



Welsh Pony and Cob Society of South Africa Walliese Ponie en Cob Genootskap van Suid-Afrika

*Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at 19h00 on
Tuesday 3rd May 2016 at Bloemfontein Equestrian Centre*

1) Opening

The President, Mr. Jack De Villiers, opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

2) Attendance and Apologies

The attendance register were signed and 22 members were present. Apologies were received from Mr. J.H. Human, Mr. W Swart, Mr & Mrs. C. Brown, Mrs. C. Melville, Mr. & Mrs. M. Bernstein, Mr. & Mrs. D. Kohler, Adv. W. Edeling, Mr. & Mrs. H. Botha, Mrs. M. Venter, Mrs. R. Balmer & Mr. S. Kidson

3) Confirmation of the Minutes of the reconvened AGM of 21 June 2014

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 21 Jun 2014 was proposed by Mr. Paul Carstens, seconded by Mr. George Muller.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes of the reconvened AGM of 21 June 2014

There were no matters arising from the Minutes of the meeting of 21 June 2014.

5) President's Report

Mr. De Villiers presented his report for the year and thanked his fellow Council members for their support.

6) Financial Report

The treasurer, Mr. Nicolas Muller presented his report for the year. He highlighted the fact that R22,000 had been written off in bad debts and that the Society had purchased a new laptop. Money had also been spent on producing two Newsletters during the year.

7) Ratification of Annual subscription and fee increases

Council proposed that there should be no increase in fees other than any increase necessitated by an increase in SASBA fees. This proposal was ratified by the members present.

8) Ratification of appointment of Auditors

Mr. George Muller, seconded by Mrs. Roleen Carstens proposed the ratification of the appointment of Gerber, Botha and Gower as the Society auditors for 2016. This proposal was approved unanimously by the members present.

9) Proposal by Mr. D. Kohler, seconded by Mrs. D. Kohler for amendments to the

Constitution. As Mr. Kohler was unable to be present at the meeting, his proposals were motivated by Mrs. Roleen Carstens.

- Clause 7.4 “Any member may elect to receive notices and publications electronically to an e-mail address” *Remove the words “elect to”.*
- Clause 7.5 : “Any member may elect to receive advice on notices posted on the website of the Society by SMS to their Mobile telephone.” *Remove the words “elect to”.*

Motivation: Emails and SMS to members should not need permission.

These changes to the wording of the Constitution were approved unanimously by the members present.

- Clause 9.1.2 : “Where a region fails to elect a Representative, Council shall nominate a Council Member from that Region...” *Replace “shall” with “may”.*

Motivation: Contradicts clause 9.6.

This proposal was passed unanimously by the members present.

- Clause 9.1 “The affairs of the Society shall be controlled and administered by Council consisting of nine members of the Society” *Replace nine members with seven members.*
- Clause 9.1.2.1 : “Nomination of one General Councillor and a Secretary, Treasurer and Legal Advisor shall be done in writing...” *Replace “Secretary, Treasurer” with “Secretary/Treasurer” and remove “and Legal Advisor”.*
- Clause 9.1.2.2 : “ Election of the above (one general Council member) and the Secretary, Treasurer and legal Advisor” ***Replace “Secretary, Treasurer” with “Secretary/Treasurer” and remove “and Legal Advisor”.***
- Clause 9.1.2.4 : “ Any person (member) accepting nomination (one General Council Member, Secretary, Treasurer and Legal Advisor)” *Replace “(one General Council Member, Secretary, Treasurer and Legal Advisor)” with “(for General Councillor or Secretary/Treasurer)”.*
- Clause 9.6 : “..... should the Secretary, treasurer or Legal Advisor die, resign or cease to be a member...” *Replace “Secretary, Treasurer or Legal Advisor” with “Secretary/Treasurer or General Councillor”.*

Motivation: Saving costs on unnecessary travel expenses to Council Meetings

There was considerable discussion on these proposals. Ds. Paul Lubbinge proposed an amendment to the effect that **the positions of legal Advisor and General Council member be removed and that Council should consist of the five Regional Council members and a Secretary and Treasurer. This amendment was carried unanimously.**

- Clause 9.1.2.6 : “Members of the Society elected as members of Council shall take office at the termination of the National Annual General Meeting following their election”. *Remove entire clause.*

Motivation: to ensure that newly-elected Council members take up their duties as soon as possible after election.

This proposal was carried unanimously.

10) Discussion on future of National Championships

The Acting Secretary put forward several proposals that had been received from members. These included holding the Championships every second year and holding the Championships, on a rotation basis in conjunction with the regional Championship of the nominated region. Mr. George Muller stated that show-holding bodies preferred to have a commitment for a number of years to enable them to source sponsorships. He reported that Hofmeyer had moved its show to Crdock and they were prepared to host the Welsh Nationals in conjunction with the Saddle Horse Championships. This would save the Society a considerable amount of money since there would, among other savings, be no venue hire or ground staff costs. The members present agreed that National Championships 2017 would be held in Cradock.

Mr. De Villiers proposed that the number of breed classes should be reduced and that classes for under 1yrs, 1 to 4yrs & over 4yrs would be offered until such time as entry numbers warranted further splitting of the classes. This proposal was carried unanimously.

11) Award of Honorary Life membership to Mr. M.J. Bernstein

Council proposed the award of Honorary Life membership to Mr. Michael Bernstein. This proposal was carried unanimously.

12) Legion of Merit Awards

A Legion of Merit Award was presented to Mrs. Wehlia De Villiers for Gwyddls Showtime.

13) Election of Council members

In terms of clause 9.1.2.1 nominations for the positions Secretary, Treasurer, Legal Advisor and general Council member had been called.

a) General Council Member

Mr. Derek Kohler was nominated as General Council member but since he was not present at the meeting he could not be elected.

b) Secretary

Ms. S. Cook was the only nomination and was duly elected.

c) Treasurer

Mr. N. Muller withdrew his acceptance of nomination and Mr. G. Muller was elected as Treasurer.

d) Legal Advisor

No nominations were received for this position.

14) Close

Mrs. Carstens proposed a vote of thanks to the President and Council and the meeting was closed to allow the new Council to meet to elect a President and Vice-President.