

The Tug of War Association and Federation – Joint Committee

Committee Members: Alan Ludkin Peter Dyer Steve Gardner David Ling Maurice Simons

The meeting was held at Barton under Needwood, Staffordshire, on Sunday 13th December

The committee discussed how the minutes of the first 'Joint Committee' meeting had been received at their respective organisations meetings.

Alan and Peter reported that at the meeting of the Tug of War Association in November, the information had been generally been received very well, there were one or two concerns, but the overall feeling of their meeting was that members wanted the project to succeed, and for the Joint Committee to carry on with it's meetings, so that tug of war can move forward. Steve asked if they could relay the concerns so that they could be considered by the committee. There were questions about the permit and insurance situation, and once again it was explained that for the joint events that may be organised in the future, a permit would be issued. There were concerns about clashes of fixtures, but as was discussed further, we are making no changes as such to the pulling calendar of either organisation, so whatever clashes might exist will not be as a result of this joint project. The committee reflected that in general there seems to be very little in the way of fixture clashes that might be seen to cause a problem.

David and Steve reported that at the meeting of the Tug of War Federation in December, the information had likewise been generally received well by the members present. After having given an explanation at the Federation meeting, as to the background of how and why the meeting had taken place, Steve then read out a full account of the transcript of the meeting that had been displayed on the web site for all to see. When all was said and done, all those present agreed that the meeting had seemed to be successful and the wish of the meeting was for the 'Joint Committee' to continue to meet. Peter asked if there had been any concerns on the Federation's part, and David explained that there had been some confusion and misunderstanding about the training leagues, and encouraging all teams to visit any training league they so wished. After a members concerns were addressed about a small novice league, it was explained that those type of leagues simply become 'Invitation Only' leagues.

It was then agreed that the Joint Committees proposals were accepted by both sides, and were considered low impact proposals that could produce a big amount of good will!

The committee discussed the running the joint events at the end of the season, and it was felt that it would be nice if all members of the Joint Committee could be present at such events. Kessingland was accepted as the Associations nominated venue, and the Federation were looking to run an event in September. However, it was soon realised that due to Peter and Alan being away in South Africa for a considerable period, it was not going to be possible to find an available date before Kessingland, without impacting on the seasons regular fixtures. Alan then suggested that as Kessingland is a two day event, maybe it would be enough for the first year if the Association ran the Saturday event, and they would invite two Federation Judges to attend, and then the Federation could run the Sunday event and invite two Association Judges to attend, though both days of the event would, of course, be advertised for all to attend. This was seen as a great suggestion, and members would now be in contact with members of the Associations Area Five to make the necessary arrangements. It was agreed that this should be advertised in both organisations fixture lists.

After further discussion It was agreed that:

- A) All teams will be encouraged to understand that they can take part in, and visit any Training Leagues in 2010 that take place, if they wish, no matter which organisation (Except Invitation Only Leagues)
- B) The Kessingland two day event will be a 'Joint Event' with the Association organising Saturdays pulling with two invited Federation Judges, and the Sunday will see the Federation organising the days pulling and inviting two Association Judges. Area five will set the programme for the two days with regard to weights to be pulled and entry fees and prizes etc. as normal.

The Committee agreed to meet again at Barton, on Saturday 31st July 2010 at 2pm
