

AUK General Secretary – Board Meeting Report 19 April 2017

General

Insurance

No incidents reported.

At the last board meeting I was asked to approach our insurers with a view to seeing what could be done about potentially extending the scope of our third party insurance. This has turned into something of a wider review of our insurance generally – helped in no small part by a member with some expertise who is putting together an article for Arrivee on insurance matters generally. At the time of writing, I am waiting to hear back from our broker on a couple of issues.

Insurance has also become something of an issue with LEL. The insurance market has hardened since 2013 and we have changed insurers. The extra premium for LEL cover has risen markedly. I have spent considerable amounts of time liaising with the FD of LEL and our brokers but the fact is that the underwriters' view of the risks associated with LEL are on a different scale to their view of our normal calendar events.

Governance

I have prepared drafts of a number of policies based on Martin Foley's checklist for NGB status. These are appended to this report for discussion at the meeting.

The next major piece of work that I will be undertaking is a review of the Articles of Association. Before I commence that review it would be helpful to understand what it is that we want from our new Articles. There are obvious advantages in updating the Articles to reflect the modern approach taken in the 2006 Companies Act and to iron some out of the inconsistencies and issues that arise when a document is subjected to a series of amendments but are we looking at reproducing the rules that are already in place or do we want to make any changes? There are some changes which we will have to make such as proper provision for proxy voting.

Again, a matter for discussion at the meeting.

I have approached our two non-executive directors with a view to forming a governance steering committee which will look at the Articles and their wider context.

Annual Reunion

I have been in touch with Paul and Mark of ACB. They are very enthusiastic about organising this year's event. They have suggested Llandrinod Wells or somewhere in that vicinity as it will suit their proposed guest speaker and is surrounded by good cycling routes.

They have obtained a quote from the Metropole in Llandrinod Wells as follows:

Friday 3rd / Saturday 4th – Maximum of 60 bedrooms

Friday 17th / Saturday 18th – Maximum of 50 bedrooms

£60.00 per person, per night sharing a classic double or twin room (upgrades are available with additional supplements).

£70.00 per person, per night in a single room (Please note I am only able to offer you 6 single rooms these will be on a first come first serve basis, after this they will be double or twin rooms for single occupancy)

£80.00 per person per night in a double room for single occupancy

The above rates include the following:

A 3 course dinner served in the restaurant on Friday evening and private dining facilities on Saturday evening.

Bed and Full Welsh Breakfast Full use of the leisure facilities

Complimentary room hire for your meeting

A room to store your bikes.

Ideally, they would like a budget to work to this year in respect of entertainment etc, rather than having to go back to the board for decisions.

They are also keen that it should be an opportunity to showcase Audax UK to other groups of long distance riders – eg TCR riders and participants in some of the Rapha events. This may fit in with our audaxifying policy and can be discussed at the meeting.

AGM

Now that the dust has settled, we can start thinking about next year's event. I appreciate that there were concerns with our proxy site supplier but I am not sure that any other supplier could have done much better. This was a first time around for proxy voting and it was always going to be a learning experience. As long as those lessons are learned, we should be in for a smoother AGM next year.

We had just under 500 members voting which is about a 25% increase from the previous year. With fewer attendees and a fairly dry agenda, it does not seem that proxy voting has had a negative effect on numbers.