**MINUTES OF FIREBALL METTING HELD MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY AT 9:00PM GMT.**

**PRESENT** - Ben Schulz, Steve Chesney, David Laing, Debbie Kirkby and Russell Thorne

**APPOLOGIES** – Nil

Steve Chesney introduced himself to the committee. He asked that all discussions be kept within the committee and not be voiced in public.

**APPOINTMENTS –**

**Treasurer** – all agreed that if Penny Gibbs was prepared to stand she be kept on in this position

**Technical Committee** – Tom Egli has indicated that he is willing to stand but also understands if the committee is looking for a fresh face. Tom has some suggestions for hise replacement if we do choose to go this way.

Ben Schulz addressed the committee stating that it is important that the new committee not be seen as an extension of the Joe Jospe or Pat Crump regimes. The committee needs to be seen as impartial and balanced. We therefore need to look where people stood during the election process when making appointments.

Debbie Kirkby agreed.

**Measurer** – Russell Thorne advised that Andrew Davies and Pam Johnson would not be involved with the Wales worlds after a fall out with the UKFA. Tom Egli has been lined up by the UKFA to oversee measuring at the Wales worlds.

Ben Schulz questioned whether the measurer position could be amalgamated with the Technical Chairman role.

Russell Thorne pointed out that while measuring was important it needed to be easy so as not to form a stumbling block for the class.

It was agreed to hold of on appointing a class measurer until Steve spoke to Tom and a better understanding of the role and relationship with Technical Chairman could be established.

**Marketing** - Steve Chesney stated that this was one of the classes biggest hurdles. The UK seemed to be doing ok, picking up 420 kids but unsure where the next round of Fireball sailors would come from internationally.

Steve suggested a more the merrier approach. He will discuss ideas with his partner Lesley who works in marketing.

Steve will also talk to Chris Payne.

**Web Site** – Ben advised that he was happy to oversee the web site but needed more countries contributing information.

Every country had a login and instructions on how to post but few were actually posting.

Facebook seems to be the first viewing point by most and needs to be used better.

Twitter? And links off of Facebook.

We need to ask the NCAs to link / share all info onto Fireball International Facebook page.

**Secretary –** Steve advised that he wished to discuss with the NCAs, the committee members individually and other members to see what they would like here as there is obviously a lot of tension / emotion in the appointment / non appointment of Andrew Davies.

**UK WORLDS UPDATE** -

NOR has been issued.

Early entry ends in March 2015

Club management looks good

Budget under control – looking at 100 minimum entries but hoping for 120

Charter boats are are

**SOUTH AFRICA WORLDS UPDATE –**

Mossel Bay visitor centre article has been sent out on the net – Ben to post on FI website.

Accommodation is starting to be reserved

Racing side slowly coming together

Presentation of the event will be made in Wales

Website for the event is being built now

**BOATS AND BUILDERS –**

Issue of how to increase numbers in the colonies

Australian mould up for sale as not sustainable to build boats here.

South Africa would buy the Australian mould if they had a quality builder.

Winders have a standing offer to supply moulds to regional areas if they are required.

XSP not using their mould and having quality control issues with other classes they service.

**ELECTION –**

Steve addressed the committee -

This election has brought forward the shortfalls in our constitution and democracy.

Pop up NCAs are a concern and need to be addressed.

A separate committee needs to be formed charged with overseeing these reforms.

Committee members to come back with some suggestions on people who could sit on this committee.

The results of the election need to be published on the web site along with a notice of Steve’s appointment. Ben Schulz to do.

***Meeting closed 10:30pm GMT***

***Next Meeting to be advised.***

**ONGOING ITEMS FROM LAST YEAR –**

***SECTRETARY ANDREW DAVIES TO SUPPLY TO THE EXECUTIVE -***

Final minutes from the Executive Skype meeting held 10th November 2014

Minutes of Executive Skype meeting held 3rd December 2014

Details of the members of each NCA and details of each NCA’s committee collected by the Secretary as part of each NCA coming into good standing.

Details of the votes received from each NCA for the hull weight reduction and the sail measurement rules changes.

Details on progress of sail measurement rule changes through ISAF.  Has this been finalised?

Update on proposed European Championships for 2016 ( Lake Garda, Italy proposed) and 2017 (Roses Bay, Spain proposed)

Update on the number of boats built last year and the number likely this year.

***TREASURER PENNY GIBBS TO SUPPLY THE EXECUTIVE –***

Detailed financial statements for the 2014 financial year

Proposed budget for the 2015 year

Update on likely billing of NCAs for the 2015 year – (due out now)

Confirmation that the problems with the financials have now been rectified and the 2014 accounts are ready for external audit

***TECHNICAL OFFICER TOM EGLI TO SUPPLY THE EXECUTIVE –***

Grandfather clause to be used in sailing instructions at international regattas to ensure older boats remain legal

Suggested date and process for implementing the changes to hull weight of all boats