

AFL Scotland AGM - Minutes – 18th October 2014

Attendees

John McIntyre (Chair for first part of meeting)
Alex Young (Chair for elections)
Leesa McGuire (Chair for second part of meeting)

Martin Bell	Adam Jack	David Monaghan
Jamie Campbell	Lee Keith	Steven O'Kelly
Daniel Connor	Mark Mason	Douglas Smith
Stephen Connor	Kevin McGuigan	Jonny Steele
Blair Elliott	Ryan McGuigan	Craig Stevens
Stacey Hughes	Nik McGuire	Mark Townsend
Douglas Hunter	Robert McKinlay	

Apologies

The Secretary had received apologies from Charlie Snedden for himself and Alan McSparron. Craig Stevens gave apologies on behalf of Chris McGookin and Alan McSparron. Douglas Hunter gave apologies for Charlie Snedden and Mark Flannagan.

Report from AFL Scotland

The President and Secretary gave a short report on activity throughout the year. This included feedback from the AFL Europe AGM held on 3rd October.

Following that meeting it had been agreed that GB Bulldogs coaching staff would visit Clansmen training to observe prospective Bulldogs players.

There was a short discussion about the possibility of accepting the invitation from Shane Hill to request and AFL Europe umpire course in Scotland in 2015.

Also discussed at the AFL Europe AGM was the possibility of a “junior” Euro Cup, which was supported in principle by attendees at this AGM.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer presented a short report indicating that £560 had been received since the previous year's meeting, with £521 paid out of the account. Leaving a balance of £39.

Election of office bearers

There followed an election of officials to the Management Committee.

President

Leesa McGuire- nominated by herself and seconded by Douglas Hunter. She was elected unopposed.

At this point it was suggested that future elections should be made on the basis of one vote per club rather than per individual in attendance. It was pointed out that this would require a change to the constitution.

Action: AFL Scotland to explore future membership arrangements with any changes requiring endorsement by the current member leagues.

John was elected with a clear majority of the votes and took over the chair.

Secretary

Alan McSparron was nominated by Douglas Hunter, seconded by John McIntyre. He was elected unopposed.

Action: AFL Scotland to contact Alan McSparron to ensure that he is content to take on the Secretary role.

Treasurer

Martin Bell was nominated by John McIntyre but declined the nomination.

Stephen O'Kelly nominated Lisle Young, Seconded by Craig Stevens. He was elected unopposed.

Action: AFL Scotland to contact Lisle Young to ensure he is content to take on the Treasurer role.

Female players representative

Stacey Hughes was nominated by Stephen Connor, seconded by Douglas Hunter. She was elected unopposed.

Insurance

There was a discussion about current insurance arrangements and where Public Liability Insurance might be required, given many venues are covered by it. Although personal insurance hasn't been covered previously in Scottish Aussie Rules, it was suggested that it is provided through group insurance for GAA players in Scotland.

Action: AFL Scotland to explore options for insurance.

Women's football

Twenty one female players had been involved during the year, with the Sirens ultimately finishing third in the Euro Cup. The majority of these players were at Glasgow Sharks and it was agreed that there was a need to push on with recruiting players from across Scotland in 2015.

The aim is to recruit a coach in 2015 through an application and interview process.

Five fixtures were already planned for 2015, with training sessions expected to be held every four to six weeks.

Douglas Hunter suggested that he could provide a contact for obtaining women's footballs.

Clansmen under 23 players

Martin suggested the Clansmen could develop an under 23 team in order to help encourage all players, particularly at the new clubs, to improve and work towards playing for the full Clansmen team.

It was agreed that this could be a longer term aim. The more immediate priority was to ensure good numbers at Clansmen training, with clubs taking responsibility for letting the Clansmen Team Manager know when Scottish players are available.

Haggis Cup

There was a discussion about holding tournaments, including the Haggis Cup, to raise money for the national teams.

Action: AFL Scotland to explore the possibility of holding tournaments to raise funds for the national teams.

Volunteer Scotland

Charlie Snedden had proposed in advance that registration with Volunteer Scotland would enable people to gain Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) clearance.

Action: AFL Scotland to explore Volunteer Scotland registration.

Website

John informed that meeting that there was a website in development but that action had stalled. He agreed to put AFL Scotland in touch with the site developer.

There was a broader discussion about the possibility of issuing a regular letter to all of those registered to AFL Scotland, possibly via MailChimp.

Action: AFL Scotland to explore further development of the website.

2015 Fixtures

It was agreed that these need to go out as early as possible for member leagues, with date set aside for national team activity.

Action: AFL Scotland to ask leagues for fixture dates.

Umpiring

It was agreed that it would be sensible to pursue holding an umpire course in Scotland in 2015.

Action: AFL Scotland to contact AFL Europe about holding an umpire course in Scotland.

Other business

End of season formal event

It was suggested this be held in 2015 to recognise Clansmen and Sirens players

Eighteen aside game

It was suggested that a Scottish team (possibly a SARFL select) invite a London club to play an eighteen aside game in Scotland, with a possible curtain raiser involving Scottish teams.