

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTIETH  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,  
ON SATURDAY 6 MARCH 2010, 2PM  
AT THE BRITISH OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION,  
60 CHARLOTTE STREET,  
LONDON,  
W1T 2NU**

**MINUTES**

**1 WELCOME BY THE BCU PRESIDENT, MR ALBERT WOODS**

Albert Woods, President, welcomed everyone to the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting.

**2 TO APPOINT TELLERS FOR THE MEETING**

Peter and Maureen Moule were appointed as tellers for the meeting.

**3 TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

It was agreed to accept the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> AGM. This was proposed by Graham Lyon, and seconded by Mike Twiggs. *All members present voted in favour of accepting the minutes.*

**4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

There were no matters arising. It was noted that 37 proxies had been received, 1 of which was spoiled. The 36 good proxies were in favour of the Chairman. 1 proxy was against all motions, and 1 was against items 2 and 3 under the special business of 'English Council.'

**5 TO ADOPT THE 30th ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BCU BOARD FOR THE YEAR 1 NOVEMBER 2008 TO 31 OCTOBER 2009.**

Brian Chapman, BCU Chairman, stated that the Annual Report had been previously circulated to all members. In addition, he highlighted that the organisation's membership continues to grow, and informed the AGM that for the 7<sup>th</sup> year running, Canoeing has been confirmed as the most popular water sport in the UK. We have seen considerable success in competition, across all disciplines – this is quite an achievement at this stage of the Olympic cycle.

Brian also stated that the organisation has been successful in achieving the required levels of Safeguarding and Protecting Vulnerable Adults and Children.

With reference to the BCU Coaching Service, Brian informed the AGM that the Board had today reached a decision on the way forward; this will be fed out to the membership following this meeting.

Finally, Brian thanked all volunteers and staff who have contributed to make the organisation the success that it is today.

**6 TO ADOPT THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR, 1 NOVEMBER 2008 TO 31 OCTOBER 2009**

David Belbin, BCU Treasurer, stated that the accounts had been adopted by the Board, and had been successfully signed off by the BCU's auditors. Furthermore, he stated that the Union is in a strong and sensible financial position.

A legacy from Maurice Rothwell had been paid over to the BCU resulting in an increased surplus against budget. The legacy will eventually be paid over to the Canoe Foundation.

*The accounts were then formally adopted. Proposed by Mike Twiggs and seconded by Dave Rossetter.*

**7 DECLARATION OF THE RESULT OF THE ELECTION FOR THE BCU TREASURER**

It was advised that there had been 1 nomination for the post of Treasurer: David Belbin. David was duly re-elected for a further 2 year term as BCU Treasurer.

**8 TO APPOINT 'HAYSMACINTYRE' AS THE AUDITORS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1 NOVEMBER 2009 TO 31 OCTOBER 2010, AND TO AUTHORISE THE DIRECTORS TO FIX THEIR REMUNERATION**

It was agreed that 'haysmacintyre' be appointed auditors for the financial year 1 November 2009 to 31 October 2010, and that the BCU may fix their remuneration. *Proposed by Dave Belbin and seconded by Phil Blain.*

**9. SPECIAL BUSINESS**

The meeting considered the following resolution as a special resolution: *It was resolved that the Articles of Association be amended as follows:*

**1. To consider, and if thought fit, to pass the following resolution as a special resolution:**

IT WAS RESOLVED THAT the Articles of Association be amended as follows:

**a) The Objects Clause**

**General**

1. THAT sub-clause (i) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after "United Kingdom)," on line 9:

"and in those of the British overseas territories (as that expression is defined by the Interpretation Act 1978) which do not have a National Olympic Committee which is recognised by the International Olympic Committee (which territories are referred to below as the "British Overseas Territories)".

2. THAT sub-clause (i) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after "United Kingdom" on line 11:

"and the British Overseas Territories".

3. THAT sub-clause (ii) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after "United Kingdom" on line 3:

"and the British Overseas Territories".

4. THAT sub-clause (iii) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after "the Isle of Man) " on line 3:

"and the British Overseas Territories".

**Organising Events**

5. THAT sub-clause (vi) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after "the United Kingdom " on lines 6 & 8:

"and the British Overseas Territories".

### **International Promotion**

- 6 THAT sub-clause (x) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after “United Kingdom” on line 5:

“and the British Overseas Territories”.

- 7 THAT sub-clause (xi) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after “United Kingdom” on line 2:

“and the British Overseas Territories”.

### **Other similar organisations**

- 8 THAT sub-clause (xii) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after “United Kingdom” on lines 3 &7:

“and the British Overseas Territories”.

### **Improving Facilities**

- 9 THAT sub-clause (xv) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after “United Kingdom” on line 2:

“and the British Overseas Territories”.

### **Publicity**

- 10 THAT sub-clause (xviii) of the objects clause be altered by inserting the following text after “the United Kingdom” on line 7:

“the British Overseas Territories”.

### **General**

1. THAT article 1.2 be altered by inserting the following word and meaning below the expression “Board”:

““British Overseas Territories”.....

those of the British overseas territories (as that expression is defined by the Interpretation Act 1978) “which do not have a National Olympic Committee which is recognised by the International Olympic Committee”.

### **English Council**

2. That article 1.2 be altered by inserting in the meaning of the word “English Council” the following text after “the Isle of Man”

“and the British Overseas Territories”

3. That article 35 be altered by inserting the following text after “the Isle of Man” in line 2:

“and the British Overseas Territories” .

4. Insert new article 74 (a)

“The Board may authorize a Director to continue to participate in matters where he, or a person connected to him, has, or may possibly have, a conflict of interest with the companies’ interests.

With reference to the above, Paul Owen, Chief Executive, explained again that 37 votes had been received, one of which was invalid. He further explained that one proxy was against all motions, and the other requested a poll of the 2 motions as listed in item 4 above. However, for a poll to happen, it must be requested by 3 or more people. No other members requested this, and therefore a poll was not taken.

David Gent, BCU Vice President, then explained the special business in more detail to the meeting; the ICF is currently working to have Canoeing included in the Commonwealth Games Programme in the future. The stumbling block in this process is that there are a number of Commonwealth nations who do not have separate Olympic Committees and therefore, they cannot become ICF members. However, these nations are also British overseas territories, and therefore, they could be taken into BCU membership which would demonstrate to the Commonwealth Games Federation that they are members of the ICF through the BCU.

David went on to explain that this would not require any additional resources from the BCU in terms of help and support.

*The motions were then put in full to the AGM, and were agreed unanimously.*

The Chairman then called upon Mike Twiggs, BCU Board member. Mike had earlier announced his retirement from the BCU Board, but unknown to him, his colleagues on the Board had voted that Mike should receive the BCU Award of Honour for everything he has done for the organisation over many years.

David Gent then informed the AGM of Mike’s history with the BCU;

Mike has been involved with canoeing for over 40 years and has been a BCU official of varying sorts for over 30 years. He was the Chair of the BCU Yorkshire and Humberside region for 5 years as well as Vice Chairman at various times. He was a long serving member of the Washburn Committee and helped to organise slaloms for Bradford and Bingley there.

Mike has been on the BCU Council and BCU Board since the mid 1980s in a whole variety of roles; as Chair of ACRMC, Interim Chair of the English regions, Chair of Yorkshire, Chair of the Touring Committee, and the Chair of the Access Committee through one of its most turbulent times when it had to deal with CRACK. He was also a founder member of the Angling and Canoeing Liaison Group and was instrumental in getting the two groups to talk to each other after a long period of non-negotiation.

In recent years Mike has concentrated on the Paddleability regattas and has run numerous Disability Awareness courses.

He has been both Secretary and Chair of Bradford and Bingley Canoe Club and is currently a member of Pennine Canoe Club, where he is heavily involved in the disability side. He was, until 2 years ago, Chair of Pennine Canoe Club.

As a member of the BCU, Mike has served the Governing Body at some of the highest levels for over 25 years through either the BCU Council/Executive/Board.

Mike was then presented with his award by the BCU President.

The AGM closed at 2.45pm.