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| --- | --- |
| In attendance: | Apologies: |
| * Brian Aherne | * Ger Casey |
| * Alice Carew | * Stephen Crean |
| * Eoin Coonan | * Graeme Gallagher |
| * Alan Daly | * Maura Healy |
| * Amaya Dunworth | * Tim Healy |
| * Anna O’ Donnell | * Peter O’ Keeffe |
| * Ciarán O’ Sullivan (coach) | * Brian Turner |
| * Wil Rostran |  |
| * Alison Twomey (treasurer) |  |

Accounts:

Treasurer's report

* Total at start of season -- 1152.60  
  Incoming for the season (i.e. membership fees) -- 135  
  Outgoings for the season (i.e. pitch hire) -- 1200  
  Total at end of season -- 87.60
* Recommends changing the club bank from Carrigaline to the City centre to make it more accessible. And to change the signatories.

Price of field

* Is expensive to run the sessions in UCC but have not found alternative any other year.
* Recommend looking into Bishopstown Community School

Membership fee

* To be more upfront about asking for money.
* To have somebody assigned to collect the money each week.
* An insurance form to be filled out in full by all players on first night, including first timers.
* Frist timers to fill form and pay €10 on first session, 5 for insurance 5 to play.
* Second time players need then to pay membership (minus €5 which they have paid first day).
* Membership fee to be decided upon before season. €25 (insurance) + X

Insurance to Softball Ireland

* €25/player covers membership and insurance to this the National Governing Body of Softball.

UCC pitches and club

* Anna O’ Donnell recently held a Softball camp with P.E. students and there was a lot of enthusiasm.
* Eoin Coonan and Anna will try to liaise with their contacts to once again see about getting a Softball Club started in UCC.

Softball Ireland and Softball Munster

* Eoin is the current Munster Representative to Softball Ireland. He reported the following:
* Each team under Munster (West Clare Dolphins, Originals Limerick, Galway Tribe and Cork) need a rep of their own to feed into Munster meetings and thus get their voice heard at the “Ireland” level.
* This upcoming season there will be at least four full game days. Games will be against other Munster teams. Dates will be released in February 2013.
* Winner will go to the Nationals, and that winner to Europeans in Czech Republic.
* There will be five weekend tournaments in the U.K. (Diamond Series). A Munster team will attend thus those who are interested in travelling need to “fight for a chance”. Score sheets will be needed.
* IOST will be held either in University of Limerick (UL) or NUI Belfast.
* Currently the representatives are working toward obtaining coaching with coaching Ireland and running Umpire Coaching as well as making a Development Fund available.
* Development Fund is intended to promote and develop the sport but increased full members is needed.
* The Cork team need to elect a representative to meet with Munster Ireland. This needs to be done as soon as possible. It is recommended that somebody from the committee take it on board however it is not obligatory.
* Eoin also mentioned that as Munster teams we will try to help each other out with promoting the sport and the team as well as potentially finding sponsorship for Munster as a whole.

Training:  
Coach's report

* Team building is important, a greater emphasis on social aspect of the game and working together toward a goal is vital.
* Knowing what way training will be held needs to be decided upon in advance of the season and then stuck to for it to work.
* Commitment from players from week to week or twice weekly if possible. Unfortunately seeing players once a month is not very helpful to forming a strong bond between players or coach.
* When a team sees a “common enemy” they will work harder as team to beat them.
* Having a ratio of 1:1 or 1:2 (game : training) is a great way to build team spirit and skill.

Wet day training

* This is just not feasible.

Alternative day training

* Training will be held on Tuesdays from 7-9pm as always.
* If it is scheduled to rain on the day then training will be called off officially by the morning to ensure the pitch does not need to be paid for. But a classroom session will be held instead. (Location to be sourced).
* If the Tuesday game was cancelled then there will be training Thursday for those who can make it.

Blitz/ 7-a-side/ 3 teams of 7 rotating in

* Still thinks this would be a great way to increase interest in the team as well as skill, however will not go forward with it unless the team majority agree.

Gear

* Team members should invest in their own glove to make their commitment to the game as well as improve their skill.

Uniform

* The team should look like a team even during practices; this will increase team spirit as well as interest in the club.
* Colours will need to be chosen.
* We can then choose to buy a kit from a manufacturer, or simply find affordable sport gear so that we all look the same.

Team name

* A new name seems to be wanted from the team members. Please follow on Facebook and email for further information.

Increasing numbers:  
Advertising

* Posters: to be put up all over Cork
* Newspapers: Cork News, Cork Independent
* Radio: Red Fm, 96 Fm, 103 Fm
* Facebook: Revamp the page and as it is public keep it to public business only.

Fundraising

* Potentially receive sponsorship from local businesses
* Table quizzes
* The day/weekend that the match will be held in Cork organise a table quiz night with raffle etc. in “our” local pub. Advertise the match even to encourage people to play and support local team and also to come along to pub later with the other teams. This will make it a big turn out and more fun!

Communication:  
Email and number list reform

* Currently there is a Google group however there have been complaints from some people because they are not on the group or it is has not been updated.
* Teamer.net can be used instead as with this we will be able to email and text for free as well as organise more simply.

Committee members and roles: officially President, Secretary and Treasurer

* President
* To convene all meetings of the Cork Committee and all General Meetings
* To convene a meeting of the Cork Committee within two weeks of request from any Council Member
* To ensure that all Committee business is efficiently and fairly conducted in accordance with this an adapted constitution
* To report to the AGM on the activities of the Club and Committee
* Secretary
* To ensure that correct records are kept of the business of the Committee and Club
* To publish the minutes of the AGM (and any EGM’s) held within the previous year within 1 month of that AGM or EGM being fully completed.
* To prepare the agenda for Committee and General Meetings
* To keep teams informed of Committee and Club activities by email and website
* To ensure that correct minutes are kept of Committee and General Meetings
* To provide copies of such minutes on request of any member
* To conduct appropriate correspondence with other bodies
* Treasurer
* To ensure that a record is kept of the paid-up membership and registered clubs
* To control the Club funds in a prudent manner in accordance with decisions of the Club Committee
* To ensure the proper maintenance of the Club’s bank account or accounts
* To ensure the recording of transactions in sufficient detail to enable an audit
* To provide any records or information as required by the appointed auditors
* To supply registered teams with a financial report together with balance sheet, and income and expenditure accounts at least one week in advance of the AGM
* To reimburse from Association funds any reasonable expenses of members in the conduct of Committee business

Unofficially, Public Relations Officer, Coach, Fundraising Officer

* Public Relations Officer (PRO)
* To make posters,
* To update the public Facebook page,
* To design logo,
* To contact local radio and newspapers to advertise team and sport.
* Coach (subject to change)
* To hold training sessions
* To organise matches
* To call off training outdoor sessions due to weather
* Fundraising Officer
* To organise table quizzes
* To scout sponsorship
* To think of other ways to find funds

Any Other Business:

* Ger mentioned that her son would be interested in helping Cork organise a demo match or tournament in May to increase popularity.
* A Christmas get together
* A short meeting before end of year to finalise team name, colours and committee members