



THE FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN GOLF GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATIONS MINUTES OF THE 24TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM AT 15.00HRS CET ON THE 23RD FEBRUARY 2021

1. Opening of the Annual General Meeting:

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. He commented that it was not the way that we were wanting to meet but COVID 19 had unfortunately made this the only viable option to hold this AGM.

He proposed and all agreed that if there were any late arrivals to the meeting, or if FEGGA became aware of an Association that for network issues were not able to join the meeting, this would be highlighted within the Minutes.

The Chairman referred to the AGM last year, mentioning that Members comments were noted, and the Board had listened to these and reacted in what he believed was in a very positive manner.

He thanked the Board and Dean Cleaver for their engagement, hard work and commitment during the last 12 months.

2. Identifying the Member Associations present:

16 Member Associations and their representatives were identified as follows:

Austria:	Andreas Leutgeb
Belgium:	Philippe Mallaerts
Bulgaria:	Yavor Atanasov
Denmark:	Martin Nilsson
Estonia:	Paul Marley
Finland:	Kasper Makela
Germany:	Frank Schafer
Iceland:	Steindor Ragnarsson
Netherlands:	Jannes Landkroon
Norway:	Duncan Bruce
Portugal:	Joel Nunes
Russia:	Milana Novolodskaya
United Kingdom:	Scott Reeves
USA:	Mark Jordon
Sweden:	Goran Tyrsing
Switzerland:	Adrian Schwarz

Apologies were received from Czech Republic.

3. Passing of Minutes from the last AGM:

The Chairman asked the Vice Chairman, Joel Nunes to present the Minutes as he had unfortunately not been able to attend this meeting.

Joel Nunes welcomed everyone to the meeting. Joel Nunes showed the Minutes on screen and asked for any comments.

The Minutes were unanimously passed by the meeting.

4. Matters arising from the last AGM:

The Chairman raised one matter that needed to be resolved. It was a question made by Jim Croxton of BIGGA relating to any possible liability should FEGGA become insolvent.

Dean Cleaver provided an answer confirming that Stig Persson (A FEGGA Past Chairman) who kindly submits our accounts to the Swedish authorities where FEGGA is registered confirmed there was no liability to either Members Associations or Board Members.

No further comments.

5. The Boards report on the year's administration:

Martin Nilsson presented a summary of the Annual Report that had previously been sent out to all Members.

Martin made mention of 2020 being a year of a twin crisis for FEGGA. It started with having to deal with the growing financial challenges of FEGGA and then very quickly being faced with the challenges of COVID 19. He wanted to highlight the good work of Dean Cleaver, Paul Worster and Joel Nunes in enabling a successful plan in guiding FEGGA through the year, and with many positive outcomes that provided many benefits to Members and Patrons.

Martin made reference to the proposal made by Dean Cleaver in reducing his administration costs by 50%, which had been vital to the financial challenges that had existed during 2020. He said that this extreme measure could not continue, and plans were in place to enable changes during 2021.

FEGGA had also faced an identity challenge, was there a need for its existence. It was through the positive results of the year confirming how relevant FEGGA was, and that its role was very important to Members, Patrons and the industry it serves.

Martin highlighted that the Board had met some 19 times virtually during 2020.

The following comments were made:

- Rhett Evans (GCSAA) wanted to acknowledge the good work of the Board and Dean Cleaver during these past challenging 12 months.
- Scott Reeves (BIGGA) said it should be remembered that the Thank a Greenkeeper day was born out from the FEGGA Conference and International Summit. This became a global success for the industry and highlighted the real benefits of close collaboration.
- Goran Tyrning (Sweden). He had been very critical at the last AGM of FEGGA's performance but wanted to pay thanks to the board and Dean Cleaver for the good work that had been done during 2020 and looked forward to this continuing.

6. Passing the statement of accounts for the past year:

The 2020 FEGGA accounts had been presented to the members via email ahead of the AGM.

Dean Cleaver provided a summary of the Statement of Accounts, and highlighted the following:

- FEGGA faced a twofold challenge, which included overcoming the existing financial challenges and then being confronted with the impact of COVID 19.
- Like many organisations, we had the thought of how we get through the year, will FEGGA be able to survive. The emergency budget helped to re-evaluate what was our current situation and helped to refocus on the year ahead.
- Dean Cleaver, proposed to move to half hours, which he felt was the right thing to do. Yes, it created personal challenges, but enabled FEGGA to go through the year in with a positive outcome.

- FEGGA also cleared the outstanding Conference fees that were outstanding to DSC & Associates, which was appreciated.
- The positives for the year were; we had a very successful Conference, and our Association and Patron Memberships held very strong.

There were no questions - The Accounts were unanimously passed by the meeting.

2021 Budget:

Joel Nunes presented an outline of the budget that had previously been sent out to all Member Associations.

Joel highlighted the quarterly income streams and cashflow forecasts, including Association and Patron Memberships, along with other planned events some of which were reliant on COVID 19 restrictions being lifted.

He presented a worse case scenario budget that the board had agreed, this was felt unlikely, but allowed the board to create a roadmap that allowed for the eventuality of this happening. In this case, it highlighted that a positive of €7,104 would be achieved for 2021.

There were no questions asked.

7. Deciding the amount of Membership fees for 2020:

The board proposed to not increase Membership Fees for 2021 – All agreed.

The Chairman commented that it was likely that a proposed increase would be made at the 2022 AGM.

8. Elections:

Dean Cleaver announced the following proposals for existing Board Members:

- Paul Worster to be elected for a further one year – This would be his final year of four.
- Joel Nunes to be elected for a further year – This would be his final year in this position.
- Martin Nilsson to be elected for a further one year – This would leave one year more remaining in this position.
- Koert Donkers to be elected for a further two years – This would be his final two years in this position.

All proposals were approved.

Emmi Pietarila having served a full term of four years would now have to step down.

FEGGA had received one nomination for the vacant Board position, and this was received from the Austrian Greenkeepers Association who had nominated their President Andreas Leutgeb – Andreas commented that he was happy to be nominated. The nomination was approved.

Paul Worster welcomed Andreas to the board.

Paul Worster thanked Emmi Pietarila for her commitment in serving on the Board during the past four years. He informed the meeting that the Board had agreed that this was not the best way for Emmi to be thanked for her services during an online meeting. It was therefore decided that Emmi would be invited to attend the planned Conference in September, and if that was not possible then at the next get together Conference that FEGGA would hold.

9. Any Other business:

The Chairman informed the meeting of a letter from the Spanish Greenkeepers Association asking for them to be considered to becoming a member of FEGGA. All unanimously agreed to this proposal.

Emmi Pietarila thanked everyone for the support during her four years on the Board and for allowing her the experience that she had fully enjoyed.

Paul Marley (Estonia) paid thanks to the GCSAA for their valuable offer to all associations to attend the recent Virtual GIS. Paul had attended and appreciated to opportunity to participate in the Show and Educational events. Rhett Evans (GCSAA) said they were very happy to extend this invitation and reminded everyone that Sessions would be available up to the 4th March 2021.

10. Date of the next Annual General Meeting:

Would take place during week 8, 2022.

Paul Worster informed the meeting that the board were looking to hold a Get Together Conference event in September and were considering this as a permanent change away from the February date. The board would seek opinions from Member Associations before confirming this as a permanent move away from the traditional date.

Rhett Evans (GCSAA) welcomed this change and referred to the fact that the forthcoming Ryder Cup will be played during September and asked that this date could be avoided.

Jannes Landkroon (Netherlands) felt that September was a busy time for Greenkeepers and might not be ideal. He felt that February was a good month to hold the Conference. He asked if when considering new dates, if the weekend could be considered as he felt this could be helpful to Greenkeepers attending.

Paul concluded the AGM by thanking Dean Cleaver, the Board and all Member Associations.

Dean Cleaver
Executive Officer

Paul Worster
Chairman