Resolution 2</p>	<p><i>To approve the Directors & Auditors reports and audited financial statements to 31st March 2016.</i></p> <p>MB introduced the resolution, confirming the figures for the financial statements where those contained in the annual report which had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. CS stated that the reason for the small loss was down to increases in investment in local development staff as well as higher than expected costs for the development of the new EHA website which was due to launch in the next couple of months. MB then invited questions from the floor.</p> <p>SJ asked why full accounts, profit and loss and balance sheet information had not been provided as part of the AGM papers.</p> <p>CS, on behalf of the board, outlined that the accountants were still completing some last minute debt reconciliations but these were not expected to make a material difference to the final figures.</p> <p>SJ felt that the resolution could not be voted on until such</p>



	<p>time as the full accounts were ready and CS accepted that this was probably a fair requirement.</p> <p>ES confirmed that the process for this would be to effectively adjourn the meeting once the remaining business had been completed and call an EGM as soon as the full accounts were available to allow members to view all the figures.</p> <p>AF asked why the money spent on competitions had increased and DM confirmed that this was to do with more funding being put towards school events, the university championships as well as National Cup Finals and play-off events.</p> <p>There being no further questions, MB confirmed that voting on this item would be adjourned to a later date when full account information was available.</p>
<p>4. Resolution 3</p>	<p><i>To re-appoint, and authorise the Directors to determine the remuneration of the Auditors.</i></p> <p>There being no questions, MB put the resolution to a vote. With 19 votes for and 0 votes against the resolution was passed.</p>
<p>5. Resolution 4</p>	<p><i>To elect the Portfolio Director (Handball Development) of the EHA.</i></p> <p>MB asked the current postholder, Sue Whitehead, to step down from the board pending the outcome of the vote.</p> <p>With there being only one nomination, MB invited SW to give a short statement as to her reasons for seeking re-election and why she felt she was suitable for the position.</p> <p>SW outlined her work over the previous four years since her election in 2012. She felt that the sport had come a long way in that period and there was still work to be done that she was keen to support. She felt that there were exciting times ahead for the sport and the EHA, especially with the new funding cycle commencing in April 2017 and she would be honoured to continue in her role and to represent the members.</p> <p>There being no questions, MB asked members to complete their voting slips and these were collected by the tellers.</p> <p>Votes were counted, checked and verified by KM, AF and DM. The result of the ballot was 19 for and 0 against. SW unanimously re-elected as Portfolio Director (Handball Development).</p>
<p>6. Resolution 5</p>	<p><i>To elect the Portfolio Director (Competitions & Events) of the EHA.</i></p> <p>With there being only one nomination, MB invited MF to give a</p>



short statement as to his reasons for seeking election and why he felt he was suitable for the position.

MF outlined that he had been part of the handball family in England for more than 10 years and had a good understanding of the sport at club and grassroots level. He had also served for two years on the Competitions & Events Group so had a sound grasp of the type of activities that need to be undertaken and the key matters that need to be addressed. He felt that this gave him a broad view of what was required and expected to deliver an appropriate competition structure for handball in England. He outlined his intention to work closely with the Competition & Events Group and all other EHA stakeholders to ensure that the EHA does not become complacent and to make sure that the level and quality of the competition format is constantly improving for players and clubs at all levels.

MB then invited questions from the floor to MF.

RM asked how MF would ensure that decisions taken by the C&EG would not be swayed by club allegiances as had been the case in the past. MF confirmed that, if elected, he would ask each member of the C&EG to follow a code of conduct that ensured they would take decisions on behalf of the sport as a whole and not just the clubs of which they were members. He felt that this was already the case and that in the past few weeks, since the resignation of the previous director, the group had shown its willingness to work together and take decisions to support the development of the competition structure for all.

There being no further questions, MB asked members to complete their voting slips and these were collected by the tellers.

Votes were counted, checked and verified by KM, AF and DM. The result of the ballot was **19 for and 0 against. MF unanimously elected as Portfolio Director (Competitions & Events).**

There being no further business MB thanked everyone for their attendance and adjourned the meeting at 5.15pm. He confirmed that notices regarding the reconvening of the meeting to approve the financial statements would be sent out in due course.