

EUROPEAN LACROSSE FEDERATION



Working with you - Working for you developing lacrosse in Europe

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Clipper Garden Hotel Steglitz Berlin 13th June 2009

7.05pm the President of the European Lacrosse Federation Mr Peter Mundy confirmed the meeting open and welcomed the delegates from all the member countries in attendance.

Before the meeting business was commenced the President remarked on Ken Gallucio's tragic and untimely death, which had saddened all who knew him. The President stated that Ken's contribution to European lacrosse and lacrosse in general was immeasurable, his commitment and dedication to the game and others was such that was not possible to outline all that he did. The ELF would be initiating a fitting tribute to his memory.

Wales had also lost a former young player James Smith following a tragic accident in New Zealand

He called for all present to remain silent as a tribute to Ken and James. This was accomplished in the customary manner.

The President was pleased that the meeting happened on the occasion of the Berlin Open. He had many happy memories of previous events in Berlin and appreciated the help of the organisers on this occasion, particularly the provision of a tent for the ELF to utilise.

The President outlined the voting procedure and reminded delegates that each country had two votes. Observers and others were welcome to the meeting but they were not entitled to enter into debate when, matters were raised or to vote on any issue.

Item 1. Apologies for absence

The secretary reported an apology from Ireland.

Item 2. To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11th August 2008 in Lahti Finland.

The President requested all present to confirm that they had received a copy of the minutes. These had been previously circulated for their scrutiny.

The President asked if any person wished to make any emendations to the minutes. Those present indicated they did not wish to do so. He then requested they be moved for acceptance.

England moved acceptance to the proposition, which was seconded by CZ. A vote ensued which unanimously accepted the proposition. Accordingly the minutes were accepted as true and accurate record of the meeting **and they were confirmed.**

Item 3. Matters Arising From the Last Minutes:

The President indicated that Belgium has requested membership of the ELF and brought forward Item 8 in order that a vote could ensue, if accepted Belgium could then take part in the meeting. This was agreed

Kristof De Smet the delegate from Belgium then gave a short and interesting presentation on progress in Belgium. Two teams had been formed in Brussels including a senior men's team. They had 23 active players. Kristof expressed his thanks to Kristian Gotsch of the ELF who had spent a whole day with them and provided excellent assistance and a presentation. They had raised 4.500 euros in four months. It was hoped that a new club would be formed in Antwerp and another in Ghent. Belgium very much wanted to have a National team and wished to compete in European events.

The President thanked Kristof for his overview of lacrosse in Belgium. It was apparent that excellent progress had been made. He then proposed that Belgium be accepted as a member of the Elf and this was seconded by Kristian Gotsch. A vote ensued and Belgium was unanimously accepted and acclaimed in the usual manner. Kristof expressed thanks on acceptance.

Item 4. Hon Secretary's report

The secretary stated that he was appointed to the post of Honorary Secretary at the last AGM in Lahti Finland. He found it a pleasure and a privilege to have worked with the President and the other members of the Executive committee. All are like minded individuals who have one aim in undertaking work on behalf of the ELF that being to see Lacrosse in Europe develop and flourish even more. Wales were one of the founder member countries and he was pleased to be able to not only represent Wales at this meeting but also be able to help as Secretary to the ELF.

As with other members of the committee we each have a particular issue to deal with in addition to the overall work of the committee.

Among these were:

- Developing banners and advertisements to heighten the profile of the ELF.
- Providing helmet stickers to show where equipment was donated by ELF
- Securing sponsorship for Polo and T shirts with profits from sale to the ELF
- Creating an ELF poster which all countries can use to advertise their events
- Assisting to re-launch the Friends of ELF with leaflets
- Providing advice, equipment and referees and coaching

In respect of communication the secretary requested that where countries change their delegates to the ELF that they please provide him with full name, postal address and post/zip code together with e-mail and telephone numbers.

The ELF Poster has been designed so that it could be used to advertise events without members have to spend money on graphics it will be circulated in due course.

There will be a very limited number of T-shirts on sale at the Berlin Open.

As regards fundraising, he encouraged everyone to participate in the ELF raffle to be held at the Berlin Open and also to consider joining the Friends. All proceeds to the ELF for financing further development in Europe this will enable more players and officials to become involved.

The President thanked the secretary for his proactive contribution

Item 5. Hon Treasurer's report

The President stated that John Debnam was unable to attend but had previously circulated a copy of the accounts. It was noted that some members had not paid.

England proposes that countries that were not paid up should not be allowed vote at meetings or participate in ELF events and that the ELF Executive be given the authority to support members as needed by varying the subscription rate. Discussion ensued after which the proposal received a unanimous vote.

The President then proposed the accounts be accepted. Kristian Gotsch seconded this proposition. **A vote ensued which was unanimous.**

Item 6. Friends of the ELF re-launch

The President gave a presentation about the 'Friends' how they were created and the reason for them. This essential fundraising was used to purchase necessary equipment for new countries.

On joining for just a minimum of 40 Euros men would receive a silk tie and ladies a scarf. They would also receive the European Lacrosse Magazine when published. Delegates were requested to support the friends. The facility of on line payment made it easy to do. The existing friends were thanked for their generosity and the funding already received. A tent would be at the Berlin Open as a meeting point for Friends.

Item 7. To receive a report on current development work in Europe

Kristian Gotsch used a PowerPoint presentation and reported that development was progressing very well. This could be seen on the Laxmap facility on the ELF website. He reminded delegates of the need to use it to highlight events and tournaments. It was requested that delegates kept it updated. There were now over 20 tournaments and leagues organised during 2009.

The league champion's cup, which was instigated by Ken Gallucio had been an overwhelming success.

The acceptance of Belgium now brought us to 22 members. Contact was continuing in St Petersburg, Hungary and Athens.

This growth has meant a change of focus for the ELF as it was recognised that there was a need get more Clubs going and to have more referees and coaches to further assist development.

The ELF now had a coaching coordinator and a referee and an official's coordinator who were responsible for organising clinics and camps for players and others to progress as coaches and officials. These had already proved successful.

Matthias Lockemann then gave a presentation on referees, clinics. These had been held in Latvia, Zurich, Vienna and Copenhagen. A total of 59 people had qualified to the basic level during the year.

The ELF objective was to have a majority of European referees officiating at ELF events and countries to have sufficient numbers referees. Members who required referee training were requested to contact Matthias via the ELF website.

Barbara Zelany representing Bulgaria informed the delegates that Japan has an excellent referee system, which involves mentoring referees on the field during games after attending a clinic. Matthias reinforced the importance of newly qualified referees getting experience on the field.

Kristian Gotsch then outlined the concept of a media/sponsorship coordinator and appealed for delegates to consider the vacancy. It was intended that this person could drive forward publicity and also endeavour to obtain sponsorship.

He informed the meeting that the President had written another book, "A Guide to the development of lacrosse" its purpose was to help new start-ups. The book came about when the enthusiasts in Athens requested some information about how to start lacrosse. The book was the result and completed from first thought to print in just 9 months. The delegates applauded the Presidents efforts.

The ELF was also producing a template or guide to organising events, which would be useful to members.

The President thanked both Kristian and Matthias for their work.

He then stated that young people taking posts such as the media/sponsorship coordinator would derive benefit from such work. He knew many people who learned valuable lessons in life through lacrosse several of whom have now become very successful in business.

Item 8. Application of new countries

Belgium's application had been dealt with at item 3

Item 9. Euros 2012

Martin Baadsgard Denmark then gave an informative presentation in respect of their expression of interest and wishes to host the next European Championship.

Danielle Durr Austria stated that Austria would also wish to be considered but was unable to provide further details.

Ron Balls England recommends that Denmark be given notice to go ahead ASAP.

The President took the view that as Austria had now expressed an interest they should be given until 1st September to submit their bid, and any other members thinking about this should also do so by that date.

Ron Balls stated that the Executive having received the bids should circulate them to members within two weeks of the bids being received and that all countries then vote on the proposals, nominating the preferred bid by e-mail the reply to which should be within 30 days.

Discussion ensued re World under 19's in Turku Finland commencing 9th July, would ELF avoid this event. It was stated that it was hoped a clash would not occur but with the number of events occurring it could not be guaranteed.

Item 10. The constitution

This was to be updated and members requested to support the update in due course

Item 11. Championship Rules

Kristian Gotsch informed the meeting that the Championship Rules were in need of updating as was the constitution. This would be achieved in the next 12 months and circulated to all members a vote could be taken as to suitability. They would then take effect at the next Euros 2012.

Item 12. European Club Championship

Kristian Gotsch informed the delegates that the executive committee had decided that this annual event was to be named to commemorate Ken Galluccio who had done so much for lacrosse in general and European lacrosse in particular. The event was to be called, "The Ken Galluccio League Champions Cup". It was hoped that Hamburg Club could hold this first event, as Ken thought so much of the Warriors.

It was noted that the women would also like to participate, subject to women's leagues being able to support.

Item 13. ELF Media/Sponsor Coordinator

This had been previously dealt with under development

Item 14. ELF Poster

The secretary briefly reminded delegates the purpose of the poster and how it could be used.

Item 15. Fund raising

The President invited delegates to propose fund raising ideas for the ELF as finance was needed to maintain development in particular and also keep to countries subscriptions to a minimum. Ideas ranged from selling pies to t-shirts. All were thanked for their input.

Item 16. Election of Officers

Gordon Shumack Wales proposed that Peter Mundy be elected as President. He stated that Peter Mundy was the founding father of the ELF and now in his 80th year and he maintains a workload and schedule that many others would find daunting. Lacrosse in Europe had developed at a pace thanks to the driving passion of the President. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition. A vote ensued which was unanimous. The delegates acclaimed the President in the usual manner after which he thanked all present for their good wishes.

The President then proposed Kristian Gotsch for Men's VP, in doing so he paid tribute to Kristian's ongoing efforts. Gordon Shumack seconded the proposition. After a vote this was unanimously accepted.

The position of ladies VP was vacant and unfortunately there were no proposals for this vacancy.

The President proposed that Gordon Shumack retain the post of secretary, as the past 12 months noting that he has undertaken a significant amount of work since Lahti. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition a unanimous vote ensued.

The President then proposed that John Debnam remain in post as Treasurer. This was an essential post in any organisation handling money, which had an added

complication of dealing across borders, which he had handled extremely well. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition after which a unanimous vote ensued.

The President then proposed that Matthias Lockemann remain as the referee coordinator. He had done a sterling job. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition after which a unanimous vote ensued.

The President then proposed that Ann Hutchings remain as the ladies umpire coordinator. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition after which a unanimous vote ensued.

The President then proposed that Henning Schmidt remain as the coaching coordinator. He had done an excellent job. Kristian Gotsch seconded the proposition after which a unanimous vote ensued.

The President reminded delegates that a vacancy exists for Media/Sponsor Coordinator.

He then expressed his appreciation to the committee for their work. Henning Schmidt and John Debnam, were not present but he recognised their effort on behalf of the ELF.

Item 17. Any other business.

CZ raised a query in respect of referee coordinator, which was resolved.

A question arose in connection with NCCA stick sizes. Matthias Lockerman indicates no change will occur until after 2012

Closure of the meeting

The President then asked if any other delegates had anything further to discuss prior to the meeting being closed. There were no further matters raised. The President thanked everyone for their presence and their contributions to the meeting. He wished them well for the remainder of the event and a safe return to their home.

He closed the meeting at 9.00pm