

Minutes of the Yoga Scotland Annual General Meeting held on 20th April 2008 held at the Dewar Centre, Perth.

Present: 47 members present

1. **Apologies:** 34 members
2. **Minutes of the 2007 AGM:** Approved. Proposed Jean Stewart - Seconded Frances Corr.

3. **Matters Arising:**

It was noted that the Yoga Scotland T-shirts are now available.

4. **Presentation of the Annual Report:**

The Chairperson presented the Annual Report, which was noted. It was pointed out that Maggie Flynn's period of service was 20 years, not 10.

Scottish Qualifications Authority Discussion. The Chairperson gave the background to this issue and outlined the three possible options which had been proposed, following discussion with the SQA:

- a) Developing the outline SVQ proposal already agreed by the Sector Skills Council of the Fitness Industry. If accredited this would not be exclusive to YS and could be offered by any agencies including FE colleges.
- b) YS working with the SQA to develop a customised qualification, with YS as the awarding body. This would make sense in the context of governing body status, and would cost approximately £5,000 to develop and be a lot of hard work.
- c) SQA and Sport Scotland UK Coaching Certificate (UKCC) for Yoga – not seen as appropriate for Yoga to be fitted into a sports structure.

In discussion the following points were made:

- It is necessary to have some kind of national benchmarked framework.
- If YS does not develop a national qualification, other agencies may do so. BWY is progressing in the direction of becoming an awarding body and will therefore no longer be accrediting other TT courses. The exchange diploma arrangement between YS and the BWY is likely to become obsolete as a result. There is a similar opportunity for YS to develop a national qualification within the different Scottish Training structures.
- This process will be easier for YS because we do not have accredited bodies whose processes will also be disrupted by these changes.
- The current YS Teaching Diploma currently has no official status at all, and it is not recognised externally (other than by the BWY).
- YS needs to lead the gold standard in Teacher Training and to have confidence in the validation of its course and in its ownership. It will be important to work with other yoga networks in Scotland.

The Chairperson thanked members for their contributions to this important question.

5. Presentation and Adoption of the Accounts to year end 31st December 2007:

The Treasurer presented the accounts which had been examined by an Independent Examiner in accordance with the new charity regulations. They had been prepared on an accrual basis. She pointed out that:

- Expenditure on Insurance costs shows only the expenditure between September and December 2007, the remainder appearing under Debts and Prepaid Charges.
- The clerical assistance costs are now shown as a separate figure.
- The organisation had a deficit of £5,000 for the year

Questions from the floor elicited the following responses:

- The sundries item included the costs of purchasing merchandise
- The adverts and subscription increase reflects greater advertising as part of the Public Relations Plan.

It was noted that Page 7 contained an error - the figure -£12,777, should read £12,777. This will be raised with the independent examiner.

Approved: Proposed Linda Forbes, seconded Angus Lockhart.

Membership Fee proposal.

Agreed that the membership fees be increased as follows:

£20 Ordinary Membership

£40 Group Membership

£45 teacher membership

And that a new sub-group of the Teaching Membership be created:

£25 for BWY and BWY accredited group teachers, and retired teachers.

Approved: Proposed Ann Hunter, seconded Margo Romberg.

6. Appointment of Independent Examiner:

It was agreed that Chas Leigh, Brown and Son be appointed Independent Examiner be appointed for the financial year 1st January – 31st December 2008.

Approved: Proposed Ann Hunter, seconded Katy McFarlane.

7. Executive Committee Elections:

Chairperson: Jenni Connaughton. Proposed Ann Hunter, seconded Jill Travers. - carried with four abstentions.

Committee Members: self-nominated. carried unanimously.

Jill Travers – seconded Angus Lockhart

Lyn Scott – seconded Kirsty Davidson

Carol Godridge – seconded Susan Neal

Susan Neal – seconded Carol Godridge

Linda Moodie – seconded Marianna Buultjens.

Evonne Fitzpatrick – seconded Kath McDonald

Donna McNeill and Fiona McOwan were thanked for their hard work and presented with a token of appreciation for their service.

8. Any other Competent Business

A question about the qualifications of a teacher listed in the 2008 directory was remitted to the committee for clarification.

9. Date and venue of the 2009 meeting:

Remitted to the committee.

Carol Godridge
21.4.08

Lorna Meston
25.4.08