

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
THE BRITISH WATER SKI & WAKEBOARD FEDERATION LIMITED HELD ON
SUNDAY 29th JANUARY 2023 VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE**

PRESENT

Honorary President

Lord Moynihan

BWSW Board Members

Messrs. Martin Winter (BWSW Chair), Steve Sopp (Vice Chair and Honorary Member), Peter James (Finance), Patrick Donovan (CEO & Company Secretary), Margaret Curtis, Nick Fellows, Michael Lock and Clare Lobb.

Advisory Council Members

Messrs. Rod Beattie, Derek Blackmore (Honorary Member), Nicky Caine (Honorary Member), Claire Ellis, David Field, David Grey, Richard Mattos (Honorary Member), Jeremy Nevill, Calum Reid, and James Timothy.

Former BWSW Chairs

Messrs. Alan Goggin (Honorary Member).

BWSW Staff Members

Keir Boissevain (Business Development), Kylie Cooper (Operations Manager), Elisa Nicholson (Membership Services), Jane Peel (Head of Communications) and Anny Wooldridge (Social Media).

Lascelles Committee

Liz Hobbs MBE (Honorary Member)

Voting Clubs Represented by Proxy

Access Adventures	Jane Sowerby
Boughton Lodge	Andy Dyne
Charnwood Waterski and Wakeboard Club	Chair of the Meeting
Chichester Water Ski Club	Chair of the Meeting
Cirencester Water Ski Club	Colin Slater
CJM	Chair of the Meeting
Cotswold Water Ski Club	Margaret Curtis
Cliff Lakes	Richard Quill
Gosfield Lake	Vince Turp
Hi 5 Waterski and Wake	Chair of the Meeting
Loch Lomond Water Ski Club	David Henderson
Rickmansworth Water Ski Club	James Timothy
Rock Sailing and Water Ski Club	Richard Mattos
Stewartby Water Sports Club	Chair of the Meeting
The Waterski Academy	Nick McGarry
Wiremill Water Ski Club	Steve Sopp
White Rose Water Ski Club	David Field
WWS National Training Site	Kevin Lochhead

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from:

Rita Smith (Finance Administrator), Cathy Hughes (EDI Lead), Matt Crowhurst (Advisory Council) and Andy Harris (former Chair).

MEETING OPENED

Patrick Donovan, CEO commenced the proceedings by welcoming everyone to what was the 72nd AGM, the organisation originally founded in 1951 and introduced the BWSW Chair, Martin Winter.

INTRODUCTIONS OF THOSE PRESENT & APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Honorary President, the Board members, staff members present, and he also welcomed all the many visitors, a former BWSW Chair and club delegates together with representatives of the Advisory Council. He outlined the time and commitment everyone was giving to help the sport survive and thrive, congratulations to the disciplines on some remarkable results on the international stage and outlined that BWSW was here to help the sport to succeed on the ground.

All present then observed a moment of silence in memory of the friends from within the sport who had sadly passed away during the year. Friends lost during the year were:

Norman Payne (Theale WSC), Barry Frame (former Chair of Racing), David Webb (Rock Sailing and Water Ski Club), Mike Waterman (former Racing Committee member), Matt Studholme-Brown (Tallington Lakes), Dai Lynn (Cirencester WSC), George Bruce (Princes Club) and Mike Dowling (Racing).

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2022 AGM

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 30th January 2022 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Already proposed, seconded by Mandy Rix (Hunstanton Water Ski Club), the minutes were unanimously approved by the Full Member voting delegates present.

SPECIAL RESOLUTION

That the Articles of Association in the form circulated with the Notice incorporating the provisions described in the circular to members dated 1st December 2022 be adopted as the Articles of Association of the Company with immediate effect.

The Chair outlined the rationale and a number of amendments to the Articles behind this resolution and the 75% of votes required to pass any special resolution; already proposed, seconded by Andy Dyne (Boughton Lodge WSC), the Special Resolution was passed unanimously.

ORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTION OF THE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT OF BRITISH WATER SKI & WAKEBOARD

a) Chair's Report

The Chair outlined several points from his report including the main challenges which included the ever increasing compliance and reporting requirements of a small, publicly funded governing body for the scale of the available resources. There was an essential need to remain compliant and eligible for funding however this was an increasing area of pressure. The requirements of the Sports Code, Sport England reporting and the UK Anti-doping Framework were all highlighted as areas of work during the season.

The Chair thanked the HQ staff for their hard work in dealing with the challenges, together with our Head of Communications / Editor, Social Media Coordinator and our designer. He thanked the Board for their continued support during the year and noted the very hard work of our CEO and staff team in maintaining the very diverse operations of our HQ.

A number of initiatives were highlighted for season 2023 to a continuation in the shift to equality, diversity and inclusion, continued funding dependent on evidencing impact in this area. Membership remained a continuing challenge and it was key to support the sport by retaining existing and attracting new members. It was highlighted that E-membership had increased to just over 600 which was welcome.

Finally, the Chair outlined the vision and key aim of a fit for purpose sport, supported by a skilled and qualified workforce, improved participation and profile, greater capacity to support the sport and the aim to continue to support Racing to operate for the future via a comprehensive safety review.

Some of the successes of the season at international level were highlighted. Tom Heaps achieving three Gold medals for Barefoot on the international stage, also Joel Poland, Joe Battleday, Liam Peacock and Will Asher ranked No. 1 in the world for the Waterski discipline. A note of thanks to Jane Peel and Anny Wooldridge re their work on profile, PR and social media exposure to celebrate these successes. A final note of thanks to all the clubs, centres officials and volunteers on the ground who help the sport to operate.

b) Finance Report

Peter James (Finance) outlined that the financial report and audited accounts related to the 2021/22 financial year ending on 31st March 2022.

At the end of the financial year the summary outcome was detailed as follows:

- Surplus (overall company) of £33K (2020/21 - £3K deficit)
- An overall increase in income to £595K (2020/21 - £569K)
- Expenditure overall decreased to £556K (2020/21 - £572K) with cost mitigation and reduced staff overhead costs and a gap in recruitment as part of the background to these decreased costs.

He further outlined that in any particular year BWSW is a circa £600k to £700k turnover business with Sport England funding over the five year funding cycle of £1.2m with a focus of this investment on tackling inequalities that are barriers to access sport and improving diversity across the sport. Self-generated income from membership, qualifications and the activities of the disciplines provide the other major income streams.

A brief summary overview was provided of salary support, core cost support and overall grant versus business income which outlined that the governing body had a strong mix of self-generated income and grant income support. Having well developed self-generated income streams helped to reduce over-reliance on grant income and with a broadly typical 50% split in any particular year between grant funding and self-generated income this was a relatively healthy position for a not-for-profit sports governing body. Core cost support (back office admin and overheads) was highlighted with funding providing circa 25% of support and BWSW income supporting 75% of this cost area.

Finally, Peter was happy to report that overall as a business, the governing body remained financially sound with a robust balance sheet, good cash flow and appropriate reserve funds to buffer the seasonal nature of the business.

Adoption of the Annual Report and Approval of the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2022 & To authorise the appointment of Menzies as the auditors for the current financial year and to fix their remuneration

Peter outlined that the experience of working with the current auditors was excellent and that their fees were competitive.

Already proposed the adoption of the Annual Report, was seconded by Andy Dyne (Boughton Lodge WSC) and unanimously approved by the voting members present.

Approval of the audited accounts was seconded by Vince Turp and unanimously approved by the voting members present.

The re-appointment of our auditor Menzies as the auditor for the current financial year was seconded by Richard Mattos (Rock Sailing & Water Ski Club) and was unanimously approved by the voting Full Members present.

AFFILIATION FEES & MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

It was highlighted that the club liability scheme for voluntary clubs was still under review, a market increase was inevitable in what was a hardened marine insurance market with BWSW aiming to achieve a reasonable rate for our affiliates covered by the scheme.

Peter further outlined the planned inflationary increase on membership subscriptions within an environment of increasing operating cost pressures to include the personal accident insurance premium included as part of subscriptions. He highlighted that the fees represented good value to members and that the subscriptions would assist BWSW to be an effective governing body to support the sport.

A note of thanks to Peter for his clear, digestible and comprehensive finance report.

BOARD ELECTIONS

The Chair outlined that Board roles (apart from the CEO) were entirely voluntary, and each Board member had given up a great deal of time during the year from their busy working week. Attendance records for each Board member were provided for the attendees. Attendance had been extremely good overall and met the requirements of the Articles of Association.

The Chair thanked everyone for the very significant amount of time and input from the Board members during the season, he very much appreciated the support.

The Chair reminded those present of the election / Board appointment procedure i.e. that each year one third of the Board members (excluding the CEO) needed to stand down by rotation having completed a three year term and offer themselves for re-election (if they wished to re-stand). Having completed an additional three year term, the existing members offering themselves for re-election were:

Margaret Curtis	Non-Independent
Steve Sopp	Non-Independent
Nick Fellows	Independent

There were no new candidates offering themselves for election.

Summary resumes for each candidate had been circulated prior to the meeting; the candidates introduced themselves and highlighted the skills and experience they brought to the role and their wish to be re-elected. It was highlighted that with available places for all of the candidates standing

each candidate would require more than 50% of the votes cast at the meeting.

Non-Independents Vote – with two candidates standing for two available places Margaret Curis and Steve Sopp were elected by a unanimous vote.

Independents Vote – one vacancy with Nick Fellows re-elected by a unanimous vote.

The Chair congratulated the re-elected candidates to the Board of Directors and thanked all the candidates for their interest in continuing to support the sport at Board level.

PRESENTATIONS

The Lascelles Trophy Awards – Will Asher was awarded the Lascelles Open Trophy and Steve Sopp highlighted his considerable achievements during the season. Charlie Lloyd was awarded the Lascelles Junior Trophy and Boat Wakeboard Chair Jeremy Nevill outlined Charlie's achievements.

The Lascelles Fund Memorial Awards – this year's recipients of grants from the legacy fund originally bequeathed by our former Honorary President received their awards to support their ongoing athlete development within the sport. Lascelles Committee Chair, Liz Hobbs MBE, outlined the history of these memorial awards and ongoing aim to support young athletes. Today 17 young athletes were awarded a grant of between £250 to £750 to support their continued involvement.

Liz thanked those who had contributed to support the fund and encouraged others to donate to support the annual awards.

Volunteer of the Year – the presentations were outlined and it was highlighted that volunteers were the very foundation of the sport and these unsung heroes ensured the sport could function at every level. The nominations had been assessed by a panel and this year's winners were:

Isabella Williams – Young Volunteer of the Year

Iain Stewart – Volunteer of the Year

Honorary Members – there was one award of Honorary Membership this year introduced by Steve Sopp (Water Ski Committee Chair):

Carl Turp – awarded for a lifelong service to the sport, very much involved in all matters related to the Waterski discipline and involvement with Gosfield WSC and supporting the events calendar to include National Championships.

Following on from the conclusion of the award presentations the Chair congratulated all the young athletes and other awardees who had made a significant contribution to the sport this season.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Jeremy Nevill outlined that this season would see the first year of a GB squad for Wakesurf.

c) Former Chair Alan Goggin added his congratulations for Carl Turp and family in particular for their involvement in supporting some of the very early Barefoot competitive events.

There being no further business necessary the Chair thanked the delegates for attending and thanked all the staff members who had attended and helped with the organisation of the AGM. He wished all present a very enjoyable and successful season 2023.

END

The meeting closed at 14:15

Minuted by:
Patrick Donovan
**Chief Executive Officer &
Company Secretary**