

## MINUTES – SEMLA Annual General Meeting 2017

*7pm Monday 19 June 2017*

*The SEMLA Secretary thanks David Brucie Morris for taking the minutes of the AGM in his absence.*

**In attendance:** Trevor Rogers (TR), John Maynard (JM), Pete Compton (PC), Miles Whittle (MW), Jon Cooper (JC), Pete Rawsthorne (PR), David Brucie Morris (DBM), Harry Collins (HC), Anthony Thornton (AT), Ruairidh Penham (RP), Jack Hallett (JH), Rob Rowe (RR), Rob Arnott (RA), Phil Garthside (PG).

### **1) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from: Ben Jessup

### **2) Motion to accept short notice of AGM**

Recognising that there was not sufficient notice for the meeting, TR proposed the motion to accept short notice and to make the AGM valid. JM seconded the motion. There were no abstentions, and no votes against, with the motion unanimously passing.

### **3) Acceptance of minutes**

There were no objections to the minutes, and they were passed by the meeting.

### **4) Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **5) President's Report**

TR praised the discipline and relentlessness of Jon Cooper in his role as Fixtures Secretary. The meeting heard how he has collated data from past SEMLA winners with a comprehensive collection as a result. The executive thanked Jon for his long contribution to SEMLA and lacrosse in England.

TR continued to explain how Croydon have folded as a club, a real shame for lacrosse in the South of England, but went on to thank SP for growing the referees base in the South and commend Rob Collinge's vision and drive to improve refereeing standards at and via Bluesfest.

TR also commented on future changes due to the increase in playing numbers and the enhancement of playing opportunities, namely the NLC's Men's Competitive Review, potential league restructuring and revisions to player eligibility, before closing by thanking all players across SEMLA for contributing to the sport in the South.

### **6) Treasurer's Report**

MW shared that there is a profit of £7000 for 2016/17 at present, but costs of sticks for schools and kit for the South team will fall into 2017/18. There is likely to be an eventual profit of £2000, but there are still fees to be paid for Senior Flags.

MW explained that a profit was made at the SEMLA 6s and Flags this year, and gave thanks to Dave Slaughter (DS) for paying and updating the SEMLA website. SEMLA will pick this up and pay DS a nominal £50.

### **7) Officer's Report**

JM began by sharing his Disciplinary Report. One complaint was raised by Spencer against Hampstead for bringing the game into disrepute, however there was no case found. There were two disciplinary cases heard during the 2016/17 season as well, with one case found. PR asked to move Matthew O'Leary's disciplinary to a complaint as per the disciplinary procedure.

PC shared Ray Wood's Youth Committee Report, detailing cautious optimism in the rise in youth players but also noting that we still only have four clubs, with two schools also involved intermittently. The meeting was reminded that we fielded a SEMLA team against an international team from Brussels, but it was commented that the youth pathway was a failure again, with two clubs folding where they should not have had to.

PC added to the Fixtures Report that as Hampstead couldn't field a team to represent the South of England, Spencer

went to play Cheadle in the Wilkinson Sword national club fixture, ultimately losing 11-10.

TR read Ben Jessup's (BJ) Secretary Report, detailing SEMLA will be working to update how we share information with clubs, representatives and any players or volunteers who may be interested. DS has set up a Google Group for SEMLA which any individual will be able to join to ensure that they get all comms moving forwards. Invites to follow. BJ is also working to compile a full database of club contacts - Chairs/Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries, Welfare Officers and all Club Captains. All clubs are requested to share the contact details for club committee members for the 2017/18 season to [semia.secretary@southlacrosse.org.uk](mailto:semia.secretary@southlacrosse.org.uk).

TR also advised that BJ is doing some work with Paul Coups (ELA) and one of the newly appointed Board members to review the ELA's governance structures. The hope is to give member representatives from across the North and South the opportunity to get involved with a number of sub-committees to support driving English Lacrosse forward in the future.

PR went on to share NLC Report, commenting on the implementation of the NLC's Competitive Review and standardised age groups, with the result being that the SEMLA's U16 Dispensation must come to a close. Concussion advice has also been delivered, however there has been no agreement on concussed players resumption of play.

### **8) Election of Officers**

All officers seeking re-election were elected as below, with DBM & NR newly elected as Fixtures Secretary & Development Officer respectively.

a. President	<i>Trevor Rogers</i>
b. Executive Vice-President	<i>Peter Compton</i>
c. Executive Vice-President	<i>John Maynard</i>
d. Honorary Secretary	<i>Ben Jessup</i>
e. Honorary Treasurer	<i>Miles Whittle</i>
f. Fixtures Secretary	<i>David Brucie Morris</i>
g. Referees Secretary	<i>(Remains Vacant)</i>
h. Chair of Referees Committee	<i>Simon Peach</i>
i. Chair of Youth Development Committee	<i>Ray Wood</i>
j. Chair of Disciplinary Committee	<i>John Maynard</i>
k. Development Officer	<i>Nik Roberts</i>
l. South Manager	<i>Rob Clark</i>
m. National Lacrosse Committee Liaison	<i>Peter Rawsthorne</i>
n. University Liaison	<i>Russell Farrer</i>

TR proposed a new position of Safeguarding & Welfare Officer. AT requested more information on the role and PR confirmed he would send over details.

### **9) Acceptance of new clubs & teams**

The vote to accept Spencer 4s as a new team to the league passed unanimously.

### **10) Any Other Business**

There were no items of any other business raised.

**Please note that the date and time of the next meeting is the Monday 4 September at 7pm.**