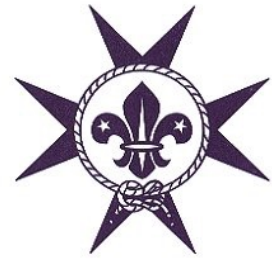


The Scout Association of Malta

General Assembly

2nd June 2009



Meeting Agenda

1. Prayers & Scout Promise
2. Introduction by the Chief Scout
3. Distribution of Voting Documents
4. Presentation of Candidates for Election
5. Consideration of motion presented by the Scout Council :
 - Direct representation of the Districts and the right to vote through their District representatives at the Executive Committee.
6. Election for the Chief Scout
7. Election for the Chief Commissioner
8. Election for the 4 uniformed national council members
9. Election for the 4 non-uniformed national council members

Coffee Break

10. Announcement of results.

Attendees

64 Members were eligible to attend and cast votes. 50 Attended the meeting and 13 members sent in a proxy with other representatives, which were approved by the Chief Scout, vetted by the Honorary Secretary and handed over to the Electoral Commission. Full attendance and original proxies have been filed for record purposes.

Also invited were the nominated candidates for the National Scout Council that were not yet members of the General Assembly. These invitees were not eligible to vote.

Minutes of Meeting

All the attendees signed the attendance form at the registration desk and handed in any proxy forms to the Chief Scout.

The Meeting started at 6:10pm.

The General Assembly was led by the Commissioner for Religious Dimensions, Rev. Fr. Anton Briffa OFM Cap. to a prayer which was followed by the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Godwin D'Anastasi, leading the meeting to the Scout Promise.

The Chief Scout, Mr. Vince Cassar, chaired the meeting and welcomed all present members and explained the importance of today's meeting being the election of the top people that shall represent the Scout Association of Malta for the coming years. He reminded the attendees that this was not a vote of confidence but a vote to indicate if we would like the nominated persons to take up the vacant roles.

Mr. Joseph Saliba, GSL Qormi, with the permission of the chairperson, addressed the meeting with the following short comings which he believed needed to be addressed.

- The General Assembly has become just an elections meeting.
- The Assembly was not requested to approve the agenda.
- No reports have been presented by the National Scout Council, such as the financial reports.
- There are members of the General Assembly who should not be eligible to attend as they have not paid their membership fee.
- The Association had not yet applied to become an NGO and therefore was not yet reaping the benefits associated to it.

A number of attendees agreed with his comments. The Chief Scout pointed out that given some time restrains and in order not to exceed the stipulated term of office, it was decided to call for an extraordinary meeting of the General Assembly for the elections. All reports shall be duly submitted at the next General Assembly which is planned to be held in October.

The Chief Scout also pointed out that he was informed that all the Groups had paid in full their membership fees and were therefore eligible to attend the meeting. It was pointed out that IHQ staff, who were not members within a Group, might not be paying a membership fee.

The Honorary Secretary informed the meeting that the NGO application was well underway but unfortunately due to the requested information about the top positions held within the Association and signatures required by the Association trustees, which posts were also vacant, it was decided by the national scout council to postpone such application to after the election in order to submit up to date records.

Amendment to Agenda items order

The Chief Scout informed the meeting that there shall be a slight change in the Agenda and will be having the presentation of the candidates and motions prior to the distribution of the ballot papers.

Presentation of Candidates for Election

Each nominated candidate present for the meeting was allowed 5 minutes to introduce himself to the General Assembly members.

Consideration of motion presented by the Scout Council

- Direct representation of the Districts and the right to vote through their District representatives at the Executive Committee.

The motion which was presented by each district commissioner and countersigned by all Group Scout leaders, was read out to the members. (See Annex A). The Chief Scout asked for a member to propose the motion and another person to second the proposal. Mr. Saviour Richard, GSL Dingli, and Mr. Mario Ryner, GSL St. Augustine Air Scouts put forward the proposal. The motion was passed to votes by a show of hands and it was unanimously passed.

- The Chief Scout proposed a motion for a two thirds majority of votes in order for the two top most posts (That of Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner) to be elected for the respective posts.

A number of attendees commented against this motion as it was not in line with the constitution which clearly stated a majority of votes, that is a 50% + 1 votes. The nominees for the said posts commented that they had no objection for this motion to be passed to the votes. The motion was therefore passed to the votes by a show of hands. The motion did not pass by 27 against 15 votes. 21 Members did not cast their vote.

Elections

The Honorary Secretary, Mr. Robert Gonzi, explained the procedure for casting votes for each of the positions. Since the number of nominees matched exactly the number of vacant positions, the Honorary Secretary reminded the attendees that voting will not be based on preferences but instead a YES or NO vote would be casted for each candidate to indicate whether the person should or should not sit on the vacant seat respectively. Each ballot paper clearly indicated the procedure for casting votes.

Four coloured ballot papers for Chief Scout, Chief Commissioner, 4 members on the National Scout Council Uniformed Members and 4 members on the National Scout Council - Non Uniformed Members were distributed to each eligible member and signed for. Time was allocated for voting. The electoral commission passed on to count the votes

Announcement of results.

The Honorary Secretary apologised on behalf of the electoral commission for the lengthy process and explained that this was mainly due to recounts necessary as one of the posts had only 1 vote difference.

The results were announced by the Honorary Secretary as follows:

	Yes	No	Empty	Invalid	Elected
Chief Scout					
Kenneth DeMartino	58	5			Yes
Chief Commissioner					
Godwin D'Anastasi	31	32			No
Uniformed Members					
Kevin Camilleri	49	11	2	1	YES
Leslie Bonnici	47	12	3	1	YES
George Mangion	51	7	4	1	YES
Mark A. Pizzuto	47	10	5	1	YES
Non Uniformed Members:					
Anthony J. Abela Medici	51	7	4	1	YES
Martin Azzopardi	44	10	8	1	YES
Peter V. Degiorgio	45	9	8	1	YES
Avril Frendo	55	5	2	1	YES

Due to the fact that the post of Chief Commissioner was still vacant, The Chief Scout, Mr. Vince Cassar, proposed the following motion which was seconded by Dr. Kevin Camilleri, Commissioner for Scouts:

In View that the post of Chief Commissioner is still vacant, The General Assembly thereby authorizes the General Secretary to issue a fresh call of applications for filling the post of Chief Commissioner with the date for elections being held on the 6th of October 2009.

In the interim period the General Assembly approves that the newly elected Chief Scout assumes the full duties and responsibilities of the Chief Commissioner.

The motion was passed to the votes by a show of hands and passed by a majority of votes

Closing of Meeting

Mr. Paul Vella, with the permission of the chairperson, addressed the meeting and personally thanked all the team he worked with at the National Scout Council and also all the members present for their support.

The chairperson, Mr. Vince Cassar, invited the newly elected Chief Scout to take a seat at the head table and address the meeting. Mr. Kenneth DeMartino started by thanking the Chief Scout and Chief Commissioner for their services. He then thanked the general assembly members for the huge responsibility that was just passed on to him. He therefore asked all present for their support and promised an open method of leadership always ready to listen. Mr. DeMartino also pointed out that he had been out of the 'day to day' operations of the Association and was much of a 'back bencher' for the past 8 years. He assured that with the support of all the GSLs and IHQ Staff, this Association will get where it deserves. He stressed that there is a lot to be done up to the next General Assembly in October and we need all the possible support. Mr. DeMartino pointed out that everyone has to accept today's results as the democracy process asks for.

He closed his address with the following, "Let us get all together for one vision. This is our Association and not mine"

The chairperson, Mr. Vince Cassar, closed the meeting.

Approved on: _____

By:

Mr. Kenneth DeMartino
Chief Scout

Mr. Robert Gonzi
Honorary Secretary