



GRAND NATIONAL ARCHERY SOCIETY (THE)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Grand National Archery Society (The) on 22 April 2023 at 10:30am.

1. **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

2. **2022 Annual General Meeting**

Following a request from the Board, the Chairman, Mark Briegal, confirmed he would be honoured to continue as a Director and Chair of the Board for a second term.

Civica Electoral Reform Services had been retained to record the voting of the AGM; all votes would be treated as poll votes based on responses to electronic voting, with the exception of approving the 2022 AGM Minutes.

The Chairman reported on the following highlights during the past year:

- The 2022/23 year had seen a return to normal business after the pandemic years which resulted in membership numbers for 2022 at 38,000; an increase on pre-pandemic numbers.
- The European Youth Championships and the European Para Championships were hosted in 2022 and the European Grand Prix in April 2023.
- The CEO, Chair and other Directors had visited all four home nations and all the regions during the year and met with members in 10 locations up and down the country. Thanks were noted to the Regional Development Officers (RDOs) for their help in setting up the meetings. Clubs were encouraged to engage with the Regional Development Officers.
- The outgoing CEO had left the organisation in October 2022 after six years' service, leaving the organisation in a good position. Thanks to the Senior Leadership Team were noted for their work during the interim period. Thanks were also noted for the many volunteers for their commitment at events, competitions and training.
- Following a rigorous recruitment process, the Board voted unanimously to recruit Ruth Hall as CEO; Ruth would join the organisation on 3 May.
- The Board wished to note their thanks to AGB's funders - UK Sport, and Sport England. The Board also wished to thank the Fletchers Trust, part of the Worshipful Company of Fletchers, for their continued support of the para-programme.
- Work had continued on the Membership and Structure Review which would conclude in the 2024/25 membership year.
- Session Coach and Development Coach courses had been delivered, including in-person courses with the option of a modular online approach.
- 191 coaching course modules had been delivered for 2,404 members; and an additional 58 courses (ranging from Judges to ianseos) for 783 members in the last membership year. Additionally, 146

Instructor Award courses were hosted, alongside securing 36 partners signed up as Archery Activity Partners to include 9,000 instructors.

- Project Rimaya had grown significantly over the past year with 15 venues, 24 new coaches, 19 Instructors and additional partnerships being made, such as the Muslim Sports Foundation and the Muslim Scout Fellowship.
- Disappointingly, archery had not been included in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games; however, funding had been applied for and received as part of the legacy.
- Target archery remained the biggest participation discipline; however, promotion of other disciplines with an aim of attracting and retaining archers was planned. Run Archery events had been hosted in 2022; 3 more Run Archery events were scheduled for 2023/24.
- A new handicap system had been introduced in 2023; the feedback had been good and well received by archers.
- Start Archery Week was scheduled between 6 and 14 May 2023.
- The results of the restructured performance team both individually and in teams had produced medals in both Olympic and Paralympic disciplines.
- Building on the world class programme Performance Archery Centre had begun with completion expected by the end of 2023. The centre would be wholly funded by Sport England with additional support from UK Sport.

Ruth Hall

- The incoming CEO expressed it was a privilege to take on the role at Archery GB, and welcomed the opportunity to re-build and re-imagine how archery is presented as part of the strategic plan that runs to 2026.
- Ruth shared the values of the organisation and committed to striving for excellence and acting with integrity.
- Ruth committed to understand the views of members, supporters, volunteers, athletes and coaches; she would be attending many events, visiting clubs, and meeting with key stakeholders.

Mark Briegal

The Chairman reviewed questions received from members:

- Questions received had focused on some changes in SCAS and RDOs.
- Specific coaching course questions should be directed to Arran Coggan and his team.
- Membership structure: a huge amount of feedback had been received. Ragdoll had co-ordinated the circulation of a questionnaire to all members; many thousands of results had been reviewed and analysed before sharing with Regional Chairs and County Chairs. Members would be kept informed of the summary findings.

3. Confirmation of quorum

Company Secretary, Wendy Stead, confirmed that a quorum was present with 86 voting members online.

4. Agenda for the Annual General Meeting

Formal agenda:

1. Receive apologies for absence;
2. Approve the minutes from the 2022 AGM;
3. Receive and consider the Accounts (no vote);
4. Confirm the auditors; and
5. Elect a new Elected Director.

Agenda Item 1: Apologies for Absence

The Company Secretary confirmed 3 apologies for absence had been received which would be appended to the minutes.

Mark Briegal

The Chairman asked members to take a moment to reflect on and remember those members who had passed away in the last year and be silent for one minute as a mark of respect.

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of AGM 2022 and Matters Arising

The Chairman asked Kienda Hoji from the Board to propose the approval of the minutes to be signed as a true record of the meeting and seconded from members online.

Kienda Hoji: I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution.

Member, Andrew Stanford: I have much pleasure in seconding the proposal.

The Chairman requested a show of hands from online members and declared the resolution carried.

Agenda Item 3: The Accounts

To consider the follow:

- Directors' Report for the year ended 30 September 2022
- The Independent Auditors' Report for the year ended 30 September 2022
- The Profit & Loss Account for the year ended 30 September 2022
- The Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 30 September 2022
- The Balance Sheet at that date.

The Reports and the Statutory Accounts were taken as read.

Scott Smith, Chair of the Audit and Risk committee provided a brief overview of the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2022:

- Achieved a turnover of £4.1m, representing a significant increase of £1.2m and a return to pre-pandemic levels when compared to the prior year.
- The increase had been driven largely by membership income, coaching and instructor income, together with income derived through hosting the European Youth Championship in 2022.
- Operating profit for the year was £113,000 which in turn had increased the overall equity reserves position to £809,000 at year end.
- The Directors of Archery GB reviewed the organisation's financial position for the forthcoming membership year, concluding that with membership numbers back to pre-covid levels, and with strong financial reserves; Archery GB was well placed to deal with any future financial challenges or continuing inflationary pressure.

Agenda Item 4: Confirmation of Auditors

The Chairman asked Scott Smith to propose to the meeting that Azets Audit Services be appointed and that the Directors be authorised to determine the remuneration of the auditors and seconded by members in the room.

- Azets Audit Services have been appointed as auditors since 2014; the audit partner would be rotated every few years.

- In the 2022 audit there had been a Partner rotation along with changes to the Audit Manager and Audit Team staff.
- Following the conclusion of the audit, it was confirmed that the 2022 audit reported no material errors or omissions.

Scott Smith: I have much pleasure in proposing the resolution.

Member, John Poyner: I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman called for a poll vote and the results were as follows:

For:	871	95.72%
Against:	42	4.28%
Abstain:	182	
Discretionary:	69	

Based on the poll, the resolution was carried.

Agenda Item 6: Election of New Director

The Chairman thanked all three candidates who applied to join the Board.

The election result was announced by Lis Bellamy, as follows:

Helen Berton:	503
Carol Bladen:	429
Yakoob Ali:	172

Helen Berton was therefore duly elected to the Board.

The Chairman welcomed Helen to the Board and thanked Yakoob Ali for his contribution to AGB during his term; he had supported and challenged in equal measure. The Nominations and Remuneration Committee members were grateful for Yakoob’s strategic thinking and support in the recruitment process for the new CEO. Yakoob championed the pathway process and improvements to diversity and inclusion.

5. Close

The previous two years’ awards ceremonies at Lilleshall had been successful events. Members were celebrated for their dedication to archery and contributions to the sport in so many different ways. The Board looked forward to another year of delivering the AGB vision of “Enriching lives through archery”.

Next AGM

The 2024 AGM was provisionally set for Saturday 20 April 2024 and to be held online.

The Chairman thanked those present for their continued support.

The meeting closed at: 11:04am.