

The Tai Chi Union for Great Britain C.I.C.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TAI CHI UNION FOR GREAT BRITAIN C.I.C. HELD ON 18th MAY 2019 AT CHINESE CULTURE CENTRE, UNIT E4, STAFFORD PARK 15, TELFORD SHROPSHIRE.

Apologies: Shellagh Grandpierre, Marnix Wells, Barry McGinlay, Tony Ulatowski, Stewart Hay, John Roper, David Sanderson, Caroline Williams and Caroline Izzard

Present: **Directors and Officers;** Dan Docherty, Gary Wragg, Peter Ballam, Faye Yip, Mark Peters and 10 members

Proxies: 22 to Chair (Dan Docherty), 1 to Tony Ulatowski, 1 to Aileen Cromar, 1 to Peter Ballam

THE NOTICE CALLING THE MEETING was taken as read and the meeting commenced with Dan Docherty in the chair.

1. **Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting & Matters Arising:**

One item from the previous AGM were to be discussed under any other business. There were no other matters arising from the previous Minutes and these were unanimously accepted as a true record.

2. **Annual Report:**

Chairman – Dan Docherty informed the meeting that the membership is growing with the increase in members coming from the Health and Qi Gong disciplines. Directors and Officers roles are becoming more onerous and time consuming. He particularly wished to thank the other members of the Board and those members that have taken on various roles supporting the aims of the Company. John Johnson for managing the website, Caroline Izzard for her work on GDPR and registration of the logo as a trademark and Mark Langweiler the editor of the Magazine.

Following a report submitted by Jenny Peters it was noted that an increase in the Health & Qi Gong members has resulted in the need to review the designation of instructors to assist the public in finding the correct class for their needs and Shelagh Grandpierre has been asked to make proposals for the overhaul.

Financial Report – Peter Ballam explained that the TCUGB had converted to a limited Company part way through the financial year so dormant Accounts had been filed for the Company to the end of 2018 and a Financial Report in a format that was familiar to members had been issued covering the whole year. In coming years the accounts will be presented in a different format to comply with the Companies Acts. The only specific question raised about the finances was the increase in the Executives Expenses and Dan Docherty explained that this was a result of the increased workload and meetings. Peter Ballam noted that there had been another overall loss at the year end but the Company funds were healthy and there was still a significant balance in the account.

3. **Nominations for Directors:**

Peter Ballam reminded the meeting that by converting to a limited Company the arrangements for retirement for the Board had changed. Under the old Constitution the entire Executive retired each year but the Company's Articles comply with current Company Acts and so 1/3rd of the Directors retire and can stand for re-election, on this

occasion Peter Ballam, David Hackett and Tony Ulatowski retired and offered themselves for re-election, as no further nominations had been received.

The nominations are :

Peter Ballam
Tony Ulatowski
David Hackett

Ballot papers and the arrangements for voting will be issued shortly, please note eligible members have until 30th June 2019 to vote.

4. Any Other Business:

- a. **Mark Peters/Colin Huffen:** Following on from previous discussions on promoting Tai Chi & Qi Gong as a health/recuperation system that can be used by referral from NHS Mark had been tasked with investigating options.

Mark provided the background to the options for a programme that may be accepted by NHS practitioners. The REPS route had previously been investigated and found unsuitable.

Mark made the point that the NHS has no national policy on referral and it is a local decision by practitioners, so there will be a need to promote any programme locally.

He had made further enquiries and now believed the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activities (CIMPSA) scheme offered the best option. This would allow the TCUGB to provide accredited programmers while not dictating the content of the programme.

Colin Huffen from CIMPSA was introduced and gave an explanation of the organizations aims, role and funding (further information can be found on their website www.cimspa.co.uk).

Colin took questions from the floor and although there was a general interest in establishing a relationship between the TCUGB and CIMPSA the members identified many areas of concern that would need clarification.

One area that was referred to on a number of occasions was the TCUGB aim to support all recognised styles of Tai Chi and Qi Gong and how that aim would continue while promoting a system that could be accepted by CIMPSA.

Colin gave the illustration of Yoga, where there are many styles but they came together to establish the common ground that would be accepted by all styles.

Mark pointed out that all styles of Tai Chi held similar views on some of the core competencies that are used in judging etc. so we should be able to produce a workable system while still allowing the freedom for members to follow their own style.

Keith Sharp talked about his background and the benefits to the general community in promoting Tai Chi and Qi Gong for health.

After the discussion it was agreed that Mark would finalize a proposal for the Board to consider.

- b. **Stewart Hay:** Although Stewart was not present he had submitted some suggestions for consideration by the Board. These included the possibility of making the magazine digital and so saving on production and mailing costs and reviewing the insurance provision and marketing to members. The Board thanked Stewart for his contribution and would give the suggestions further thought.
- c. **Tony Ulatowski:** Tony could not be present but asked that we note his gratitude to the TCUGB for the support it provides to the children from the two inner London schools which

- allowed 42 under privileged children to attend and participate in the London Competition run by Gary Wragg. He hopes this initiative will be taken forward and adopted in other schools.
- d. **Mark Langweiler:** Mark is the editor of the TCUGB Magazine and made some comments/suggestions for consideration to expand the readership and income. He suggested changing the name to Tai Chi Chuan & Asian Arts from Tai Chi Chuan and Oriental Arts. It was felt this was not appropriate as for most people in the UK the term Asian refers to the Indian sub continent. His second suggestion was to appoint a marketing assistant to sell advertising in the magazine, this would be self financing with the person receiving a percentage of any income generated. It was agreed the Board would give this more consideration and may seek suitable candidates through eth website.

As there was no further business the meeting closed.