

FireSport UK

The home of Fire Service sport



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Thursday 20th June 2024 – 14:00 hours
Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service

- 1 Welcome and apologies for absence.
 - 1.1 Apologies noted and attendees welcomed, attendee list included as appendix.
 - 1.2 Previous members of FSUK who are no longer with us were remembered for their dedication and commitment, Paul Fuller, John Conley, Paul Bray and Wayne Brown. Best wishes to Dave Waywell who is unwell, we wish him well in his recovery
- 2 Minutes of the previous AGM and matters arising.
 - 2.1 Previous chair had mentioned patronage and consideration to be had if this is still needed. The vote will be deferred once opinions of all sections are sought
ACTION: Exec – Seek opinion of all sections on patronage for FSUK
- 3 Installation of Chair – formal appointment for recording.
 - 3.1 The previous chair Chris Lowther stepped down due to retirement, Chris Kirby was approached and voted in at NFCC. Formal request to install at AGM to all attendees delivered
AGREED: Chris Kirby installed as Chair of FSUK – 20th June 2024
- 4 Chair's Update.
 - 4.1 The full report is available to read on the FSUK Website [HERE](#)
- 5 Treasurer's Report (Paul Drakes)
 - 5.1 Subscriptions
Subs are healthy and an increase is not required.

Total Subs due for 2024 - £31, 420
Outstanding FRS – 5
 - 5.2 Funding bids allocated

15 grant applications have been received, all have provided accounts and reports which can be viewed [HERE](#). The total amount that can be requested per section is £2500 per year

SECTION	GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED	RECOMMENDATION
---------	------------------------	----------------

Angling	£1600	Approve
Bowls	£1500	Approve
Clay Target Shooting	£1800	Approve
Men's Football	£2450	Approve
Golf	£2500	Approve
Ice Hockey	£2500	Approve
Sailing	£2000	Approve
Squash	£1500	Approve
Swimming	£750	Approve
Table Tennis	£2000	Approve
Volleyball	£1100	Approve
Triathlon	£750	Approve
TOTAL	£25,250	

Regarding Football, we have men's section and women's section but are supportive of making these sections independent. Rugby section have deferred back to 4 nations plus women's rugby and to ensure the allocation of bids is fair, they are permitted to bid for £1000 each.

AGREED: All bids submitted approved

5.3 Funding bids to be confirmed

None

5.4 FSUK accounts

The 2023/24 Accounts can be found [HERE](#)

6 Secretary's Report (Sam Nicholson)

6.1 Sam offered thanks to all sections, expressed it is great to see the level of participation. Explained her role as aiding the rest of Exec to promote the service and encourage participation.

6.2 Attendees were encouraged to use the website as an advertising platform and get in touch regarding any national events their sections may be involved in so they can be promoted

7 Website Update (Paul Abbott)

7.1 Website development expenditure and activity delivered.

Paul has been involved in the development of the FSUK website since 2011. There is also a page on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) (X) so please give us a follow. Your sections own pages newsfeeds can be linked to the website. The website is getting a lot of traffic with multiple page clicks and comes out on the top of the list when searched in Google.

ACTION: All Sections to send social media links to Paul Abbott for newsfeed link to website

8 Governance Structure (Chair)

8.1 National Executive Committee nominees

With existing arrangements now irrelevant and a National Executive in place, the proposal put forward was to include Steve Adams, NFCC in the Exec

membership. Steve can inform on Governance.
Joss Gaynor from the Fire Fighters Charity was also nominated to join to provide a link to the charity

AGREED: Steve Adams and Joss Gaynor to Join National Executive Committee

Current Roles to remain in place with this addition, receptive to accepting more suggestions from members but mindful of not wanting to develop a committee

8.2 Abolition of National Assembly

The National Assembly was put in place to agree decisions for FSUK. The current structure of this is not fit for purpose and some roles no longer exist. New ways of working are in place, with hybrid options allowing us to receive information from people quicker.

AGREED: A draft will be developed by the Exec on the new governance for FSUK, shared across all sections for feedback before a final version is agreed at a future AGM

9 Reports from Sections.

9.1 All reports from Sections can be found [HERE](#)

10 Firefighters' Charity link and Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU).

10.1 MOU is in place and the last few years have focussed on a prevention agenda and the significant value of sport that contributes to this. Some challenge is present on how we engage appropriately and FFC want to engage with sections to pass on the services available with FFC. Joss asked if sections want to reach out and she will be happy to look at how FFC can support

11 FSUK Code of Conduct for approval.

11.1 The [Code of Conduct](#) is now available on the website and has been sent out to all section leads. This reflects the National Code of Conduct.

11.2 Due to the ongoing spotlight around culture in FRS, a gap was identified in FSUK and it was necessary to document that members of FSUK are expected to reflect the values and principles of their parent service

11.3 Misconduct would historically be dealt with through member's employment contracts but some members are retired, there would be no way of issuing misconduct sanctions for these members, should they arise.

David Farries – How would these sanctions be managed?

The document captures actions that enables any section to make its own enquiries and they can refer to the Executive. We may look at seeking advice from HR for any ongoing enquiries. Retired members would be titled "honorary" members.

Grant Eager – Would each governing bodies Code of Conduct need to be referred to also.

This code of conduct extends to things such as mismanagement rather than just conduct whilst playing the particular sport.

AGREED - introduce the CoC for FSUK with additional guidance and support offered via the FSUK Executive where necessary

- 12 Ethical Sponsorship.
- 12.1 Information was difficult to locate on how sections could secure sponsorship and what ethical sponsorship looks like. We wouldn't want sections falling foul of accepting sponsorship if it isn't right to do so.
- 12.2 the plan is to have a document in place that would give sections advice on how to source and determine ethical sponsorship. Steve Adams advised there needs to be consideration around public perception, procurement and our values and mission statement. Steve would be happy to produce a draft
- ACTION: Steve Adams, NFCC to produce a draft plan and share for comment**
- 12.3 It was discussed some years back that sponsorship could be fed in centrally. The sponsor would be to FSUK instead of individual sections. The Golf Section have a longstanding agreement with a sponsor for their events so this could create barriers to those existing relationships. This needs to be considered carefully
- 13 2024/2025 meeting dates.
- 13.1 A blended meeting has been held today but thoughts for next year include a formalisation of the AGM with more notice given so section representatives have chance to attend in person and network.
- 13.2 A date and details for the AGM will be sent out in due course
- 14 Any other business.
- 14.1 FirePro have agreed to assist us in enhancing our communication.