



THE SLED DOG ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Bowland Trails Barn - Saturday 15th March 2014

Committee members present:

Chairman:	Charlie Brecknell;
Secretary:	Mary Carter;
Treasurer:	Lindy Hanson;
Membership Secretary:	Cherry Fairley;
Prize / Trophy coordinator:	Jambo Smith;
Race event support:	Stuart Hanson.

SDAS members present:

Pauline Amphlett; Karl Binns; Artur Bogdal; Joanne Cornah Wade; Gareth Bowyer; Debbie Brading; Roly Brading; John Carter; Matty Clarke; Lyndsay Cloughley; Alan Daniels; Karen Drake; Heather Falconer; Damien Farnon; Daniel Fitzgerald, Keith Johnson, Tobias Leask, Stuart Malcolmson; Leigh Marsden; Bob McLeod, Gilli McLeod, Rob (& Max) McMillan; Aileen Morton; Alan Morton, Pail O'Donnell; Colin Spalding; Rab Steele; Steven Studley; Hugh Symm; Tracy Thomas, Jo Walton; Ron Walton; Barry Wanless; Lesley Winning.

Item 1 – Welcome & Apologies

The meeting commenced at 15:03hrs. **CB** welcomed all, an attendance sheet was signed by all (see appendix a)

Apologies from: Ali Binns, Jo Brecknell; Bethan Fitzgerald, Rob Morley, Max Wightman;

Item 2 – Accuracy of minutes from last AGM

Minutes taken by **MCa**. Accuracy of Minutes proposed by **TL** Seconded by **KB**

Item 3 – Treasurers report

Income & Expenditure account circulated to members present. See appendix (b).

Delayed hand over of treasurers duties to **LH** due to prolonged difficulties with change of address & signatories for the SDAS Bank Account held with the Bank of Scotland. BOS account is now closed. New Bank account opened with TSB with **LH** and **CF** as signatories.

Acceptance of Accounts. Proposed by **SS**. Seconded by **POD**.



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Item 4 – Chairperson's report

See appendix (c).

Item 5 - Election of Officials

CB thanked the existing committee for their continued hard work, thanked **BF & Alan McDonald** who were stepping down & those who are standing for re-election. Nominees happy with 'show of hands' for election as opposed to ballot slips. A brief introduction was given by each of the proposed committee members prior to voting.

Nominations:	Votes For	Votes Against
Tracy Thomas	40	0
Paul O'Donnell	40	0
Alan Daniels	40	0
Matthew Clarke	39	1
Cherry Fairley	40	0

CB Welcomed all nominees to the committee.

Item 6 – Proposals

Proposed by Mary Carter on behalf of the SDAS Committee. Seconded by Charlie Brecknell.

- 1. That SDAS support the BSSF in their goal to gain full membership of the IFSS.**
- 2. That SDAS apply to become affiliated members of the BSSF (British Sleddog Sports Federation) as and when the BSSF gain full membership of the IFSS as the member federation for Great Britain.**

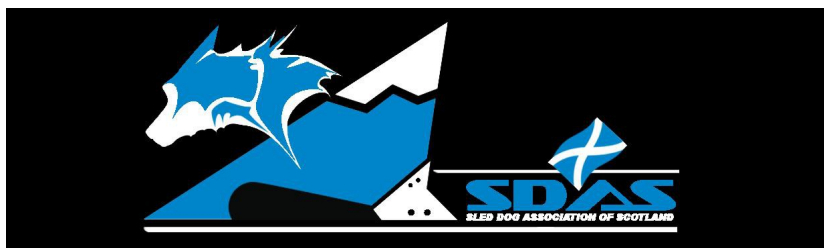
Supporting Statement:

SDAS' period of provisional membership of IFSS comes to an end this year.

SDAS have been advised by IFSS that as a Scottish based club they will not be accepted as full members to be the representative federation for the UK.

BSSF becoming full members of the IFSS (aiming for acceptance at this year's General Assembly) will increase the guaranteed number of places granted to GB Team competitors for European & World Championship events. (One guaranteed place per class per provisional member. Three guaranteed places per class per full member.)

SDAS will hopefully continue to host IFSS Qualifying events as before following an application to host this.



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Item 5 – Proposals continued.

Discussion followed:

Query of position of SDAS / IFSS following referendum for Scottish Independence. Advised this would be led by decision of IOC and position adopted by the various sports councils within GB. Note: all except one council member of the BSSF are active members of SDAS. The BSSF will also support SDAS in becoming full members of the IFSS representing Scotland should Scotland gain independence & be represented at the Olympics outwith 'GB'.

Concern expressed over securing with BSSF a 'Northern' qualifier in Scotland, (or close proximity.) SDAS will be required to bid for hosting a qualifier if under BSSF banner.

Voting followed by show of hands:

In favour of proposal – unanimous Against Proposal – None

Proposed by Mary Carter on behalf of the SDAS Committee. Seconded by Charlie Brecknell.

That SDAS adopt the IFSS Rules & Race Procedures for all championship events (allowing for local adaptations).

Supporting statement:

Will bring SDAS in line with rules & procedures that are accepted world wide.

IFSS rules now being practised in the UK more frequently.

Would be bringing all SDAS races under the IFSS Rules with local adaptations as was put in place for Darnaway World Cup race

Discussion followed:

Concerns over some IFSS rules: canicross rules re length of lines – Potential collaboration of ECF & IFSS may see some changes to existing IFSS rules. Potential for full IFSS members to vote on changes to IFSS rules. Local adaptations and IFSS rules need to be made clear for all to understand & published on website.

Voting followed by show of hands:

In favour of proposal – unanimous Against Proposal – None



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Item 5 – Proposals continued

Addition to Rule 12 d:

iii) To qualify for a final championship placing you must complete a minimum number of events equal to the total number of events minus the allowable number of discards as described in points d(i) and d(ii). Competitors failing to complete the minimum number of events will still be able to accrue points but will not qualify for a final championship placing.

Explanation given for addition to rule: following change in ruling at last year's AGM regarding the championship series, the current wording did not fully explain the intention of the rule change & could be incorrectly interpreted .

Voting followed by show of hands:

In favour of proposal – unanimous Against Proposal – None

Item 6 – Any Other Competent Business

Discussion on continuation of trial classes for the following season. 8 dog, 2 dog scooter & junior canicross. Leading to decision as to how or if these are offered for next year's series.

Decision to continue with trial classes & to review uptake again at next AGM. Junior canicross to be split by gender – but to consider age split if entry numbers allow.

Item 7 – Thanks & Close of meeting

SDAS members thanked CB for his work for SDAS since joining the committee & for his push to develop the sport in the UK and beyond.

Meeting closed at 16:14pm



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Appendix a)

Mary Currier
Chery Fairg
J. SMITH
Heather Falconer
P. O'Donnell
Tracy Thomas
ALAN MORTON.
Aileen Mather
B STEELE
Gillie McLeod
Bobs McLeod.
max mcmillan
Rob McMillan
Bussy Warless
Gareth Bowyer.
DANIEL STRAGGERS
Alan Daniels
Stuart Malcolmson
Tobias Cash
Leigh Marsden.
Steven Suter
Jo Warton. Oph Daltan
Lindsay Cloughley
Mh
Mabby Clarke
Tom Chan
Damian Farren
Lesley Winning
Karen Drake.
JOANNE CORNAH WADE
Pamela Campbell
Hoff Spr.
Debbie Brading
Roly Brading



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Appendix b)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR PERIOD 17 MARCH 2013 TO 09 MARCH 2014

BANK OF SCOTLAND ACCOUNT

Balance brought forward from 17 March 2013 **£5,119.04**

INCOME

Championship race entries	£3,169.50
IFSS Entry fees	<u>£1066.52</u>
	£4,236.02

EXPENDITURE

SDAS cheque for new bank account	£30.00
Inverness trophies	£205.00
WSA membership subs	£155.60
Acorn signs	£453.00
IFSS entry fees	£945.18
Toilet hire	£240.00
Timing system	£151.40
WSA GA costs	£821.00
Bowlands venue costs	£600.00
CSJ costs	£233.28
Event Insurnace	£253.00
Event costs/sundries	£200.00
Trophies	£1,200.60
Sundry costs	£175.00
Toilet hire	<u>£192.00</u>
	£5,855.06

Balance transferred to new account **£3,500.00**

TSB ACCOUNT

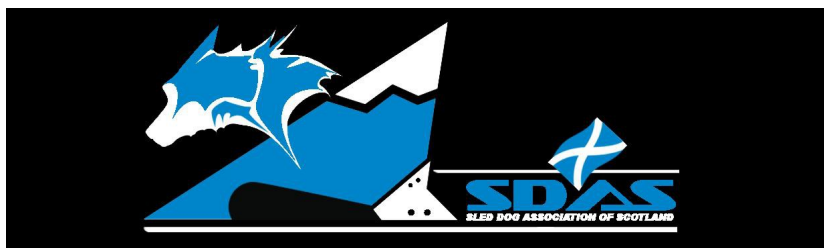
INCOME

Membership subs	£998.00
Transferred from BoS account	£3,530.00
WSA Entry	£600.00
Championship race entry fees	£2,074.00
IFSS entry fees	<u>£190.00</u>
	£7,392.00

EXPENDITURE

Race sundries	£212.15
Trophies	£211.95
WSA Entries and fees	£574.85
Forestry Commision fees	£720.00
Toilet hire	£168.00
IFSS Entries and fees	£151.07
Event advertising	£54.00
Event timing	<u>£450.00</u>
	£2,542.02

Closing balance on 09 March 2014 **£4,849.98**



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Appendix c)

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

This year SDAS has progressed once again in its attempts to keep at the forefront of the sport in Britain. We have held a championship series of 4 races, unfortunately losing Ford at short notice, and held the first ever internationally recognised event held in Britain. The SDAS NC at Darnaway was the first IFSS WCp.

This year we introduced on a trial basis an 8 dog class and a 2 dog scooter class. We have also seen an increase in competitors to our canicross classes in both male and female senior classes and introduced a juniors canicross class thank you to Lindsay for her work to encourage this.

Along with the bikejor, 1 dog scooter and canicross this is where the club has seen its biggest growth as these disciplines are the ones most accessible to all. We have also seen larger entries to our more Northern venues. Culbin this year had one of its largest entries with all classes racing over the same length trail. This allowed everyone to compare their times.

The NC and WCp at Darnaway saw the largest entry to this venue. It is also great to see a fantastic turn out here for the final event with several of our southern friends once again joining us, making this trial of 3 heats a good test for the club.

I hope that as a membership you will see the need to accept the IFSS rules, to allow us to continue leading the development of the sport domestically. We will still offer the historical classes like 3 dog and 2 dog rig classes but introduce little changes which bring us more in line with what happens in the rest of Europe.

In my time as chairperson I have represented the UK and Scotland at two IFSS GA's and one ESDRA congress. I have shared the information I have learnt there, and been instrumental in introducing better marking of trails, a fair and open selection process for athletes wishing to compete in World or European championships, a podium for our medal winners and champions, whilst working constantly to still maintain the best racing at domestic level.

Great Britain now has a fledgling sleddog federation, the BSSF. Something which I am proud to say Jo and I did most of the ground work for. Jo designed the BSSF logo and Great Britain team kit. The BSSF has been set up to offer what SDAS introduced to all athletes in Britain 5 years ago. I ask that you as members vote in favour of supporting the BSSF and its goals, and agree to affiliate SDAS to it, and keep bidding to host qualifying races which will need to be held here, in Scotland, as after all open racing and international competition with SDAS, is where the whole thing started. SDAS joined the WSA in September, another forward step, as we now represent all breeds and types of sled dog across Europe and the World.



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Appendix c) *Chairperson's report - continuation*

Internationally we have had many athletes travel abroad to compete in world or European championship events from the club.

In October several SDAS members joined the British team and travelled to Switzerland for the ECF European Championships. Several titles were won in both canicross and bikejor with other SDAS members all placing highly in their classes.

Just 4 weeks later we were travelling back out to Italy for the IFSS World Dryland Championships, a rather damp and warm event we all felt. But again SDAS members showed their talents on dryland with members bringing home more medals. Two bronze one for myself in bikejor and one for John Carter in the 8 dog Nordic breed, a silver for Martin Owen in the 4 dog Nordic breed and Kim Mazzucca, a gold in canicross. Other members of the team produced good results with their teams so congratulations to them all.

Six members travelled again to Switzerland this time for snow in February, and the WSA World Championships. For some this was a baptism of fire as the results show a greatly improving team as they all found their sled legs. And with our own committee member Cherry Fairley coming home as the teams best result with a leather medal for 4th in the 2 dog class.

In the last week Ali Dunlop was the sole representative from Scotland at the IFSS EC on snow in Finland where he secured a bronze medal in the 12 dog Mid-Distance class.

Domestically SDAS members have shown their talents across the country. The BSSF NC was held just over three weeks ago in Thetford, the cream of the countries athletes came together for the first time in many years to compete. A huge step forward. Again this allowed us to show the talent in the north. A group of approx 18 athletes travelled down to the event. Out of 39 classes they were on the podium in 17 of them bringing back home a total of 24 medals. Pretty damn good I think!

Finally after 4 years I feel it is time for me to step down as the chairperson of SDAS. It is time to allow some new blood to continue to take the club forward and upward. I have enjoyed my time for the most part and I thank you for your support and enthusiasm with the ideas I have put in place. I intend to continue my work on the BSSF council and my work with the IFSS technical committees. I ask you to give the new committee and chairperson the support to continue keeping this club and this fantastic sport at the level it has achieved and beyond.

Thank you