

2019 Annual General Forum Public Summary

Due to unforeseen technical issues QuidditchUK had to hold two AGM's on 27/8/19 and 2/9/19. Below is a brief summary of what was discussed at both.

Location

Google Hangouts

Non-Voting Attendees

27/8/19: Harry Smith (Development Director and Chair), Matt Bateman (President), Abby Whiteley (Vice President and minuting), Josh Fogg (Operations Director), Marianna Parroquin (Olympians Quidditch)

2/9/19: Harry Smith (Development Director and Chair), Matt Bateman (President), Abby Whiteley (Vice President), Josh Fogg (Operations Director), Francesca Vigilante (Secretary)

Voting Attendees

27/8/19: Edmund Kitchen (Bristol Quidditch Club), David Goswell (Oxford Mammoths), Fergus Powell (Cambridge Quidditch Club), Alex Jaggs (Southampton Quidditch Club), Cameron Bell (Oxford Universities Quidditch Club), John Morris (London Unspeakables), Tom Harvey (Swansea Swans), Bevan Cope (Nottingham Nightmares), Rachael Breare (Leicester Quidditch Club), Peter Stace (Bath Quidditch Club), Eleanor Hollindrake (Tornadoes Quidditch Club), Nathan Kirwan (Chester Centurions), Charli Davies (Velociraptors Quidditch Club), Lucy Nicholls (Loughborough Longshots), Emily Anthony (Leeds Griffins), Reuben van Zyl (Sheffield Squids), Katya Savva (Warwick Quidditch Club), Isla Adams (Winchester Quidditch Club), Joe McMullen (Bangor Quidditch Club), Andrew Telford (York Horntails)

2/9/19: Claude Gowan (Liverpool), David Burnett (St Andrews), Theo Baldwin-Evans (LQC), Karla Simon (Keele), James Church (Bournemouth Banshees), Maud Philpott (Falmouth Falcons), Ed Brett (Werewolves), Lorenzo Martinico (Edinburgh), Charlotte Payne (Manchester)

Annual General Forum Agenda

1. [Financial Report for 2018/19 Season](#)
2. [Constitutional Changes](#)
3. **Venues for upcoming QuidditchUK Events**
 - a. *Southern - Oxford 9/10 November (Tentative)*

- b. Northern - Sheffield 23/24 November (Confirmed)
- c. EQT - Manchester 1/2 February (Tentative)
- d. Dev Cup - Manchester 29Feb/1March (Confirmed, dates may shift)
- e. BQC - Shrewsbury 4/5 April OR 18/19 April (Confirmed, dates pending EQC)

4. Additional Venue Notes/Policies

- a. BQC Seeding
- b. EQT Spot Allocation

5. Goals going forward

1. Financial Report for 2018/19 Season

The financial report can be found [here](#)

- QuidditchUK operated at around a £2,500 surplus this year compared to last year's loss of around £1,700, meaning the £11,000 buffer has been recovered
- Events was the biggest cost, and membership was the biggest source of income
- A banking error was made in which a venue and vendors were paid twice, but was noticed and resolved quickly and QuidditchUK did not lose any funds as a result of this
- Non-tournament specific merchandise received positive feedback but generally people now want to see more tournament specific merchandise
- Money budgeted for Outreach and Development helped fund Team Scotland this year

2. Constitutional Changes

The constitution was discussed extensively by Matt Bateman and below is a very brief summary of the main points in each section that were mentioned at the AGM. To read the constitution in full please find it [here](#)

Foreword and Introduction

- Outlines what the constitution is and how the President, QuidditchUK, EMT, and members interact and do things
- Members need to adhere to the constitution or there can be penalties

Glossary

- Gives an outline of the terms and abbreviations used throughout the constitution

Name and Identity

- Officially recognised as QuidditchUK
- When incorporation is finalised the legal business name will become QuidditchUK Limited

QuidditchUK Strategic Goals & Objectives

- Growth, ability, sustainability, and community
- Goals will be reviewed at the end of each season

QuidditchUK Responsibilities

- QuidditchUK responsibilities are to act in the best interests of the core mission, transparency, mediating between members and the IQA and the EQF, ensuring the rules and refereeing are standardised, enforcing those rules, provide a tournament structure giving a national champion, standardised safety, encouraging growth, giving clear lines of communication and ways to challenge QuidditchUK decisions, providing and equipping a national team, and providing yearly reports on finances and project.
- If members are not happy with how QuidditchUK are doing things they can get in touch with the IQA and raise it with them
- *A point was raised about whether the IQA and EQF have constitutions, and if they these trump or are subordinate to the QuidditchUK constitution. QuidditchUK are not subordinate to the EQF; they only deal with international transfers, they have no jurisdiction over domestic transfers. However, QuidditchUK are subordinate to the IQA. QuidditchUK pays membership fees every year to the IQA and could be disciplined under their remit if a member goes to them disagreeing with something that has been done*

The President

- Main role is to represent QuidditchUK internally and externally
- A non-exhaustive list of what the President does includes running meetings with EMT and delegating tasks, being a shareholder in the company, making changes to the constitution, deciding the outcome if a decision comes down to a tie
- Eight weeks notice is needed if the President wants to resign
- If EMT feel like the President is not doing their job properly a vote of no confidence can come in

Incorporation Status

- Articles of Association state how the three Directors (President, Vice President, Operations) run the business of QuidditchUK
- If a Director leaves they no longer become a shareholder within QuidditchUK
- If a Director is dismissed the remaining Directors have the authority to dissolve any shares
- All decisions must still run by EMT, shareholders can't make decisions on their own
- QuidditchUK is a non profit company limited by shares

Executive Management Team

- Everything that comes through the top line EMT discusses

- Every EMT member apart from the Secretary gets a vote, but if a member isn't present at a meeting they don't get to vote
- All EMT meetings are minuted and public minutes are available on the QuidditchUK website
- There is the Club Veto Policy where clubs can challenge decisions EMT make
- Any director has to re-apply for their position after being in for two years to help prevent burn out and keeping leadership fresh

QuidditchUK Departments

- There are eight departments within QuidditchUK that each have their own Department Director
- *(an outline of what each department does that is listed on page 13-14 of the constitution)*

QuidditchUK National Teams

- QuidditchUK must always have standing national team, which is currently TeamUK and Team Scotland
- Players can only be on one national team and a member of one NGB at a time
- A clause has been added whereby EMT can step in if there believes to be clear bias by coaches or managers
- A team can be dissolved at any time at EMT's discretion
- Teams need EMT and IQA permission to become a national team and compete at official tournaments
- *Concerns were raised about head coaches needing to be non-playing as that doesn't work well for how some national teams operate. EMT believe a non-playing coach is the most effective way to run a team, but this is being discussed with those who it affects at the moment*
- *Further clarification on 10.5.c and 10.5.d regarding national team athletes must be in good standing within QuidditchUK and have no disciplinary actions or investigations held against them - This may be someone that doesn't have any open investigations against them, but someone who is not an appropriate choice to represent QuidditchUK as a national team member. For example, if an athlete has previously had behavioural issues when competing at a club level, there might not be an open disciplinary case against them but QuidditchUK may not be willing to have them represent at an international level. This has never previously been an issue but this is to provide for such a case*

Removal of Department Directors

- *(went through the list of reasons a director could be removed that is listed on page 17 of the constitution)*
- There is a full process, including what will happen to the President and once a decision has been made all access they have will be removed
- If someone is dismissed then a full announcement has to be made. If the reason is a sensitive nature full details won't be given but an announcement still has to be made

Volunteering Policy

- Covers how QuidditchUK has to be non-discriminatory, how long roles have to be advertised for, explains that getting into a higher position in a department needs to go through the full application process
- There is agreements that have to be signed in order to get access to things
- *Clarification on 12.5.a - if clubs are turning away club members due to factors such as race, sex, or anything discriminatory, that's against the constitution. When it comes to selecting players for teams, generally that's different. Everybody should be welcome to come and play. A club could face disciplinary action for turning people away because, for example, they were a member of the LGBTQ community. Membership of the club would be revoked and the club could not attend BQC. Relevant club leadership would be required to step down and, if non-compliant, tournament bans or low seedings at tournaments could be enforced*

Membership Policy

- Membership runs from 1st September to 31st August
- Fees are determined on a season-to-season basis by EMT
- QuidditchUK can withhold membership of a club if they damage the reputation of QuidditchUK for any reason, any discrimination in any way EMT has the right to look into that
- QuidditchUK has to hold an AGM every year and make quorum of 50%

Constitutional Amendments

- Any member of EMT can raise a change, after two weeks EMT vote on the change that the member has re-written. The EMT member that raised it must be present and so must the President. A quorum of six voting members or 60% is needed for the motion to be passed
- Any changes to the constitution must get sent to clubs and they have two weeks to review and challenge this
- For the sake of spelling mistakes or consistency, the President or Secretary can do this without running through the whole process but it still needs to be documented in the change log

Policies

- There is a list of all policies that are currently in effect on the [QuidditchUK website](#)
- If there is a contradiction between a policy and the constitution, the constitution overrides it

Votes

27/8/19

For: All 20 voting attendees

Against: None

Abstain: None

2/9/19

For: All nine voting attendees

Against: None

Abstain: None

In total there were 29 votes to pass the new constitution

3. Venues for upcoming QuidditchUK Events

- Southern - Oxford 9th-10th November (tentative)
- Northern - Sheffield Hallam 23rd-24th November (confirmed)
- EQT - Manchester 1st-2nd February (tentative)
- Development Cup - Manchester 29th February-1st March (location confirmed, dates may shift)
- BQC - Shrewsbury either 4th-5th April or 18th-19th April depending on EQC dates (location confirmed)
- Play-offs will be taking place at BQC based on previous feedback, which will require more commitment from volunteers to make this happen
- The top three of Development Cup will be awarded a BQC spot again this year

- *A point was raised about how the locations are still quite far to travel for some teams. QuidditchUK can appreciate the travel times and costs for some teams but multiple factors such as venues and facilities, dates, accessibility, and finance all played a part in selecting those locations. With some of the venues being based in the midlands it is hoped they are more accessible for everybody*

4. Additional Venue Notes/Policies

- The top six from both Northern and Southern will be awarded EQT spots
- BQC seedings are being finalised at the moment

5. Goals going forward

A list of QuidditchUK goals will be emailed to all teams for them to read at their leisure