



SportCheer Scotland
4th Annual General Meeting

Sunday, 30th January
Hosted on Zoom Webinar

Minutes of Meeting

1. Welcome and Call to Order- SportCheer Scotland President Lisa Tausney

- Lisa Tausney (LT) opened the meeting at 3pm and welcomed everyone to the 4th SportCheer Scotland Annual General Meeting.
 - Expressed appreciation to everyone in attendance for representing the Scottish cheerleading community.
 - Introduced Victoria Orton-Bichener (VO) as Chair of the meeting.
-

2. Determination of a Quorum

- In accordance with article 19 of the Articles of Associate a minimum of 50% of members are required to be in attendance for the meeting to be declared quorate.
 - All votes received in advance of the meeting, or via proxy, are considered towards quorum.
 - 12 members in attendance with 17 voting in advance, and two represented by proxy.
 - Of 44 voting members of the organisation, 31 were represented at the meeting.
 - The Chair declared that the meeting was quorate.
-

3. Appointment of Scrutineers

- VO and LT were appointed as Scrutineers.
-

4. Approval of the Agenda

- The Chair distributed the agenda.

Motion: To approve the agenda.

Proposed: Jennifer Boyle

Seconded: Lisa Tausney

The agenda was approved.

5. Declaration of any Conflicts of Interest

- Victoria Bichener – SpiritSounds UK
 - Lisa Tausney – Allstar Cheer and Dance Company (ACDC)
 - Jennifer Boyle – Glasgow Sport
-

6. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

- The Chair presented the 2021 AGM minutes.

Motion: To approve the minutes.

Proposed: Kendall Smith

Seconded: Leanne Caird

2021 AGM minutes were approved.

7. President's Report – SportCheer Scotland President Lisa Tausney

COVID-19

- Acknowledged that 2021 had been a challenging year for the cheerleading community with ongoing disruption to competitions and training.
- Thanked the COVID-19 Response Committee for continuing to update return to sport guidance.
- Acknowledged the resilience and determination of Scottish coaches throughout.

2021-2022 Highlights

- July 2021 cheerleading was granted full recognition status by the International Olympic Committee. SCS expresses gratitude to Jeff Webb and Karl Olsen for being outstanding ambassadors for our sport.
- Drafted Articles of Association to bring SCS governance in line with British legal framework.
- Welcomed an admin and marketing assistant, Alexander Nisbet, to SCS to assist with the administrative workload.
- Petitioned SCUK for the inclusion of traditional pom in the division list for 2022/2023 season, allowing more opportunities for Scottish teams to compete outwith Scotland.

Team Scotland

- 8 teams, 15 coaches and 98 athletes comprise Team Scotland 2022.
- Inclusion of youth teams for the first time; LT expressed excitement to see the next generation perform at the ICU World Championships for their first time.
- Thanked the National Team Committee for their work behind the scenes, and in particular Zoe Lumsden (Travel Manager) and Jennifer Boyle (National Team Manager).
- Thanked the 2021-2022 national team coaches:

**Robyn Black
Ruth Dempster
Jennifer Greer
Stacy Greer
Lucy Hamill
Maddie Jamieson
Michelle Laverty
Bethany Lennox
Morgan McWilliam
Jennifer Park
Hannah Ritchie
Leanne Wrench**

Aims for 2022

- Increase the skill level of cheer in Scotland in preparation for future participation in the Olympic Games.
 - Submit SportScotland recognition application.
 - Develop safeguarding procedures and policies and gain designation as PVG centre.
 - Expand SCS involvement and education in Special Olympics.
-

8. Reports of Standing Committees

a. National Team Committee. Team Scotland Manager/ Vice President **Jennifer Boyle** (JB)

- Communicated that this was another difficult year for Team Scotland, as with teams globally.
- August 2021 saw 200 athletes from over 50 programmes attend national team selection.
- All national team athletes from 2019-2020 had their placements honoured due to the cancellation of the previous year's championships.
- 2021-2022 saw the introduction of the youth age category for the first time. The division was created by splitting the junior age category and not by admitting younger athletes at the ICU championships.
- Scotland was invited to attend a virtual ICU World Championships was held in September 2021 but declined to focus on routines to attend the next in-person event.
- Due to ongoing restrictions on adult contact sport and international travel Team Scotland Senior Cheer did not meet the minimum athlete numbers and was withdrawn. This decision was not taken lightly and several attempts were made to recruit additional athletes.
- Team Scotland will showcase at the annual Team Scotland Ball and ACDC Allstarfest before competing at the 2022 ICU World Championships.
- Thanked all volunteers, coaches, athletes, and parents for making Team Scotland 2022 possible.

Question from Kendall Smith: Will spaces for senior cheer athletes be honoured for Team Scotland 2022/23?

Response from Jennifer Boyle: Team Scotland division selection has not been made for 2023 therefore no promises were made to avoid any future disappointment. The athletes were presented with four options:

- 1: Withdraw from Team Scotland 2022
- 2: Continue training skill development
- 3: Continue training and attend the 2022 ICU Championships attending opening ceremonies and training.
- 4: Audition for any available alternate athlete positions on a performance cheer (dance) team.

b. Ethics Committee – **Clare Mullen (CM)** Ethics Officer

- Drafted SportCheer Scotland Articles of Association.
- Thanked Kathryn Hillier and Victoria Orton-Bichener for their support in drafting process.

c. Coach Education

The Coach Education Committee had nothing to report from 2021-2022.

d. Membership – **Victoria Orton-Bichener (VO)** Membership Officer/ Secretary

The objective of the membership committee is to draft and build an effective membership structure that reflects the needs of the Scottish cheerleading community. Allow members to communicate with their governing body, striving in return to provide value to our members.

- 2nd year of SportCheer Scotland membership begun on August 1st.
- Current membership of the organisation:
 - o 17 Member Clubs
 - o 27 Associate Members
 - o 18 Individual Members
 - o 493 Registered Athletes
- Lower level of registered athletes from previous year:
 1. In the first membership year athletes were registered to SCS without payment.
 2. Programmes experienced higher than normal numbers of athletes leaving the sport due to disruptions caused by COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions.

Thanked the membership committee of:

Donna McEnaney
Emily Allan
Kathryn Hillier
Kendall Smith
Marguerite Modica
Morgan McWilliam

Revenue from the SCS Membership programme funded affiliation of SCS to the International Cheer Union and European Cheer Union, Personal Accident cover for members as well as office and administrative costs. In 2021 it also paid for the services of Governance United who were instrumental in helping prepare the SCS application for SportScotland recognition.

Thanked the partners who provided discounts to members:

360 Dance and Cheer
Alexandra Donald Photography
Air Tumble
False Eyelashes.co.uk
Fluffy Dance Poms
ID Dancewear
Infinite Heat
Laura's Bows
Show 'n' Go Bows
Safe Hands Medical Services
United Cheer Apparel
UK Cheerleader.co.uk

Goal for the next membership year is to continue to grow the range of benefits that SCS membership provides from safety and education, to training camps and first aid course at reduced rates.

2021-2021 Membership fees were reduced in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and remained at the lower rate for 2021. The membership committee has proposed a small rise to membership dues for 2022-2023.

e. Coronavirus Response – **Jennifer Boyle (JB)**

- The committee has endeavoured to support our community over the past two years and ensure our sport will continue where possible.
- Set up a Scottish Cheer and Dance Coaches group on facebook to aid information sharing and discussion amongst coaches.
- Continues to update the return to sport document following any changes in government guidance. Thanked the support of SportScotland in navigating government guidance and its interpretation of implications on cheerleading activities.
- Expressed hope that in the near future the need for this committee will lessen.

VO thanked everyone who provided reports to the meeting. VO further thanked every committee member for 2021-2022 for their help and support of SCS.

9. Presentation and Approval of the Accounts- Clare Mullen (CM)

Presented the most recently filed set of SportCheer Scotland accounts. The SCS accounting period runs from March to February each calendar year. Micro entity accounts were filed for the period ending in February 2021 and full accounts are publicly available.

- Started the financial year with a small cash balance £657
- Activity of the entity over 2020-2021 was very different to what is expected from a regular year.
- March 2020- February 2021 Team Scotland was not training as would be expected.
- Limited opportunity to run events.
- These factors have resulted in a quiet financial year.
- Small revenue from membership and merchandise sales however outgoings slightly exceeded income. Outgoings were insurance policies, rent and cost of sales.
- Resulted in a net liability position in February 2021.
- Financial outlook for 2022 is very different to what was seen in 2021 with the expected lessening of restrictions on sport and events.
- Accounts were filed with Companies House in November 2021 and associated corporation tax return due for the period also filed ahead of deadline.

Reported that previous SportCheer Scotland Treasurer Kathryn Hillier (KH) had implemented Quickbooks accounting software as financial control seal and has improved internal bookkeeping standards. This has provided a clearer picture of financial standing with easier preparation of financial statements.

KH drafted a SportCheer Scotland volunteer expenses policy with input from the SCS Board of Director and research into legal requirements from HMRC. This policy has now been approved and implemented.

Question from Kendall Smith: Is there a financial risk to having the membership year different from the accounting period?

Response from Kathryn Hillier: There is no risk but it would be smoother if those periods were aligned. Quickbooks allows us to divide income into the correct months i.e. an annual payment of £10 can be split over two financial years.

Response from Clare Mullen: The current accounting date is after Team Scotland athlete payments will have been collected, but payment is made to the ICU. This will result in a high income in the next accounting year but will be corrected from 2023 onwards.

Motion: To adopt the SportCheer Scotland 2020-2021 accounts.

Proposed: Lisa Tausney
Seconded: Leanne Caird

2020-2021 accounts were approved.

10. Proposals Submitted:

Ordinary Resolution 1

To set the membership fees for 2022-2023.

Annual Membership Fees

Club - £40

Associate - £17

Individual - £11

Athlete Registration - £4

Motion: To approve the proposed membership fees.

Proposed: Marguerite Modica

Seconded: Kendall Smith

Ordinary Resolution 1 was approved.

Ordinary Resolution 2

To establish a Cheer Development Committee

- To promote knowledge and training of level 3+ cheerleading stunting and tumbling skills, intended to prepare athletes for future participation in elite competition e.g. Olympic Games or ICU/IASF World Championships.

Proposed: Kendall Smith

Seconded: Victoria Orton-Bichener

Ordinary Resolution 2 was approved.

Special Resolution 1

To approve one of five proposed restructures to the SCS Board of Directors.

- In order to bring the SportCheer Scotland Board structure in line with the **sportscotland** SGB Governance Framework it is necessary to reduce the number of directors on the Board. Section 4 of the framework; *Appropriate Board Composition* sets out the following:
“The board is an appropriate size to be effective and support delivery of outcomes (recommended not more than 12 members).”

Option 1: 13 Board Members

Officers	Regional Directors	Directors
President	North	Athlete Representative
Vice President	East	Student Sport Representative
Secretary	Central	Director At Large
Treasurer	West	Director At Large
	South	

Option 2: 13 Board Members

Officers	Regional Directors	Directors
President	North	Athlete Representative
Vice President	East	Student Sport Representative
Secretary	Central	Director At Large
Treasurer	West	
	South East	
	South West	

Option 3: 12 Board Members

Officers	Regional Directors	Directors
President	North	Athlete Representative
Vice President	East	Student Sport Representative
Secretary	Central	Director At Large
Treasurer	West	Director At Large

Option 4: 12 Board Members

Officers	Regional Directors	Directors
President	North	Athlete Representative

Vice President	East	Student Sport Representative
Secretary	Central	Director At Large
Treasurer	West	Director At Large

Option 5: 12 Board Members

Officers	Regional Directors	Directors
President	North	Athlete Representative
Vice President	East	Student Sport Representative
Secretary	South	Director At Large
Treasurer	West	Director At Large

Option 6: 12 Board Members

Officers	Directors	Directors
President	Allstar	Athlete Representative
Vice President	Adaptive Abilities	Director At Large
Secretary	National Team	Director At Large
Treasurer	Development	
	Student Sport	

Question from Kendall Smith: Under which region would Dundee be placed as it is currently not listed?

Response from Victoria Orton-Bichener: If a regional structure is adopted then an amendment would be made to include Dundee in the East region.

Question from Clare Mullen: If the threshold is 75% for the approval of a special resolution will this require a 75% vote for one proposed structure?

Response from Victoria Orton-Bichener: Confirmed that this is correct per the SCS Articles of Association.

Question from Victoria Orton-Bichener: If we were to move from a system with regional directors would we lose the benefit whereby members have a clear point of contact?

Response from Jennifer Boyle: Could incorporate a committee of regional representatives at a later date if it was deemed to be of value to members.

It was decided through discussion at the meeting that any new positions would be advertised immediately following the AGM for a start date of 31st March to expedite progress towards new strategic objectives.

Motion: To select one of the five proposed structures to the SCS Board of Directors. If options 1-4 are selected then the East Scotland region will be updated to include Dundee. The change will come into effect from March 31st 2022.

Proposed: Jennifer Boyle

Seconded: Kathryn Hillier

Ordinary Resolution 1 was approved and option 5 was selected.

11. Board Seat Nominations

The nominations were received as follows.

Vice President	Jennifer Boyle
Secretary	Victoria Orton-Bichener

SportCheer Scotland members voted to approve the nominations.

12. Any Other Competent Business

None received.

13. Date and Place of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

24. Adjournment

Lisa Tausney thanked everyone for their attendance and to those who voted in advance of the meeting. Expressed excitement for the change in Board structure and the hope that it will give a clearer focus and more productive output. LT concluding by encouraging all members to get involved and if anyone would like more information on the newly formed Board positions to get in touch at info@sportcheerscotland.org.uk

The meeting concluded at 16:30.

Appendix 1

Summary of Attendance

Present	
Jamie Ann Arthur	Jennifer Boyle
Leanne Caird	Ruth Dempster
Kathryn Hillier	Madeline Jamieson
Marguerite Modica	Clare Mullen
Victoria Orton-Bichener	Jennifer Park
Kendall Smith	Lisa Tausney