**EGM – 23/05/22 - Meeting minutes**

Present: Sensi, Hannah, Harry, Maria, Zoe, Wendy, Ev, Jo, Zoe new, Zoe original, Alicia, Vanesa, Isabel porch of geese, Maria, Leilah, Silvia

Present on Zoom: Becs, Maeve, Emily, Annie, Rona

Apologies: Lizzie, Phobe

1. **Membership**

A membership reminder email hasn’t been sent out for a while now. Proposed membership joining steps:

* 1. Session one – get a leaflet
* 2. Go to four sessions
* 3. Conversation with a Cowgirl
* 4. Pay membership (£10 unwaged/£20 waged) and become a Cowgirl for one year.

Action: Peta and /Sensi to work out a spreadsheet for recording membership.

1. **Communication**

To avoid overwhelming people with too much info on SPOND, email, lolchat and info whatsapp group, we propose:

* SPOND: tournaments, political&protests and fundraisers.
* Email: training, tournaments, political&protests and fundraisers.
* Info chat whatsapp: training, tournaments, fundraisers and official invites to planned events (after they have been 100% officially decided).
* Allies for racial justice whatsapp: political and protest regarding race.
* Whatsapp Lolchat for parties and cool happenings.

Actions:

* Issues with people getting SPOND on their phone? Solution: Delete more apps / big files to make space.
* Remove weekly training reminders (e.g. the cricket ones).

1. **Tournaments**
2. **Our 30th tournament**

For those who have never been, a cowfolk tournament is magical. There will be football, music, dancing, camping, chatting, snogging (optional), singing and more football. BUT for this to happen, people need to commit and do jobs. There is a mothersheet spreadsheet for signing up and this will be available on Monday. Everyone who comes to the tournament has a job to do.

Partners and friends are also welcomed to attend and (encouraged!) to volunteer for jobs, as long as they sign up to our safer spaces policy.

If you’re thinking of getting involved

Harry (long-standing cow) explained how the breakdown of tournament tasks work. Other members encourage new ones to join the tournament, it’s not scary.

1. **Fundraising for 30th tournament**

£1500 still needed for the 30th tournament.

Suggestions for raising this + votes for each

1. Fundraiser on 18th June: 0
2. Everyone donates £30: 14
3. Borrow from cow bank and then pay back through fundraising at a later date (when we’re not so focused on the tournament): 18

Actions

* Both steps b) and c) to be used.
* A *fundraising team* was also formed to generate the money that is needed from the deficit from cow bank: Issy P o G. Leilah, Zoe new.

1. **Casual League**

Next season it is proposed that there is one development team and two mixed ability teams to be pulled out of a hat.

Many members are keen to make the teams mixed ability again, although there’s still some disagreement on the matter.

The development team will be for people who are new to football or low in confidence and would like to build their confidence and skills in a less competitive league.

Actions:

* Create a self-selected development team. When we send out emails about the casual league, explain the above and let people choose if they’d feel more comfortable in a dev team or not.
* Casual league team selection to be decided via an excel spreadsheet later in the year, Wendy, Harry and Ev to organise this: 16 voted in favour
* Leilah put herself forward to be the secondary female coach for the development team: 16 voted in favour.

1. **Training:**

We are definitely at full capacity, this presents issues for health and safety and not giving current players a good run around. Also, we shouldn’t open it up for more in the park, because we’ll only have to turn them away when we return to city academy.

Should we prioritise people who are connected to the club? Varied views on this. Some members have stated that it’s good to create a community that’s connected to the Plough (and each other), others say that they don’t want to create a clique environment.

Actions

* Closing training: 21 (unanimous)
* Should there be a formal waiting list? We’re currently keeping it as a first come, first serve basis.

1. **Training location for the summer?**

Last session at City of Bristol Acedemy is this week (26 May) at ***7.45pm***. Then next week (2nd June), it is at ***7.00pm***, Oldbury Court, Fishponds.

Votes on which park to train in.

* Eastville: 4
* Oldbury: 12
* Abstaining: 5

1. **Trans inclusivity statement:**

A proposal is:

Training is for all abilities and is safe, inclusive, supportive, friendly and FUN - please no hard tackles or aggro! The ECCSSC is anti-racist, anti-sexist, anti-fascist, anti-homophobic and anti-transphobic. We respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and will treat everyone equally regardless of age, ability, gender, race, ethnicity, religious belief, sexuality or social/economic status. Easton Cowgirls are open to all trans women and non-binary players who share our core ethos and values. Should we state a welcome statement at the start of each training session?

Views on it:

People said saying this at the start of each training session would be too much and it would be better to deal with each incident separately. Also, make sure people know exactly what they’re signing up for. We need a signup procedure to make it clearer. Already, players who join through Facebook and Instagram are sent out this info.

Votes

* Having a statement each week: 0
* Not reading statement: 0
* Having a statement after each quarter: 18
* Abstaining: 3

Actions:

* The above statement to be read out at training after every quarterly meeting.
* People to sign up to the above club principles when they join
* Individual incidents are dealt with through someone chatting to the chairs (Sensi and Hannah)

1. **Tournaments:**

A list of the exciting opportunities coming up….

* ~~22/5/22, (Sunday), Copa Lucrecia, 5-aside Ashton Park School, 1030, Lead: Hannah~~
* 3-5/6/22 (Friday-Sunday), Hamburg Anti Ra Weekend, Hamburg Germany, Lead: Becs
* 4/6/22 (Saturday), Romance FC, Trent Park, London, Lead: Sensi
* Vicki happy to put people up in London. You would need to pay for own transport, London by 9.00ish. Ready for games at 10.15
* 2/7/22 (Saturday), Cardiff Dragon’s 7a-side summer tournament, Ocean Park Arena, Cardiff, Lead: Wendle
* Peta is also planning to get an air bnb and stay afterwards.
* 3/07/22 (Sunday) Gas Girls, Bristol Rovers Women’s FC, tournament LGBTQ inclusive football festival, Lockleaze sports centre. Lead: Sooooz
* 29-31/7/22 (Friday-Sunday), Pearled Cup, Cowfolk 30th birthday tournament, Portland, Dorset, Lead: YOU and ME and EVERYONE
* 20/8/22 (Saturday), Bristol Women’s Casual League 10 year anniversary, shake up CL teams, Brislington, Lead: Ev

1. **Merchandise for Pearled cup and in general**

We would like to have more readily available, stuff to sell and to give to teams we play against as souvenirs. Hardly any merc currently available.

Action: Ev to sort this out and also find out specifically what people want so we have necessary stuff in stock.

1. **Eco group**

Noone has stepped forward to be the secretary, yet!

1. **Copa Lucretia**

Cowfolk have been involved in this tournament for over 16 years that fundraises money for girls’ and women’s football in Nicaragua. There is on-going discussion about our involvement in this tournament as there are questions surrounding the political context.

However, we still need more information on this. This year, there was no one from the gov representing and no photos were taken. Whether or not to boycott is a big decision.

Actions:

* We need a specialist meeting with Dana to discuss if we boycott it or not.
* Watch this space and contribute if you can.

AOB:

* When to have the awards for previous casual league? Social secs will sort this
* Zoe and Daisy’s birthday on Sunday 4pm 3rd July, at the Plough, everyone is invited!
* Ev to organise a Monday kickabout

**Last but not least, Tues 13th sept for next QGM**