

General Meeting

At the Conference: 14 May 2016 Kents Hill Park Conference Centre, Milton Keynes

Minutes

1. As an introduction it was explained that SCGB is both a company limited by guarantee and an association of members. This meeting cannot be a formal “General Meeting” as a constitution and procedures have not yet been adopted, but this is intended to be a “foundation meeting” for a representative body to vote on and adopt a constitution and then to populate the main committees, who will then have power to adopt procedures for future conduct of SCGB.
2. The proposed constitution is “federal” with representative “national bodies” in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland who then appoint members to the SCGB Governing Council. National Bodies and Governing Council have distinct but complementary roles and responsibilities. This is described in the proposed constitution. It was clarified that this meeting would seek to elect the National Bodies for England and Wales (a similar process is due to start in Scotland soon). The existing “working party” would become an interim “Governing Council” until the national bodies are ready to appoint their representatives and a new Governing Council will form.
3. Delegates were reminded briefly of the structures, membership and roles described in the proposed constitution. In particular:
 - Existing Working Party will continue as governing council for now
 - National Bodies will form
 - At agreed time, national bodies will (re-)appoint members of governing council
 - Working Party/Governing Council will support national bodies, work on recognition, standards and policies
 - National Bodies will work on national teams, communication, safety
 - all groups MUST honour commitments already made e.g. national teams
4. Conference was informed that three proposals had been made for amendments to the constitution that had been set out. These would be discussed and voted in turn.

5. Proposed amendment 1: “**Conference accepts in principle that Paracheer should have one representative on each National Body and on the Governing Council**”. The reasons given for this amendment were to ensure that cheerleading for those with physical or sensory disabilities was fully represented within our sport. The exact details of how such representation would be achieved should be agreed in discussion between SCGB and Paracheer UK for ratification in the next general meeting. After a short discussion a vote was held. Apart from one abstention, all present were in favour.

6. Proposed amendment 2: “**Conference accepts that there should be one representative for Special Needs Cheer on each national body and on the Governing Council**”. The reason given for this amendment was to ensure that cheerleading for those with learning disabilities or needs was fully represented within our sport. After a short discussion a vote was held. Apart from one abstention, all present were in favour.

7. Proposed amendment 3: “**Page 5, bullet point 1 - remove 'must be a citizen of the UK' but leave 'must either be resident or directly involved in cheerleading'**”. The reason given for this amendment was “UK citizenship should not be a requirement, residence or direct involvement in the nation or province which appointed them should definitely be a must, but citizenship restricts many of the current talent pool within the industry here in the UK from taking part in governance”. Advice was given that 1. It was permitted to use a citizenship qualification in relation to the governance or management of a national team, 2. most nations within the International Cheerleading Union required members of Governing Bodies to be citizens of the nation and 3. this provision was in the constitution because concerns had been expressed when SCGB was formed that it was necessary to protect UK cheerleading from undue influence, particularly from established US interests. The amendment provoked long and lively discussion with some expressing strong views for and against while others were simply not sure. Eventually it was unanimously agreed not to vote on the proposal at this conference but to ask the Governing Council to consider this section of the constitution and, if it wished, propose an amendment at a future general meeting.

8. No further amendments were proposed. **The constitution was proposed as amended and the vote in favour was unanimous.**

9. The meeting moved on to accept nominations for roles on the national bodies for England and Wales. Each nominee gave a brief statement to the meeting and withdrew while the vote was held.

SportcheerEngland

All-Star Coaches

Nominated: Emily Alner, Rachel Berenson-Perkins, Sammi Connell, Paige Cronje, Marie Jenkinson, Amanda Johnston, David Knowles, Helena Zarzycki

Elected: Marie Jenkinson, Amanda Johnston and Helena Zarzycki

University Coaches

Nominated: Emily Gill, Rachel McCormack-Bland

Elected: Rachel McCormack-Bland

Schools Coaches

Nominated: Sammi Connell, Miki Garratt, Jane Wood

Elected: Jane Wood

Special Needs Teams

Gareth Green and Amy Quy (joint role: elected unopposed)

(Subsequent to the conference, Gareth Green withdrew and so Amy Quy is the sole representative)

SportcheerEngland will also include the Team Coaches (Angela Green and Tori Rubin), one representative for each event or commercial provider member active in England and a representative elected by the national team athletes. The national body will appoint a medical representative, a secretary and executive officer and can co-opt additional members if it wishes.

SportcheerWales

Lively and fast discussion among the Welsh coaches meant that positions were elected unopposed as follows:

All-Star Coaches

Zoe Roberts, Sabrina Steele-Mountjoy and Gemma Whyley

Universities

vacant (new nominations and elections to be held)

Schools Coaches

Victoria Jenkins

Special Needs Teams

vacant (new nominations and elections to be held)

SportcheerWales will also include the Team Coaches (Emma Richards and Pamela Richards-Dakins), one representative for each event or commercial provider member active in Wales and a representative elected by the national team athletes. The national body will appoint a medical representative, a secretary and executive officer and can co-opt additional members if it wishes.