Minutes of the 49th Annual General Meeting of the EUROPEAN SQUASH FEDERATION

VIRTUALLY Via ZOOM MEETING
SATURDAY May 1, 2021

1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

The President, Hugo Hannes, opened the meeting by welcoming all attendees. The President introduced the Board, the treasurer and the office staff. No MNF was opposed to have the AGM virtual. COVID-19 brought us into a special world and the President hoped that the families and friends were doing well in these difficult times. There was concern what effect this crisis will have had on the squash community. The situation of the pandemic and the vaccination policy is so different in each of our nations, but he wished all the best for the near future.
It was noted that 29 MNFs were present and no proxy votes were received. The ESF Office Manager, Claire Leech monitored the online meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Member Nation Federations: Greece

Honorary Members: George Mieras, Chris Stahl

3. ATTENDANCE

3.1 Member National Federations Represented

Delegates were present from:

Austria	Thomas Wachter
Belgium	Kim Hannes
Croatia	Vedran Rezic
Czech Republic	Tomas Cvikl
England	Mark Williams
Estonia	Kadri Kollamaa
Finland	Mika Monto
France	Dominic Fontanon
Germany	Christian Oswald
Gibraltar	Barry Brindle
Guernsey	Martin Watts
Ireland	Anne Costello

Israel	Maayan Levy
Italy	Davide Babini
Latvia	Maris Macijevskis
Netherlands	Tom Lucas
Norway	Otto Kalvae
Poland	Marciej Klis (joined from 10am)
Portugal	Luis Ferreira
Romania	Constantinescu George Alexandru
Russia	Anton Odinstov
Scotland	Maggie Still
Serbia	Nebojsa Conic
Slovenia	Marko Podgorsek
Spain	Pablo Del Rio
Sweden	Thomas Svensson
Switzerland	Ernstte Roth
Turkey	Guven Karakus
Wales	Richard Bennett

3.2 Honorary Members Present:

Zena Wooldridge and Joyce Buckley

Observers Present

Finland	Tomi Niinimäki
France	Jacques Fontaine
Germany	Alexander Korsch
Italy	Massimo Bianchi
Portugal	Luis Carvalho
Spain	Jonas Gornerup
Wales	David Evans

3.3 Others Present

3.3.1 By Right

ESF President	Hugo Hannes
ESF Vice-President	Rosie Barry
ESF Vice-President	Jim Hay
ESF Vice-President	Jackie Robinson
ESF Vice-President	Thomas Troedsson
ESF Treasurer	Peter Derrick

3.3.2 By Invitation

ESF Office Manager	Claire Leech
ESF Office Assistant	Joanne Collins

4. MEMBERSHIP STATUS

The list of Members were presented in advance of the meeting for information, and there were no questions or comments.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 48th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2020 minutes were presented. There were no comments, questions or matters arising.

In the meeting: For: 27 Against: 0 Abstention: 1

The Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting were approved.

6. THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The annual report for the period 1st January to 31st January 2020 was presented, and received, with no comment or questions from members.

For: 28 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

The Annual Report of the Management Board was approved.

7. FORWARD PLAN 2020/21

The forward plan was presented and received no comment or questions.

For: 26 Against: 0 Abstention: 3

The Forward Plan 2020/2021 was approved.

8. FINANCE

8.1) To adopt the accounts for the year to 31st December 2020

The Treasurer noted that the year of COVID was extraordinary forcing the cancellation and postponements of planned events. Despite this, the surplus for 2020 was €41,715. some €38,000 more than budget. The loss of income for the year of €105,000 was largely offset by reductions in expenditure of €103,000 The surplus arises from two main sources; the UK Government Furlough Scheme of €14,000 and Exchange Rate gain of €25,500, as a result of the strengthening of the Euro against Sterling on transactions during the year and the revaluation of Euro bank balance.
There were no payments from the Capital Fund in 2020.In view of the large surplus the Board agreed to make a further contribution to the Fund of £30,000 (€34,500).
After making this contribution the net surplus for the year was €7,215 The Capital Fund now stands at €130,514 and the General Reserve at €175,103.
The Accounts and financial records were independently scrutinised by Luis Ferreira and Athanasios Piliounis and their letters of confirmation are available from the Office for inspection.

For: 29 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

The accounts for the year to 31st December 2020 were approved

8.2) To appoint two Internal Examiners for the 2021 accounts

Maggie Still (Scotland), Otto Kalvae (Norway) were appointed as internal examiners for the 2021 accounts. The appointment of the examiners was approved.

8.3) To receive the Budget for the financial year 2021

The Treasurer noted that the Budget had been agreed by the Board in January on the assumption that events and circuits would be able to restart in July. It is now known that this will not take place with little or no events in 2021.The Budget impact is therefore likely to follow the pattern of 2020 with subscriptions covering office costs and the loss of income offset by reduced Officer travel and Committee activity. This should produce a break-even position depending upon exchange rate variations.

Germany raised a query- why is the coaching budget significantly higher than previous years, Jim Hay responded, there was a coaching conference planned & this was cancelled, so the funds have been held over until it can take place

For: 28 Against: 0 Abstention: 1

The Budget for the financial year 2021 was approved.

9. MOTIONS CONCERNING CHANGE TO TERM OF OFFICERS

Change to Memorandum of Association page 7: D1 General Meetings:

The amendment of section D1 to include hybrid meetings. (proposed additional text below in blue italics*) "The ESF shall hold a general meeting not more than 24 months after the holding of the preceding general meeting. In exceptional circumstances, the directors may decide to hold an electronic or hybrid meeting (a combination of a physical and electronic meeting) in place of a physical meeting. Such meeting shall not require there to be a physical meeting place or for there to be a physical quorum of members. Such meeting will still allow members to participate via electronic means and to exercise their right to express their views by voting on matters brought before the meeting. Proxy voting will be available for such meetings."*

For: 28 Against: 0 Abstention: 1

The motion was passed.

10. MOTIONS CONCERNING CHANGE TO MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

Change to Memorandum of Association page 7: D2a General Meetings: The amendment of section D2a to separate the timeline between dispatching the AGM notice (120 days prior) and receiving matters, motions or proposals, which remains 90 days prior to the meeting. (proposed changes below in blue italics) "2. Notices: a. Notice (which shall include the date and venue city for the meeting) of the general meeting shall be dispatched to all members, directors and the WSF not less than *120* days before the date of the general meeting."

For: 28 Against: 1 Abstention: 0

The motion was passed.

11. MOTIONS CONCERNING CHANGE TO MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

Change to Memorandum of Association page 15: Mb Bodies of Appeal: The amendment of section Mb to clarify the appointment process and to change the term from 2 years to 3 years.
An appeal against a decision the Board will be handled by the European Disciplinary and Appeals Panel installed *by the Board and approved by the AGM* (stage 2). This Panel will consist of 4 panel members plus a chairperson. Chair and members are nominated for a period of *3* years. The appeal must always be handled by a minimum of 2 panel members plus the chairperson. The Panel Members cannot be from a country involved in the appeal."

For: 24 Against: 1 Abstention: 4

The motion was passed.

12. ELECTION OF THE ESF MANAGEMENT BOARD

The President thanked Jackie Robinson who had come to the end of her 6 year term as ESF Vice President. She was responsible for the smooth running of all 30 tournaments in the junior circuit. She was also our liaison with the ESF Office and during this pandemic this was very much appreciated. Jackie Robinson addressed the AGM, saying it had been her pleasure to serve ESF for all these years. Rosie Barry spoke on behalf of the Board thanking her for her work and input.

The President confirmed that there was one Vice Presidents position for which there were 2 nominations that were correctly submitted by the closing date: Richard Bennett from Wales and Luis Ferreira from Portugal.

There were 28 eligible votes at the time of the election. Luis Ferreira was elected as Vice President for 3 years.

13. EDAP nominations

The Board has installed the European Disciplinary and Appeal Panel and asked for approval of the AGM. The Board proposed Jackie Robinson as Chair and Peter Goldson, Andrea Goldoni, Kim Hannes and Tomi Niinimäki as members.

For: 25 Against: 0 Abstention: 2

The composition of the EDAP has been approved.

14. CHAMPIONSHIP PLANNING

Thomas Troedsson (Vice President of Championships) spoke regarding all the postponed 2021 Championships; he went through the proposed 2022 Championships and asked nations to consider tendering for 2023/24 Championships. (see chart below)

YEAR	U19 Individual & Team	ETC 1 & 2	ETC 3	U15 & U17 Team	EMIC	ECC	EICC	Other	WSF
2022	Netherlands, Eindhoven	Netherlands, Eindhoven	Ljubljana, Slovenia	Netherlands, Eindhoven	Scotland, Edinburgh	Italy, Riccione	Poland, Katowice	Commonwealth Games 7th Jul - 7 Aug 2022 Birmingham, England	World Masters, Poland, Wroclaw World Games 7-17 July Birmingham, USA
2023	Switzerland, Zürich	Finland, Helsinki	*Interest from Gibraltar, Russia, Israel*	*Interest from Russia and Czech Republic*	*Interest from Netherlands, Amsterdam TBC*	*Interest from England, Birmingham*	*Interest from Poland, Krakow* European Games *& Russia* and Spain	European Games, Krakow, Poland **ESF Jubilee 50 years**	
2024		*Interest Zürich, Switzerland*					*Interest from Spain*	Olympic Games, Paris, France	World Masters
2025									
2026									World Masters

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

16. NEXT MEETING

The WSF President, Zena Wooldridge, and the WSF CEO, William Louis-Marie, informed the attendees about the functioning of WSF and what their intentions were in the near future. The WSF President thanked the ESF Board for the opportunity to address the ESF AGM.

The President thanked everyone for attending, and special thanks were expressed to the hosts of the 2020 & 2021 Championships, especially in view of the difficult and unpleasant circumstances surrounding the decisions to cancel them all.

He announced that Claire Leech, the Office Manager, decided to leave ESF after 5 & 1/2 years. He thanked her on behalf of all the Member Nations and the Board of Directors for all the work she had done for European Squash. The Board of Directors will review the situation of the office and until then Joanne Collins, the Office Assistant, will cover the ongoing office administration with the support of the Board of Directors and the Treasurer. How and when to contact the office will published on our website.

The next ESF Annual General Meeting is scheduled to be held on April 30th, 2022 at the European Team Championships 1&2 in Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

The meeting was declared closed at 11.25 UK time.