**MINUTES OF FIREBALL METTING HELD MONDAY23RD FEBRUARY AT 9:00PM UTC (10pm UK SUMMER TIME).**

**MONDAY 30 MARCH 2015**

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

**APPOLOGIES** – Tom Egli

Minutes of previous meeting accepted as a true and correct record.

**STATUS OF SAIL MEASUREMENT RULE CHANGES –**

Tom Egli and Steve Chesney are chasing up the rule changes with ISAF but so far have not had a response.

They will continue to follow this up.

**EMERGENCY RULE CHANGE FOR HULL MEASURING –**

Tom to put together some wording which will allow the measurers at their discretion to choose to weigh just the lead from a boat and then remove three kilograms rather than weigh the entire boat.

This would only be allowable for this year.

**SECRETARY UPDATE –**

Steve Chesney reported that he held talks with Andrew Davies regarding the revised role of the secretary and the introduction of a Secretary to the Executive to handle minutes and paperwork. Steve stated that Andrew had been very agreeable on the telephone but is less responsive and willing to accept the changes in his latest emails.

Steve asked each of the committee for their thoughts on the proposed role split and the negotiations with Andrew.

Jakub stated that some type of deal needs to be made and encouraged Steve to find a way forward.

Penny also felt a need for compromise and a deal to be agreed on.

Russell thanked Steve for his efforts. He was of the opinion that the executive should set out what the secretary’s role was and Andrew could either accept that role or move on. It was not up to Andrew to dictate to the executive what he would be doing.

Ben applauded Steve for his endeavors in restructuring the roles. He does not believe that an honorarium should be offered for the reduced role as all committee members should be doing equal levels of work as volunteers. If there is to be an honorarium it should be shared amongst those doing the work.

Steve raised the timing of Andrew’s proposed retirement being after the worlds in Barbados. This was problematic as it was after the next round of executive elections scheduled for October 2017. It would make more sense for him to retire then allowing a new secretary to take over for a full term.

Debbie stated that she thought Andrew’s actions came across as someone addressing a business and negotiating an employment contract rather than that of a volunteer offering assistance.

Russell reminded the group that the FI executive was in place to support the class and all those involved around the world.

Steve stated that Andrew needed to commit to being a team player rather than pushing his own cause. If he is not prepared to be a team player this will have to be raised with council and perhaps another secretary found.

Ben state that either way a clear package needs to presented to council for approval. There are some that want Andrew and some that do not and whether we recommend Andrew or not we need to be able to gain support from all for our recommendation.

Steve closed the conversation by stating he would go back to Andrew with the aim of having things resolved on the next few weeks. He will keep the executive informed of any developments.

**WEB SITE –**

Steve Chesney stated that Lesley Defonzo has offered to review Fireball International’s online presence. This will include but not be limited to the web site, facebook, twitter, Instagram, snapchat.

Ben reported that the options for having the web site in different languages was a bit limited.

Google translate is very clunky and not very accurate.

He suggested that the static parts of the web site such as rules and history be translated into a number of key languages by members and the rest of the site such as news, events and galleries which are updated regularly rely on google translate.

Ben to arrange logins for the web site for all committee members and then circulate instructions on how to use the site.

Ben to look at an email account option so all Fireball emails can be stored in a central location online. Perhaps Microsoft exchange server.

Ben to post all minutes of meetings on the web site and advise members that they are available there.

**UK WORLDS UPDATE** - **RUSSELL THORNE**

74 entries on the low cost entry option.

Race management, Jury and Measurement have all been finalized

Social program nearly complete.

Steve stated that he had received feedback about the high entry fee. Russell answered that it is what it is in order to cover costs.

Ben commented on the difficulty in finding accommodation and suggested a need for a person in Pwllheli to be made available to help find accommodation for competitors.

**EUROPEANS – JAKUB NAPRIVIK**

Jakub stated that he had spoken to Andrew Davies about the Lake Garda 2016 Europeans.

The dates are set as July 30th to August 6.

The venue will be Brenzone.

Jakub to seek more information and distribute it soon.

Steve asked Jakub to contact the Italian Fireball Association directly in case Andrew Davies is not reappointed as class secretary.

**TREASURER – PENNY GIBBS**

Detailed financial statements for the 2014 financial year currently being prepared and will be available for the next meeting along with a draft budget.

Around six NCA’s have notified their membership numbers for this year and have been invoiced. The rest need to be followed up over the next week.

***Meeting closed 10:10pm UTC***

***Next Meeting to be held Monday 27th April at 9pm UTC 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.

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