



The Sled Dog Association of Scotland - Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Bowland Trails Barn - Saturday 19th March 2017

In attendance:

Chairperson	James Smith
Secretary:	Mary Carter
Prize / Trophy Co-ordinator:	Ashleigh Dean
Media & Chief Timing Officer:	Tracy Thomas
Race Grafter	Rob McMillan

Sophie Blyth; Simon Bothwell; Gareth Bowyer; John Carter; Matty Clarke; Cherry Fairley; Katy Eden; Andrew Falconer; Rosie Garside; Jacqui Green; Kane Gunter; Vincent King; Mel Hannam; Lyndsay Johnson; Douglas McCaffrey; Bob McLeod; Gilli McLeod; Louise Mitchell; Aileen Morton; Alan Morton; David Parry; Iain Rennie; Teresa Rennie; Paul Robbins; Ewan Robertson; Kayleigh Robertson; Colin Spalding; Suzanne Spalding; Kevin Spooner; Tim Sugars; Jeff Trotter; Marion Tudar; Ben Turrell; Sharon Turrell;

Item 1 – Welcome & Apologies

Meeting commenced at 18.09 hrs. Copies of agenda were made available to all in attendance. **JS** welcomed and thanked those present & an attendance sheet was passed round & signed by all (see appendix a)

Apologies from Stuart & Lindy Hanson; Debbie Ward & Alan Daniels; Paul & Heather O'Donnell.

Item 2 – Accuracy of minutes from last AGM

Minutes taken by **MC** & available on the SDAS website.

Accuracy of Minutes proposed by **TS**. Seconded by **TT**

Item 3 – Treasurer's report

The financial report was not presented.

Current Balances: TSB current account £3729.49; PayPal £3040.54

Item 4 – Chairperson's report

JS – Thanks to CSJ Specialist canine feeds for their continued support in sponsoring the SDAS Championship series. Thanks to **TT** for working tirelessly providing an excellent timing service; Thanks to the committee, past, present and the new. Thank the members for supporting SDAS events – without members support at races, there would be no SDAS – Use it or Lose it. Congratulations to SDAS members for successes on the trail in 2016/17, including international successes. Look forward to seeing SDAS members successful in future BSSF, IFSS, & WSA events in UK, Poland, Italy & Sweden in 2017/18. Wished members an enjoyable summer & Look forward to yet another successful and enjoyable season for SDAS.

Item 5 – Election of Officials.

Ballot papers were handed out to all & instructions given to vote for 8 members only. Completed voting papers were collected in a box. **JC & VK** were nominated as voting adjudicators.

Nominations for committee and voting as follows:

Name	seconded by	Number of votes
• Agata Alexandra Zaremba	Alan Morton	7
• Sophie Blythe	Mary Carter	22
• Mary Carter (Current Secretary)	James Smith	36
• Ashleigh Dean (Prize & trophy secretary)	Mary Carter	33
• Stuart Hanson	Jambo Smith	28
• Rob McMillan (Current race Grafter)	James Smith	31
• James Smith (Current Chairman)	Mary Carter	36
• Tim Sugars	James Smith	30
• Tracy Thomas (Current Timing Wizard)	James Smith	30
• Ben Turrell	Mary Carter	20
• Sharon Turrell	Mary Carter	21

The members proposed shown in Bold Blue letters were welcomed onto the SDAS committee

Item 6 – Proposals

1. Proposal by Rob McMillan seconded by James Smith

I would like to propose that in the eyes of health and safety any marshal that is on the marshal list and doesn't do their job or doesn't get someone to cover their job will automatically receive a 2 min penalty. This is a rule there is no way out of it apart from cancelling the class.

Supporting Statement : For the safety of the dogs, musher and the public.

Discussion followed – proposal was more to invoke discussion & highlight the necessity for marshals and how imperative it is for members to fulfil their helpers duties at events. Suggestions included Yellow & red cards for repeat offenders. To include Spare helpers on the Marshals list.

Voting For 6 Against 17 Abs 5

2. Proposal by Jambo Smith Seconded by Mary Carter

Addition to Constitution to read:-

Membership: Non members are allowed to enter and take part at all events, subject to an additional fee. Non members are not eligible for championship points, but may be awarded points retrospectively if they join SDAS as members before the last event of the season.

Discussion followed: including potential for non-members becoming members once sufficient £5 non member fees had been paid – and therefore gain championship points

Voting For 34 Against 0 Abs 1

3. Proposal by Jambo Smith Seconded by Mary Carter

Change to SDAS rule

Currently reads: DR8 / DR8NB - No more than 8 dogs, no less than 5 (3 or 4 wheeled rigs, must have all wheels braking) only open to competitors approved by committee majority

Change to: DR8 / DR8NB - No more than 8 dogs, no less than 5 (4 wheeled rigs only) only open to competitors approved by committee majority

Discussion followed – complying with IFSS rules; Safety of musher; control / safety of dogs;

Voting For 35 Against 0 Abs 1

4. Proposed by James Smith, Seconded by Heather O'Donnell.

To seed each classes subsequent heats based on time only, with no separation in the running order for Open and RNB teams.

Supporting Statement: to reduce the down time between class categories, especially as there are a number of open teams regularly finishing with a longer time than many RNB teams

Voting	For	28	Against	11	Abs	5
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5. Suggestions for improvements by Paul Robbins

a) *The signs to get to the events are very poor, not knowing the areas, its pitch black when arriving and no sat navs normally, there need to be proper signs done.*

Supporting statement: MYSELF AND VINCE KING WILL MAKE SIGNS AND PUT OUT ON THE FRIDAY AS WE ARE NORMALLY THE FIRST TO ARRIVE!!

Discussion followed to discuss other helpful ways to improve access / directions including posting Coordinates for the event on the race invitations and a pin on google maps.

b) *Have a "random" prize at each event (like what steve got at ford) i.e. if theres a bad hill, prize for most blowing out through there arse at the top, or if the person has done something a little out of the ordinary*

I think these things help make people laugh - see that SDAS are slightly different

Discussion followed: generally accepted well. Consider sponsorship for random prizes, especially for those who do not make the podium. Eg Harnesses, helmets etc

c) *(without causing an up roar!!) That maybe once a year that the smaller teams go out first. The smaller teams work just as hard as the big teams, if not harder on some courses so would be nice to get the benefit of the cooler temps. They used to do it at SHCGB Grimesthorpe, it made the people with smaller teams feel like they were actually cared about!*

Discussion followed – Advised the fastest teams should go out in the coolest part of the day, but to consider filling ‘gaps’ in the running order for the day with classes that will not cause a clash with those entering multiple teams.

Item 7 – Any Other Competent Business

To consider and investigate hosting a joint WSA cup race with the French Federation to satisfy the necessity for WSA members to support their Euro cup series.

All members present were in favour

Item 8 – Thanks & Close of meeting

Meeting closed at 19:31

Name	Signature	Name	Signature
THOMAS THOMAS		PAUL KOSLO	
ROBERT Mc KILLAN		Suzanna Spalding	
Loise mullen		Colin Spalding	
Tim Sweeney		Stewart	
CHERRY FAIRLIE		BEN TURKEL	
Matty Clarke		Keenspencer	
Gareth Bowyer		Mel Hannan	
Manon Tudor		Sophie Blyth	
Kayleigh Robertson		Simon Botman	
Ewan Robertson		TERESA RENNIE	
Jeff Colette		Jain Rennie	
Rosie Garside		GILLI MCLEOD	
Katy Eden		DAVID PARRY	
Andrew Falconer		Bob McLeod	
JAEVIE GREEN		SCARON	
Douglas Mully		Arlynn Ben	
Vincent King		JR Johnson	
Kane Gunter		Mary Carter	
ALAN MORTON			
AILEEN MORTON			