



## **Irish Gymnastics**

Affiliated to F.I.G., U.E.G. and O.C.I.

### **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting**

**5<sup>th</sup> July 2009**

**Sports HQ, Park West, Dublin 12.**

#### **1. List of Apologies:**

Jane Alford (Excel), Aimi Baker (SDO), Eamonn Coleman (Janz), Aodhnait Culley (Janz), Patricia Downey (Excel), Aoife Downey (Excel), Laura Doyle (Janz), Monika Gorniakowska (Janz), Zoe Higgins (Janz), Olena Hogan (VP Rhythmic), Emer Kavanagh (Clondalkin), Roisin Kavanagh (VP Acrobatics), Debbie Lamb (Excel), Olexander Malinovskyy (Excel), Julie Masterson (Limerick City GC), Louise Masterson (Limerick City GC), Jean Masterson (Limerick City GC), Laura Menton (Excel), Avril Morrison (Janz), Amy Morrison (Janz), Mary Morrissey (Salto GC, Cork), Mary Murray (Skerries), Ciara O'Byrne (Janz), Mairead O'Callaghan (Douglas), John O'Mahony (Ballincollig), Mary O'Mahony (Independent), Colm O'Toole (Carrigaline), Olena Punt (Independent), Damien Redmond (Janz), Stanislav Sevostyanov (Excel), Neil Sheehan (Cork Acro), Clare Sheehan (Cork Acro), Mariea Sheehy (Aerials GC), Susann Sills (Janz), Corinne Tighe (Independent)

#### **2. List of Attendees:**

Ursula Billings (Excel), Monica Boyle (Killeevan), Edward Boyle (Killeevan), Lisa Boyle (Killeevan), Margaret Brennan (Naas Panthers Gymnastics Academy), Andrea Brennan (Old Bawn), Lorna Brickley (Blarney & Glasheen), Elizabeth Campbell (Excel GC), Gilly Carson (Salto), Luke Carson (Salto), Arlene Clarke (Rathgael), Emma Corcoran (UCD), Leslie Culliton (VP Trampoline/Rathdrum), Linda Dempsey (Janz), Tom Dillon (Phoenix), Pauric Dooley (VP IG/ Athy), Marissa Duffy (DP Gymnastics), Sandra Duffy (Naas Panthers Gymnastics Academy), Louise Duggan (Rathdrum), Niamh Farrell (Excel), Barry Green (Excel), Kim Hand (Excel), Myles Hand (Excel), Sarah Hopkins (Muckcross), Sinead Lamb (Excel), Ruth Larragy (Excel), Sinead Lee (UCD), David Long (UCD), Joanne Mahony (Gymstars), Rachel McCleghnan (Rathgael GC), Daniel McDermott (Excel), Lesley Anne McGuinness (Skerries), Valerie McGuinness (Skerries), Michael Menton (Excel), Fran Minter (Shannon Meteors), Pauline Molloy (Independent), Kim Murphy (Excel), Sarah Murray (Gymnastics North East), Colm Murray (Skerries), Caomhán Murray (Excel), Tim O'Donovan (Douglas), Jim O'Leary (President IG/Cavan), Rick O'Mahony (Independent), Lisa O'Reilly (Wexford), Aidan O'Reilly (Salto), Paul Pierce (UCD), Ronan Preston (Excel), Katrina Preston (Excel), Natasha Preston (VP WAG/Excel), Vanessa Preston (Excel), Frank Reilly (Independent), Ger Rellis (VP Finance/Independent), Carolanne Tighe (VP General/Independent), Lorraine Toland (Excel), Rachel Toomey (UCD), Caroline Walsh (Blarney & Glasheen), Barry Wardell (UCD), Terry Watson (Athlone), Aoife White Barrett (Excel), Bernie White Barrett (Excel).

**Staff:** Ciaran Gallagher (CEO), Deirdre Farren (AM), Sally Filmer (CDM), Sarah Lowe (AO), Garrett Buckley (CDO), Dermot Howlin (PWO)

### **3. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising:**

There were two matters arising from the minutes of 2008 AGM.

Linda Dempsey said that from the AGM last year, an EGM was to be called to discuss and vote upon Proxy Voting at an AGM.

She also questioned the accuracy of the minutes from last year and she said that some parts of the minutes in her opinion glossed over some of the discussions. Rick O'Mahony agreed with Linda.

It was agreed by all that Linda could take a copy of last years reports and she can then present her amendments at the EGM. The EGM will be called at the end of 2009 to discuss the Proxy Voting and Policy issues that are being worked on at the moment.

It was proposed by the president that the signing off of the 2008 minutes would be postponed until the EGM to give Linda time to look over the minutes and present her disagreements with the 2008 minutes to the EGM.

This was proposed by: Leslie Culliton, Seconded by: Gilly Carson and all members

### **4. Presidents Address:**

The President Mr. Jim O'Leary began his address by welcoming all the members who had made the effort to travel to the AGM. Jim also thanked people for their support while he was working in his role as President. (Please see document '2009 AGM Presidential Address' in the downloads section of the IG website @ [www.irishgymnastics.ie](http://www.irishgymnastics.ie))

Jim also read a letter to the members that was received from the Irish Sports Council. (Please see document '2009 AGM Irish Sports Council letter' in the downloads section of the IG website @ [www.irishgymnastics.ie](http://www.irishgymnastics.ie))

### **5. Financial Report:**

The VP Finance Mr. Ger Rellis delivered his financial report. There were a few questions about the report.

Tom Dillon asked if the membership fees for this year were all paid up to date. Ger Rellis responded that those figures were not available for the AGM as the accounts related to 2008 and not this financial year.

Linda Dempsey asked why was there was not a set of full audited accounts available. Ger Rellis responded that the VP Finance was only obliged to supply a summary set of accounts plus a VP Finance report which was the same as last year. Pauric commented that this was the case last year and his understanding was all that was required for the AGM was a summary of the accounts and the VP Finance report as outlined in the Articles of Association.

Pauline Molloy asked about point number 7 in the 2008 AGM minutes. Ger Rellis noted that there was an error in the minutes and that the financial year was from January to December.

Colm Murray made a comment that in his opinion the financial year should be January to December and that other than the membership year September to August, everything should be in line with FIG even the AGM and then maybe there won't be the confusion about the accounts. Pauric Dooley commented that there is no reason why we couldn't delay having the next AGM until January/ February 18 months down the line but that it would have to be voted upon at an EGM. It was decided that this could be another item for the EGM; that the AGM date could be delayed by six months to bring it in line with the Financial Year.

Rick O'Mahony asked would it be possible if the accounts were available on line and would it not be better to have a set of company's audited accounts available for the AGM even though it is not obligatory and said that it used to be the customary practice at the AGM. He stated it would not be more beneficial to the members to have them available.

Ger Rellis agreed that this was a good point and it was something that could be looked at going forward.

Paul Pierce asked if the change of AGM would affect the audited accounts. Ger Rellis explained that it may be a possibility of getting the Financial Year and Audited accounts to coincide with the AGM at the beginning of the year and that this was something to be brought up at the EGM.

The Financial report was proposed by: Leslie Culliton and seconded by: Aidan O'Reilly

#### **6. CEO Presentation:**

The Chief Executive Officer Mr. Ciaran Gallagher gave apologies on behalf of Aimi Baker, Springboard Development Officer who was on holidays for the AGM and introduced the staff present at the meeting.

Ciaran then gave an in-depth presentation on activities throughout the year.

(Please see document '2009 AGM CEO Presentation' in the downloads section of the IG website @ [www.irishgymnastics.ie](http://www.irishgymnastics.ie))

CEO presentation was proposed by: Gilly Carson and seconded by: Natasha Preston

#### **7. Administrators Report:**

The administrators report was read and there was no matters arising.

The administrators report was proposed by: Caomhan Murray and seconded by: Linda Dempsey

#### **8. Discipline Reports:**

The discipline reports were taken as read and there was no matters arising.

The discipline reports was proposed by: Tim O'Donovan and seconded by: Aidan O'Reilly

#### **9. Regional Reports:**

The regional reports were taken as read and there was no matters arising.

The regional reports were proposed by: Gilly Carson and seconded by: Linda Dempsey

#### **10. Election of Officers/ VPs to Board of Control**

Linda Dempsey noted that the tumbling nominations were not on the IG list of officer nominations although they were included in the Tumbling Report.

Colm Murray asked if it was possible for candidates who are contesting a position to address the floor and give a brief talk on their vision for Irish Gymnastics as President for the coming year. The candidates agreed to give a brief address to the members.

For the contested position of President both Rick O'Mahony and Gerard Rellis gave a brief introduction to members about themselves and their vision for the future of Irish Gymnastics Ltd

For the contested position of Vice President Pauric Dooley gave a brief introduction to the members about himself and his vision for his role as VP within Irish Gymnastics Ltd. Frank Duffy was unable to attend the meeting after being delayed returning from a competition in Wales.

For the contested position of Vice President of Trampolining both Leslie Culliton and Terrie Watson gave a brief introduction to members about themselves and their vision for the future of Trampolining within Irish Gymnastics.

- |   |  |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
| • <b>President</b>                      | Gerard Rellis                                | 50 votes               |
|   | Rick O'Mahony                                | 11 votes               |
|   | <b>Ger Rellis accepted the position</b>      |                        |
| • <b>Vice-President</b>                 | Pauric Dooley                                | 45 votes               |
|   | Frank Duffy                                  | 15 votes               |
|   | <b>Pauric Dooley accepted the position</b>   | 1 Abstention           |
| • <b>VP Finance</b>                     | Marissa Duffy                                | Unanimous              |
| • <b>PR Officer</b>                     | No Election                                  | -                      |
| • <b>VP Major Events</b>                | No Election                                  | -                      |
| • <b>VP Men's Artistic</b>              | Gilly Carson                                 | Unanimous              |
| • <b>VP Women's Artistic</b>            | Natasha Preston                              | Unanimous              |
| • <b>VP Acrobatic Gymnastics</b>        | Roisin Kavanagh                              | Unanimous              |
| • <b>VP Rhythmic Gymnastics</b>         | Cheryl Keenan                                | 60 votes, 1 Abstention |
| • <b>VP General Gymnastics</b>          | Carolanne Tighe                              | Unanimous              |
| • <b>VP Trampolining</b>                | Leslie Culliton                              | 43 votes               |
|   | Terrie Watson                                | 15 votes               |
|   | <b>Leslie Culliton accepted the position</b> | 3 Abstentions          |
| • <b>VP Tumbling</b>                    | No Election – Candidate put forward          | -                      |
|   | withdrew from the nominations                |                        |
| • <b>Sports Aerobics</b>                | No Election                                  | -                      |
| • <b>Special Needs &amp; Disability</b> | No Election                                  | -                      |

## 11. Notices of Motions:

- A. The General Gymnastics Technical Committee proposed *“that the discipline name ‘General Gymnastics’ be changed to ‘Gymnastics for All’*

It was pointed out that as this required a change to the Articles of Association therefore an EGM had to be called to make this change. As per point number 3 an EGM would be called in late 2009 to discuss these changes.

- B. The General Gymnastics Technical Committee proposed *“that the Officers Chair Title ‘Vice President’ be changed to ‘President’.*

It was decided that as this was a change to the Articles of Association an EGM had to be called to make this change. As per point number 3 an EGM will be called in late 2009 to discuss these changes.

- C. The General Gymnastics Technical Committee proposed *“that a ratio of 50 persons to 1 Head of Delegation (HOD) be applied to UEG/FIG and other Internationals that Irish Gymnastics deem HOD presence is required”*

There was a brief discussion on this proposal and Tom Dillon made a suggestion that the proposal be worded differently as follows *“that for all FIG/UEG events there will be one HOD, additionally where a delegation is more than 50 persons travelling there will be one deputy HOD per 50 people where appropriate and applicable as deemed by IG”*.

This new proposal was carried.

- D. The West Region proposed *“that candidate interested in having a position within IG (i.e. VP roles) have to show an expression of interest/availability and willingness to do said task on the I.G. website prior to AGM Nomination/voting time, so that IG members have a clear picture as to who exactly is interested in various roles”*.

The CEO clarified that this proposal has come up a few times at previous AGM's and in principle IG agree with it, however legally IG cannot refuse a nomination because of this request not being fulfilled. Legally all nominations for the AGM have a right to be put forward by IG's members whether candidates send in details to the office or not.

Pauline Molloy questioned whether any information at all could be put up on the website and why someone would not want this information up on the website. The CEO stated that legally due to privacy issues any candidate has the right to refuse putting information on the website about themselves and IG would be in the wrong demanding that they send in information. If they offer information to the Office and would like it distributed then that option is available but IG do not have a right to demand access to such information for the website.

It was questioned if the wording of the proposal could be changed but as neither Anne Garrett or Eileen Murphy were present at the AGM to agree or disagree to the changes the proposal couldn't be changed and was deemed out of order.

It was also decided that this could be discussed further at the EGM.

- E. The West Region proposed *“that members have a right to express opinions without reprimand and that the opinion be given due consideration”*.

Terrie Watson clarified that some members felt that when they asked IG officers questions and the officers didn't agree with the questions that there were reprimands. Terrie asked what route should a member take to be heard.

The CEO clarified that in the past members have been unsure who to talk to and what route to take if they had a complaint. The PWO is developing a new complaints and disciplinary policy which will be presented to the BOC in autumn/winter 2009. These new policies will provide clarity and new structures in which members can raise issues appropriately.

This issue will be raised at the BOC when the new policy is ready.

The new president Ger Rellis thanked all the members for their attendance at the AGM and made a presentation to Jim O'Leary for all his tireless work, input and effort he has put into Irish Gymnastics Ltd over the past number of years.

**END OF MEETING**

Minutes taken by: Deirdre Farren  
Administration Manager  
5<sup>th</sup> July 2009