

## **BSUPA AGM MINUTES**

April 6th 2019  
Sandbanks Hotel Poole

SB - Simon Bassett - Chairman  
AG - Andy Gratwick - Head Coach

Attendees (AG you have the sign in sheets, the attendees are everybody on those lists except for Elliot, Tim and Nick who had left before the AGM.)

**Welcome AG.** AG introduced the meeting giving an overview of the Association's general activities. He introduced the Board as it is currently registered with Companies House.

**Chairman's Report SB.** SB reflected on the fact that 2018 had seen weeks of 30° temperatures and this weather contributed to a massive growth in SUP activities. This provided great opportunities for SUP providers and Association members. He noted that SUP is still growing in the UK and that there has been a large increase in iSUP boards available in the market. He felt that as an industry we have to "stick to our guns" with regards to selling quality products and delivering quality instruction.

SB explained that Surf England is affiliated with the ISA for team selection and the switch last year from Team England to Team GB had been very difficult. He noted that BSUPA had been working with Mark Price/GBSUP and Glenn Eldridge/ASI Head Trainer, who are making a great contribution to SUP racing in the country, to all work collectively to get the selection processes correct. This has often involved very slow responses from others and several difficult conversations. He noted that the team selection process has been something that BSUPA has been involved in for 10 years. The team's entry fee can be as much £5k but it provides a great opportunity for our talented riders on the international stage.

SB explained that when BSUPA started the membership administration paperwork was contained in a shoebox! Since then a huge amount of work has done behind-the-scenes creating a membership database and changing systems to enable direct debit and the processing of membership cards. A new accounting system "Xero" has been implemented plus the introduction of an extremely efficient Book Keeper to the team. Overdue unpaid invoices were reduced from £6k in January to a current level of £200. SB wished to note that the new Book Keeper has done an excellent job in chasing-up payments. He noted that 2019 BSUPA School Fees pro-forma invoices were still live and the payment deadline had not yet reached.

SB explained that the Association pays for administrative cover in the office three days a week but the phone is answered every day. As the Association has grown, the office could no longer be covered by volunteers and has to be paid for formally from membership fees. Administration has been challenging as workload has grown. For efficiency, the office computer administration systems are shared with BKSA. In addition to the office administrators, James Cox manages the website and Dom Moore issues the newsletter.

SB noted that BSUPA works with the following external organisations to develop SUP in the UK:

AALS  
Surf England  
Surf GB  
Windsup Project  
APP - Tim Boxford  
BlueFin Insurance  
SSLGB  
SAS  
BKSA

The BBC has listed BSUPA in its sports directory which is very good for the Association's profile.

SB said that he was delighted with the continuing increase in BSUPA schools, BSUPA qualified Instructors and customers taking BSUPA courses, which totals approximately 35,000 people and this does not take into account overseas centres running courses.

SB asked members for help in facing the challenges of surfing and canoeing both feeling they are the correct fit for SUP governance, with BSUPA sat in the middle. With the court case outcomes in the USA giving responsibility to both sports, this will no doubt create continued ongoing confusion. BSUPA needs to continue to grow its membership, grow its clubs, increase women's participation in its ranks, strengthen its position in NGB processes and create the schools, instructors and trainers of the future.

**Accounts, Finance & the Future AG.**

AG explained that there is £5391.03 in the account and aged debtors equates to £7160 which represents schools still to pay within the 30 days for their fees. Overdue invoices payments are now only £200. There are 787 members, which increased from 560 in 2017 and the current membership benefits are insurance, instructor registration and events. He felt that the BSUPA training system was healthy and robust and so far 2324 instructors have been trained and 68 schools established, with 35,000 people having taken a instruction under the BSUPA school system.

AG explained that he felt that growth was still very important and that there is was huge potential for SUP growth in the UK market. In response, 2019 sees the new BSUPA level 2 courses, the new BSUPA coaching course and the new BSUPA hire scheme guidelines all being launched, as well as 38 Instructor Training Courses (ITC) planned. He felt that encouraging growth through education and multiple channels, a full range of courses, marketing and media was the target for 2019 and beyond and that his team of a dozen trainers would be working to push this forward. Additionally, the Association would be working on better marketing to clubs to help them build their networks.

**Board Elections SB.**

SB asked members present to consider the following Board nominations.

Anni Ridsdill Smith  
Nominated AG  
Seconded Karl Hobbs

Paul Gellender  
Nominated Anni Ridsdill Smith  
Seconded SB

Andrew Tee  
Nominated Karl Hobbs  
Seconded Lucy Ward

Dom Moore (not present)  
Nominated Jon Popkiss  
Seconded SB

**AOB SB.**

SB thanked Anni Ridsdill Smith of Frangipani SUP for her hard work in organising the conference. He also thanked Mark Price GBSUP and Sarah Thornely SUPJunkie for their ongoing support of the Association. He also thanked everybody present for their time and attendance.

Best wishes,

Anni

Anni Ridsdill Smith