



Competitions Steering Group Saturday 25th October 2014, Quality Hotel, Coventry

Chairman: David Hamer (Yorkshire)

Vice-chairman: Faith Cosgrove (Cambridgeshire)

Present:

David Hamer (DH) (NA); Faith Cosgrove (FG) (EA); Mark Curr (MC) (NA); Helen Yates (HY) (EMA); Matt Tomkins (MT) (WMA); Sam Allen (SA) (SEA); Charles Polak (CP) (SEA); James Sage (JS) (Co-option); Sarah Bellew (SB) (Co-Option); Kate Lyons (KL) (Co-Option); Jess Townson (JT) (NA); Georgina Morris (GM) (Youth Forum Rep); Georgie Perry (GP) (SEA Staff Representative); Competitions Steering Group (CSG).

Part Meeting:

Claire Worden (CW) (NFYFC Chair); Hannah Talbot (HT) (NFYFC Vice Chair); Chris Manley (CM) James Eckley (JCE) (NFYFC Chief Officer); Maria Burke (MBu) (Head of Development); Frank Chester (FC) (Board of Management Chair) Christina Evans (CE) (NFYFC Fundraising Officer);

In attendance:

Margaret Bennett (MB)(NFYFC Competitions Officer); Gill Harrison (GH)(NFYFC Competitions Administrator)

1. Opening Remarks

David Hamer (DH) welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked them to sign the record of attendance.

2. Apologies

Jenny Rowe (SEA) replaced by Charles Polak, Natalie Moore (NA) replaced by Jess Townson, Jo Stubbs (EMA), Caroline Sage (SWA), Stephen Evans (WMA), Lizzy Hunt (EA), Jolene Powell (WA), Georgina Monk (GM) (SWA), Stephen Evans (SE) (WMA)

3. Confirmation of minutes

The Minutes of the previous Competitions Steering Group (CSG) meeting, held on Saturday 28th June 2014 had been circulated, these were signed by DH as a true and correct record – proposed by MT and seconded by MC. The minutes of the previous working party meeting, held on Sunday 3rd August 2014 had been circulated, these were signed by DH as a true and correct record – proposed by FC and seconded by SB.

4. Matters arising from those Steering Group minutes

- 4.1. Downloadable calendar coming soon to NFYFC website the link will be sent out shortly available for 2015.
- 4.2. Guidelines from Northern Area and West Midlands Area to be collated for all area competition organisers. It was stressed that it is very important at Area Rounds to ensure you have judges with experience for Competitions.
- 4.3. Parental Consent Forms have been coming into the NFYFC office prior to events better than they were; however progress can still be made. They should be received 10 working days prior to the event.
- 4.4. Stockman of the Year Project for 2015 – AGRI have been asked to discuss projects ready for February. MC asked for them to be management related and each to include options for pig, sheep, beef and dairy. Going forward, four project options that change every 3 years would give competitors that qualify year on year choice as to what species the project covers was agreed upon. A discussion also occurred regarding the word count. CP encouraged a guideline word count to be used to allow more flexibility but a more specific penalty of 50 words over would result in 1 mark off was suggested by SB. The CSG agreed 10% over or part thereof would result in a 1 mark penalty for each section with each percentage over 10% resulting in another mark being deducted. GH to update the mark scheme for 2015-16 and the project rotation to be prepared for 2016-17.
- 4.5. Following the last meeting, increasing fines for some competition withdrawals was further discussed. JT commented that in the Northern Area the fines were not an incentive not to withdraw. It requires the National Finals to be prestigious so competitors do not want to drop out. FC commented that Eastern Area use a £50 and £25 fine format but this is causing difficulties with getting participation to take part in the first place. MC echoed the same findings that people were being put off from entering. GM had also found the same in Shropshire when they increased their fines by £10. HY put forward that the East Midlands Area would agree to fines being increased to £100 and £50 provided an appeals procedure was in place. JT added that many competitors do not realise about the fines system as Counties do not pass on the penalties. CP added that the fine is too late and we should be proactive and promote the event as well as looking at why exactly people drop out. DH stated that competitors are

able to appeal a fine regarding late withdrawal and each case is considered on its own merits by the Competitions Steering Group Chairman at the time. The CSG felt that increasing fines for competition withdrawals would be overlooking the reasons as to why the same areas and counties often seem to withdraw late and receive fines; rather than prevent it from happening. JT proposed to leave the fines as they currently stand (£25 two weeks withdrawal prior to the event and £40 within 48 hours of the event) and ask the Personal Development Steering Group if they can help identify the reasons why the same counties and areas often withdraw late from the same competitions. This was seconded by CP and left to DH to take to Council for approval.

- 4.6. The CSG were happy with the website and understood it was in transition with the new website intending to go live before the new year.
- 4.7. The CSG unanimously agreed to bring the Tug of War rules in line with the Tug of War Association rules incorporating TWIF; for 2014-15. This was proposed by FC and seconded by MC and left to DH to take to Council for approval.
- 4.8. DH congratulated Parbold YFC on competing in the GENSB world tournament, they were the 3rd highest ranked English team out of 6 and finished 8th overall. They have signed up for the competition in Holland next year. Well done Parbold! It would be great to see other clubs follow in their footsteps
- 4.9. Following the correspondence from Nathan Greenwood the CSG discussed the Best Speaker prize card. They agreed to continue awarding 1 prize card for the best speaker, best vote of thanks and best Chairman together with 1st, 2nd and 3rd for team only.

ACTION POINTS

- **NFYFC to add downloadable calendar to website ready for January and Council to note – DH, GH & MB**
- **Guidelines for area organisers for Competitions – MB**
- **Stockman of the Year projects to be written – MB to collate (GH to update mark scheme and rules)**
- **Fines to remain the same – DH to ask for Council to approve**
- **NFYFC to update website ready for January – GH**
- **Tug of War Rules in line with TWIF – GH to send to all counties, DH to ask for Council to approve**
- **Reply to Nathan Greenwood regarding correspondence on prize cards – DH**
- **Reply to be sent to Shropshire with regard to the use of NODA/GODA Judges.**

5. Matters arising from working party minutes

- 5.1. Competitions Day received two comments:
 - 5.1.1. James Barbour judged last year the Debating Competition and would like to donate a trophy for the best speaker which the CSG would be very grateful to receive. This would be used also for the best speaker in the After Dinner Speaking Competition.
 - 5.1.2. GM commented on typing mistakes in the reading passages. To note that these were photocopies directly from the book.
- 5.2. Sports Day received no further comments other than those discussed at the Competitions Working Party Meeting.
- 5.3. Dairy Stockjudging
 - 5.3.1. Correspondence was received from Jo Stubbs in her absence that seniors need to be judging earlier so the cattle are not out as long. DH suggested as there is enough space the seniors could judge in one group; this was proposed by JS and seconded by FC.
- 5.4. Tenbury Show (Tug of War and Cube)
 - 5.4.1. DH suggested labelling the coach so teams and spectators knew who to look for. This can be done using horse riding/cattle showing bibs and the CSG agreed. It was suggested that one of the comperes from the Royal Welsh be asked to compare the national final.
 - 5.4.2. Following Gwent men's and ladies Tug of War disqualifications; DH reported Gwent ladies have not returned their prize cards so new ones have been ordered and Gwent have been invoiced. JS asked if these teams had received any penalty for cheating the rules and suggested both the ladies and men's teams together with Gwent County receive a 12 month ban from NFYFC Tug of War. CW added that it would have been impossible for County staff to have picked up on the team's intention to cheat and the membership of two different counties as they are only able to access their own counties database. It was discussed that these competitors played the system and should possibly be banned from all competitions. JS proposed that Gwent County and the individuals that took part in the Tug of War team at the national final 2014 should be banned, this was seconded by CP. This was because Gwent had denied other teams progressing to the national final in the right and proper way and a clear message needs to be sent out. JS also asked if any Welsh representatives were able to justify actions but there were no Welsh representatives present and perhaps this could be asked at Council. JCE commented that it is important to note that County Staff had not been at fault. In order to try

and check participants at Area Competitions they will be asked to sign the NFYFC entry forms on booking in, these forms will then be sent directly to NFYFC.

- 5.5. Laura Potts having competed in the Cube Exhibit several times felt that the Cube Exhibit Final should be held at Malvern. Malvern was termed unsuitable as this would require a two day display. After further discussion Sam Allen (SA) proposed the horticultural tent at Tenbury Show, JS seconded and JT proposed using Competitions Day as a backup if Tenbury were unable to provide the space, this was seconded by SB. To note it was important that members had the opportunity to see the exhibits.
- 5.6. The CSG were happy with the theme "Tomorrows World" for the 2015-16 programme and left DH to put to Council for Approval.

ACTION POINTS

- **James Barbour Trophy to be gratefully accepted and for Council to note– DH & MB**
- **Competitors notes for Senior Dairy Stockjudging to be amended stating an earlier time and in one group – MB**
- **Tug of War bibs for coaches – GH**
- **Gwent County and Mens and Ladies Tug of War to receive a ban for the 2014-2015 Competition team ban to be put to Council – DH**
- **Liaison with Tenbury Show Horticultural tent to house the Cube Exhibit – MB and response to Laura Potts – DH**
- **"Tomorrows World" theme to be put to council for approval for 2015-2016 – DH**

6. To receive relevant correspondence

- 6.1. Letters received were discussed under the relevant competition headings where applicable
- 6.2. CW reinforced that drinking alcohol within the CSG meeting was not acceptable. CW had been repeatedly asked why. This was so a professional manner could be maintained in high level meetings where decisions are made that shape YFC. CW also added to be aware of behaviour in front of observers before and after meetings. DH added he was pleased to say that the CSG members have always maintained that professional manner and had not brought alcohol into meetings.

ACTION POINTS

- **No Action Points**

7. Competition since the last meeting

- 7.1. **Farm Skills Weekend – Saturday, 6th and Sunday, 7th September, 2014**
 - 7.1.1. Young Stockman of the Year
 - 7.1.2. Senior Stockman of the Year
 - 7.1.2.1. More time was required for vets and projects
 - 7.1.2.2. Georgie Perry (GP) commented that Berkshire competitors had really enjoyed their experience
 - 7.1.3. Side by Side ATV with First Aid
 - 7.1.3.1. JT commented on her feedback that members did not like taking part in the national final as they had to travel along way for a 10 minute go on a quad bike. MT asked if Tenbury show could host it as he knew quad bikes would be available, however the CSG agreed to run the efficiency with safety at Harper Adams in 2015 and instigate a wider review into the efficiency with safety competition.
 - 7.1.4. Fence Erecting
 - 7.1.4.1. Correspondence was received from Norfolk regarding the different interpretations of the fence diagram and where the join should be made. JS suggested the judges give a briefing on what they are looking for prior to the start of the competition. MT said the measuring and cutting of the wire beforehand worked very well and made it much easier. FC suggested using Eastern Area judges next year. DH suggested that the steward for fencing must be given a blank score sheet to record the averages of the judges scores; and scores be checked thoroughly.
- 7.2. **Malvern Autumn Show – Saturday, 27th and Sunday, 28th September, 2014**
 - 7.2.1. Cookery
 - 7.2.1.1. Correspondence was received from Joshua Hepworth regarding harsh criticism from the judges. It was discussed that this is what happens with industry standard judges. MC suggested staggered start times so judges could have hot food, it would be possible to split into 3 sessions. All agreed that the display boards must be in size!
 - 7.2.2. Floral Art
 - 7.2.2.1. The CSG noted that all valuables were removed after judging for safe keeping and allowing competitors a couple of extra minutes after the tables have been removed was a good idea and worked well.

7.2.3. Overall Feedback & Event Overview

7.2.3.1. No disqualifications this year really promoted inclusiveness

7.3. Overview of 2013-14 Programme

7.3.1. The CSG were shown the county monitoring presentation. They agreed to send it out to all counties and forward to area organisers to try and show organisers how useful the information can be and get them to send in accurate data for next year.

7.3.2. SB requested counties that had not responded to be named to the CSG members.

ACTION POINTS

- **More time allocation when planning stockman competitions in 2015 – MB & GH**
- **Efficiency with Safety to be booked for Harper Adams – MB**
- **Fence Erecting planning to include judges briefing – MB**
- **Cookery planning to include 3 sessions – MB**
- **Competitions Monitoring to be circulated to all counties – GH**
- **Non responding counties to be named to CSG members - GH**

8. Meetings/ Site visits since previous meeting

8.1. 2015/2016 - England Volleyball updates were presented by GH and the CSG noted potential for resources to be sent to all counties

8.2. 2015-2016 - O2 Touch Rugby updates were presented by GH and the CSG noted potential links with O2 Touch Centres and possibility for YFC Ambassadors

8.3. 2015-2016 - UK Ultimate Frisbee updates were presented by GH and the CSG noted difficulties regarding umpires but were happy with the tournament advisor role and the sportsmanship rating at area and national level. The agreed that the sportsmanship rating should be used at Area and National Final.

8.4. 2014-2015 - English Winter Fair plans are all underway. There are 80 places at £10 each available for the dinner on the Saturday evening. Accommodation may still be available at the Spitfire Hotel at Junction 14 of the M6. Members can gain free entry to the English Winter Fair with their membership card.

8.5. 2014-2015 - Sports Day Venue for 2015 was agreed for Weston Road Academy to host Kwik Cricket, Cross Country Running and Dodgeball. FC asked for Staffordshire O2 Touch Centre to be investigated for 2016 to host touch rugby, Ultimate Frisbee and Volleyball. The CSG noted that Weston Road Academy would be able to host the 2016 sports if required.

8.6. Tug of War Association judges and coaching courses are being advertised on Nfyfc Facebook.

ACTION POINTS

- **Continue relationship development with 2016 sports (Volleyball, Touch Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee) – GH**
- **Promotion of English Winter Fair Dinner - All**
- **Book Sports day venue for 2015 at Weston Road Academy – GH**
- **Research Staffordshire O2 Touch Centre for 2016 sports venue – GH**
- **Continue promotion of TOWA courses – DH**

9. Nominations for Judges and Stewards

9.1. Nominations were made for Northern and Southern Regional Finals and Annual Convention competitions to note that NODA Judges would be used for the Pantomime Competition at the Northern, Southern and Finals of the Pantomime Competition. Any suggestions for Public Speaking Judges would be welcome. To note that the Southern Finals of the Pantomime and Public Speaking will be held on Saturday, 21st and Sunday, 22nd March, 2015 at Weston Super Mare. The Northern Finals of the Pantomime and Public Speaking will be held on Saturday, 21st and Sunday, 22nd March, 2015 at Retford. Names were also suggested for writing Brainstrust Questions.

ACTION POINTS

- **Further nominations for Judges and stewards to be sent to Margaret Bennett – All**

10. Competitions Programme for 2014-15

10.1. Pantomime Rules will remain as published and include in age members to be musicians only

10.2. Fence Erecting Tree Guards to remain as published with the final to be held at Harper Adams

10.3. Cookery clarification that there is no food hygiene questionnaire to be included 2014-2015.

10.4. Reading will remain as published for 2014-15 (electronic devices are not permitted for 2014-2015)

10.5. Senior Member of the Year will remain as published (no marking scheme to be included)

10.6. Floral Art – The Button Hole (Water) will be exempt from the NAFAS Rules – i.e. the button hole does not need to be displayed in water. NAFAS Rule states - *Inclusion of fresh plant material that does not have roots or the cut*

ends of stems in water or water-retaining material. Exceptions: Air Plants, Cacti, Fruits, Grass Turf, Lichen, Moss, Succulents, Vegetables and long lasting plant material which will remain turgid for the duration of a show. (Definition of turgid – the state of firmness of plant tissue resulting from adequate moisture, causing the plant cells to be fully expanded).

- 10.7. Junior Member of the Year – will remain as published
- 10.8. Kwik cricket – the CSG noted the concerns regarding the duration of each innings being too long but MC commented that in the Cumbria Round innings were approximately 20 minutes long although it was played indoors.

ACTION POINTS

- **Rules amendments to be made and notes to be sent to all counties - GH**

11. Competitions Programme for 2015-16

- 11.1. Following suggestions from the working party meeting regarding the 2015-16 competitions programme the overall theme of 'Tomorrow's World' was agreed upon and left to DH to put to Council for Approval
- 11.2. **Rules approved by CSG: These rules to be circulated to Counties for Approval prior to the next meeting in February, 2015.**
 - Eligibility Rules
 - Beef Live and Carcase including age changes into two categories – 26 & Under and 18 & Under
 - Lamb Live and Carcase including age changes into two categories – 26 & Under and 18 & Under
 - Member of the Year (18 & over)
 - Performing Arts Drama including in age members to be musicians
 - Reading (14 & Under) including the use of handheld tablets
 - Public Speaking (16 & Under)
 - Just A Minute (21 & under)
 - Member of the Year (17 & under) with the presentation time between 3 and 10 minutes
 - Situations Vacant (16 to 21 years)
 - Dairy Stockjudging (16 & Under)
 - Dairy Stockjudging (21 & Under)
 - Dairy Stockjudging Linear (26 & Under)
 - Ladies & Mens Tug of War
 - GENSB Tug of War
 - Young Stockman of the Year - beef, dairy, sheep, pigs
 - Senior Stockman of the Year - beef, dairy, sheep, pigs, vets and project
- 11.3. **Rules approved by CSG requiring acknowledgement by all counties – rules to be circulated for approval from the next meeting.**
 - Debating (26 & under) – including updates from the English Speaking Union (English Speaking Union guidelines also to be included), timings to be amended to 6 minutes and 5 minutes with 1 minute of protected time and a penalty will be awarded if points of information are received in protected time. These rules will lead to a partnership potential with the English Speaking Union to help assist with judges and they are recognised by outside bodies such as UCAS. These rules will be placed on the NFYFC website during 2014 for any teams wishing to trial them ready for 2015
 - Mixed Volleyball (10 to 16 years) – England Volleyball Approved, CSG Approved
 - Mixed Touch Rugby (14 to 17 years) – O2 Touch Approved, CSG Approved
 - Mixed Ultimate Frisbee (16 to 26 years) – UK Ultimate Approved, CSG Approved
 - Cookery – a 3 course dinner to the theme of 'tomorrows world' – CSG Approved
- 11.4. **COMPETITION RULES FOR 2015-16 discussed by the CSG: Rules to be put together and sent to Counties for approval before the next meeting.**
 - Show Choir
 - Ballroom Dancing remains the same with music and costume reflecting the theme of tomorrows world
 - Sugar Craft Cake Topper (16 & Under) replaces Gadget Case to be made on the day of the competition and would be a double area eliminator. GP to see if Berkshire have some rules.
 - 10 minute Radio Show Live (21 & Under) replaces Farm Safety Work Wear, this would be a double area eliminator. MT to see if Worcestershire have some rules.
 - Weathervane (26 & Under) replaces dragons den with competitors being available to answer judges questions at the event, it is hoped that the winning weathervane may be displayed on the new NFYFC building. This

would be a double area eliminator.

- Clay Pigeon Shooting – BASC to assist with the rules – Christina Evans (CE), FC to see if Eastern Area have any rules. This would be held as a direct entry from Counties.
- Efficiency with Safety will remain in a similar format and be at Harper Adams for 2016. All counties will be asked to review this competition to see if it should remain on the programme, in this format.
- Fence erecting – proposed rules need to be circulated for further discussion – comments that have been given is that the fencing is too expensive for the County and Areas.
- Floral Art – MB to speak to 2014 judges for possible display ideas
- General Rules

ACTION POINTS

- **2015-16 programme to be put to Council for approval – DH/MB/GH**
- **Council to note for 2015-16 the changes in the debating rules, addition of handheld electronic equipment to the reading rules and the addition of sugar craft, radio show live and weathervane to the programme – DH**
- **Council to note venues for 2014-15 have been approved by CSG – DH**
- **Council to note potential partnership with the National Society of Ploughman – DH/MB**
- **Council to note English Winter Fair Supper on 15th November in Staffordshire, tickets £10 – DH/MB**
- **Rules to be collated ready for the next meeting – GH**

12. Competition Guidelines

- 12.1. Child Licence guidelines will be available for counties taking part in the performing arts competition and NFVFC will provide assistance for area and regional finals
- 12.2. Area Organisers guidelines are currently under construction

ACTIONS POINTS

- **Competition Guidelines – MB**
- **Childe Licence guidelines – MB/Cath Sykes**

13. Area Feedback

- 13.1. Northern Area – Points covered
- 13.2. Eastern Area – Points covered
- 13.3. East Midlands Area – Points covered
- 13.4. West Midlands Area – Points covered
- 13.5. South East Area – Points Covered
- 13.6. South West Area – Points covered
- 13.7. Wales – No representatives

ACTIONS POINTS

- **No Action Points**

14. Any Other Business

- 14.1. Date required for Working Party Meeting to discuss the 2016-17 Competitions and Theme was put on the agenda for the new CSG committee members in February to decide.
- 14.2. An update on sponsorship was presented by Christina Evans (CE).
 - 14.2.1. The CSG noted Massey Ferguson will not be sponsoring the Annual Convention however the UK group are currently considering £2500 sponsorship of the pantomime competition to cover cost of the theatre and printing of the programme which can then be sold to cover the cost of the judges.
 - 14.2.2. Mullerwiseman will not be sponsoring the performing arts competitions as they would like to redirect their finances to Wales with more focus on travel and training. The CSG did question if it was ethical to have them as a sponsor.
 - 14.2.3. NFU Mutual Safety Foundation have opted for a serious campaign to promote farm safety so will not be involved in the work wear competition.
 - 14.2.4. Honda and Kuhn have offered equipment free of charge but will not offer money to a closed event. The equipment will be used for the Efficiency with Safety Competition.
 - 14.2.5. CE asked the CSG to consider the direction of competitions with regard to sponsorship giving 3 options
 - Closed event with no audience – possible to supply equipment only
 - Closed event with an audience – more likely to attract sponsorship
 - Open event – most likely to attract sponsorship but may clash with event sponsors
 - 14.2.6. CSG responded that they would like to remain member focused, keep costs down. In response CE suggested

promoting the CSG with a possible stand at the Annual Convention, to get into external media to attract sponsorship via “ this event is proudly bought to you by the Competitions Steering Group”

- 14.3. National Society of Ploughman would like to encourage young farmers to take part at their national final they already have classes for young farmers members. This is an opportunity to publicise YFC in target arable areas and link to ploughing matches that are already happening.
- 14.4. DH asked members to think about Steering Group Chairman and Vice Chairman positions so there are proposals for the next meeting and also 3 co-options – to note that this was the last meeting of the Committee for the year and those wishing to stand for 2014/2015 would need to ensure that they are representatives on Area Committee’s.
- 14.5. Budget. The budget for 2015 was presented by JCE together with an update of the competitions forecast for 2014.
 - 14.5.1. JS commented that the forecast facilitates members taking part in most things and for the agenda next time perhaps a discussion on where the competitions programme should head and continue to drive efficiency
- 14.6. Maria Burke was introduced to the CSG as the new NFYFC head of marketing and development. Maria explained about her roles including her involvement in developing the future of NFYFC.
- 14.7. Evaluation forms and Annual Convention Steward forms were completed.

ACTIONS POINTS

- **Continued sponsorship partnerships – CE**
- **Response to National Society of Ploughman – DH**
- **Steering Group Chairman and Vice and Co-option proposals – All**

15. Date of next meeting

- 15.1. Saturday 21st February, 2015 at the Quality Hotel, Coventry

16. Closing remarks

- 16.1. DH thanked all of the committee members and NFYFC staff for their feedback.
- 16.2. **Meeting closed at 6.10pm**

Summary of action points

- **NFYFC to add downloadable calendar to website ready for January – GH & MB**
- **Guidelines for area organisers – MB**
- **Letter to Shropshire – with regard to NODA against GODA judges for the performing arts.**
- **Stockman of the Year projects to be written – MB to collate (GH to update mark scheme and rules)**
- **Fines to remain the same – DH to ask for Council to approve**
- **NFYFC to update website ready for January – GH**
- **Tug of War Rules in line with TWIF – GH to send to all counties, DH to ask for Council to approve**
- **Reply to Nathan Greenwood regarding correspondence on prize cards – DH**
- **James Barbour Trophy to be gratefully accepted and for Council to note– DH & MB**
- **Competitors notes for Senior Dairy Stockjudging to be amended stating an earlier time and in one group – MB**
- **Tug of War bibs for coaches – GH**
- **Gwent County and Mens and Ladies Tug of War team ban to be put to Council – DH**
- **Liaison with Tenbury Show Horticultural tent – MB and response to Laura Potts – DH**
- **“Tomorrows World” theme to be put to council for approval – DH**
- **More time allocation when planning stockman competitions in 2015 – MB & GH**
- **Efficiency with Safety to be booked for Harper Adams – MB**
- **Fence Erecting planning to include judges briefing – MB**
- **Cookery planning to include 3 sessions – MB**
- **Competitions Monitoring to be circulated to all counties – GH**
- **Non responding counties to be named to CSG members – GH**
- **Continue relationship development with 2016 sports (Volleyball, Touch Rugby and Ultimate Frisbee) – GH**
- **Promotion of English Winter Fair Dinner - All**
- **Book Sports day venue for 2015 at Weston Road Academy – GH**
- **Research Staffordshire O2 Touch Centre for 2016 sports venue – GH**
- **Continue promotion of TOWA courses – DH**
- **Further nominations for Judges and stewards to be sent to Margaret Bennett - All**
- **Rules amendments to be made and notes to be sent to all counties - GH**
- **2015-16 programme to be put to Council for approval – DH**
- **Council to note for 2015-16 the changes in the debating rules, addition of handheld electronic equipment to the reading**

rules and the addition of sugar craft, radio show live and weathervane to the programme – DH

- Council to note venues for 2014-15 have been approved by CSG – DH
- Council to note potential partnership with the National Society of Ploughman – DH
- Council to note English Winter Fair Supper on 15th November in Staffordshire, tickets £10 - DH
- Rules to be collated ready for the next meeting – GH Competition Guidelines – MB
- Competition Guidelines – MB
- Continued sponsorship partnerships – CE
- Response to National Society of Ploughman – DH
- Steering Group Chairman and Vice and Co-option proposals – All

SIGNED.....

DATED.....

David Hamer

Competitions Steering Group Chair

29th October, 2014