

**Minutes of Sport South Hams Annual General Meeting
Held on Wednesday 22nd October 2008**

1. Welcome

New Member – no new members came forward

Chairman's Report – (report attached)

3. Treasurer's Report – Accounts were available for members at the meeting (available on request to those not at the meeting)

Will stated that there are only 31 paid up members for 2008 – 11 less than last year and still not an encouraging membership.

Sports Awards were expensive last year due to venue hire and catering - £700

Grant Aid Applications were low for 2007 but higher for 2008.

Surplus of £4049.510

Need more grant aid applications to be submitted and to note that for grants up to £100 – it does not need to come before a meeting and can be decided outside by the Steering Group.

Will.H stated that the £3,000 grant from SHDC has not been received for 2008. **Naomi to action.** John thanked Will for the update.

4. Secretary's Report – Trevor Lethbridge absent – no report given.

5. Appointment of Officers

- (a) **Honorary Chairman** – John Coates
- (b) **Honorary Vice-Chairman** – Lesley McGhie
- (c) **Honorary Secretary** – Trevor Lethbridge
- (d) **Honorary Treasurer** – Will Hawkyard

Members all in agreement for the above to stand again.

6. Any Other Business

Paul Thomas from Eddystone Flying Club – showed a frequency transmitter which was brought with the help of SSH grant and thanked the group and invited anyone to take a look if they wished.

Sports Awards

John Coates added that the Sports Awards Evening will not have a buffet this year as previous – expenditure is too high for this function and only tea / coffee / squash / biscuits will be available.

John Smith – Woolwell Table Tennis Club – expressed concerns regarding the following:-

- i) nomination limitation of 3 per club for this year's awards – when was this decided and this should have been brought forward to a general meeting for group discussion / decision.
- ii) due to limitation John Smith was not surprised that the group struggled to receive enough nominations.
- iii) reading through the list has noted that Ivybridge Community College has submitted 26 or above nominations and these have all been accepted. John was upset and found it ludicrous as to why this is allowed and given the Sports College far too much weight for this year's awards – which contradicts the decision to reduce the nominations in the first place.
- iv) Why was there a restriction on clubs and not on school submissions?

John Coates stated that the purpose of reducing the number of nominations was to stop a particular club dominating a particular category / trophy. The group was trying to find the right balance and the membership will appreciate when they vote shortly how difficult it is to judge / compare a swimming champion with a tae-kwon-do champion. The schools have a broader curriculum of sports to include individuals / teams and school clubs. The onus needs to lie with individual clubs when nominating to put forward their best players / achievers and next year the nomination form may change again to restrict clubs on only nominating one club member / per category but John.C to take all comments made on board.

Jeanette Green (Ivybridge Badminton Club) stated that it is a shame that clubs / schools who nominate for the awards are not involved or members of Sport South Hams.

Further discussions took place as there was confusion and Cllr Gilbert stated that further discussions on Sports Awards should take place at a special meeting as dominating the AGM and time. **Action John Coates to arrange a Sports Awards Meeting to discuss next year's event.**

David Stephens stated that from the minutes of the last meeting there was an action regarding the membership fee and whether £30 for Gold Members was too cheap? Will.H felt that a Gold Club could apply up to £1,000 and feels for £30 to gain a £1,000 is too cheap and possibility of raising the Gold Membership to £50. The highest grant paid out over the past couple of years is £850 but it was stated by Jeanette Green that the clubs have to match fund and raising £1,000 is too high – could be the reason why clubs are not bidding in for larger amounts.

Further discussion regarding new proposals for membership fee / accreditation and grants available at a separate Steering Group Meeting. **John / Will to arrange.**

Eddystone Model Flying Club commented on how useful the accreditation form is and is very valuable.

Linda O'dell (Loddiswell SMB) thanked the membership for their new SMB mat and they are now 2nd in the league.

John thanked everyone for their input.

AGM Meeting Closed 7.50pm

Sport South Hams

Chairman's Report to October 2008

It is just a year ago that I became Chairman and set out on what I hoped would be an effective year for Sport South Hams. Bits of the year have been excellent, bits have been disappointing.

The excellent bits have been the Presentation at Ivybridge on Multi-skills. Our presentation evening was certainly the best that I have been to and set a new standard for us to beat this year. Sport South Hams involvement with Active South Hams has introduced new colleagues with a strong commitment to Sport and achievement, and will provide the opportunity for integrating some of our objectives with those of Active South Hams.

The disappointing bits are that whilst we finished a time of being in limbo, we are not yet firing on all cylinders. My own commitment as Chairman has simply not had enough time and resource available. My full-time contract with the BBC will end in November and a freelance contract is available. This will certainly permit more time to be devoted to the cause.

I have only visited a handful of clubs during the year, and this number will increase this year.

Our first lottery bid foundered because I applied for the wrong grant! This has been remedied and news of the success or otherwise of a further and better argued bid is awaited. One aspect that must be addressed is that some clubs either have not applied for, or received accreditation to their national body. In these days the words COMPLIANCE, STANDARDS and ACCREDITATION are increasingly important.

Our core membership is reduced as our Treasurer will report. As Chairman I feel that this is a consequence of Sport South Hams 'limbo' period. We need to increase our membership. We need to be more responsive to our membership. To that end I want to create a Marketing Plan increases the number of active member clubs; a plan that is based on creating an active network of co-operation and stimulus that can be used by each member club.

You will shortly receive details of a recruitment idea for you to increase your membership. Sport South Hams is looking to the CSV Service based here at Follaton House to help with the essential volunteer aspect of each club. It may be increasing computer literacy, creating a database of members, keeping a check on income and outgoings.

I want each of our meetings to have a guest speaker who will help in the running of clubs and the enjoyment and appreciation of sport.

Before I conclude I need to acknowledge and thank South Hams District Council and particularly Coun Rufus Gilbert, Jon Parkinson and Naomi Langdon. Their personal commitment to Sport South Hams is far above that of being hired hands. The professionalism in their work, their hard work, and their patience over the somewhat unproductive recent years is not just appreciated – it is essential.

You will know just how important to your clubs are the people who keep the engine room ticking over and taking on responsibilities. So thanks are also needed from me to the members of Executive Committee and the various officers; without their help we would not have achieved anything.

So from limbo to treading water, now I look for Sport South Hams to fly during this coming year