

The Tai Chi Union for Great Britain



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE TAI CHI UNION FOR GREAT BRITAIN HELD ON 18th APRIL 2015 AT 449-453, BETHNAL GREEN RD., LONDON E2 9QH.

Apologies: Faye Yip, Mark Peters, George Thorpe, Aileen Cromar & Ronnie Robinson

Present: **Executive Members and Officers;** Tony Ulatowski, Sheilagh Grandpierre, Dan Docherty, Peter Ballam, Gary Wragg, David Hackett and Marnix Wells were present in addition to 6 members

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:

Peter Ballam advised the meeting that the website had been overhauled and it was agreed the new site was an improvement and easier to navigate.

There remains a number of teething problems that will need to be addressed by John Johnson the website manager.

There were no other matters arising from the previous Minutes and these were unanimously accepted as a true record.

2. Annual Report:

Treasurer – Unfortunately Aileen could not attend this year. Peter Ballam explained that following the problem last year the Executive decided to change the financial year end from 31st March to 31st December to give the Treasurer time to prepare the accounts and have them available for circulation prior to the AGM. This decision means that the current accounts only cover a 9 month period 1st April – 31st December 2014. Peter went on to comment that the finances were in a healthy position and there was a surplus going forward.

Chairman – Dan Docherty talked about the Taijiquan & Qigong Federation for Europe (TCFE) competition that was planned to be held in Latvia but had to be rescheduled and was held in Oxford. Dan said the event was a success and he had good feedback from attendees.

Dan advised the meeting that the TCUGB would be celebrating the 25th Anniversary in 2015/6 and it was intended to organise some special events, Dan was intending to hold a 2 day event in October in Horsham, W. Sussex, a further 1 day event in Manchester and invite instructors from the Continent as well as local teachers. Mark Peters had suggested that he and Faye Yip could organise an event in the Midlands.

Dan also mentioned that the Taijiquan & Qigong Federation for Europe (TCFE) hold a forum and it is to be hosted as part of Tai Chi Caledonia event. Caledonia will be celebrating its 20th year. The team organising the event has requested financial support from the TCUGB to make this joint event a special occasion for all who attend.

3. Nominations for Executive and Posts:

Peter advised that all the current postholders had agreed to stand for re-election and no new nominations had been received prior to the meeting. Although further nominations were invited from those present none were received.

The nominations are :

Gary Wragg (Executive)	Peter Ballam (Executive & Secretary)
Dan Docherty (Executive & Chair)	Tony Ulatowski (Executive)
Mark Peters (Executive)	Marnix Wells (Executive & Vice Chair)
Faye Yip (Executive)	David Hackett (Executive)
Shelagh Grandpierre (Executive)	

Non Executive Officers:

Ronnie Robinson (Membership, Media & Promotions Officer)
Aileen Cromer (Treasurer)

Ballot papers and the arrangements for voting are available on the website, please note eligible members have until 31st May 2015 to vote.

4. Any Other Business:

- a. **Tai Chi Caledonia/TCFE 20th Anniversary Celebration Gala Evening:** Barry McGinlay as a member of the organisation team requested funding to help support the event.

It was noted that the event was not a TCUGB event but it was hoped that support would be forthcoming as a showcase for Tai Chi and Qigong in this country.

The Gala evening was expected to cost in the region of £11,500 and the team had already raised nearly £5,000 from private sponsors.

Questions were asked about the nature of the event and Barry explained the intention was to hire a theatre and professional performers to put on an event including music, dance etc. to reflect Chinese art and Scottish cultural heritage.

It was agreed that Barry should provide a more detailed breakdown of costs and the proposal for the Executive to consider. It was agreed this would be provided within the week.

- b. **TCUGB support at International Events:** Barry McGinlay and Emma North addressed the meeting and expressed their wish to see the TCUGB become involved in creating a GB team to attend international events. There was discussion as to how this could be achieved, selection of coaches and members, it was suggested the team could be drawn from the winners of British and European competitions and coaches could be invited from among the TCUGB membership. Barry felt it was about creating a strong identity so although participants may come from different styles etc. they should form a team representing GB and have a common uniform etc. It was suggested that the Taiwan event in October 2016 would be the ideal opportunity to work towards.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 3.45pm.