



**SCOTTISH KORFBALL ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2015 | 1230  
CSE, PLEASANCE, EDINBURGH**

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<b>Present</b>		<b>Apologies</b>
Nigel Cooper	(Secretary)	none
Jean Fourie	(Treasurer/ Internationals Officer)	
Michael Nicholson	(Development)	
Ian Volante	(League Secretary)	
Will Ellis	(Publicity)	
Nicol van Rijbroek	(Funding)	

**Club Reps in attendance**

Bob McKinlay (Glasgow)

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**1. Opening**

- a. The meeting was opened at 1230. Nigel chaired and minuted the meeting, and thanked people for attending what was likely to be a long but routine meeting .

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- a. Minutes of the meeting held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 (#4 of 2014-15) were accepted with two minor amendments: Will Ellis's apologies had not been noted in the written minutes, and Will's written publicity report had not been included. Both errors are corrected in the amended minutes.

**3. Matters arising**

- a. Action points from the previous meeting (#4 of 2014-15) were addressed point by point. The vast majority had been actioned prior to the meeting. Points still awaiting completion are printed in bold in the list of actions appended to these minutes.

**4. Officers' progress reports**

**a. Secretary**

- i. **Follow ups from committee resignations:** Nigel reported that he had both informed and heard back from Bob and Andrea following our acceptance of their resignations at the last committee meeting. Bob had followed this up with a very positive letter, and offered to help the committee out as much had possible in the future.

- ii. **Mavs entrance fee for Europa Cup:** The SKA had been copied in to an IKF notice of late payment for Mavs entry into the Europa Cup. After liaising with Mavs, a rapid solution was found (similar to the one used recently to pay the SKA's IKF membership fees), with payment made and accepted electronically within 24 hours. Will Ellis (as Mavs secretary) reported that the IKF's correspondence and billing arrangements for the event had been far from straightforward - as appears to be the norm. He pointed out that the IKF had recently requested an additional 25 euros per player (so 350 euros in total for Mavs squad of 14) on top of the 750 euro entrance fee: the committee agreed that this was a very expensive way of gaining experience (Mavs are expected to get between 4 and 6 games in the competition, with initial game durations of just 34 minutes). The committee wished Mavs the best of luck in the competition.
- iii. **Schools enquiry:** The SKA has been approached by a high school teacher from Golspie (50 miles north of Inverness) who would like to introduce korfball into her PE lessons. She is asking for help with equipment and coach development. Michael has agreed to take this forward with help from Nigel if needed.
- iv. **EUKC Alumni funding:** Katharine Davis (EUKC alumni) has also been in touch about funding some sort of junior korfball project using EUSU's Alumnus fund. Michael has agreed to take this forward with help from Nigel if needed.

#### b. Treasurer

- i. **Registration Fees and insurance invoicing.** Jean reported that had received moneys from all clubs apart from Glasgow, whose payments were currently being progressed. He also reported anticipated income of around £300 from Beth and £300 from Andrea to go towards Internationals expenditure. He noted an "unexpected" deposit of around 1000 Euros in the bank statement, which would appear to be the IKF's payment of last year's Development & Education Grant. As a result, this year's income appeared to be in line with current and planned expenditure.
- ii. **On-line banking.** Jean proposed to begin the process of applying for on-line banking facilities on behalf of the SKA. The committee supported this proposal.
- iii. **Address for correspondence.** Jean reported concerns over banking correspondence being forwarded to a non-permanent address (his own term-time accommodation). Michael suggested looking into the possibilities

to use a third-party address, and Nigel offered to let the SKA use his own (more permanent) address. The committee's opinions were mixed, but the committee agreed to let Jean explore all options further, if and when on-line banking needed it.

#### c. League

- i. **Protests.** Two teams in SKL division 2 had played matches under protest on Dec 7. Ian had been considering these protests for the last month, and had sought the opinions of the SKA Committee at large in the weeks before this meeting. He had specifically asked for this opinion not to be influenced by anyone associated with any of the clubs involved (Dundee, Ed. City and Northern Storm). He reported his feelings about the decision-making process, and proposed to announce his decision in the next few days. There was considerable discussion of the potential consequences of the protests, which could prove crucial in deciding the fate of the league's mid-season split. It was agreed that some form of appeal process should be offered to whichever teams end up being badly affected by the outcome. Ian reported feeling comfortable in dealing with the process, and was thanked for doing so by the committee.
- ii. **Fixtures:** Ian had previously circulated his concerns about scheduling fixtures for the lowest tier of the league post-split, and suggested that some fixtures may need to be played on Saturdays, rather than the standard Sunday schedule used for the rest of the league.
- iii. **Stats:** Ian reported that he had not been supplied with MVP and goal-scorer statistics for several fixtures, and agreed to chase these up.
- iv. **Squad lists for post-split fixtures:** Will proposed that full squad lists should be made available for all teams in the remainder of the season. It was agreed that the use of such lists might provide an easier way to resolve any further disputes about fairness in future matches. Ian agreed to implement this for the second half of the season.

#### d. Internationals

- i. **Inter-areas:** a Scotland team has been entered in the EKA's inter-area competition, to be held in Bristol on February 22. The plan was to take a squad comprising most of the "bench" players from our European Cup squad, and pad this out with 5 Scotland-based "newbies". Jean agreed to look into whether there might be an opportunity to develop our higher-end



referees at this tournament. (A quick phone call by Bob revealed that Calum from Glasgow might be interested in this. Nigel also expressed his interest.)

**e. Funding**

- i. IKF DEC applications:** Nicol had submitted two applications for support to the IKF's DEC committee: one to support the national squad entering inter-areas, etc., and one to support "an end of season celebration" to include the SKA Cup and party. No feedback, other than the announcement of an extended deadline, had been received to date.
- ii. Shotclocks:** the issue of purchasing shot-clocks for SKA use was raised once again. It was agreed that Nicol should look into finding funds to purchase one set of clocks and an electronic score-board, with an aim of helping both clubs and internationals prepare for high level competition, as well as preparing the ground for us to host future international events.

**f. Publicity**

- i. Email lists:** Will reported that his electronic news-bulletins were being circulated to a list of 500 email addresses. Around 160 of these were being read (or at least opened) by the recipients. Nigel reported similar statistics (about 120 reads from a list of 242 addresses on the official SKA membership list). Will was encouraged to make sure that his email list did not contain any sensitive or superfluous information that might be in breach of the data protection act. He agreed to look in to this and rectify at once if it did (the committee agreed that "name, club and email address" was all that the SKA should store for publicity purposes).
- ii. Photos:** Will expressed a desire to build up a database of decent photos for use on the SKA's website. Nigel asked if the photos that the SKA had purchased from the professional photographer at the European Cup could not be used. Jean confirmed that they could, and agreed to forward these to Will.
- iii. Website update:** Will had previously requested a budget of up to £50 to allow a facelift for the SKA's website. The money would be used to buy a more professional template for the current WordPress platform. This request was supported by the committee.
- iv. League roundup:** Will proposed to write a league roundup in the run-up to the mid-season split. This met with unanimous approval.

## g. Development

- i. **Constitution:** Michael had previously requested suggestions for amending/updating the constitution, and had already accumulated a number of suggestions for minor changes. There was some discussion as to whether this might be a good opportunity to give the constitution a major overhaul, with development more at the centre of the SKA's remit and internal organisation. Michael agreed to work on two proposals to put be forward to the AGM on April 18: one with just minor amendments (the most important being full role descriptions for all officers), and another which was more radical (including a more streamlined organisation, with more duties being delegated to individual sub-committees, etc.). Michael agreed to bring drafts of these proposals to the next committee meeting.
- ii. **Scotland select:** Michael reported that there had been a very limited response to his earlier request for players to take on Mavs in yesterday's pre-Europa Cup warm up game. The reasons for this were discussed, and it was agreed that more advanced notice was needed. It was agreed that such high-level development events were highly beneficial to Scottish korfball, and should be arranged at least twice a year. Nicol offered to contact Lee Guest (Northern Storm) and others to try to revitalise some the ideas that they had proposed last year.
- iii. **University korfball (SSS):** Michael updated the committee on progress and plans to develop new clubs under the remit of Scottish Student's Sport. He had met with resistance from Dundee University, but was having a better reception at Abertay (in Dundee), and planned to roll his proposals out to other Universities over the next 2 years (e.g. Glasgow, Napier, and Heriot Watt, where local ex-student korfballers are most likely to be able to provide coaching and administrative support, as well as sport-centric Universities like Stirling).

One major obstacle to these plans was noted, in that SSS require all of their sports to be recognised by Sport Scotland. There was the usual discussion about getting korfball recognised, even if only "provisionally", and the main obstacles to this were judged to be "numbers" and "accounts". Jean agreed to get our accounts in order and have them audited this year, but SS recognition may demand more. Nigel suggested that we could currently evidence around 200 "Scottish" members who play korfball regularly – up from around 100 in 2011 – but noted that this falls well short of SS's criterion of 500 people playing the sport regularly.

## 5. Recognition Awards

Following some confidential discussion, some proposals and decisions were made:

- a. **Hall of Fame:** Given the low level of engagement with this idea (3 nominations and less than 3 votes from more than 140 members), the hall of fame idea was scrapped.
- b. **Outstanding Service:** Beth Bennett was nominated to receive an SKA recognition award. The nomination met with unanimous support. Michael agreed to source a trophy to be presented to Beth at the EIKT, with the intention for the SKA to purchase and award further trophies as “The Beth Bennett Award for Outstanding Services to Scottish Korfball” in future years.

## 6. Refereeing

- a. **Assessments:** Nigel reported progress on referee development. He had received good support and feedback about refereeing standards and proposals from individuals and clubs alike. A number of new assessments had been performed already, and more were imminent. Sam Stevenson and Kyle Crombie both passed their assessments (at Level 3 and 2, respectively) in last weekend’s division 2 games. Steve Lawrence (Mavs), Calum Lindsay (Glasgow), and Mark Goossens (Ed. City) were all scheduled to be assessed in the following day’s Division 1 fixtures. These developments are expected to reduce the shortage of referees who are qualified to referee higher-level games in the second half of the season. Further developments at the lower end of the spectrum are also expected soon (with newer refs from Glasgow, Ed Uni and Dundee expected to become “practically qualified” and more independent).
- b. **On-line theory test:** Nigel reported progress on developing an on-line version of the referee’s theory test. After seeking advice and/or help from a number of tech-savvy people, he has started to implement this on his own website. The merits and potential pitfalls of on-line testing were discussed briefly, and (with some concerns) the committee approved Nigel’s request to take the idea forward.

## 7. Scotland Squad

- a. **EIKT – Discipline:** The issue of discipline among the Scotland squad members playing in this year’s EIKT was raised. The committee noted that the squad’s participation was intended as a celebration of their recent performances in the European Cup, and that many of the squad would undoubtedly be letting their hair down. In order to avoid a repeat of the embarrassment caused at last year’s event, the squad would not officially be paying as Scotland, and would not be wearing Scotland kit.



- b. **EKA Inter-areas tournament:** Scotland's entry into this competition has been accepted, and we are expecting a squad of around 10 players to be participating in Bristol on Feb. 22, mainly for development purposes (see 4d(i)).

#### **8. SKA Cup and AGM planning**

- a. The timescale and venues for these events were discussed. Ian agreed to book Sighthill for 8 hours, ideally from 10am to 6pm, to host both the Cup and the AGM. The timescale of the AGM is intended to be limited to 1 hour, by limiting the agenda substantially over those permitted in recent years.
- b. The timescale and venues of the end-of-season party were also discussed. Jean agreed to try to book the Teviot suite at EU from 7:30 or 8pm onwards. Nigel agreed to seek a local organiser to arrange a ceilidh, based on the assumption that finances would stretch to this (delivering an end-of-season celebration is one of the projects that the IKF DEC have been asked to fund).

#### **9. Date and purpose of next meeting**

Weekend of February 28, to coincide with league/development fixtures currently being planned. This meeting should be used as a prequel to the AGM, with all officers preparing draft reports and AGM proposals ahead of Feb 28.

#### **10. Close**

The meeting closed at around 1500. Nigel thanked the attendees for their contributions.

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COMPLETED & PENDING ACTIONS (**PENDING IN BOLD**)

Reference	Action	Assigned To	Due date / completion date
2014-11-30.4.3	Issue membership subscription invoices to clubs.	Jean Fourie	Completed (December)
<b>2014-11-30.4.3</b>	<b>Clarify and resolve issues relating to WKA payment towards 2014 Europa Cup qualifier.</b>	<b>Jean Fourie</b>	<b>As soon as possible. PENDING</b>
<b>2014-11-30.4.4</b>	<b>Source trophies for league divisions B and C.</b>	<b>Ian Volante</b>	<b>End of league season. PENDING</b>
<b>2014-11-30.4.4</b>	<b>Advertise for volunteers to organise the 2015 end-of-season social.</b>	<b>Nigel Cooper</b>	<b>As soon as possible. PENDING</b>
<b>2014-11-30.4.4</b>	<b>Organise the 2015 SKA Cup.</b>	<b>Ian Volante</b>	<b>As soon as possible. PENDING</b>
2014-11-30.4.6	Contribute to discussions relating to the IKF Development grants application, with Nicol to prepare the final document.	Whole committee / Nicol van Rijbroek	Completed (20th December 2014)
2014-11-30.5.2	Write to Graham Robertson, to offer him the role of Chairperson back.	Nigel Cooper	Completed (December)
2014-11-30.6.1	Write to Beth Bennett to determine whether she wishes to take disciplinary action over the incident at the European Championship.	Nigel Cooper	Completed (December)
<b>2014-11-30.7.1</b>	<b>Provide feedback to the IKF on the outcomes of its meeting at the European Championship, specifically with reference to the need for associations to host international events.</b>	<b>Jean Fourie</b>	<b>31st December 2014 Overdue – PENDING</b>
2014-11-30.7.2	Write to the membership to ascertain interest in the IKF's international refereeing programme.	Nigel Cooper	Completed (December)
2014-11-30.7.3	Pay the due balance on the IKF subscriptions.	Jean Fourie	Completed (December)
2014-11-30.7.4	Respond to student request for recruitment information.	Nigel Cooper Michael Nicholson	Completed (December)
<b>2014-11-30.8.1</b>	<b>Write to John Wright for formal approval to use BKA funding for courses at alternative providers.</b>	<b>Nigel Cooper</b>	<b>As soon as possible. PENDING</b>
2014-11-30.9.3	Provide a letter of support to Northern Storm for their development of a northern regional association.	Nigel Cooper	Completed (December)
<b>2014-11-30.9.5</b>	<b>Undertake a review of the Constitution, and draft appropriate amendments.</b>	<b>Michael Nicholson</b>	<b>2015 AGM IN PROGRESS</b>



## NEW ACTIONS

Reference	Action	Assigned To	Due date
2015-01-10 4a(iii)	Support school korfball in Golspie.	Michael Nicholson	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4a(iv)	Progress funding application for juniors.	Michael Nicholson	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4b	Prepare draft accounts and budget for AGM	Jean Fourie	Feb 28 committee meeting
2015-01-10 4b(ii/iii)	Progress on-line banking application	Jean Fourie	As soon as possible
2015-01-10 4c(i)	Progress protest decision	Ian Volante	Immediately
2015-01-10 4c(ii)	Progress post-split fixture schedule	Ian Volante	As soon as possible
2015-01-10 4c(iii)	Chase up missing league statistics	Ian Volante	As soon as possible
2015-01-10 4c(iv)	Obtain squad lists for all teams in SKL	Nigel Cooper	Immediately
2015-01-10 4d(i)	Look into ref development opportunities at inter-area	Jean Fourie	As soon as possible
2015-01-10 4e(ii)	Look into funding and prices for shotclocks	Nicol van Rijbroek	As soon as possible
2015-01-10 4f(i)	Delete superfluous (personal) data from mailing lists	Will Ellis	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4f(ii)	Make photographs available on / for website	Jean Fourie / Will Ellis	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4f(iii)	Update website	Will Ellis	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4f(iv)	Write league roundup	Will Ellis	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 4g(i)	Progress constitutional amendments	Michael Nicholson	Feb 28 committee meeting
2015-01-10 4g(ii)	Progress Scotland select developments (with Lee Guest?)	Nicol van Rijbroek	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 5b	Source Recognition Award	Michael Nicholson	Immediately
2015-01-10 6b	Progress on-line referee test	Nigel Cooper	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 8a	Book Sighthill for Cup & AGM	Ian Volante	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 8b	Book Teviot for social	Jena Fourie	As soon as possible.
2015-01-10 9	Prepare draft officers reports for circulation before AGM	All committee members	Feb 28 committee meeting