



Firesport UK

Firesquash UK Section

Annual General Meeting 2020

Held via Zoom Meetings App on the 2nd May 2020

Notes

The meeting opened at 18.10

The Chair welcomed everyone that could either hear, see or lipread as attendees were getting used to the app, and thanked them for their efforts.

Zoom attendees: Wayne Bowcock, Paul Drakes, Martin Nash, Simon Howling, John Limb, Simon Jackson, Dave Martell, Sean Wardman, Paul Field, Ady Proctor, Ben Stone, Ron Hounsell and Edgar Hopkin.

Apologies: Leone Holt, Dave Jones, Simon McGreavy, Louis Randle, Mark Randle, Robert Gonzalez-Green, Neil Cross.

Previous AGM Notes: The notes from the Annual General Meeting held in 2019 had been emailed to the membership before the meeting. And no objections were raised.

Election of officials: All the current officers are willing to stand again and were elected unopposed.

Chairman: Wayne Bowcock

Vice-Chairman and Treasurer: Paul Drakes

Secretary: Martin Nash

Team Captain, PR and Tournament Secretary: Simon Jackson

Matters arising:

Chairman's report: For most of the year Paul had deputised as Chair due to Wayne changing brigades and moving to a new house. Wayne thanked both he and the committee for their efforts, and for submitting the following report in his absence.

The seasons highlights included the National Championships. With a new Men's champion in Stuart Perrett, and particularly good attendance figures.

The Quadrangular was not so successful. Despite sending another strong team. The Police had a new player at No1 string- in the world top 200 Joe Green- and they took the title this year.

Paul went to the national FireSport AGM in Scotland, to find both the Chair and Treasurer had both been unable to attend at the last minute. The meeting which was otherwise well attended- still went ahead, and the sections grant of £1000.00 was secured. Paul offered his concerns about the immediate future of the National Committee as there have been no meetings in the last year, no accounts, and the long-serving National Chair CFO Paul Fuller is likely to retire.

Wayne saw potential problems with this lack of governance and robust financial accounting and the risk to the Fire Sports UK future.

As a trustee of CFOA, who manages the association and has oversight on all trading activities Wayne advised that where grants are regularly approved in barely quorate meetings, this could be subject to scrutiny by auditors. And any knock-on effect for NFCC could potentially lead to the winding up of the FireSport UK in the future.

Wayne will raise this issue with CFOA to try to improve the position.

Treasurers report: The treasurer's financial report had been emailed to the membership before the meeting. It was proposed as a true record of the financial position of the section which was agreed unanimously.

As with last year, Paul again highlighted the issues concerning Quadrangle expense. The Civil Service fees due from when we held the event in 2018 had been paid up.

Whether a grant is requested this coming year will largely depend on whether FireSquash gets the chance to run an event from their calendar.

It was queried why the accounts were submitted in a calendar year and not a fiscal year.

Paul explained that historically, National treasurers were accounting people, and their busiest time was at the end of the tax year. It was decided to make that change for National Fire Sport and the sections.

Any Other Business:

The possibility of rescheduling the tournament for September was discussed if current social distancing measures allow. And new Quadrangular dates would be explored also. Simon Jackson remains in touch with Nottingham SRC to see how things lie with them, so that if restrictions are lifted then we are in a position to make plans for a short notice tournament. But the likelihood is that nothing will happen this year.

The meeting ended at 18.40hrs.

Martin Nash
Hon Secretary