

**THE FELL RUNNERS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CASTLE GREEN  
HOTEL, KENDAL, ON SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2003.**

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** 32 **APOLOGIES:** 8.
2. **MINUTES OF 2002 AGM.** The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (21 November, 2002 at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal) were approved. Prop: Brett Weeden, Sec: Margaret Chippendale..
3. **CHAIRMAN** distributed copies his report to the meeting.
4. **SECRETARY** distributed copies his report to the meeting.
5. **TREASURER** distributed and reported on the accounts for the year ending 31 July 2003. These had been audited by N.Hindle.
  - a) The Treasurer asked that people take care in completing their Standing Order Mandates, as mistakes can prove costly.
  - b) There was a lengthy discussion about the funding of the English Team to the World Trophy event in Alaska, and about whether the FRA funds should be used in this way. The Alaska trip strictly falls into next year's accounts, as we operate on a financial year which starts in July, and will appear in next year's statement.
  - c) The Accounts were accepted. Prop: Neill Goldsmith, Sec: Andy Schofield.

**6. MOTIONS**

- a) **The FRA English Championships from the 1st January 2004 will include additional categories for veterans over 45, 55 and 65. Runners who are qualified for an age category will only count in one age category. Runners who wish to count in a younger age category must inform the FRA statistician at least one month before the first championship race.**

(Proposed: Neil Goldsmith, Altrincham & District AC. Seconded: Alan Brentnall.)

This provoked quite a lengthy discussion, and various issues and concerns were raised, some of which were concerned with issues which were not necessarily affected by the motion, such as team membership. Eventually an amended motion was put to the vote:-

**In recognition of the age profile of FRA members, the FRA Committee is mandated to introduce additional categories (e.g. Over 45, Over 55, Over 65, Over 70 for male and female runners) for the FRA English Championships from a date or dates when the Committee deem there is meaningful competition within that age band such as to warrant the award of one or more medals.**

Voting:- For: 21 Against: 8 Abstentions: 3. **Motion carried.**

- b) **The rule on page 81 of the FRA Handbook stating "Runners should not compete in more than one National Championship" should be moved into the English Championships section as Rule 5, and should be amended to read "Any runner wishing to compete in either the English individual or team championship must not compete in any other National Championship, either as an individual, or as a member of a club team".**

(Proposed by the Executive Committee.)

**Page 81 of the FRA Handbook, 2nd line down that currently reads "Runners should not compete in more than one National Championship" to be amended to the following: "Runners cannot compete as individuals in more than one National Championship however in team competition runners can compete in more than one National Championship as scoring members of their first claim club".**

(Proposed: Tim Werrett, Mercia Fell Runners. Seconded: Mike Bouldstridge, Mercia Fell Runners.)

These motions were discussed together as they both affect the same rule. After another lengthy discussion, it was agreed that Motion 6B would be amended and the proposer of Motion 6C, Tim Werrett, agreed to withdraw his motion. The revised wording of 6B is:-

**The rule on page 81 of the FRA Handbook, 2nd line down that currently reads "Runners should not compete in more than one National Championship" to be amended to the following: "Any runner wishing to compete in the English individual championship must not compete in any other National Championship as an individual."**

Voting:- For: 31 Against: 1 Abstentions: 0. **Motion carried.**

- c) **To encourage Junior development - the AGM sanction the Executive Council to transfer suitable amounts annually from the General Fund into the Junior Development Fund.**

(Proposed: Barry Johnson, Cumberland Fell Runners. Seconded: Norman Matthews, Horwich RMI Harriers. Approved by the Executive Committee.)

After a short discussion, **motion carried unanimously**

- d) **The meeting approves of the FRA's intention to hold the World Masters International event in Keswick in 2005, and grants to the FRA Committee the authority to commit to this event whatever resources it deems are necessary and reasonable.**

(Proposed by the Executive Committee.)

This motion provoked a short discussion, mainly regarding financial matters and safeguards. Although the organising committee are already soliciting sponsorship, it was suggested that the membership could also be approached as a possible source of sponsorship.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

## 7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

- a) **Statistician.** There were two candidates for the post - Madeleine Watson (Valley Striders) and, Mark Hobson (FRA, unattached). Neither was in attendance, but Madeleine Watson had supplied a short CV.

Voting:- Madeleine Watson: 23 Mark Hobson: 3 Abstentions 6.

**Madeleine Watson was duly elected as Statistician.**

- b) **Officers.** The following Officers were **elected unopposed.** Chairman - Alan Barlow. Secretary – Alan Brentnall. Treasurer – Tony Varley. Membership Secretary – Pete Bland. Fixtures Secretary – Margaret Chippendale. Magazine Editor – Dave Jones. Championships Coordinator – Jon Broxap. Environment and Access – Chris Knox. Press Officer – Bill Waine. Coach – Norman Matthews. Junior Coordinator – Ian Smith.

- c) **Club Representatives.** Four seats. Four advance nominations. The following were **elected unopposed.** ; Graham Breeze (Skyrac), Brett Weeden (Keighley & Craven), Steve Barlow (Horwich), Martin Brady (Clayton).

- d) **Membership Representatives.** Four seats. Four nominations. **The following were all elected.** Voting as indicated.

Sue Becconsall (Calder Valley) Prop: Allan Greenwood, Sec: Neill Goldsmith

Voting:- For: 32, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0

Neill Goldsmith (Altrincham & District AC) Prop: Alan Barlow, Sec: AndyHowie

Voting:- For: 31, Against: 1, Abstentions: 0

Andy Schofield (Borrowdale Fell Runners) Prop: Len l'Anson, Sec: Gavin Bland.

Voting:- For: 32, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0

Adrian Woods (Mynyddwrdecymru) Prop: Brian Martin, Sec: Neill Goldsmith.

Voting:- For: 32, Against: 0, Abstentions: 0

## 8. OTHER APPOINTMENTS. The following representatives were elected unanimously:

- |                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| a) WMRA Representative.        | Barry Johnson. |
| b) AAA England Representative. | Alan Barlow.   |
| c) NoEAA Representative.       | Graham Breeze. |
| d) MCAA Representative.        | Bill Waine.    |
| e) SoEAA Representative.       | Paul Chadwick  |

## 9. AUDITOR. Neil Hindle, elected unanimously.

## 10. CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING.

As usual, a wide ranging discussion on various fell running matters took place after the formal part of the meeting was complete.