

Minutes of the fifth Annual General Meeting of the Quins Supporters' Association (Quinssa)
held on 19 June 2008 at 19:45 at the Twickenham Stoop

Present: Members of the committee comprising:
Simon Coleman – Chairman
Jon Forster - Treasurer
John Hartley - Secretary
Emma Stewart

36 other members of Quinssa

Copies: Quinssa committee, Quinssa members attending and Quinssa web site

Item Subject

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from:

- Andy Morris
- Andy Steele
- Chris Munton
- Chris Puzey
- Cliff Funnell
- David Coldrey
- Debbie Beaumont
- Del Green
- Duncan Franklin
- Jane Liddiard
- John Liddiard
- Lyn Munton
- Maggie Norman
- Mike Benson
- Paul Beaumont
- Paul Tweedale
- Pauline Tweedale
- Peter Bullard
- Peter Duncan
- Phil Norman
- Richenda Walford
- Stephen Greenhalgh
- Steve Crooke
- Vince Richardson

1 Minutes of last meeting

1.1 The minutes were accepted without change

Proposer: Barbara Richardson

Seconder: Andrew Lawton

2 Chairman's report

2.1 Simon Coleman opened by saying that Quinssa has continued to grow its proposition to members and also to grow its membership.

- It is possible that we will allocate membership number 1,000 this year, although with the inevitable "churn" in membership (as for club season tickets) our actual current membership is lower than that.
- It is encouraging that, of the members who have already renewed (high 400s), many have done so for two years.
- Many more members are expected to renew at the beginning of next season.

- | Item | Subject |
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| 2.2 | <p>Simon spoke about highlights of the year which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• midweek events, including all the “meet the....” Evenings, were again successful and we had full cooperation and help from the Club in organising these;• our organised tour of Twickenham stadium proved very popular with about 50 people attending;• the first “MAD” – More Affordable Do was run in April and was very popular and well received by members. The club was extremely supportive and generously provided lots of wine for the event, as well as making playing staff available for the evening;• the boat trip on the Thames, held in July 2007 was well attended and successful, despite the weather;• on the down side, we experimented with members events on match days (a social gathering before the match in the Cabbage Patch and a curry after one of the home games). These were not popular and we abandoned those ideas;• we continued running coaches to away matches and, after a shaky start, the numbers travelling picked up and we ended the season well;• the Quinssa Toy appeal for the Shooting Star’s Children’s Hospice was once again run in conjunction with the club and resulted in a large number of DVDs and CDs being donated as well as a cheque for over £600;• once again, we organised a Quinssa library of match DVDs for loan to Quinssa members;• we presented a cheque for £1,669 to the Academy part way through the season (at the MAD) and continued our “ring-fenced” fund raising for this purpose throughout the season;• we teamed up with Etihad to provide benefits to members, such as free flights, free match tickets, use of corporate box, free beer, etc.;• we created Quinssa membership badges for all our members. |
| 2.3 | <p>Simon continued by stating that we have maintained the principles of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• being inclusive, thus making events, etc. open to non-members;• rotating responsibilities on the committee. <p>As a result of this rotation policy, Simon has decided to step down from the Chairman’s role, having done it for two years</p> |
| 2.4 | <p>Finally, Simon issued thanks to many people who have helped Quinssa be successful this year. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the Club – in particular Mark Evans and Anne McCarthy - for all their support throughout the year with the various events we have run;• Warren Kennedy, Andrew Lawton and Dave Sinclair for running the coaches successfully in a difficult (World Cup) year. |
| 3 | Treasurer’s report |
| 3.1 | <p>Jon Forster thanked David Holland for auditing the accounts in a timely and efficient manner. A copy of the accounts was received by all attendees at the AGM.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p>Jon highlighted the main points of the accounts, being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• turnover and expenditure up by 50% (mainly due to the MAD);• objective of events being cost neutral being pretty much achieved (noting that there are two major costs from last year’s activities which are not included in the accounts as bills had not been received (the coach to Leicester and the boat trip)• identifying Academy (and other third party) fund raising and distribution separate from the main Quinssa funding activities. |

Item Subject

3.3 Jon then spoke about the support which ETIHAD has given to Quinssa. In particular, he mentioned:

- prizes, including free flights, use of box, free match tickets;
- help with publicity for the Shooting Star charity appeal.

3.4 Jon has also had a meeting with Greene King and we are formulating ways in which we can work with them to provide additional benefits to members.

3.5 The financial aims for Quinssa next year will be the same as before.

4 Approval of accounts

4.1 The accounts were approved by a show of hands and without dissent.

Proposer: Steve Scott

Seconder: Jane Thornton

5 Appointment of auditors for the coming year

5.1 David Holland has agreed to act as auditor again for the coming year and this was accepted without contest.

6 Election of officers

6.1 There was one nomination for each of the officer posts, as follows:

Chairman John Hartley

- Proposed by: Emma Stewart
- Seconded by: Jon Forster

Treasurer Jon Forster

- Proposed by: John Hartley
- Seconded by: David Perry

Secretary Simon Coleman

- Proposed by: Steve Wade
- Seconded by: Sharon Gosling

There being no other nominations, all three were elected by a show of hands with no dissent.

7 Election of four committee members

7.1 There were nominations for all four available places on the committee, as follows:

Duncan Franklin

- Proposed by: John Hartley
- Seconded by: David Perry

Emma Stewart

- Proposed by: John Hartley
- Seconded by: Jon Forster

Steve Scott

- Proposed by: Percy Wraight
- Seconded by: Janet Wraight

Warren Kennedy

- Proposed by: Sarah Gladstone
- Seconded by: Mark Clayton-Smith

There being no other nominations, all four were elected by a show of hands with no dissent.

8 Changes to the constitution

Item Subject

8.1 Proposed change 1 was to introduce a new paragraph 4 (d) as follows:

“(d) In the event that one of the Officers shall resign or otherwise become permanently unavailable to continue, the Committee shall elect one of their members to perform the role. However, no Officer may hold more than one Official role at any one time.”

This change was approved by a show of hands with no dissent

- Proposed by: Rhona McDonald
- Seconded by: Claire Melvin

8.2 Proposed change 2 was to introduce a new paragraph 4 (e) as follows:

“(e) From time to time, the Committee may ask individual Members of the Association to take specific roles in organising or helping to organise events, activities, etc. The Committee shall be empowered to invite such people to Committee meetings to participate in discussions on the activity but they shall not have any decision making power at Committee.”

This change was approved by a show of hands with no dissent

- Proposed by: Ted Hayes
- Seconded by: Sarah Gladstone

8.3 Proposed change 3 was to change paragraph 5 to paragraph 5 (a) and paragraph 5 (b) as follows:

“(a) An Annual General Meeting shall be held after the end of the Club season, and before 31 July each year. At least twenty-one clear days’ notice shall be given to all members of the Association of the date, time and place of such meeting. The purpose of the meeting shall be to transact the business of the Association including the approval of the Accounts for the year then past and to elect up to seven Members of the Committee including the Officers and to appoint Auditors.”

“(b) In the event that there is no nomination for one of the Officer positions, the Committee shall elect that Officer at their first meeting after the AGM in line with the provisions of paragraph 4 (d).”

This change was approved by a show of hands with no dissent

- Proposed by: Ann Stevens
- Seconded by: Jane Thornton

8.4 Proposed change 4 was to remove the final sentence of paragraph 9:

This change was approved by a show of hands with no dissent

- Proposed by: Louise Hopkins
- Seconded by: Sarah Gladstone

9 Any other business

- | Item | Subject |
|-------------|---|
| 9.1 | Andrew Scrutton thanked Simon for his work in leading Quinssa committee for the previous two years. |
| 9.2 | <p>Barbara Richardson asked if there will be another MAD next year. Emma Stewart responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Feedback from players and playing staff was very good and Dean Richards has said he will support a similar future event• Mark Evans has also indicated that he will support a future MAD <p>Simon noted that, although the MAD was very popular, we did lose a bit of money on it and we have to consider the use of members' funds very carefully. Also, on a purely practical note, we were able to schedule the MAD this year within the season because the Team did not progress as well as it had hoped in the cup competitions. Future MADs may be more difficult to schedule!</p> |
| 9.3 | Barbara Richardson asked whether we could organise a "race night" to raise funds for the Academy. This will be considered. |
| 9.4 | <p>Richard Broad stated that the Academy rings solidly with Quinssa and many of the members and asked whether we should consider raising the Quinssa subscriptions and earmark some of the membership fee specifically for the Academy. Simon responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in the first year of Quinssa' existence, it donated money to the Academy out of general funds and there were questions from some members as to whether this was the right thing to do with members' funds;• as a result Quinssa launched its "ring-fenced" 100 club for the Academy and also encouraged "one-off" donations – Barbara Richardson put a huge amount of effort in to make this a great success;• when Quins launched the Quins lotto, the Club approached Quinssa and asked if we would stop our Academy fund-raising activities as we would be in competition with the Lotto, which we did;• we still believe it is right not to compete with the club formally to raise money for the Academy and that the "ad-hoc" fund raising we do is the right approach;• we would encourage member's to support the Academy in any way they feel is right, including making donations to Quinssa's ring-fenced Academy fund. |
| 9.5 | <p>Steve Scott stated that he had heard that, due to the MAD, the attendance at the Players' Awards dinner was lower than previously. Emma stated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• having coordinated tables at many previous PADs, she would expect to fill at least three tables in the first three weeks following the announcement of the date;• this year, Quinssa announced that it would organise the PAD tables as before, about three weeks before the MAD was announced;• in those first three weeks, Emma had one enquiry (for two people). <p>Sharon Ellis, supported by other members of the meeting, suggested that the problem was that the PAD was just too expensive for most fans.</p> |
| 9.6 | Don Burford thanked the committee for organising the boat trip in June 2008. The attendees agreed that the band was very good and Emma noted that they had managed to get a booking from a resident in one of the houses we had passed on the journey, so were very pleased. |

Close of meeting

Simon Coleman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 20:25