

ASSOCIATION OF TARTAN ARMY CLUBS

Annual General Meeting Sunday 5 July 2009 at 1.p.m. 208 Club, Crieff Road, Perth

Present :	Jim Brown	WESTA
	John Kaylor	PTA
	Tam Ferry	EASTA
	Stevie Imlach	LA
	Scott Pilmer	Heb Bar TA
	Dave McDougal	Highland TA
	John Callaghan	KoFTA
	Mike Scales	LADTA
	Craig Morrison	LADTA
	Simon Johnston	ETA
	Peter Morton	KTA
	David Russel	WEBATA
	Dave Webster	WESTA (Minutes)
Apologies :	Hamish Husband	WESTA
	Morris Allan	Blackearnside TA
	Scott Rae	WEBATA
	David Paterson	Campbelltown TA
	Freda Matthews	Armadale Sons of Wallace TA
	Katrina Walker	Auchtermuchty TA
	Tap Shop TA	
	Cumbernauld TA	

1. Welcome & Introduction

Jim Brown welcomed everyone. People around the table introduced themselves and apologies were given

2. Submission of membership lists

Membership lists were submitted to Tam Ferry.

3. Financial Statement

Tam Ferry reported that ATAC account currently has £478 approximately £280 - £300 is from the No Team GB campaign

4. SFA / SSC Liaison update

Tam Ferry reported back that we have met with the SFA twice this year both times at our request.

CEO Gordon Smith has been very accommodating, Security officer Derek Kirkwood has been very helpful and Rob Shorthouse is willing to discuss any issues with us, there is good mutual respect between these people and ATAC The relationship between ATAC and the SSC is not so good and there is a feeling that SSC direction has changed and they see the fans as a commercial opportunity rather than as fans

The numbers attending SFA \ SSC meetings are restricted to 8 ATAC reps, 1 will be the SFA \ SSC liaison, leaving 7 places for ATAC clubs. If more than 7 clubs can make the meeting then priority is given to clubs that have raised points for discussion, after which a Ballot or rotation system will come into place for the rest.

ACTION : Request the SFA to return to regular quarterly meetings with ATAC

5. No Team GB

Simon Johnston gave an update on the year. It had been agreed at the meeting in Amsterdam to set up a sub group to concentrate on the campaign this had not really got off the ground and was superseded by the announcement that Team GB will go ahead as an England team with the SFA, IFA & FAW turning a blind eye to it.

It was agreed that whilst the recent SFA announcement stops short of preventing a Team GB taking place it does preclude the involvement of any Scottish, Welsh and Northern Irish players. In this respect No Team GB has achieved 75% of its aims and it was agreed that this represented a partial victory however there remains disappointment that this is going ahead at all. A press release for this will be prepared in advance to be released at the same time of any official confirmation from FIFA / BOA / FA which highlights along with the fact that this is at the insistence of Sepp Blatter, and therefore we fully expect his word on our future independence to be worth the paper it's written on. In addition NoTeamGB.Com will continue to campaign for recognition of this team as Team England and will continue to push the issue of "Not in Our Name" in relation to the footballing Team GB

ACTION : Simon Johnston to prepare press release for when FIFA \ BOA make further announcement on this issue

6. Press & Media Relations

Jim Brown read the following statement from Hamish Husband

It has been a pleasure as always in 'representing' the Tartan Army, i.e. ATAC and the last year had been uneventful until the Boozegate fiasco launched me into the stratosphere.

Burley's poor start in Macedonia did not generate a lot of press attention from the TA perspective and even the shambles of the stadium and lack of arrangements did not generate one interview.

I shared a lot of the media stuff re No team GB with Tam Ferry and he did an excellent job.

A couple of 5 Live interviews and a cameo appearance supporting Tam Coyle on a phone-in was as much attention until contacted by Doug Gillon of the Herald and a truly excellent article by an Olympic fan and athletics journalist warning of the dangers of the precedent of Team GB and the parallel with cross country athletics and the demise of the 4 home nations. He is on our side and there is more to come.

*Then followed the 'Roaming in the gloaming' mauling by our own & The News of the World's Davie Provan. 'hamish taking the mic!'. Ouch...!
I seem to remember Big Doug Rougvie giving him a doin' when playing for the Dons,,,,,,happy days.*

*The Ferguson debacle was a difficult one to quote as it was a moving feast and there is the always the danger of upsetting Rangers fans.
After the drinking contest in the Sun I said that 'it would be 'difficult for both players to be accepted back by the TA'.*

Their header claimed that the TA chiefs, i.e. me, wanted them out. Not what I said. I got pelters for something I didn't say. The papers do not mis-quote. However they do sometimes use a headline to change the perspective.

From mildly castigating a lack of professionalism for their actions the Wednesday event prompted a different response.

Then came the breaking news of the Rangers ban and then the country ban. Before being quoted I asked a journalist the Rangers fan's response. Both major supporters bodies came out in favour of Walter's 'ban'. I then felt I could comment that the punishment was suitable. This I did to a few papers and a live Radio Scotland interview on Edinburgh's Princess Street.

BBC TV Reporting Scotland was a similar response, measured and condemning Fergie's behaviour as shaming his club, country and past captains, Caldwell, George Young and John Grieg. I thus showed an appreciation of Rangers history.

I condemned the professionalism of our fitba culture, and I stick with that., not just the 2 players. The end result was that my neighbour, Susan thought I was good.

My pal Big Willie shouted at me in the street. Swear words were used.

I am again a well known figure in Follow Follow. And no longer get invited to Rangers Supporters Dinner Dances.

As for The Message Board.....

Great fun.

Scotland Forever

Hamish

Tam Ferry said Hamish does consult him sometimes before making statements but other times he will make comments straight away, It was suggested that Hamish consult more on sensitive issues before giving statements out

ATAC would like to thank Hamish for his good work during the year

7. ATAC in Europe & International Fans Group

ATAC are part of the International Fans Group (IFG) which includes fans from England, Wales & Northern Ireland. The idea of the group is to exchange ideas and experiences on common issues. The group recently met in Newcastle and discussed amongst other things No Team GB, Ticketing arrangements in each country, 60 day rule & the South Africa world cup in 2010.

ATAC are also involved in Football Supporters Europe (FSE) which is a group set up by fans groups of bigger countries in Europe. It developed out of countries who regularly qualify for World Cup & European Championships and have experience of running fans embassies at these tournaments. Scotland have managed to get involved partly thanks to David Taylor's role at UEFA and also as we have a large traveling support and experience of running "mobile" fan's embassies (as opposed to static ones you get at tournament's)

FSE is based in Hamburg, Germany and receives significant funding from UEFA. They run an annual congress, last years one was held at Arsenal's stadium in London and Tam Ferry presented a workshop on the 60 day rule, this years congress is being held in Hamburg. ATAC are charing a session on kick off times.

The FSE have finalised their constitution and are looking to elect a committee at this congress. Jim Brown said ATAC have been given an opportunity to be involved and it was important that we took that opportunity

A question was put to the meeting

"That ATAC put forward a nomination for the FSE committee"

This was passed unanimously

Motion

“That Tam Ferry be nominated as the ATAC representative to stand for election to the FSE committee”

Proposer WESTA
Seconded Highland TA
Motion Carried

8. SSC Ticketing and proof of attendance

Jim Brown led a discussion on the state of SSC ticketing

There are issues with

Proof of travel (all airlines are heading down the route of Ryanair and going for online check in only)

Delivery fees for tickets

Kids getting tickets in the ballot but having to give them back as their parent \ guardian didn't get a ticket

Should there be a separate travel club within the SSC?

It was agreed that the ATAC position remains unchanged

Full ticket pickup in country is the way to go

As a fall back we recommend a random number (say 25%) are selected for pickup in country

In future a sign in \ swipe similar to the one in use by the English FA be considered

Action : Request a meeting with SSC to discuss issues surrounding ticketing

9. 7-a-side 2010

The timing of next years tournament depends on qualification for the World Cup we will know if we have qualified by November

A decision on who and where the 7's will be hosted will be made no later than the end of November

Action : Mike Scales is to look at dates over May & June 2010 to see what is available and what potential clashes there are

10. Internal Communications

Currently the main communication is via the ATAC google group, each club can have up to 3 reps on this list. Tam Ferry questioned if this was the best way especially as we now have a large number of clubs.

It was agreed that this was still the best way to communicate, clubs didn't have to take up all 3 slots.

ACTION : Clubs to re-confirm who should be on list by emailing details to Tam Ferry (even if there is no change)

11. Motion for Change to constitution

“We seek the election of non executive office bearers on an annual basis to facilitate the effective administration of ATAC with nominated roles and responsibilities, Coordinator, Deputy Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, SFA / SSC Liaison and Spokesman. No person to hold more than one position if possible”

Proposer WESTA
Seconded LA

Motion was approved and will be discussed at the next meeting with nominations for positions requested from member clubs.

12. Motion for Change to constitution

“We seek the addition of an annual membership fee to assist in the effective running of ATAC. Proposal £20 GBP per full membership

Proposer WESTA
Seconded ETA

Motion Carried

13. Consideration of new memberships

Granite City Scots Supporters Club have applied to join ATAC. Their constitution was reviewed and their membership list has been passed to Tam Ferry. No objections were received and Granite City were welcomed into ATAC as our 19th club

14. AOB

Motion for change to constitution

“We seek to reduce the requirement for full membership to 25 thereby removing associate membership”

Proposer EASTA
Seconded LA
Motion Passed

Tam Ferry asked it be made clear observers are welcome to attend ATAC meetings just as long as their attendance is notified in advance

Dave McDougal raised some issues his members have had with the SSC saying they are not members when they are.
