

**THE FELL RUNNERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE CASTLE GREEN
HOTEL, KENDAL, ON SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2005.**

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** 71 **APOLOGIES:** 7.
2. **MINUTES OF 2004 AGM.** The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (13 November, 2004 at the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal) were approved. Prop: Brett Weeden, Sec: Wendy Dodds.
3. **CHAIRMAN** distributed copies of his report to the meeting.

There was some discussion about a reference to the World Trophy in the report. This concerned the disparity between promises made during the original bid, and actual events. WMRA have indicated that they will seek guarantees in future.
4. **SECRETARY** distributed copies of his report to the meeting.
5. **TREASURER** distributed and reported on the accounts for the year ending 31 July 2005. These had been audited by N.Hindle.
 - a) There was a query regarding membership statistics. It was confirmed that an analysis of FRA membership statistics had been provided on page 35 of the June edition of "The Fellrunner".
 - b) There was a feeling that, while 2005 had been financially successful for the FRA, there should be some proposals for using the existing funds. The Committee normally agree to any reasonable requests for funding, and members are free to send in any such requests.
 - c) Dave Hodgson gave a summary of accounts for the 2005 Keswick World Masters.
 - d) Brian Martin proposed votes of thanks for the Keswick World Masters Local Organising Committee (for all the work done to produce this event), and for the FRA Committee (for their work generally).

6. MOTIONS

- 6a. The FRA Committee will, whenever it deems it to be appropriate, disassociate the FRA from UKA and establish the FRA as an independent organisation.**

(Proposed by Dave Jones of Pennine FR, Seconded by Alan Brentnall of Pennine FR. Approved by the Executive Committee.)

Dave Jones and Alan Brentnall spoke on behalf of this motion, which generated a considerable amount of very constructive discussion, with contributions from many of the members attending.

Voting: For: 38, Against: 29, Abstentions: 4 **Motion carried.**

- 6b. When financial support from the relevant athletics bodies for the International Fell/Mountain Running Programme agreed by the FRA Committee is regarded by the FRA Committee as inadequate, the FRA Committee is authorised to partially reimburse the costs for runners, who are members of the FRA on 31st January of the relevant year, to a level the FRA Committee decides is fair.**

(Proposed by Graham Breeze of SKYRAC, Seconded by Neil Goldsmith of Pennine FR. Approved by the Executive Committee.)

Graham Breeze and Neil Goldsmith both presented this motion which was being put to the AGM because of a Committee recommendation following the part funding of selected member athletes at the World Trophy in New Zealand this year. This motion also generated some very constructive discussion.

Voting: For: 56, Against: 7, Abstentions: 7 **Motion carried.**

- 6c. That if long/superlong fell races are to be considered for the FRA championships leniency is applied to the cut-off times to allow a full and fair championship with more than one member / team in each category having a reasonable potential of finishing the race.**

(Proposed by Clare Kenny of Calder Valley FR, Seconded by Debbie Thompson of Keswick AC. Late Motion)

Clare Kenny spoke on behalf of this motion, which sought to raise various issues and concerns following the 2005 English and British Championship race at Wasdale in July. The motion was discussed in depth, and I think that everybody appreciated the general dilemma in balancing fairness, safety and the nature of championship races. After assurances from the two representatives of the Championships Subcommittee present that, in future, they would discuss cut-offs with race organisers, Clare withdrew her motion before a vote was taken.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

- a) **Officers.** The following Officers were **re-elected unopposed**. Chairman - Alan Barlow. Secretary – Alan Brentnall. Treasurer – Tony Varley. Membership Secretary – Pete Bland. Fixtures Secretary – Margaret Chippendale. Magazine Editor – Dave Jones. Championships Coordinator – Jon Broxap. Environment and Access – Chris Knox. Website Officer – Brett Weeden. Statistician – Madeleine Watson.
- b) **Club Representatives.** Four seats. Four advance nominations. The following were **elected unopposed**. ; Graham Breeze (Skyrac), Sue Becconasall (Bingley), Paul Sanderson (Dark Peak), Andy Schofield (Borrowdale).
- c) **Membership Representatives.** Four seats. Four nominations. **The following were all elected unopposed.**
Neill Goldsmith (Altrincham & District AC) Prop: Dave Jones, Sec: Tony Varley.
Dave Spedding (Keswick AC) Prop: Chris Knox, Sec: Alan Barlow.
Ross Powell (Mercia) Prop: Geoff Clegg, Sec: Dave Hill.
Sheila Lloyd (Mercia) Prop: Ross Powell, Sec: Neil Goldsmith.

8. OTHER APPOINTMENTS. The following representatives were elected unanimously:

- a) **WMRA Representative.** Mark Croasdale.
- b) **AAA England Representative.** Alan Barlow.
- c) **NoEAA Representative.** Graham Breeze.
- d) **MCAA Representative.** Richard Day.
- e) **SoEAA Representative.** Paul Chadwick

9. **AUDITOR.** Neil Hindle, elected unanimously.

10. CHAIRMAN CLOSED THE MEETING.

As usual, a wide ranging discussion on various fell running matters took place after the formal part of the meeting was complete.