

ROSS AND CROMARTY SPORTS COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AGM HELD ON THURSDAY 20th May 2010
HELD IN
THE OSPREY ROOM, HIGHLAND FOOTBALL ACADEMY, DINGWALL

1. WELCOME

Joan Maxwell welcomed everyone to the meeting, a small one as we did not manage to advertise in the paper in good time. Informal introductions were made and a welcome given to Hamish Maclean and two members from Conon and Maryburgh Bowling club.

PRESENT:

Joan Maxwell, (Chair), Jim Hyslop (Treasurer), Cllr. Margaret Paterson, Cllr. Angela Maclean, Jack Murray, Jenny MacLennan, Margaret Farmer, Sandra Gass, Roy Sinclair, Robbie Russell, Lorna Benson, John Stirling, Keith Pickering.

2. APOLOGIES:

Jack Evans, Chanonry Sailing Club, Alan Hunter, Avoch Bowling Club, Dingwall Junior Football Club, Culbokie Indoor Bowling Club, Balintore Football Club, Perfect Paws Canine Club, Gairloch Golf Club, Ross Sutherland Rugby Club, Invergordon Bowling Club, Highland Disability Sport, Rod Houston Dingwall football Academy, Tommy Regan Alness United.

3. MINUTES OF 2009 AGM

The minute of the 2009 AGM was circulated.

Proposed John Stirling
Seconded Jack Murray

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Joan Maxwell read to her report .

At our AGM in Sept last year it was agreed to change the date of our future AGMs to May as this suited with our financial year which runs from 1st April to 31st March.

Unfortunately for me, I have had a rather large number of AGM's this month to both organise and attend so apologies for the late notification of the meeting.

In spite of this we have had a reasonably successful 7 months since the AGM in Sept.

At that meeting Charlie Forbes showed a DVD of the Special Olympics and he was accompanied by two of the athletes who represented the Highlands at that event.

This year we decided to hold a separate Awards night which was held in December and this was very well attended. Lynne Fraser the Highland Curling Development Officer gave a short presentation. Videos of sub aqua activities and judo throws in competition were shown. This year as well as presenting the Trophies to the Winners, we gave all those who were nominated a certificate in recognition of their Achievements. We will move to a bigger venue next year as the event was very well attended.

We continue to hold bi-monthly meetings throughout the year and I would like to remind everyone that these are open to any member clubs to attend. Notification of these meetings is put on our Website. Each of the Active Schools Co-ordinators takes it in turn to attend our meetings so we have regular updates from them on the activities in their area.

We recently took the decision to attach a database to our website which when it is up and running will make dealing with a lot of the paperwork much easier for the Committee. It is being designed for us by Plexus Media.

This will also help to improve our Grant paperwork. Currently, many of the Grant Applications do not have all the necessary paperwork attached to them and this involves us with extra work having to chase up clubs for the missing information. Although we will accept emailed applications but we still need all the relevant paperwork as Highland Council may audit our accounts.

We hope to purchase a printer which will make life much easier for me as my printer nearly ran out of ink this week. We are also slowly improving our own website. News items and photographs from clubs are welcomed.

Like most Clubs and organisations we rely on volunteers and I would like to thank all the Committee for both their time and hard work. So when it comes to nominations for our Committee I hope you will support the Sports Council by giving some of your valuable time.

MATTERS ARISING:

1. Database update. Alan described his work in setting up the database which now gives us more accurate details of our member clubs and accurate breakdown of the grants, which we have to forward to Highland Council as part of their grant criteria, as well as information on unclaimed and unpaid grants. He went on to explain that there are four stages:- Member Clubs, Grant Applications, Grant claims and Cheques paid out. The data base is invaluable in allowing the office bearers to share information.
2. Secretarial Work. Joan has been taking on a lot of secretarial work. Jenny MacLennan agreed to be minute secretary with the possibility of full secretary at a future date.

3. Email is to be the preferred method of communication although it is recognised that not all clubs have email or internet access.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT:

Report circulated. Jim explained that his financial report covered the period January 2009 to 20th May 2010. The accounts have still to be verified by the independent examiner who has yet to be appointed.

Most grants applied for have been for coaching and excellence.

The Trust Fund currently stands at £9,824.45.

Membership fees brought in £2350.

There followed a short question and answer session.

1. One suggestion was that some of the membership fees could be paid into the trust fund allowing greater support for exceptionally talented athletes.

For example, Joshua Holder a young badminton player competed in Belgium recently. He was the best Scottish athlete on the day. He was supported from the trust fund in the amount of £200. Due to restructuring HIE money will no longer be available and coaching Highland will give preference to core sports. Strict guidelines have to be followed and any transfer of operating balance would need HC approval.

2. John Stirling queried if the grant from HC was the same every year? Joan Maxwell replied that it was the same this year, but that next year would see a reduction of 20%. There will be a one-off payment this year, due to the winding up of the old RCSC Inc.

3. Joan Maxwell pointed out that 10% of the grant money may be used for administration. On the basis of the current balance it was suggested that honorariums be paid. This was agreed on a proposal by Robbie Russell and Seconded by Margaret Farmer.

The accounts were proposed as being correct by Jack Murray and Seconded by John Stirling, subject to verification.

6. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

It was agreed to appoint Alistair MacBain to verify the accounts.

7. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/OFFICE BEARERS:

At this point of the meeting the Chair, Joan noted that Denis Macdonald had been inactive on the committee for some time and was stepping down. Councillor Craig Fraser has been unwell for some time and was unable to be involved at the moment.

The following were re-elected:

- a) Chair Joan Maxwell, proposed by Jack Murray & seconded by Jenny Maclennan.
- b) Vice Chair Jack Murray – proposed by Margaret Paterson and seconded by Angela Maclean.

- c) Secretary-- Vacant
- d) Treasurer Jim Hyslop – proposed by Cllr. Paterson and seconded by Joan Maxwell

Other Committee Members

Jenny Maclennan was proposed as minute secretary, by Joan Maxwell and seconded by Jim Hyslop.

Alan Hunter was proposed as the grants co-ordinator ,proposed by Joan Maxwell and seconded by Jack Murray.

Margaret Farmer, Robbie Russell and Jack Evans were re-elected .New members elected were Keith Pickering, Roy Sinclair and Sandra Gass.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION:

The following changes were agreed:

3.2 To read

Membership will be on an annual renewable basis at a fee fixed by the Council at the Annual General Meeting. *Membership fees are payable as of 1st April each year and must be paid by 31st May. Pro rata membership fees for new members shall be applied at the discretion of the council*

5.2 To read

The Council shall hold an Annual General Meeting as soon as practicable after 1st April each year and in any case before 31st May of that year.

The AGM will:-

- Approve the minutes of the previous AGM
- Receive an annual report from the chair
- Receive a report from the treasurer and approve the annual accounts
- Elect the executive committee
- Appoint an independent examiner to the Sports Council's accounts
- *Set the membership fee for the following year*
- Consider any constitutional changes
- Deal with any other relevant business

It was noted that any resolutions to be considered must be intimated to the Secretary 28 days in advance of the AGM.

8. A.O.C.B

Robbie Russell announced that this would be his last year on the committee and that he would be standing down at the next AGM.

Joan closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.