**MINUTES OF FIREBALL METTING HELD MONDAY23RD FEBRUARY AT 9:00PM GMT.**

**PRESENT** - Ben Schulz, Steve Chesney, David Laing, Debbie Kirkby, Jakub Naprivik, Hiroshi Kato and Russell Thorne

**APPOLOGIES** – Nil

Steve Chesney offered an update on appointments and opened discussions -

**APPOINTMENTS –**

**Treasurer** – Penny Gibbs has offered to continue on as treasurer for one year and would like to hand over responsibilities after that. All were in favour of Penny’s appointment.

**Technical Committee** – Tom Egli is full of energy but a bit bruised by the election campaign. He is willing to continue as technical officer after assurances that there will be a restructure of the committee and changes in responsibilities. All were in favour of Tom’s appointment.

The role of technical will take on the measurer’s responsibilities for now and will also see Tom work directly with ISAF regarding rule changes.

**Secretary –** Steve stated that he had held many long discussions with Fireball sailors around the worlds regarding Andrew Davies role as secretary. These included chats with Andrew himself, John Manson, Tom Egli, Joe Jospe, Pat Crump, and the executive members.

There is a split in the fleet with half wanting Andrew to stay on and half wanting him to move on.

Andrew has done some good work with the smaller NCAs in Europe and has done well organizing worlds events.

Steve asked the committee for more time to look at the best option.

One suggestion is to split the secretarial role. The role does not seem to be big enough to have one person being paid to do the work. It seems more sustainable to remove the honorarium and share the workload between volunteers.

Ben asked Steve for what he had in mind for the broken down role.

Steve responded – Leave the secretary as a collator of information including correspondence and minutes.. The secretary can also be a contact for the NCAs who have questions. Leave all aspects of rules changes to the Technical Chairman. ISAF rules changes handled by Technical Chairman. Other ISAF issues dealt with by class member who already attends ISAF meetings – maybe Franscois Schluchter. Membership information and fees collated by treasurer.

Steve noted that he still needed to speak to a number of people including Maja and Francois.

Russell asked if Steve had spoken to NCA’s - answer was only John Manson.

Steve will speak to the French soon and will aim to speak to all in the near future.

Debbie asked what the Honorarium covered.

Ben explained that expenses incurred by the secretary such as postage, telephone, internet etc were reimbursed separately from the Honorarium. The Honorarium was a long standing payment made to the secretary to compensate them for the time they spent on Fireball matters. Now that the work load was being spread and the financials of Fireball International were so tight it seems wise to drop the Honorarium.

Ben or Penny to send a copy of the 2013 financials to the entire new executive so they can better understand FI’s income and expenditure.

**HULL RULE CHANGE UPDATE -**

Tom has suggested another rule change allowing corrector weight to be weighed and reduced by 3kg rather than having to do a full hull weigh to meet the new hull weight rules.

Tom will also clarify the grandfather clause.

FI need to circulate to the NCA’s options on how to implement the new hull weight rule. Ireland plans a mass reweigh day. Australia will use a form provided to state measurers which will be returned to the national measurer once the reweigh is complete.

**CONSTITUTION SUB COMMITTEE –**

There are some big issues to be addressed in the constitution particularly the allocation of votes.

Suggested the subcommittee be made up of 3 – 5 people.

Steve to look for a chairperson.

Executive to suggest candidates.

Russell asked if it was worth consulting ISAF legal division.

Ben to send Steve Jeff Martin’s details.

**UK WORLDS UPDATE** -

All progressing well

Early entry ends in March 2015

Race officer – Peter Saxton

UKFA meeting with Pwhelli next week at dinghy show.

**SOUTH AFRICA WORLDS UPDATE –**

Progressing slowly

Website for the event is being built now

Logo finalized

Focus on getting container prices down.

No more contact from Steve Detoit re boat building

Steve said that he spoke to Steve Detoit and he is interested but needs some orders and securities to commit.

**BOATS AND BUILDERS –**

XSP, the builder in Singapore is changing hands and they will not build Fireballs in the future.

Need to contact them and find out what will be happening with the mould. Ben to follow up.

**NCAS IN NO MANS LAND -**

David Laing raised issues with Namibia, Kenya and Netherlands.

Changes to the constitution may need to be ratified before we can clarify what a NCA is.

The tree countries need to write a letter outlining why they should be NCAs and asked that they be ratified by council.

David to talk to Kenya and Namibia.

Jakub to talk to Netherlands.

General felling is more NCAs are good as long as voting process is fair.

***Meeting closed 10:20pm GMT***

***Next Meeting to be held Monday 30th March at 9pm UK time***

**ONGOING ITEMS FROM LAST YEAR –**

***SECTRETARY ANDREW DAVIES TO SUPPLY TO THE EXECUTIVE -***

Final minutes from the Executive Skype meeting held 10th November 2014

Minutes of Executive Skype meeting held 3rd December 2014

Details of the members of each NCA and details of each NCA’s committee collected by the Secretary as part of each NCA coming into good standing.

Details of the votes received from each NCA for the hull weight reduction and the sail measurement rules changes.

Details on progress of sail measurement rule changes through ISAF.  Has this been finalised?

Update on proposed European Championships for 2016 ( Lake Garda, Italy proposed) and 2017 (Roses Bay, Spain proposed)

Update on the number of boats built last year and the number likely this year.

***TREASURER PENNY GIBBS TO SUPPLY THE EXECUTIVE –***

Detailed financial statements for the 2014 financial year

Proposed budget for the 2015 year

Update on likely billing of NCAs for the 2015 year – (due out now)

Confirmation that the problems with the financials have now been rectified and the 2014 accounts are ready for external audit