

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Racquetball Association of Ireland 9th December 2002 @ 7pm via ZOOM

Clubs represented Ballinrobe, North Sligo, Castlebar, Mitchelstown, Galmoy, Fermoy, Sligo, Moycullen, Horeswood, Fethard.

Presidents Address

Martin Lawless President of the Association welcome club representative for logging into the meeting. Video meeting he said were a new departure for holding EXCO meetings and AGM's due to Covid-19. 2020 is proving a difficult year for the sport after what was a very good year in 2019. He thanked the clubs for their patience and for following the Government and Sport Ireland guidelines on Covid-19. As far as the Association is aware, he said there was no report cases of Covid-19 related to the sport of racquetball. Racquetball tournaments and most activity has been suspended since March 2020.

He thanked Sport Ireland for the recent contribution of 33,000€ to the Association to support clubs and this would be of great help in 2021 when hopefully the sports begins to re-open.

He also thanked members of the EXCO for the work during the 2019/20 season.

He offered condolences to the families of Mick Moss(Tralee), Pauline Lynch(Tralee) and Pat Cleary(Wexford) who passed away since the last AGM.

Martin extended congratulations Daniel Hanrahan(Galmoy) and Keelan O'Gorman (Araglin) on winning silver medals at the 2019 World Junior Championships in Costa Rica in the Boys Under 14 Doubles.

Minutes of 2019 AGM

The minutes of the 2019 AGM were read by General Secretary Michael Haverty.

There was no matters arising.

The 2019 minutes were proposed by M Kelly and second by J O'Keeney.

The minutes were unanimously adopted.

Financial Report

Treasurer Johnny O'Keeney presented the 2019 Financial accounts to the meeting. There was no matters arising .

The motion to adopt the 2019 accounts was proposed by B Carey and seconded by E Tynan.

The motion to adopt the 2019 accounts was carried.

The treasurer report that the 2021 application for the Core Grant was submitted to Sport Ireland and that recently a covid-19 grant of 33,000 was received from Sport Ireland to support clubs. The monies are currently being distributed to clubs who applied for funding.

Player Registration and Insurance Report

Assistant Secretary Michael Kelly reports that registrations were significantly down on the 2018/19 season. He stated that further reductions in the registration fee should be considered from the 1st January 2021.

The motion to adopt the Report was proposed by M Haverty and seconded by E Tynan.

The motion was carried.

Tournament Secretary Report

Tournament Secretary, Eoin Tynan presented his report to the meeting. He outlined tournaments that were held from September 2019 to March 2020 when all tournaments were cancelled to the pandemic. He reports at entries to tournaments at the beginning of the season were up on the previous year. He stated there was no disciplinary issues at any of the tournaments that were held. He said a project to update cups was undertaken during the year and that this was now completed.

As regards international competition Eoin report that the 2020 World Championships and the 2020 World Junior Championships were cancelled.

The motion to adopt the Tournament Secretary's was proposed by Miss M Haverty and seconded by B Carey.

The motion was carried.

Development Officer Report

Development Officer Mick Cunningham could not log in and his report was read by the General Secretary. He report that very little activity was possible due Covid-19 as training of development squads was cancelled as well a coaching clinics and visits to clubs.

The motion to adopt the Development Officer's Report was proposed by M Barrett and seconded by E Tynan.

The motion was carried.

Junior Development Officer Report

As this position is vacant, no report was presented to the meeting.

PRO Report

The Associations PRO Majella Haverty presented the PRO report to the meeting, In it stated that the Association was active on all social media platforms, Facebook , Instagram and Twitter. The website has been re-designed and its it regularly updated. Pages on Facebook continue to attract viewers and likes and hits on the website continue to increase.

New poster to promote the sport have been printed and are available to clubs, a reformat of the racquetball brochure is currently being undertaken. Majella encourages clubs to adapt social media to promote their clubs and to engage with local press and radio to publicise the sport.

The motion to adopt the PRO Report was proposed by J O'Keeney and seconded by R Hanrahan.

The motion was carried.

National Anti-Doping Officer Report

As this position is vacant, no report was presented to the meeting.

However it was noted that former Anti-doping Officer Rosie Downey presented a report to Sport Ireland.

National Children's Officer Report.

National Children's Officer Mark Murphy was unable to attend but his report was read by the General Secretary. Mark reported that there was no issues regarding child safety during the 2019-20 season He reported that Rachel Hanrahan was co-opted on the committee as Designated Liaison Person and Eoin Tynan has took on the role of Mandated Person.

He outlined the importance of Garda Vetting for any involved in the sport with juniors or vulnerable people and said the Associations Garda Vetting Officer Jimmy Gannon was there to assist. He also outlined that Safeguarding Course are provided by the Sports Partnerships in every county.

The motion to adopt the Children's Officer's Report was proposed by M Kelly and seconded by K Kenny.

The motion was carried.

Women's Officer Report

Katie Kenny, the Women's Officer for the Association said in her report due to Covid -19 that most activities including the Irish Women's Open was cancelled. She outlined plans to promote women's racquetball in 2021 should conditions permit.

The motion to adopt the Women's Officer's Report was proposed by J O'Keeney and seconded by Miss M Haverty.

The motion was carried.

Coaching Report

Majella Haverty presented the Coaching Report. Work on developing a Level 1 Course is continuing but Foundation Level Courses were not possible in 2020 due to Covid. She said that Frank Pastor is currently on the Coach Developer Course which is being presented online by Coaching Ireland. She said she is also in contact with Sport Ireland coaching contact Vicky Guy.

The motion to adopt the Coaching Report was proposed by J O'Keeney and seconded by M Kelly. The motion was carried.

The following were elected to the EXCO committee for the 20/21 season

President - **Martin Lawless**

Vice President - **Brendan Carey**

Gen Secretary - **Michael Haverty**

Asst Gen Secretary – **Michael Kelly**

Treasurer – **Johnny O'Keeney**

Tournament Secretary– **Eoin Tynan (Election 2021)**

Development Officer– **Mick Cunningham**

PRO – **Majella Haverty**

Children's Officer– **Mark Murphy**

Designated Liaison Person - **Rachel Hanrahan**

Junior Development Officer- - **Michael Barrett**

Women's Officer– **Katie Kenny**

Anti-Doping Officer - **Melissa Tynan**

Motion 8 (EXCO)

That the duties of EXCO officers be amended and updated.

Passed

Question & Answer Session

A number of questions regarding Covid and the 2021 season were raised. No definitive answers could be given at this time. The General Secretary said that Sport Ireland was looking for submissions on what could be done to ease the burden on indoor sports resuming in the near future. The EXCO will consider this very soon.

A question was asked what was the position of GAA handball w and Covid. Barry McWilliams of (Horeswood) stated the both sports were in the same situation and many GAA centres remained closed.

Hall of Fame Announcement

It was announced by President Lawless that Mick Barnes(Arklow) and John Comerford(Kilkenny) will be inducted into the RAI Hall of Fame for 2020. A suitable presentation to both will be organised in the New Year

Any Other Business

There were no items to be discussed

Meeting ended at 9.20pm.