

**THE FELL RUNNERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CASTLE GREEN
HOTEL, KENDAL, ON SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2007.**

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** 41 **APOLOGIES:** 6.
2. **MINUTES OF 2006 AGM.** The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (18 November, 2006 at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal) were approved. Prop: Tim Cock, Sec: Pete Bland.
3. **CHAIRMAN** distributed copies of his report to the meeting and gave a brief overview.
4. **SECRETARY** distributed copies of his report to the meeting and gave a brief overview.
5. **TREASURER** distributed and reported on the accounts for the year ending 31 July 2007. At the time of the meeting, these had yet to be audited by N.Hindle, but no significant changes were anticipated.
 - a) It was confirmed that the annual donation from NoEAA had ceased with the dissolution of that body, and that Sue Beconsall was preparing a case to be put before the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional body. Similar applications could be made to other regions.
 - b) The Treasurer commented on Committee expenses which have a tendency to fluctuate.
 - c) It was confirmed that a donation was made to English athletes who were FRA members and were travelling to the World Trophy event.
 - d) The committee was asked if similar donations to non-English athletes were possible, and it was felt that, while such requests might be considered, usually the specific home country is in a better position to provide this finance.
 - e) There was a discussion about finding uses for FRA funds, and it was suggested that the magazine editorship could be funded in the same way as the membership data processing. The committee agreed to investigate options.
 - f) It was suggested that web-based results could replace a large portion of the magazine, but several present thought that there were still too many members with limited internet access.

6. MOTIONS

6a. Proposed change to FRA CONSTITUTION RULE 4F

Under the overriding clause "The executive committee shall have the power to:", the FRA Constitution (Rule 4f) currently states:-

f) appoint additional specialist officers from outside the executive committee and to co-opt up to four extra members. These specialist officers and members, not having been elected at the Annual General Meeting, shall not have a vote.

This motion proposes that this rule be amended to state:-

f) appoint additional specialist officers from outside the executive committee and to co-opt up to four extra members. These specialist officers and members **will be able to take part in any duties deemed appropriate by the executive committee, and will be able to discuss and vote on executive committee decisions.**

(Proposed by Alan Brentnall, seconded by Sue Beconsall. Approved by the Executive Committee.)

Alan Brentnall spoke on behalf of this motion, and there was a discussion prior to the vote.

Voting: For: 14, Against: 22, Abstentions: 1 **Motion defeated.**

6b. Proposal regarding ballot paper formats

Where FRA ballot papers are to be using in voting, the ballot papers shall show only the wording of the motion, the two boxes marked 'FOR' and 'AGAINST' and unique voter identification.

(Proposed by Bill Buckley, seconded by Neil Shuttleworth. Not approved by the Executive Committee.)

Bill Buckley spoke on behalf of this motion, and there was a discussion prior to the vote.

Voting: For: 28, Against: 11, Abstentions: 0 **Motion carried.**

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

- a) **Junior Coordinator.** Only one person, Richard Lecky-Thompson, was standing for this post, and, there being no objections, he was duly elected.
- b) **Other Officers.** The following other Officers were **re-elected unopposed.** Chairman - Tony Varley. Secretary – Alan Brentnall. Treasurer - Madeleine Watson. Membership Secretary – Pete Bland. Fixtures Secretary – Margaret Chippendale. Championships Coordinator – Jon

Broxap. Environment and Access – Chris Knox. Magazine Editor - Britta Sendlhoffer. Website Officer – Brett Weeden.

c) **Club Representatives.** Four seats. Four advance nominations. The following were **elected unopposed.** ; Graham Breeze (Skyrac), Paul Sanderson (Dark Peak), Andy Schofield (Borrowdale), Sharon Taylor (Bingley).

d) **Membership Representatives. Four seats. Five nominations. After a vote, the following were elected.** Alan Barlow (Altrincham & District AC), Ross Powell (Mercia), Mike Robinson (Dark Peak), Rod Sutcliffe (Calder Valley).

8. **WMRA REPRESENTATIVE.** Mark Croasdale, elected unanimously.

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

10. CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING.

As usual, there was an open discussion on fell running matters after the formal business was complete.

Prior to the meeting, David Rosen had put forward a motion seeking to amend one of the UK Fell Relay categories from Male Veteran team to Open Veteran team. However, changes to UKA fixtures are beyond the scope of the FRA AGM, as they would affect all the UK home countries, and this was raised as a discussion instead. Wendy Dodds also asked if a 4th category, Female Veteran team, could be added.

Jonathan Broxap pointed out that, currently, the categories are Male team, Female team and Male Veteran team - it had been thought that the Male team was an Open team, but this was thought to have applied to the old FRA relay which predates the current national relay championship.

Alan Barlow, chair of the UKA CMG for fell running agreed that this would be considered at a future meeting, and pointed out that runners are free to contact him directly on such matters (address in Calendar and Magazine) and should not necessarily wait until an AGM.

Tim Cock opened a discussion on Veteran categories in general, particularly with the move, in the greater world of athletics, to reduce the male veteran age from 40 to 35.

There was a general consensus that it would be preferable if all races recognised (not necessarily by giving prizes) all the 5-year categories.

It was confirmed that a new Veteran 50 Female category is to be created in the British Championship from 2008.

The Secretary agreed to publish the Notice of AGM and the Agenda on the FRA Website.