

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE RLEF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING 2013

Location	Darwin Room, Brunel University, London	Date	Friday 23 August, 2013
		Time	1230 hrs
Members Present	Alexey Morozov, Edgard Taturyan (ARLK), John Anderson, Petr Sedina (CZRLA), Regis Osmont, Carlos Zalduendo (FFRXIII), Uwe Jansen (RLD), Brenda Guilfoyle, Gordon Matthews (RLI), Tiziano Franchini (FIRL), Faysal Jaber (LRLF), Chris Botes, Kobus Botha (SARL), Keith Hogg, John Holland (SRL), Marko Janković, Radoslav Novakovic (SRLF), Artur Martyrosyan, Sergey Kirpichnikov (UFRL), Brian Juliff, Mike Nicholas (WRL)	Chair	Maurice Watkins (RFL)
Observers	Yves Kazadi (BRLA), Steve Davy, Eugene Hanrahan (DRLF), Tasos Pantazidis, George Stilianos (Hellenic RLF), Vilmars Sokolovs (LRL), Anthony Micallef (MRL), Misaele Vakadrano, Thijs van der Zouwen (NRLB), Rajendrah Shah (SwRL), Andrew Davies, Mike Davies (UAERL)		
In attendance	Sylvester Wellington (Ghana), Adam Adamczewski, Lukasz Lucka (Poland), Geoff Hardy (Romania), Martin Crick, Danny Kazandjian, Tom Mather, Nebojsa Sretenovic, Graeme Thompson, Jovan Vujosevic, James Vukmirovic (RLEF)		
Apologies	Eric Perez (CRL), Mustapha Jedoual (FMRL), Bálint Mezes (Hungarian RLF), Ventley Brown (JRLA), Kim Seglem (RLN), Dave Kinkead (SARLA), Chad Simeon (TTRLA)		

Item No. Agenda Item

- 1.0 MW welcomed all delegates. He reported that 13 of 15 RLEF members, 8 of 13 Observers and three uncategorized nations were represented, an increase from 20 in 2012 to 24 and a record

attendance for an RLEF Council Meeting. MW congratulated the delegates for their commitment and praised the excellent attendance, noting the long distances some delegates had travelled. MW confirmed to the Council that the Hellenic RL Federation had been accepted as an Observer by the RLEF Board earlier in the day and congratulated the Greek delegates.

2.0 Minutes of 2012 Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 August 2012 were presented. **Moved:** BJ (WRL) moved to approve the minutes. **Seconded:** GM (RLI). The minutes were duly approved.

3.0 Matters Arising from Last Meeting

MW reminded Council that Brian Simpson MEP had become the RLEF's first official ambassador in 2012 and reported that he, Niel Wood of the RFL and DK had visited Brussels in February. DK confirmed that the RLEF delegation met with Brian Simpson MEP and a member of the Commissioner of Sport's cabinet to report on the federation's activity within the EC's sphere. DK also reported that Brian Simpson had been active in assisting the RLEF with various government level blockages pertaining to the recognition of RL as a sport, namely in Russia and Morocco, and would continue to do so.

4.0 Financial report to Council

NS delivered the annual financial report to Council, which had been supplied with the Financial Report document, 2012 accounts and 2013 management accounts at 31 July 2013. NS's report focused on (a) the RLEF's financial history and the changes to the RLEF's funding since the last Council meeting; (b) 2013 activity, including the annual forecast; (c) 2012 results; and (d) the statutory reporting to HMRC (tax office), mandatory since the incorporation of RLEF Ltd.

- (a) NS noted that while central funding had always been the RLEF's largest source of income, the figure had annually reduced since 2009, yet the RLEF had mitigated the reduction and increased activity by dint of raising commercial and public sector finance
- (b) NS reported on the major forecasted expenditure of the federation, totaling £229,000, and reported that the EU nations were the main recipients of the grants, thanks to EC-funded projects, and that only members, not Observers, could benefit from grants
- (c) The £12,760 variance on budgeted 2012 income was mainly due to reduction in RLIF funding; the West Africa project was funded through specific grants that did not affect European activity; and that some funding had been deferred to 2013 to complete the EU projects as per contractual obligations
- (d) Since RLEF incorporation, 2012 is the first year where full accounts can be presented to satisfy UK tax law and UK regulations for limited companies. This demonstrates good corporate governance. The RLEF reported a profit of £478 in 2012.

4.1 MW called the motion to adopt the RLEF's 2012 accounts.

Moved: BJ (WRL) moved to approve the accounts. **Seconded:** FJ (LRLF). The accounts were duly approved.

4.2 MW explained the motion on the agenda to mandate the RFL's accounts department to make transactions on behalf of the RLEF using the electronic banking system. He said that while it was not ideal, the cost savings on fees and forex fluctuations made it prudent. He assured Council that the RLEF still maintained full control of the account and any transactions had to be approved by the RLEF General Manager.

Moved: GT (RLEF) moved to approve the motion. **Seconded:** BJ (WRL). RFL Ltd was duly given access to and authority for making instructions regarding the RLEF Ltd bank accounts

5.0 General Manager's Report to the Council

DK delivered his report. The report focused on the expanding RLEF Membership and the consequent strengthening of good governance through pluralism and democracy. DK reported progress after 36-months of the RLEF strategy, focusing on the increase in participation and governance throughout the membership. He reported on the significant participatory gains made since last year, notably the Czech Republic, Jamaica, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, Ukraine and Wales; and commented that Observers were also beginning to play 13-a-side competitions, notably Greece, Latvia, Malta and the UAE.

He reported on the ongoing implementation of the RLEF Technical Strategy, pointing to the increase in the number of qualified tutors operating in the RLEF and the number of countries which had benefitted from technical courses run by these new tutors.

DK congratulated ARLK, JRLA and UFRL, all of whom had become Full Members of the RLEF and whose applications had been lodged for similar status with the RLIF, which brings an annual administration grant of A\$25k; and Trinidad & Tobago and a new organisation in Sierra Leone, whose governing bodies had received government recognition. He also noted that the total number of votes in Council had increased from 39 to 48.

6.0 Independent Director

MW informed the Council that the RLEF's independent directors' mandate expires today; that one director, Richard Graham, had expressed his willingness to continue in the role but the second, Christen Farmer, had decided to step down due to his inability to dedicate enough time. MW reported that the Board had instructed DK to begin the recruitment process for a second independent director, paying particular attention to recruit from the commercial sector to increase the federation's revenue. He asked if Council had any objections. There were none.

7.0 Any other business

There being no further business the meeting closed at 1305 hrs.