

**2014 Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Saturday February 1st 2014 at 2pm in Tír na nÓg

***Determination of electoral register for the meeting – those in attendance***

Steve Shannon, Dara Ó hAnnaidh, George McEvoy, Edward Foley, Gerry Farrell, Enda Wiseman, John McNeilly, Ciaran Harris, Graham Fordham, Ann Scheuneman, Mike Gowen, Sean Salemme, Adam Reeder, Eric Coughlin, Steven Tillery, Annie Nice, Colin Keenan, Mark O'Hagan, Hugh Ellard, Caroline Kirby, Stephen Beausang, Chad Lefler, Shane McDermott, Kristopher Simino, Pete Thompson, Joe Nett, Allen Wood, Ed Quinn, Eamonn Kelly (29 people in all)

***Chairman Steven Shannon chaired the meeting on the following agenda items***:

1. Chairman’s Address

Chairman Steve Shannon welcomed all to the meeting. He discussed the great year that the club had in 2013. He noted that this year’s matches will be starting in June and that there will be away games in both Atlanta and Charlotte for the Southeast Championship. He asked everyone to mark their calendars for the 2014 North American Championships which will be held in Boston, MA over the Labor Day weekend. He also mentioned some upcoming events in March including the Kilt Run at Tir Na Nog on March 1st, the AOH Dinner Dance at St. Michael’s in Cary on March 8th, Irish Night with the Hurricanes at the RBC Center on March 11th and the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Downtown Raleigh on March 15th.

1. Meeting Minutes from the 2013 AGM

Secretary Eddie Foley noted that the minutes from last year’s meeting were distributed prior to the AGM. He motioned that the reading of the minutes be dispensed with and the minutes be approved as distributed. The motion was carried and the minutes approved.

1. Secretary’s Report

Secretary Eddie Foley distributed the Secretary’s report to all in attendance and then read the report. It included the club’s 2013 highlights and accomplishments, it’s on and off the field activities and a look ahead to the expectations for 2014. The report will be included as part of the meeting minutes.

1. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer George McEvoy reviewed the club’s finances. He noted that the club’s revenue in 2013 was $10,000 derived from fundraising events, donations, membership dues and sponsorships. He noted the generous sponsorships that the club received and asked those in attendance to continue to support our generous sponsors. Expenditures included travel with the club paying 25% of the team’s hotel expenses at Nationals, the lease of fields from the Raleigh Rugby Club, equipment and GAA registration fees. The Raleigh GAA club has a current balance of $3,200. The Treasurer acknowledged the club’s non-profit status, thanked those who made it happened and noted how it could really help the club raise funds in the future.

1. Membership

Membership dues were once again set at $50 for 2014 and can be paid by cash, check or credit card. Chairman Steve Shannon distributed the membership forms and asked that membership dues be paid at this time. Membership dues were collected from 25 members.

1. Rule Changes

Chairman Steve Shannon reviewed the new rules which are outlined below:

The Gaelic Football Rule Changes which become operative on 1 January 2014 are as follows:

a) Introduction of a Black Card for Cynical Behavior Fouls.

b) Change in the number of substitutes allowed.

c) Distinction between Deliberate and Accidental Fouls.

d) Definition of the Tackle.

e) Introduction of a clearer Advantage Rule.

f) A player in possession may score a point with an open-handed hand-pass.

Player sent off and replaced by a sub:

Black Card Offence #1: The Pull Down

Black Card Offence #2: The Deliberate trip

Black Card Offence #3: The Deliberate Body Collide

Black Card Offence #4: Verbal abuse to a teammate/opponent

Black Card Offence #5: Remonstrate with a Match Official

 2 x Double Yellows within 48 weeks = 2 week suspension

2 x Yellow followed by a Black Card within 48 weeks = 2 week suspension

OR

A combination of both = 2 week suspension

A Card shall be issued only where the Infraction is deemed by the Referee to have been deliberate and not accidental.

The Tackle is re-defined as:

“The Tackle is a skill by which a player may dispossess an opponent or frustrate his objective within the Rules of Fair Play. The tackle is aimed at the ball, not the player. The tackler may use his body to confront the opponent but deliberate bodily contact (such as punching, slapping, arm holding, pushing, tripping, jersey pulling or a full frontal charge) is forbidden. The only deliberate physical contact can be a Fair Charge i.e. Shoulder-to-shoulder with at least one foot on the ground. More than one player can tackle the player in possession.”

Advantage Rule is defined as:

“When a foul is committed the referee may allow the play to continue if he considers it to be to the advantage of the offended team. He shall signal that advantage by raising an arm upright. If he deems no advantage to have occurred, he may subsequently award a free for that foul from where it occurred\*. The referee shall allow the advantage to run by maintaining his arm in the upright position for up to five seconds after the initial foul or for less time if it becomes clear that no advantage has accrued. He shall apply any relevant disciplinary action.”

Point with Open Hand

A player in possession may score a Point with the open hand or fist.

1. Bylaws

Registrar Gerry Farrell distributed the bylaws of the Raleigh CuChulainn Gaelic Athletic Association, Inc. He noted that the bylaws have been adopted by the Board but could be changed at any AGM by bringing a motion to the floor. No such motions were made at this meeting so the bylaws as distributed will remain in effect for another year.

1. Election of Officers

Per by the bylaws, the election of the executive committee will be held annually. The motion to elect Dara O'hAnnaidh as Chairman was unanimously passed. Dara O'hAnnaidh thanked former Chairman Steve Shannon for his dedication and service to the club and then presided over the remainder of the meeting. The following are the officers that were duly elected for each position who will serve a one year term:

 Dara O'hAnnaidh (Chairman)

 Enda Wiseman (Vice-Chairman)

 George McEvoy (Treasurer)

 Gerry Farrell (Secretary)

 Mike Gowen (Registrar)

 Eric Coughlin (Public Relations Officer)

 Steve Shannon & Joe Nett (Southeast Board Delegates)

 Eddie Foley (Football Coordinator)

 John McNeilly (Hurling Coordinator)

 Ann Scheunemann (Ladies Coordinator)

 Colin Keenan (Youth Coordinator)

 Graham Fordham (Travel Committee Lead)

 Steve Shannon (Recruitment Committee Lead)

 Hugh Ellard (Fundraising Committee Lead)

 Sean Salemme (Fields Committee Lead)

The following individuals volunteered to be on each committee. Their contact information is provided so the lead and committee members can be in contact. This information should not be distributed outside of the Raleigh GAA Club. Anyone who could not attend the AGM but who wishes to serve on a committee should contact the respective committee lead. The committees’ meetings will be determined by each lead. The lead or a designated representative shall attend the monthly board meetings to report on the activities of the committee.

Travel Committee

Lead: Graham Fordham (graham.5.fordham@gsk.com)

Members: Mike Gowen (mike1gowen@hotmail.com), Joe Nett (joenett09@gmail.com), Allen Wood (allen.m.wood@gmail.com), Stephen Tillery (qweton78@gmail.com)

Recruitment Committee

Lead: Steve Shannon (scshanno@ncsu.edu)

Members: Caroline Kirby (kirby.caroline.m@gmail.com), Ann Scheunemann (ascheunemann@gmail.com), Ciaran Harris (crxharris@gmail.com), Sean Salemme (sean.salemme@gmail.com), Allen Wood (allen.m.wood@gmail.com), Stephen Tillery (qweton78@gmail.com), Adam Reeder (adam\_j\_reeder@yahoo.com)

Fundraising Committee

Lead: Hugh Ellard (ellardh@gmail.com)

Members: Eric Coughlin (coughline@gmail.com), Shane McDermott (shane.mcdermott@teleflex.com), Ann Scheunemann (ascheunemann@gmail.com), Steve Shannon (scshanno@ncsu.edu)

Fields Committee

Lead: Sean Salemme (sean.salemme@gmail.com)

Members: Dara O'hAnnaidh (daraoh@gmail.com), Gerry Farrell (gerry@fccary.com), Kristopher Simino (krsim@hotmail.com)

1. Any Other Business (AOB)

The Calendar for the upcoming year was discussed. The Peach Cup & SE Division Game in Atlanta on June 7th, Connolly Cup & SE Division Game in Charlotte on July 20th, North American Championships in Boston on August 28th thru September 1st. The Chairman stated that Raleigh’s home tournament will either be on June 21st or June 28th. A poll will be sent out to the members to determine the best date for player availability.

Upcoming dates are discussed again as potential fundraising and exposure opportunities. More details will be sent out for the events but Chairman asks members to keep in their calendar March 1st for the Run Green/Kilt Race, March 11th for the Irish Night with the Hurricanes and March 15th for St. Patrick’s Day Parade. The Chairman also mentions the Tír na nÓg Monday Run Club as a good place to wear the Raleigh GAA jersey and recruit.

Training is ongoing on Sunday morning’s beginning at 10:30 am at Martin Middle School.

The Ladies Coordinator, Ann Scheunemann, requested that a coach be appointed for the Ladies Football to help during training. Steve Shannon was nominated for the role. Mike Gowen will out too.

The Chairman noted that the GAA has now made the wearing of mouthguards mandatory. Raleigh GAA will require all players to wear mouthguards during sanctioned games. The wearing of mouth guards during training and scrimmage games will be taken up by the Board and a decision sent to the membership at a later date.

1. End of AGM

Chairman Dara O'hAnnaidh closes the AGM and once again thanks all members for their attendance and participation. A group photo of all in attendance is taken.

Minutes Submitted By:

E. Foley, Secretary