

VETERANS TIME TRIALS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association
Held on 27 January 2018 at 14:00
St John's Hotel, 651 Warwick Rd, Solihull, B91 1AT

PRESENT

Officers

President	Carole Gandy
Chairman	Andrew Simpkins
National Secretary	Rachael Elliott
Editor and Advertising Secretary	Mike Penrice
Awards Secretary	Ian Greenstreet

Delegates

National Executive Committee	Barry Quick and Ian Greenstreet
East Anglian Group	Peter & Mary Horsnell, Dave Nock, Bob Bush and Andrew Grant
Kent Group	Carole Gandy and John Hawkrigde
London and Home Counties Group	John Hoskins
Manchester and North West Group	No delegates
Merseyside Group	Geoff Edgerton and Phil Guy
Midlands Group	Alan Colburn and Jeff Matthews
North Group	Paul Dawson and Dave Oliver
North Lancs and Lakes Group	Barbara Bell and Sue Cheetham
North Midlands Group	Alex Deck and Chris Melia
Nottingham and East Midlands Group	Ron Hallam and Colin Parkinson
Scotland Group	Alex Munro, Iain McLeod & George McLaughlan
South Wales Group	Derek Morgan and Barry Williams
Surrey/Sussex Group	Robin Johnson and Keith Wilkinson
Wessex Group	No delegates
West Group	Brian Griffiths
Yorkshire Group	Mike Penrice and Brian Sunter

APOLOGIES

Officers

National Treasurer	Mary Corbett
National Membership Secretary	Merv Player
National Recorder	Steve Lockwood
National Records Secretary	Geoff Perry

Delegates

London and Home Counties Group	Geoff Perry
West Group	Gordon Scott

1. To approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 February 2017.

Taken as read. All in favour.

2. To approve the following:

- a) **National Treasurer's Report and the adoption of the Independently Examined Accounts**

The National Editor and Advertising Secretary confirmed that Yorkshire and East Anglian Groups are promoting electronic format for the Veteran which is helping to reduce printing and postage costs. 13% of the members in these two groups will now receive electronic copies. Other groups will now be contacted.

Ian McLeod (Scotland) questioned the £3,600 maintenance fee for the website. The Chairman clarified that it covers the ongoing support and hosting charges. He added that the XNCreations team have been very flexible and responsive to any issues or questions raised by the Association.

Update on National Finances

The Chairman clarified why the Association was requesting an increase in the national subscriptions. The Association has not had an annual budget as there has been no need over recent years as the Association has always been in a strong financial position. But the National Finances now have to cover the costs of the National Secretary and the professionally supported website. For these and other cost increases, we are facing a deficit of around £8000 in 2018 so action must be taken to address this and achieve a balanced position.

With the help of the National Treasurer, a forecast has been drawn up to 2020. This is attached at Appendix A. The forecast shows projected membership numbers and it is proposed that we target to grow the membership to 3000 by 2020. On this basis national subscriptions will need to be increased by £3 for an individual member if we are to cover our costs.

Phil Guy (Merseyside) believed it to be a positive move that the Association had built a forward forecast. He posed two questions: 1) Does the NEC believe that the £3 increase will have any implication on membership numbers? 2) Do members require four copies of the Veteran a year now that much of the information is now available online?

The Chairman answered that it was believed that a £3 rise would not have an impact on membership. The Editor and Advertising Secretary confirmed that a reduction in, say, the number of issues per year would have very little impact on the overall £14,000 charge due to the amount of content that still has to be included and which would increase the weight and postage costs.

Rise of fees by £3 in 2019

Following discussion, there were no further issues raised against raising the subscription fee by £3 from 2019. All voted in favour.

The Chairman promised to provide ongoing updates to the NEC budget and finances.

Life Membership

The fee for Life Membership was raised and discussed as it was questioned whether this form of membership is still appropriate. It is set at a very low figure, it complicates the membership system, and many life members do not renew their Veteran subscription. Following discussion, the Chairman suggested that in response to the views expressed the AGM could consider a

proposal that “With immediate effect we shall cease to offer purchased life membership.”

This was formally proposed by John Hoskins; seconded by Ian Greenstreet. The vote was unanimously in favour.

Annual Report

No further comments.

3. Subscriptions for 2019

This has been covered above.

4. To confirm a programme of events for 2018

The proposed events are as follows:

Event Date	Distance	Course	Organising Club
29 April 2018	30 mile	Q30/1	VTTA Kent Group
<i>Tom Morton, 42 Chiltern End, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8QJ, 01233 665081</i> NEC Rep: Carole Gandy			
7 May 2018	10 mile	F11/10	VTTA LH&C
<i>Geoff Perry, 8 The Meadway, Loughton, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK5 8AN, 07808 839811</i> NEC Rep: Geoff Perry			
20 May 2018	50 mile	L5012	VTTA N Lancs & Lakes
<i>Richard Taylor, 23 Heywood Road, Castleton, Rochdale, Lancs OL11 3AU, 01706 345977</i> NEC Rep: Andrew Simpkins			
28 May 2018	100 mile	D100/2	Anfield BC
<i>Peter Catherall, 49 Elm Grove, Buckley, Flintshire, CH7 2LU, 07773 587793</i> NEC Rep: Geoff Perry			
17 June 2018	12 hour	H12hr/8	Farnborough & Camberley CC
<i>Donald Ashton, 6 Minley Close, Cove, Farnborough, Hants GU14 9RT</i> NEC Rep: Rachael Elliott			
21/22 July 2018	24 Hour	D24hr	Mersey Roads Club
<i>Jon Williams, 6 Balfour Road, Prenton, Merseyside, CH43 4UD</i> NEC Rep: Alan Colburn			
28 July 2018	25 mile	A25/34	VTTA Notts and East Midlands
<i>Colin Parkinson, The Old Baptist Chapel, 11 Main Street, Huncote, Leicester, LE9 3AU, 01162 750203 / 07971 090461</i> NEC Rep: Andrew Simpkins			
27 August 2018	15 mile	H15/1	VTTA LH&C
<i>Rachael Elliott, 6 Pindar Place, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 2RR, 07931 722817</i> NEC Rep: Barry Quick			

*Note: The Strevens Memorial Trophy has been allocated to a Notts & E Midlands event (first on standard)
The Brafman Cup has been allocated to a Scotland event (first club team on standard)
The Pett Trophy has been allocated to a Surrey & Sussex event (first on standard)*

5.

5.i. **By Scotland Group**

Amendment to Regulation 3.1.2: Add after CTT and after Cycling Time Trials “or SC” and add at the end “as appropriate”. The Regulation would then read:

“Any member wishing to enter a time trial shall submit to the Event Secretary a standard CTT or SC entry form properly completed or enter via the Cycling Time Trials or SC Entry systems, as appropriate.”

Explanation:

There are now two governing bodies for time trials in Scotland: Scottish Cycling, which is part of British Cycling, and Cycling Time Trials. Since 1966, there was an agreement, honoured by CTT, that SC would be the controlling party for all forms of cycling sport in Scotland. CTT withdrew from that agreement in 2015.

This proposed change would make Regulation 3.1.2 consistent with 3.1.1.

Discussion

After discussion, it was agreed that the wording should be changed to the following in order to avoid ambiguity:

“Any member wishing to enter a time trial to be held in Scotland shall enter via the Cycling Time Trials or Scottish Cycling Entry system, as appropriate.”

Voting on the proposal: All in favour

The proposed amendment was carried

5.ii. **By Scotland Group**

Amendment to Rule 2.11.4: Remove “will be withdrawn by the Chairman” and replace with “can be taken up by any group who would have supported the motion if they so wish”. The Rule would then read:

“When a Group is not represented, any proposal tabled by that group on the Agenda can be taken up by any group who would have supported the motion if they so wish.”

Explanation:

This proposal would allow any group who had been mandated to support the motion to do so.

Discussion

There were some comments that were made which voiced concern that the amendment might allow Groups to not bother to attend the AGM and yet present proposals. It was clarified that this option should only apply in practice where a Group was unable to attend due to ill health, bad weather, transport problems etc.

Voting on the proposal:

26 in favour

2 against

The proposed amendment was carried

5.iii. By Surrey/Sussex Group

Amendment to Rule 2.9.5: Change from “31st March” to “28th February”.

Explanation:

With members being given until 31st March to pay their annual subscriptions the deletions get notified to the National Membership Secretary too late to prevent them being sent the next issue of The Veteran and the National Handbook for the following year. They are not entitled to receive these.

Discussion

Initial concerns were raised that the amendment could be described as the Association being over-zealous in trying to encourage members to renew. However, a number of arguments were made for the change:

- Members can be sent the March Veteran and the Handbook and yet never renew for the current year - this is an inappropriate cost to the Association
- The membership list needs to be kept up-to-date to check entries for VTTA Championship events. With championships happening in April and early May, it is essential for the membership list to be kept up to date with current members. (There have been occurrences in the last few years when a member has not renewed and yet participated in a championship and even qualified for a medal. Only subsequently has it been discovered that they should have been removed from the membership database).
- The new website will greatly facilitate administration of the membership system. Riders will be automatically emailed when it is time to renew their membership.

Because of the advantages that a revised renewal date would bring, it was proposed that the amendment be revised to read “31st January” rather than “28th February”. There was some opposition to this due to the possibility of some members finding the move too aggressive.

The meeting first voted on the suggested change of the amendment to “31st January” from “28th February”.

Voting on the amendment:

16 in favour

12 against

Due to a two-thirds majority being required, the proposed amendment change was not carried.

Voting on the proposal:

25 in favour

3 against

The proposed amendment was carried

5.iv. By the National Executive Committee

Amendment to Regulation 3.4.1: Add “15” into list between 10 & 25
Amendment to Regulation 3.4.3: Delete the word “seven”

Explanation:

Amendment to cover the already instigated 15 mile championship.

Voting on the proposal:

All in favour

The proposed amendment was carried

5.v. By the National Executive Committee

Proposed new Regulation 3.5.4: "Riders can submit only one entry using solo bicycle or tricycle performances or a mix of both, and additionally one entry using tandem bicycle or tandem tricycle performances or a mix of both."

Renumber the following regulations which are currently 3.5.4, 3.5.5 and 3.5.6

Explanation:

To clarify that riders may only submit one entry for solo performances and one entry for tandem performances.

Discussion:

There was confusion into the room as to the meaning of the proposed new regulation. The Chairman clarified that it was designed so that a rider could make only one *solo* claim per year. There was an instance in the current year where a rider sent in a claim for both a solo bicycle performance and for a solo tricycle performance. In existing regulations it was not clear that this was not allowed. Riders are only allowed to make one solo claim and one tandem claim per year.

The Chairman suggested the wording be changed to give further clarity: "In the three season long competitions riders can only make solo claim and/or one tandem claim." The rule will be placed under 3.8.2 so it is clear that it applies to all three competitions.

Voting on the proposal:

22 in favour

6 against

The proposed amendment was carried

5.vi By the National Executive Committee

Amendment to Rule 2.11.5 to say 'Nominations for President'.

Explanation

As currently drafted it may be considered ambiguous who the term 'nominations' applies to.

Voting on the proposal:

All in favour

5.vii. By East Anglian Group

Amendment to Rule 2.10.2: Delete "in the opinion of their group committee, has made significant contribution to the VTTA", and restore the previous rule so that it reads:

"Honorary Life Membership will be granted to any member over 80 years of age (or over) who has been a member of the VTTA for over 25 years and will include receiving copies of the Veteran and the VTTA Handbook free of charge.

The second paragraph to be unchanged.

Explanation:

Over the years, members have been automatically awarded HLM status on the original criteria and it was unfair to withdraw this honour even though it may be difficult in some cases to document membership over the period of

25 years. This new rule has we feel also been abused by HLM status being awarded to members with a very small period of membership.

Discussion

Alan Colburn (Midlands) made the following statement to the meeting:

“I was here last year on behalf of my Group to propose an amendment to Rule 2.10.2 - the qualification for Honorary Life Membership. Our thinking behind the proposal was to recognise the support of individuals to the Association by placing responsibility for awarding with the Group Committees rather than seeing it as long service stripe.

We saw a difficulty in establishing the criteria - not, of course, with the age requirement because lots of friends and relatives will remind you on the appropriate day with pretty cards with the figure 80. The main stumbling block we found was two-fold - the ever increasing rate of change in Membership Secretaries plus the changeover to digital from paper records often revealed a lack of continuity and accuracy.

The proposal last year was discussed thoroughly before delegates voted to approve. Ladies & Gentlemen - this was not a slim majority. It did not require a re-count. It did not need a casting vote by the Chair. 26 for and 5 against is a substantial mark of approval

It would take an extremely good reason to reverse this decision within 12 months and I regret to say that I have not heard this today.

The Midlands Group will vote against the proposal. Thank you.”

Alex Deck (North Midlands) asked if there had been in an increase in the number of requests for certificates as the result of the rule. The Chairman said he did not have exact figures but the National Membership Secretary had informed him that there had been a number of new HLMs with only a relatively short period of membership.

There was general discussion around how to justify whether or not someone was suitable to be awarded HLM status, and it was also difficult to quantify who had made a “considerable contribution”. Others questioned whether the Honorary Life Membership scheme should be continued for members over 80 and whether the age might be increased. The Chairman asked the meeting to note that while HLM status is awarded by groups the cost of HLMs’ copy of the Veteran and Handbook is carried by the NEC budget. With nearly 400 HLMs this is a considerable cost.

The meeting was generally supportive of continuing to give groups the discretion in awarding HLM status. But it was also recognised that the cost of HLMs should be addressed by the Association. The Chairman proposed the NEC would make a proposal on this at the next AGM.

As a result of the discussions, the proposal was withdrawn with the agreement of the proposer.

5.viii. By East Anglian Group

National Championship Closing Dates: The Group would like to propose that all National Championships (with the exception of where they are within CTT Events) have a normal entry closing date.

Explanation:

This year a National Championship had an early closing date causing some members being excluded from what was an undersubscribed event.

Discussion

There was some confusion surrounding the use of the word “normal” and the East Anglian delegate proposed that “standard” was a more applicable word. However, several delegates raised a concern that they had been mandated to vote on the word “normal”. The Chairman suggested that the proposal could be changed to an advisory note to the NEC to request VTTA organisers of national championships to adopt a consistent closing date period, i.e. a suggested three week entry period.

As a result of the discussions, the proposal was withdrawn.

6. Election of officers.

Title	Name	Group	For	Against
President	Carole Gandy	Kent	All	None
Chairman	Andrew Simpkins	Midland	All	None
Treasurer	Mary Corbett	Wessex	All	None
National Recorder	VACANT			
Records Secretary	Geoff Perry	London	All	None
Awards Secretary	Ian Greenstreet	London	All	None
Editor	Mike Penrice	Yorkshire	All	None
Membership	Merv Player	East Anglian	All	None

The Chairman called on the meeting to identify possible volunteers for the vital role of National Recorder. He highlighted that Steve Lockwood, the former National Recorder, had automated much of the process for calculating the results of season long competitions and this made the job much more straightforward.

7. Election of Committee of Five

The following persons were proposed for the Committee:

Robert Jones	(Already in office)
Barry Quick	(Already in office)
Alan Colburn	(Already in office)
John Hawkrige	(Already in office)

All present were in favour.

No additional members were proposed.

8. Appointment of an Auditor

Margaret Colburn has agreed to stand as Auditor.

All present were in favour.

9. Any other relevant items for discussion that do not require changes to the Rules & Regulations

The Chairman asked the meeting for opinions on the new venue. Although feedback was more positive than for the previous venue at Kings Court Hotel, it was noted that there were issues in getting attention from staff and the queues at lunchtime were long. The location was considered to be more convenient. The Chairman promised to come back with alternative suggestions for 2019.

The meeting closed at 16:19

Appendix A: VTTA - Indicative Financial Forecast to 2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Income					
General subscriptions (see below)	21038	21093	21882	29319	30330
Donations	0	12000	0	0	0
Advertising	560	770	700	650	600
Medals and engraving	248	337	350	350	350
Total Income	21846	34200	22932	30319	31280
Expenditure					
Secretary Fee	3000	3000	3100	3150	3200
The Veteran	14098	13102	12850	12970	12990
Handbook Printing Costs	1960	1725	1750	1775	1800
Website Development and Maintenance	0	12085	4500	4500	4500
Membership Costs	0	1058	1092	1132	1182
General Committee Expenses	901	1011	390	400	400
Committee Meeting Costs	685	900	910	945	980
AGM Costs	644	1102	2030	1790	1805
Medals and Trophy Costs	1052	2226	2700	2700	2760
Championship Events Costs	1084	1057	1040	1060	1080
Miscellaneous items	697	185	500	500	500
Depreciation	0	163	160	160	160
Total	24122	37614	31022	31082	31357
(Loss) for the Year	-2276	-3414	-8090	-763	-77
Bank balances (net assets at year end)	35383	31969	23879	23116	23039
A.1 Membership numbers projection					
Paying single members		2067	2100	2175	2250
DLMs, HLMs who pay no subs		397	400	410	420
LMs who pay for Veteran		66	67	68	70
Joint members		235	240	250	260
Total Members		2765	2807	2903	3000
A.2 National Subs Projection (£)		£	£	£	£
Single subs		10	10	13	13
Life Members sub for Veteran		6	6	8	8
Joint members supplement		2	2	2	2
A.3 Membership subs projection		£	£	£	£
Single subs		20670	21000	28275	29250
Life Members sub for Veteran		396	402	544	560
Joint members supplement		470	480	500	520
Total		21536	21882	29319	30330