



DSI 48th AGM

Saturday 5th November, 2016

Meeting start time:11.15pm.

In attendance:

DSI President : Dillon Smyth (**DS**)

DSI Vice President :Larry Coogan (**LC**)

Secretary : Vincent McArdle (**VMA**)

LDSC Rep : Lynn Cullen (**LCU**)

LDSC Rep : Kavita Sharma Falconer (**KS**)

LDSC Rep : John Green (**JG**)

MDSC Rep : Sarah Jacob (**SJ**)

MDSC Rep : Nicholas Dowling (**ND**)

MDSC Rep : Conor Brosnan (**CB**)

DSU Rep: Richard Dougherty (**RD**)

DSU Rep: Orla Waide (**OW**)

DSU Rep: Aileen Waide (**AW**)

DSU Rep : Aidan McArdle (**AMA**)

1. Welcome :

DS: Welcomed all to meeting and goes through running order of Agenda and the standing order for the meeting. Everyone to introduce themselves. Now to VMA to discuss about minutes. Apologised that John Kennedy (DSI), Laura Clarke (LDSC) Carmel Duggan (MDSC) and Connacht Committee, they all are not available to attend today's meeting.

2. Minutes :

VMA: Please have a quick look at minutes

[5 min break]

VMA: Anyone happy with minutes? Anyone want to raise any questions on minutes? Can the minutes be approved?

RD proposed minutes

LCU seconded minutes

[all approved]

3. Matters Arising :

CB : Last year motion no.6, in relation to add a Public Relations Officer position role to the Executive Committee, was brought to MDSC last May. we decided to withdraw this motion because this role has already been adopted in the new constitution passed earlier this year.

VMA explained about the motion in more detail and asked members if all happy to withdraw this motion.

ND proposed

JG seconded

[all approved]

LCU: Last year Nora mentioned uploading minutes on the website, full access for transparency - did it happen? Thought we should start it by uploading this AGM's minutes on the website to give a secretary less work. It's important for members to be aware what's going on in AGM. Last year I mentioned DSI website need to be improved especially vlogs. We only focus on deaf people that signing. We need to add subtitles, full access for all people including mainstream deaf people

VMA: Apologies we will put this year's minutes on the website. We recently had a change in staff earlier this year. Not sure how to go about the subtitles but we will definitely look into it.

RD proposed

ND seconded

[all approved]

4. President's Report :

DS: Presented President's report

5. Secretary's Report :

VMA : Presented Secretary Report. Anyone who want to ask any questions about my report?

CB : To correct your report - Bowling, you forgot to mention Scotland who were involved in the competition.

Not happy with EDSO (European Deaf Sports Organisation) because there was no EDSO representative in Ireland's game against Great Britain last February at Dalymount. DSI should write a letter to EDSO.

And Group stages rules are not very clear, one top team in the group to qualify but Great Britain who came 2nd also qualified because of their ranking points. Should be highest points of all groups to qualify! Wondered if DSI have EDSO's qualifying rounds rules? EDSO made it messy and not fair on Ireland.

VMA : Apologised that he forgot to mention Scotland Bowling team in his report.

About G.Britain game, Conor is correct here. EDSO representative should be there to witness the game. No contact from them and that game result could be void but G.B team accepted the result and move on to avoid a rematch again because of financial reason. EDSO Rules are not very clear, we didn't know what we need to qualify before Hungary's game. DSI will write a letter to EDSO.

JG : No result of Deaf Bowling on Secretary's report? And G.Britain players wore St.Vincent's jerseys it's not right! Bad communication breakdown that day. Explained same as Conor Brosnan about EDSO rules, it's not happened first time after a game in Germany few years ago.

VMA : Elaborated on G.Britain jerseys. Referee didn't accepted the same colours between two teams and GB should have brought their 2nd kits in case. Agreed with Conor and John, it was not right about the rules and we will write a letter soon.

No EC (Executive Committee) attended the Bowling championships and the results wasn't put up on the website. Accepted we should track the results and will do it in the future.

RD: Thanked EC for their hard work all year. Explained how we should stop focusing on deaf school only, we need to explore outside deaf school to find more mainstream deaf children to get them involved in Deaf Sports. There's 1500 deaf children in Ulster but how can we find them? Why aren't they are here today? Probably around 4,000-5,000 deaf children in mainstream school in Ireland, we need to find them. RC and DSI will work together to get more deaf children to join DSI.

VMA : Thanked Richard, it's not easy to find them but we will work hard with hearing groups for example the FAI did a promotion video and advertised on their website, as a result we found players we never knew about. We should try to contact Basketball Ireland, Swimming Ireland and Tennis Ireland...etc to work together to get the message across to other deaf athletes. All happy to pass my secretary report?

ND proposed Secretary's Report

LCU Seconded Secretary's Report

[all approved]

6. Treasurer's Report :

John Kennedy was unable to come so on his behalf DS presented the Treasurer Report with Financial Statement 2015 sheet - year end by December. DS stated himself and VMA will try their best to respond few questions if asked.

LC- Praised John Kennedy for his hard work, he's a fair man who knows his account very well despite DSI's debt.

Mentioned Auditor report signatures were approved on 5th September but why did AGM delayed to November?

DS : We signed the forms and returned back to Auditors. We waited for their approval and signatures to finalise the statement, it took a while to sort the forms as well few questions from them. We believe our account is in correct order. Progression took a while than we expected.

CB: Concerned about the auditor for DSI because we pay lots to them every year and they are slow? I expected AGM to be held last May/June but delayed to November. Thought auditors to sign the forms first before sending the forms to DSI? Suggested John should get another accountant to assist him when he's busy with his job.

ND: Clarified that auditors to send the forms first to account owner. Normal practise is the owner of the account to sign first then send them back to Auditors to sign to finalise the account. And DSI paid money for account including auditors.

RD proposed Treasurer's Report

KS Seconded Treasurer's Report

[all approved]

7. Motions :

Motion 1, brought forward by Leinster Deaf Sports Council (LDSC):

LC : *Leinster Deaf Sport Council (LDSC) move to change their name to “ Deaf Sports Leinster ”, as agreed, by Leinster's members at LDSC's Annual Regional Meeting dated in April 2016. This will allow Deaf Sport Leinster to have more varied accessibility to provisions for its needs, and also re-brand their image into the 21st Century to be more aligned with Deaf Sports Ireland and its regional councils.*

Vote:

10 approved;

O against;
[approved]

VMA : Well done, Leinster Deaf Sports Council is now known as Deaf Sports Leinster

Motion 2, brought forward by Munster Deaf Sports Council (MDSC):

CB : Munster Deaf Sports Council proposed and seconded the new two motions for DSI's AGM at our Annual Regional Meeting last Saturday, 21st May 2016

Number 1:-

"That new title of Deaf Sports Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee shall be carry on after Deaf Sports Ireland's Annual General Meeting and it shall come into force with immediate effect"

Number 2:-

"That the Constitution of [1] Memorandum of Association, [2] Articles of Association and [3] By-Laws to adopt at this Deaf Sports Ireland's Annual General Meeting and when it is passed. That it shall come into force with immediate effect"

Lastly in DSI's AGM last November 2015 asked MDSC to hold one motion in relation of the Public Relations Officer to be defer to next year of DSI's AGM 2016. WE decided in MDSC's ARM recently that it was agreed to withdraw the motion as it is not relevant to the new No.2 above.

Vote:

10 approved;

O against;

[approved]

VMA: Explained information about DSI's Constitution and passed the Munster's Motion.

CB: Thanked everyone for accepting Munster's motion. New Constitution will start in January 2017. He mentioned DSI to become DSI CLG one day hopefully once we clear the debt first.

8. Nominations :

Vice President

DS : Vice President nomination. Asked Larry Coogan if he wishes to carry on?

LC: Yes I wish to.

DS: Anyone who want to challenge his position? No response so therefore Larry is now Vice President for another 2 years, well done to Larry.

LC proposed Larry Coogan as Vice President

JG Seconded Larry Coogan as Vice President

[all approved]

LC: Thanked everyone and looking forward to work for another 2 years with RC's and EC. We can continue to build DSI a good company for the future and we need to get more deaf children to be involved with DSI.

VMA : Congratulations to Larry and looking forward to work with him again. He been great with us in the last 2 years.

Treasurer

VMA : The executive committee discussed this role with John, to see if he wishes to carry on. John accepted to carry on working with DSI unless if there's anyone who is willing to take over, can do so. This individual is required to have experience with accounts. We must follow Sports Ireland's recommendation and it's important we do. Asked anyone who want to challenge John's position.

No response so therefore John is now treasurer for another 2 years.

LC : Praised John's effort for his work with DSI and RCs. hopefully someone will come forward and to assist John in the future.

CB proposed John Kennedy as Treasurer

JG Seconded John Kennedy as Treasurer

[all approved]

CB : John should have wrote a letter to state that he wishes to carry on if he's not here today.

DS : agreed with Conor, in the future we will do that. Thanked Conor.

9. AOB :

CB : Wished EC all the best

JG : Suggested new sport for DSI, Triathlon should be introduced with a coach

KS: Thanked committee for their hard work. Would like to see more new sports for women like cricket and maybe to bring back basketball. Would be good to see more women involved.

LC: Encouraged members to be involved in giving ideas for new sports. Men in Sports is popular so I would like to see more women involved. Mentioned DSI should organise International Women's day in March next year, it's perfect opportunity for them to be involved. And again mentioned about DSI website, there's too much information on the website and it's tiring look.

RD : There will be Deaflympics next year in Turkey, Inter Provisional will be important next year in Belfast and we would like to see new sports like Bowling and Dodgeball competitions. We need to get members feedback about new sports. And DSI will be 50 years two years time and I think it's important to organise an event night now for 2 years time.

DS : Thanked all RC Representatives and members for attending the AGM.

Meeting closed at 1 p.m

President's Report 2016 :

President's Address 2016:

Welcome everybody here present to the 48th Annual General Meeting held in our beautiful Deaf Village Ireland.

Deaf Sports Ireland is the National Governing Body of Deaf sports for all 32 counties of Ireland. DSI works closely with the Irish Sports Council to fulfil the organisation's aim to promote and develop the social and community benefits of sports for Deaf & Hard of Hearing people. I think it is important to remind ourselves what DSI represents and what we, as an organisation, strive to do.

DSI works closely with the Deaf community, to include people of all ability levels as well as supporting International Teams and Regional teams too. DSI's work starts at a grassroots level in 2015-2016, and continues on to club level and further, on to Regional and International levels. We also provide opportunities for potential athletes to take part in competitions.

As you are aware, 2015 was a difficult year financially for DSI. But i like to think that we are making strides in our year to reduce our financials deficits and bring much stability in our accounts. The debt will always be our remaining issue along with other necessary overheads such as rent, heating, wages, interpreter fees, coaching fees etc.

We are lucky to have such support from the Irish Sports Council (ISC), as they provide us with a limit grant , to allow us to run the organisation and to put much work into

grasswork which is the core of the organisation. This means that we are now more reliant than ever on external funding and fundraising initiatives. A focus has been placed on increasing the number of fundraising events and maximising revenue through fundraising.

While it has been a quiet year since the 8th European Deaf Football Championship finals in Hannover, Germany, last June, the organisation has made strides with our in house issue such as amending the policies and updating the Constitutions.

The Irish Deaf Bowls Team competed in the 7 International Deaf Lawn Bowls the Championships in Belfast. So congratulations on their achievement in doing Ireland proud.

DSI has done a great deal of grassroots work this year, including weekly school sports sessions, an open day, free taster sessions in different sports for members, and involvement with a school swimming gala. DSI is also currently in the process of looking into setting up a few new grassroots teams in sports. All grassroots events are kept as low cost as possible for members and free where possible. The annual membership fee has been reduced to €10

DSI is in the process of changing its structure, to become a Company Limited by Guarantee, it is hoped that a CHY number will be obtained soon

I would like to thank the Executive Committee for their dedication and hard work during the year. It was pleasure knowing and working with you. It is also important to stress that all of the RCs and their individual committees should be given credit for the work they put into their own RC. Listening to the advice and support these individuals have provided us with has been essential, because without the RCs, there would be no DSI. We understand that very much and hope to maintain and build on the relationship with all RCs even more in the future, whilst opening the channels for better communication.

The General Secretary will give a more detailed report of the events that occurred throughout the year.

Thank you

Dillon Smith
DSI President

Secretary's Report :

Secretary's Report 2015

Welcome to the 48th AGM of Deaf Sports Ireland. This is still my first year as Secretary for DSI. My tenure has been busy but an enjoyable learning experience so far.

I have only been secretary for the last month of the year 2015 so I cannot take credit for the success DSI have had over the year 2015. The report below was prepared by our former staff member Lorelei Fox-Roberts who has left us earlier this year to pursue other opportunities. On behalf of DSI, we would like to thank her for the tireless effort and contribution she has given us.

We are delighted that Joey Watson agreed to join DSI as a staff member. We look forward to working with him to bring DSI success going forward.

International:

Men's Football:

The Irish Men's Football team took part in the 8th European Deaf Football Championships in June 2015. The competition took place from the 14th-27th June in Hanover, Germany. The team played well, with Jason Maguire being awarded Player of the Tournament. Ireland was ranked in 6th place at the end of the tournament. The scores from each individual match within the tournament are as follows:

- Ireland V Ukraine: 0-2
- Ireland V Poland: 6-0
- Ireland V Hungary: 4-0
- Ireland V Turkey: 2-5
- Ireland V Sweden: 4-0
- Ireland V Germany: 1-4

1st Tennis World Championships:

It had been planned for former Deaflympic Badminton Player Aidan Connor to represent Ireland in the 1st Deaf Tennis World Championships in Nottingham from the 20th-26th July 2015.

Unfortunately, Mr Connor was unable to participate due to a lack of funds. Entry to this event

was reliant entirely on Fundraising due to the nature of DSI's core grant, and it was not possible to raise the sufficient amount.

Lawn Bowls:

The Irish Deaf Lawn Bowls Team competed in the 7th International Deaf Lawn Bowls Championships in Belfast from the 28th August- 9th September 2015. This is a world renowned competition, with six countries entering: Australia, England, Ireland, new Zealand Northern Ireland, and Wales.

Deaflympic Qualifying Match:

Ireland played Great Britain in a qualifying match on the 24th of October 2015. This match resulted in a draw, with Ireland now ranked in 8th place. The Irish team must now face Hungary in Autumn 2016.

Grassroots:

School Activities:

DSI have been running weekly school activities for Deaf/HoH children throughout the school year. These sessions are one to two hours in length and involve fun activities and sports geared towards encouraging youths to participate more in sports and to stay active. This is on-going work and will continue in the future. Sports involved include: basketball, swimming, badminton, triathlon training, cycling etc.

Open Day:

DSI held a very successful Open day on February 21st 2015. The event was held in Deaf Village Ireland, indoor and outdoors. More than 50 people turned up to try the different sports being offered. The sports offered on the day were: badminton, baseball, basketball, bowling, futsal, golf (SNAG), table tennis, tag rugby, and tennis.

Active School Week:

DSI collaborated with local schools St.Joseph's and St.Mary's to organise a number of events throughout Active School week in 2015. These included a mixed school event, where pupils for these schools along with hearing pupils from Christ the King Girl's School came together to try out three different sports over the course of one day. These sports were: tag rugby, football (assisted by FAI staff) and Tennis. Qualified coaches were used for each sport. The Swim For a Mile Challenge was also introduced by DSI as part of Active School Week and certificates were given to students after they completed a one mile relay swim in the DVI pool.

Swimming Gala:

DSI came on board with St.Marian's National School to assist with the Swimming Gala, for younger Deaf/HoH children. This was a great day and very enjoyable for staff and participants alike. DSI provided each student with a branded swim cap and awarded certificates and medals.

Inter Provincial Tournament:

The 43rd Annual Inter-Provincial Tournament was held at Waterford IT on Easter weekend. The event ran smoothly, with teams participating from Leinster, Munster and Ulster in futsal and basketball and from all four provinces in football. It was great to have representation from each Regional Council's catchment area.

Taster Sessions:

DSI has run a number of taster sessions since the last AGM and there are plans for more in the future. A baseball taster session was held early in 2015, with great success. On 19th July, DSI collaborated with IDS to bring Tag Rugby coaching to their SummerFest, which was very successful. On 5th of September, a Spikeball Taster Session will be running in DVI from 12-3pm, free to all DSI members. There will also be a free Coerver Football Coaching course in DVI on 13th September from 10.30am- 12.30pm, also open to all DSI members. Evaluation of these events will be provided in the report given during the AGM.

Team Creation:

DSI is currently working to create new grassroots teams in a multitude of sports. The aim of this is two fold- firstly, to provide an opportunity to get people of all genders, ages and ability levels involved in different sports and to develop confidence and through the team atmosphere. Secondly, where teams are successful and players are developing their skills, DSI would aim to support and assist players in building on those skills with the possibility of developing an international team with players selected from grassroots teams. In particular, basketball and Tag rugby were considered.

Basketball sessions since then have been provided to secondary schoolchildren on a weekly basis by Kris Bury and Sarah-Jane Moloney. DSI is currently considering extending the basketball programme to primary schoolchildren at the moment.

We also hope to organise more events for our members of all age groups on a regular basis, and also for our members outside Dublin with support from our Regional Councils.

Vincent McArdle

DSI Secretary

Treasurer's Report

DSI Treasurer Report for 2015

Treasurer present the financial statement for the year ended 31st December 2015.

Summary of the figure as per Financial Statement:-

Income and Expenditure for year to 31st of December

	2015	2014
	€	€
Total Income	81,536	85,706
Expenditure	<u>84,909</u>	<u>90,663</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)	(3,373)	(4,957)
Balance sheet		
Net accumulated deficit	(16,346)	(12,973)

Early part of 2014, DSI have received a loan of almost €30,000, Prior to the end of 2014 DSI have repaid €7,000 so at the end of 2014 it leave the balance of €23,000. During the year of 2015, DSI have repaid €4,000 so at the end of 2015 it leave the balance of €19,000.

DSI did received ISC grants in 2 parts during the year 2015, 1st instalment in March 2015 and 2nd (final) instalment in December 2015, the total amount of ISC grants €60,280. These grants only cover for administrations costs and grassroots (sport developments) cost.

It has being an honour for me to act as a treasurer for DSI. I want to thanks Executive committee, who work together as a team and share information to understand better in sport organisation. I also want to thanks the administrations (Orla, Justin and Joey) for their work on the day to day activities to make it possible for DSI to work, without this it would be impossible for DSI to work.

John Kennedy

Treasurer for DSI

