

Pentathlon Ireland AGM 2016
June 20th 2016
Irish Sports HQ, National Sports Campus, Dublin 15

Attendance: See Appendix I

Apologies:

1. Welcome:

Chairman Jim Bailey opened the meeting and welcomed all attending. Jim welcomed and introduced Rob Downes to the meeting, as previous President and founding member of Pentathlon Ireland.

Jim thanked Heidi (as previous Treasurer) and Karen Kelly (as previous Secretary) who had retired from their PI positions on the Board through the year. Jim thanked Brendan Walsh as Acting Chairman who has retired from the position.

2. Approval of the Minutes from 2015 AGM.

Minutes from 2015 were read and adopted
David Lowe proposed approval of 2015 Minutes
Brendan Walsh seconded.

3. Chairman Report: (Copy attached)

The Chairman gave his report:

- Brendan was thanked for his expertise and years of commitment to PI
- Other significant athlete successes were given including Arthur winning the Senior European Championships and Junior Rebecca Lowe winning in Barcelona.
- The Nationals Championships reported strong numbers but unlike last year, the numbers were all our own athletes (last year significant numbers came from visiting Scottish teams). Jim mentioned the quality of fencing which was beginning to come through the athletes and is an indication that the fencing initiatives and training was beginning to work.
- Nickolas Boyle was welcomed as Project Coordinator for the World Youth A Championships taking place in July in Limerick.
- IFF/PI initiative. The meeting was informed of Radu Andrei's full time employment as fencing coach. The costs to be shared between IFF and PI. The first year initiative where Radu will develop the sport with the view to being able to financially sustain his future employment. Current fencing timetable given. Fencing Ireland offering 1-2 any Sunday. Let all athletes know. No age limit.

Brendan Walsh proposed approval of report
Carolyn Lanigan-O'Keeffe seconded

4. Secretary Report (Copy attached)

- Karen Kelly PI Secretary retired due to work commitments and was thanked by acting Secretary.
- Report included calendar events: New Year Epee, Nationals, Youth Competitions (that form part of the Monthly Youth Camps)

- Youth Committee formed as part of initiative to support the young athletes coming up through the Association.
- Youth Committee holding a two-day monthly camp. Self funded by the Youth Committee.
- Report included the initiative to support the Irish athletes competing at their home World Championships in July. Specific training for the selected Youth A athletes.

David Lowe proposed approval of report

Jackie O'Neill seconded

5. Report of the Treasurer (Copy attached)

- Brendan read the Report.
- Brendan read the auditor's Report.
- Brendan thanked the Sponsors of PI and HSI. He also thanked Heidi for her work as Treasurer.

Matters from Accounts:

- €190,000 HP grant increase of €20,000 in 2016
- Received NGB core funding of €20,000 again
- Sponsorship income from AWAS being agreed.
- Staff full-time and part-time during 2015. High performance director and coaching funding.
- Hire costs of Pentathlon Ireland Centre. Further increase likely
- Attending events increased
- As grant from ISC now over €200,000 additional auditor report now needed. Audit fees increased according
- €34,000 deficit at year end

Rob Downes proposed adoption of accounts

Carolyn Lanigan-O'Keeffe seconded.

Discussions from the floor:

- €120 from Polish Junior Competition. Some funds were overpaid by the athletes travelling to the competition, and a refund is due.
- Request from the floor for further information about International training camps and a request for breakdown of costs of International Competitions.
- It was agreed that communication and clarification were important going forward.

6. Restructuring of PI: Jim Erskine (Board member) outlined to the meeting the restructuring vision for the Association going forward. He explained to the meeting the following proposed new positions within the Association:

- CEO role to manage and run the Association. The role will ensure adherence to good governance practice of the Association. This would be a full time role. Position will work with the Executive Board and manage the High Performance Director/Coach.
- Role of the High Performance Director: ideally we would also be able to afford a specific High Performance fencing coach.

- Difficulty is that we ideally need 3 positions but likely we can afford only 2. Therefore, two posts likely: High Performance Director with specific expertise as a fencing coach, and a CEO.

7. Sponsorship: Robert Downes explained to the meeting the following:

- General Manager: Cannot use High Performance funds to pay a General Manager and that the funding must come from elsewhere. €20,000 core-funding for the Association.
- Raise corporate sponsorship. AWAS 2013, 2014: €40,000 from sponsor over two years. €20,000 each year to finance Robert and Siobhan original General Manager part-time post, and were paid from the sponsorship money. He explained that the Sponsorship and General Manager post has moved the Association forward but still not enough money to make the post sustainable.
- The aim is to secure AWAS sponsorship €10,000 over three years (€30,000).
- Looking to involve other leasing companies. Target the aircraft leasing company industries.
- A request about additional fundraising initiatives was raised but the focus of the Association at present is on the Corporate Sponsorship opportunities.

8. Proposed amendment to Company: (Change from ‘limited’ to ‘limited by guarantee’)

- Brendan explained that the name is the only change and that there is no material difference.
- Company still has no shareholders. Liability is limited to a guarantee of €1...other than health and safety liability (in which case the directors are responsible)
- The meeting was asked to vote on the change. The change was passed by a unanimous show of hands.

9. Election of Executive positions:

Secretary: Carolyn Lanigan-O’Keeffe

Proposed: Niav McNamara. Seconded: Jackie O’Neill

Chairman: Jim Bailey

Proposed: David Lowe. Seconded: Brendan Walsh.

Treasurer: Jim Erskine

Proposed: Ros Coyle. Seconded: Brendan Walsh.

10. AOB

Youth A World Championships

- Nickolas gave a report.
- Volunteer roles: Important for to be available to volunteer at the competition. Volunteers will be able to register on the website.
- Kings John’s Castle: Opening Ceremony 6pm-10pm. Open to public and athletes together.
- Cultural day for visiting athletes: GAA experience. Sporting activity

- Bord Failte has given grant support.

Athlete Rep:

Kate Coleman (athlete) suggested the need for an Athletes Rep. The Board and meeting was in agreement with the need to have an elected voice from the athlete body. This role has been hard to fill in the past, but Rob Downes said he would forward the original Athlete Rep template for the future.

Honorary Life-membership

Rob Downes was presented with Honorary Lifetime membership to the Association in recognition for his contribution to Pentathlon Ireland.

Ros Coyle thanked committee for their continued hard work throughout the year.

The meeting was formally closed and all attendees to the meeting were thanked.

Appendix I

Attendees:

Brendan Walsh
Carolyn Lanigan-O'Keeffe
Jim Bailey
Jackie O'Neill
David Lowe
John Ledingham
Jim Erskine
Rhona Radford-Dodd
Ailis Holohan
Kirsty Maher
Catherine Mullarkey
Michael O'Brien
Garry O'Neill
Niav McNamara
Tara Mullen
Madonna Duggan McSweeney
Kate Coleman
Robert Downes
Ros Coyle
Nickolas Boyle
Gini Savage
Tom O'Brien

DRY