

Disability Snowsport UK
33rd AGM at Snowdome Tamworth – 10th September 2011

Present: Lisa Hall (Chairman), Robbie Young (Vice Chair) Paul Masters (Treasurer), Fiona Young (CEO), Debra Dorey, Sarah Bennett, Sophie Wood, Dave Chugg, Steven West, Rachel Easton, Keira Young, Nicholas Hatherley, Dave Whitehead, Charlie Laine, Holly Oughton, Christine Cufflin, Mike Todd, Susan Hall, Chris Sykes, Andrew Lockerbie, John Currie (Secretary), Mathew Prior, David Richards, Chris Jones, Judy Ekins, Sarah Compton, Carsten Mieves, Jess Rogers, Lindsay Rogers, Angus Mackay

1. **Apologies** – Joe Broussard, Ruperta Melville, Andrew Forrester, John Tully, Peter Grant, John Commene, Malcolm Davidson, Stuart Walsworth, Emma Garner, Pamela Jones, Steven Cairoli, Susan Gibson, Heidi Cox, Sam Gosland, Kate Biggen, Adrian Carey, Carol Steinberg, James Whitley, Polly Walker, David Kingswood, Lisa Cain, Tom Nicholson, Vanessa Willson, Neil Moore, Felicity Duder, Alan Jones, Tim Nuttall, Richard Wright, Stella Alabi, Jill Holliday, Alexandra Knight
2. Minutes of 32nd AGM – Proposed by Dave Chugg seconded by Paul Masters
3. Matters arising from the those minutes – None

4. Report from Trustees

4.a Chairman Report (The attached report prepared by Lisa Hall was read) There were no questions.

LH – Throughout the year we identified the need for a membership coordinator, someone to look after our growing membership and to develop the reason to be a part of DSUK. We realised it wasn't viable enough to have a membership with nobody to look after it. The opportunities are not obvious if you do not know about DSUK. The role of the membership co-ordinator is to listen to the membership and bring its concerns to the management and trustees; to encourage participation in our events and other programmes and to be a bigger part of the charity as a whole.

As a charity we are very dependent on fundraising. Our Trusts & Grant applications have become increasingly harder to secure with just one successful grant out of fifteen. These used to be our bread and butter, but this has all changed.

Our events have taken on a new feel to them. We started out as amateurs and quickly identified that we needed to invest in this area. With Sarah in place we started to produce a calendar of events, the aim of which will become a recognisable calendar of events. The challenge now is to see them at full capacity.

The corporate side of our fundraising I admit we are not good at. Our aim is to develop this expertise and we, as trustees, will spend time doing this in the forthcoming year.

We are about to embark on a review of the DSUK business plan. Between now and end of season we will have consultation with staff and members and endeavour to produce a 4 and 8 yr plan to link with the next Olympics. As well as this we will also retain the focus of all essential areas of the charity, the ambitious development of the ski schools, which we support and the membership development to say the least.

I would like to thank the people who deliver our charitable purpose. There has been an enormous amount of work put in by everyone – that extra mile that makes a big difference to the success of the organisation.

A cautionary note – we have come from the gloom of global financial crash and we came through – it was a hard time but we emerged on the other side with a reorganised structure. We have since had a couple of good years however the ability to maintain activities is going to be a real challenge. We will continue to develop and be innovative, but we know all of our aspirations will not be realised. We are back in the period of tightening belts again however we have great optimism and will continue to need help from you, your contacts and their contacts.

4.b Treasurers report (The attached report prepared by Paul Masters was read)

4.b.1 – Adoption of accounts

The accounts up to the end of May have not yet been audited however fundraising was down £148K. As expected the team funds reduced and we were £48K down on general donations. Although we have expanded our surplus has taken a huge hit, we have used about £75K of this.

To last year's accounts you may remember we didn't have the audited accounts for the AGM last year so I seek to ask you to adopt the formal accounts up to the end of May 2010

Proposed Angus MacKay – seconded Steven West

4.b.2 – Report on Accounts

We seek agreement to make the decision to carry on with our current auditors in that you as members are happy to delegate responsibility to us as trustees to keep the same auditors if we approve their work – unanimous vote

5. Fixing of Annual Subscriptions

LH As you all know the annual subscriptions increased from this year. Last year we proposed we wouldn't raise them above £40.00; which we haven't. Thoughts on the membership going forward

JE – Propose they remain the same next year

Seconded – No

LH Is there an alternative proposal?

AM – Propose to keep them capped at a maximum of £40

LH – The intention is not to change that

PM seconded

In favour – 12

3 abstentions

LH – As we grow we needed to look again at our membership to encompass all of our members, our OAP's, juniors and students

JE – Membership has increased a lot and will put people off. I am not happy being classed as an OAP and people on benefits can get the student rate. Can we not call in unwaged?

LH – We will relook to see if we can label the categories differently

SW – I will bring this to the focus group as the feedback from the focus group is important

JC – It needs to be all-encompassing for all members. Unwaged may be offensive

LH – The titles we use describes the routes we wish to identify. These are good thing to look at for next year – how the categories work. When we make changes we would like all kinds of feedback from everyone, what works and what doesn't work!

FY – Our staff, Rachel and our instructors can also find out what works and what doesn't and should feed that back to us.

6. Re-election of executive committee

LH – Steven West was elected 3 yrs ago by membership and has served on the board.

The motion to have him re-elected has been nominated and seconded by the trustees to go out to membership

Steven West was asked to leave the meeting

Abstentions – no

Against - no

For - Unanimous in favour

7. Any other business

LH – We have been thinking of other ways that DSUK could hold our AGM. AGM's are out of fashion and one alternative for the AGM is a type of 'Gardner's question time' phone in or email. We are in the early stages of how this may work.

What are your thoughts on this?

JC – It would certainly avoid costs of travel, accommodation, food etc

AM – It's not so much the presentation involved – it's the other things that happen outside the meeting

LH – We could look at a virtual solution to put together a virtual AGM with additional benefit. We can either stay as we are or we can explore virtual solutions as an experiment

The choices are a Classical AGM – 1 in favour

 Virtual AGM - 14 in favour with 1 undecided

PM – recommended that we get out more and engage with our members. We could complement not having the AGM with a road show

AM – one trustee to one group each year

RY – we could arrange a fun day at each of the slopes. We would know in advance which trustees will be available and put it into the calendar between May and September. We could have a Q&A at each session

LH – We will explore the options. Focus groups are the best thing for Q&A, perhaps we need open focus groups?

SW - Focus groups at the moment are predominantly for the local groups

LH – if you know of a LG that needs input I am happy to be there virtually

No other questions

Meeting adjourned 3.30pm