



SCOTTISH KORFBALL ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY 18TH APRIL 2015 | 17:00
(EN)GAGE, SIGHTHILL, EDINBURGH

Present (SKA committee)

Nigel Cooper (Secretary)
Michael Nicholson (Development)
Jean Fourie (Treasurer/ Internationals Officer)
Ian Volante (League Secretary)
Nicol van Rijbroek (Funding)

Clubs: Voting representatives

Dundee: Michael Nicholson, Paul Grocott, Mary Cooper (minutes)
Edinburgh City: Mark Goossens, Clive Minshull, Laura Powell, Lucie Robertson, Emma Stanley
Edinburgh Mavericks: Nicky Wray, Jen Merritt, Steve Lawrence, Ian Volante
Edinburgh University: Mike Garbutt, Matt Ferguson, Owen Shea, Jean Fourie
Glasgow: Laura McLean, Louise Pirie, Nicol van Rijbroek
Perth: Nigel Cooper
St. Andrews University: Annabel Grout, Nina Murdoch, Kirsty McKechnie, Katie Dickerson, Alex Faurot

In attendance

Northern Storm was represented by Lee Guest, Kyle Crombie, Helena Corner (among others). Several other individual SKA members also attended the meeting, but without voting rights.

Apologies

Will Ellis (Publicity)
Sam Stevenson (Ed City)

1. Apologies for absence

Sam Stevenson, Will Ellis.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

Acknowledged and accepted as correct by all.

3. Matters arising from minutes

None raised.

4. Annual reports of officers

These had been distributed with the agenda. No further discussion was requested. Nigel thanked all committee members for their hard work over the previous year.

5. Finance

a. No audited accounts were available, as has been the case for several years. Unaudited, but fully up-to-date accounts were provided and distributed at the meeting. It was noted that a

small profit was made on the year, and that the SKA is becoming more independent of the BKA/EKA in some financial matters, eg. PLL insurance. Representatives from Northern Storm questioned whether their club should be charged lower fees as they are not able to receive the same benefits from the SKA as Scottish clubs (e.g. they have no voting rights at general meetings). In relation to this, the current system of club payments being team and player charges, rather than club affiliation fees, was outlined.

Two financial proposals were voted on:

1. Northern Storm should be charged a reduced rate by the SKA: rejected (9/25 votes)
 2. The SKA should continue to not charge club affiliation fees: accepted (16/25 votes).
- b. An honorary auditor was not elected, as the meeting was advised (and accepted) that the SKA accounts will need much more work before they would pass an audit.
- c. No proposed budgets were provided for approval. A proposal was made to keep the fees that will be charged next season at similar levels to those charged this year (i.e. to avoid any increase in the total amount of money charged per club, on a team by team basis). This was accepted (25/25 votes).
- (Note: 2014/15 charges averaged ~£250 per team, including ref development, PLL insurance, club and individual membership fees – this estimate is based on there being an average of 12 players per team/squad).

6. Constitutional amendments

- a. The main features of the proposed new constitution were summarised, including their perceived advantages over the old constitution: these included the fact that the elected Management Committee would have more flexibility in their roles, and an increased authority to co-opt suitable individuals and sub-committees for specific tasks (without overloading any one individual). The SKA had received useful feedback on the proposed new constitution from two individual members prior to the AGM. This feedback had been considered by the old committee, and would be kept in mind by the new committee, but it had not led to any changes to the proposed new constitution. No other feedback was put forward at the meeting. The current committee confirmed that they all supported the adoption of the new constitution. The proposal to accept the new constitution was accepted unanimously (25/25) by the voting club representatives.
- b. Two further proposals were left unconsidered, since they became superfluous following the adoption of the constitution proposed in (a).

7. Election of new Management Committee

Six candidates were nominated for the new management committee. All were accepted by majority votes (all >16/25). The new Management Committee comprises: Michael Nicholson, Ian Volante, Nicol van Rijbroek, Nigel Cooper, Andrew Harrow, Annabel Grout.

8. Discussion topics

- a. League structure: The main options for next season's league were outlined, i.e. to keep the current system with a mid-season split into three pools, or to move to two divisions without a split (as proposed by two clubs prior to the meeting). The advantages and disadvantages were briefly discussed, with fixture scheduling being the main difficulty with the mid-season

split. However it was noted that some clubs benefit from the higher level of competition that the mid-season split provides - especially for teams at the top end of the lower division. It was generally agreed that a two division structure needs to include promotion/relegation, flexibility in the numbers of teams in each tier, and that teams should be included on merit (i.e. not necessarily only/all 1st teams in the top division). It was also noted that teams in the lower division would benefit from the opportunity to play more experienced teams, but this could be provided via an extended cup competition. It was emphasised that clubs require more notice of league structure and rules. Nigel proposed that the new committee be charged with deciding the league structure for next season, in consultation with clubs (including Northern Storm), as it was inadvisable to make a rushed decision in the time available. This proposal was accepted (23/25 votes).

b. League rules:

i. Publication, consultation and enforcement:

The problems arising from the rules agreed at last year's AGM regarding fielding legal teams and the protest system were briefly described. It was agreed that the rules need to be changed to be less subjective, and to reduce the potential for ill-feeling between clubs and individuals. There was support for keeping the protest system, but with clearer player eligibility rules and a more transparent process for dealing with protests. Nigel proposed that the new committee be charged with producing a new set of league rules regarding these issues, in consultation with clubs, with a deadline of July 1st. If this deadline is not met, an EGM will be called (to take place on or around the same date). The proposal was accepted (24/25 votes).

ii. The protest system:

Covered under (i).

iii. The issue of clubs losing money from hall bookings when teams fail to attend matches was raised. To attempt to avoid this, and to compensate affected clubs, it was proposed that clubs should be fined £50 if they fail to notify the home team that they will be unable to field a full, korf-legal team (i.e. one of at least 6 players) at least 10 days before a match. The SKA would use this money to reimburse the host clubs for unused hall bookings. This was accepted (16/25 for; 6/25 against).

iv. It was noted that improvements in referee development had been made during the year and these efforts should be continued. To encourage clubs to prioritise referee development, it was proposed that each team in the top SKL division should be required to have at least one level 2 referee. This was accepted (21/25 votes).

c. High level cross-club development: Nicol will continue to develop strategies for this.

9. AOCB

a. Status of Northern Storm: Nigel confirmed that Northern Storm, as an English club, cannot have voting rights on SKA matters, but that any and all individual members of the SKA (including all of Storm's players) were allowed to serve on the SKA Management Committee. He also re-iterated that the SKA welcomed their participation in the league and their involvement more generally in Scottish korfball.



- b. Electronic shot-clocks: Nigel thanked Mike Garbutt for his on-going efforts to develop an affordable shot-clock for use by higher level teams within Scotland.
- c. In relation to referee development, a proposal for referees to have officiated a certain number of games before being eligible to gain a higher level referee qualification, and a proposal for experienced referees to re-sit the theory test every few years, were accepted (both by 21/25 votes). It was also noted that more communication from team captains to referees during matches (especially during the half-time break) would help the development of intermediate level referees.

10. Closure, and date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 18:05.

The new Management Committee scheduled its first official meeting for April 26, 2015.

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