

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

The Scottish Waterski Association Ltd. t/a Waterski and Wakeboard Scotland

Held on Sunday 25th October 2020, 2.00pm @ Zoom Call.

Ordinary Business

Item 1 – Chairperson’s Address

Kevin Lochhead opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance and acknowledging the different format of the meeting – noting that, although online meetings do provide some interesting challenges, they also provide increased opportunity for members from all around the country to attend, and welcomed seeing so many people from different parts of the country on the call.

Thanks were given by Kevin for the significant service to the sport provided by Alan Murray who stood down from the Chief Operating Officer role earlier in the year. Kevin also reflected on the significant challenges faced by the Governing Body this year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that it had very much been a ‘skeleton year’ for clubs and venues as a result of restrictions. Barry Cook, our **sportscotland** Partnership Manager, was introduced to attendees and thanks noted for his, and **sportscotland**’s guidance and support. Apologies were noted for Alfredo Alonghi and Mariet Scott, both of whom were being confirmed at the meeting as new Directors, along with Liz Anderson and John Radford. Carole Cooney, the new Chief Operating Officer, was welcomed and thanked for her contributions to date.

Kevin explained that after the formal business of the AGM, the SGB would like to provide a verbal update of the current season and, for interested parties, an update and informal forum for NTS operations for the current season.

Item 2 – Attendance

Attendees: Kevin Lochhead, Liz Anderson, Stuart Baillie, Chris Heron, Carole Cooney, Ollie Jessop, Kim Johnston, John Radford, Ian Barnet, Campbell Cavanagh, Valentina Colon, Barry Cook, Gordon Christie, Guy Harrower, Andrew Haslam, David Henderson, John Morton, Katrina Morton, Carole-Anne Park, Andrew Williams.

Item 3 – Apologies for Absence

Apologies: Alfredo Alonghi, Alan Dickman, Mariet Scott, Carter Taylor, Krzysztof Waz.

Item 4 – Approval of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 27th October 2019

The minutes were approved by all. Proposed by Carole-Anne Park and seconded by Campbell Cavanagh.

Item 5 – Adoption of 2019 Reports: Vice-Chair; Chief Operating Officer; NTS Steering Group

The 2019 reports were accepted.

Item 6 – Review of the SWSA Ltd. Accounts for the 12-month period ending 31st March 2020

The accounts had been filed with Companies House at the end of the financial year. Carol-Anne Park suggested that, moving forward, financial information about the current season (ie April-September) should also be provided at the AGM. It was confirmed that this was an agenda item later in the meeting.

John Radford queried the entry regarding a Government Grant under Other Operating Income and it was agreed that clarification was required regarding when this grant was originally received and what its tenancy is/when it will start to depreciate.

Confirmation was also provided that the figures provided in relation to the 2nd bank account reflect actual cash value and are not just a book entry.

Item 7 – Reappointment of Drummond Laurie as the Company Accountants for the ensuing year and to give the Management Committee authorisation to fix their remuneration.

Approved by all with no objections.

Special Business

a. Special Resolution – Articles of Association

Required editorial changes to the proposed articles of association (below) were unanimously accepted by all in attendance (via electronic poll).

b. Articles of Association

The membership had been invited to vote online, ahead of the AGM, on proposed changes to the Articles of Association. Carole confirmed that voting had closed, as per the published notification, on Friday 23 October, and that over 90% of the votes had been in favour. The Articles were therefore accepted.

c. The appointment and reappointment of Members of the Board

Notification about Directors and new nominations had been notified to the membership along with the notification of the AGM and an invitation for additional nominations to be submitted. The deadline date for this was 17 October and, as no further nominations had been received, there was unanimous agreement at the meeting to the following positions being appointed:

Chair	Kevin Lochhead
Vice Chair	Chris Heron
Treasurer	Stuart Baillie
Secretary	Liz Anderson
Director	Ollie Jessop
	Kim Johnston
	Alfredo Alonghi
	John Radford
	Mariet Scott

Alfredo, John, Mariet and Liz were welcomed to the Board of Directors.

d. 2019 fees

Kevin explained that last season a decision had been made to temporarily suspend the fee for becoming a member of WWS and that the proposal is to continue with this approach for the next season whilst work on strategic direction, operational plans and demonstrating tangible “value add” to the membership continues. It was noted that there is opportunity for WWS to increase its value to BWSW in terms of the support it can provide to Scottish participants (thus saving BWSW resources) and therefore discussions should be held with BWSW regarding links to their own fee structures.

There was unanimous agreement to continue with suspending fee charges for the coming season.

Other Competent Business

a. Review of Reports

No questions were raised in relation to the Vice Chair, Chief Operating Officer and NTS Steering Group reports.

Stuart Baillie provided a financial update to attendees. He started by thanking the previous COO, Alan Murray, for undertaking the Financial Director role while he was in post and for managing a high level handover to Stuart ahead of his departure. Thanks to Andrew Haslam were also noted for supporting the book-keeping elements of financial reporting.

Work has been undertaken this year to separate out financial records for WWS and NTS, which is intended to provide more clarity and transparency.

Stuart then talked through a presentation which summarised the financial position emerging from this season and invited questions from attendees.

Ian Barnett queried what the projected income for NTS over coming months is and Stuart advised this is anticipated to be in the region of £800/month over the next 6 months – with far fewer people skiing over the winter season. It was noted however that the position is unclear regarding how many outstanding (ie already purchased) sets members have.

Kevin explained that NTS should be supporting the SGB financially and that the new Management Committee will be responsible for generating income that can be used for NTS, the SGB and other member clubs.

Carole-Anne Park stated that she felt more financial detail was required and Chris Heron advised that any recommendations regarding the level of detail that attendees would like to see in future meetings would be very much welcomed.

Andrew Williams raised that it is likely that we will be living with COVID-19 for some time now which will be challenging but that opportunity may also emerge from the increase of people holidaying in Scotland rather than travelling abroad.

b. Open Discussion on proposed direction and strategy for WWS

Carole provided a verbal update regarding activity in relation to shaping the future strategy for the governing body. This included an overview of the initial activities - including results of a national, online customer survey and a summary of the introductory strategy event, which was an online meeting attended by representatives from clubs and venues across Scotland and external speakers.

It was acknowledged that this is very much the start of a journey, with much more customer engagement and strategic shaping to follow in the coming months. Regular updates will be provided on the WWS website, social media and by the new club/venue meeting structures which have been implemented since Carole joined.

An update regarding the recruitment of the Development Officer and Development Coach roles was also provided (interviews for both being undertaken in November) and thanks noted to **sportscotland** for supporting the funding of these critical roles.

Item 9 – Any other Competent Business

The requirement to establish a new NTS Management Committee was discussed – it will report to the WWS and consist of a Chair (WWS Director); WWS Director and 2-4 members of NTS. This committee will be responsible for driving commercial success of the centre to support reinvestment in the sport.

Special thanks were noted to long-term volunteers at NTS for all their hard work and dedication – Campbell Cavanagh; Matt Mills and Andrew Haslam. Recognition for the efforts of Kris Waz, Operations Manager, were also noted and all agreed that we hope he keeps in touch with us moving forward.

Andrew Haslam raised concern about the ability of the sport to support competitive events moving forward if people do not step in to support ie by becoming involved in judging and driving.

Carole-Anne Park thanked to the Board of volunteer directors for “stepping up” to support the sport and noted that their efforts are paying off.

Barry Cook recognised the significant transition that had been experienced by the SGB in the last 2 years and confirmed that **sportscotland** are satisfied that the right people are in the right place to take things forward for the sport moving forward and to support governance requirements.

Kevin thanked everyone for attending and closed the AGM at 3.30pm

Next Annual General Meeting Date and Time: TBA

Minutes taken by Carole Cooney

26/10/20