



Draft minutes of online SPR General Meeting on 24 March 2021

Present: I. Koornstra (Chair), A. Bouwmeester, Gerard Sierksma, H. Meijer, H. Nieboer, H. Burgerhof, J. Bouman (minute-taker), H. Hofenk, H. Morselt, M. Vrijens, M. Hofstee, R. Bos, S. Johnson, T. Marra

1. Opening and agenda

The online meeting is opened at 5.31 p.m. by Irma Koornstra. The draft agenda is approved.

2. Draft minutes of General Meeting of 21 October 2020

The minutes are approved without changes.

3. Announcements (board, sections, Sports Centre)

- **Tennis**

Ruud Bos: The air-supported structures have been removed from the tennis courts, so all 12 courts are in use once again.

Hans Burgerhof reports that the KNLTB has decided to postpone their spring competition until May, at the earliest.

- **Skating**

Teye Marra indicates that the skating rinks had to be closed due to the lockdown. Luckily for skaters, there was some natural ice this year. Outdoors training recently resumed at the Sports Centre.

Last winter, Skating Club KRAS wanted to go to the Weissensee. To make this possible, a grant was applied for and obtained, but unfortunately the trip could not go through due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Hopefully, the trip can take place next year.

You are welcome at KRAS, and to join us next year for an alternative Elfstedentocht!

- **Fishing**

Not present, no announcements

- **Retirees**

Not present, using online options

- **Sports Centre**

Still working on the construction of the new SC and the semi-permanent sports hall.

Important steps have been taken in this context, and it seems that the construction of the semi-permanent hall can start this autumn.

In addition, the SC is constantly on the look-out for opportunities to offer as many sports activities as possible within the COVID-19 restrictions.

- **SPR**

U-move: Hannah Meijer explains that a survey was held among UG staff, with questions such as:

- How do you exercise during and around your working day?
- What sports activities do you engage in and what would you like to do at SPR?

Some interesting results:

- There is much need for flexible course and entry offerings.
- Staff would like some support (for example, for strength training).
- Staff enjoy exercising at work.
- More sports opportunities in the city centre/close to home.

One of the reasons people don't exercise more is that sports facilities are too far from their home.

Gerard Sierksma (SPR member and chair of Sports advisory committee of the Municipality of Groningen) asks why the survey was not carried out in collaboration with Hanze UAS. Hannah explains that the survey mostly focused on the UG: What can we improve here? It was more of an HR and Health, Safety & Sustainability issue, with too little connection to Hanze UAS to make collaboration meaningful.

Irma Koornstra adds that options for bringing the partners together are currently being explored. Internally, within the UG, follow-up steps are being considered.

Gerard Sierksma suggests creating a kind of sports hopping possibilities for Hanze UAS/UG/SPR once the pandemic is over, for example by giving SPR members four opportunities to try out a sport at one of the different sports associations. Irma asks Gerard to keep SPR informed and maybe discuss further possibilities. Gerard indicates that he will explore this for SPR, independently from the Municipality.

4. Sports range

Hans Nieboer clarifies the situation regarding the sports range: as soon as possible, SPR will start offering sports activities again and expanding their range where possible. First, we have to survive this period and make sure that we can open at all.

Irma Koornstra indicates that members can submit input/ideas via spr@rug.nl.

5. Finances

- a. Financial report for 2020 (Appendix 2)
- b. Report of the audit committee (Appendix 3)
- c. Composition of the audit committee
- d. Budget for 2021 (Appendix 4)
- e. Finances in coming years
- f. Subscription forms

a. Financial report for 2020 (Appendix 2)

The report is based on an average of 1,334 members. This is more or less the average of previous years. At the moment, SPR has 1,100 members.

What stands out are the section contributions and the rent. For the rest, expenses are relatively stable.

Ruud Bos comments on this: the tennis section receives a maximum grant of €5,000. If they use more hours, they have to refund the relevant amount to SPR. Use in normal years varied from €7,000 to €8,000. This year, it appears that costs will remain below €5,000. The grant is not transferred directly to SPR tennis, but offset after the Sports Centre completes its calculations.

Irma Koornstra adds that SPR and the tennis section will soon come together to further clarify this matter.

b. Report of the audit committee

Ruud Bos and Mia Vrijens met with Tom de Ram and Kim Versveld (from the UG) to go through the entire report and answer all questions.

There were some remaining questions, which led to a proposal from the audit committee to meet once again with all parties involved. The audit committee indicated that it would be inappropriate for them to advise the General Meeting to grant discharge to the board before everything is clear.

The committee emphasised that there is no suggestion of malpractice; they simply want to have everything clear before they advise the General Meeting to grant discharge to the board.

c. Composition of the audit committee

d. Budget for 2021

At the previous General Meeting, the budget could not yet be approved because it was not clear how member numbers would develop during the pandemic. Irma indicates that for 2021, member numbers are estimated at 1,100. SPR currently has 1,088 members.

The variable contingent is not very big, and technical sports staff is a relatively high expense. This is a difficult issue in view of the reduced number of members. The board will have to consider a worst-case scenario.

Herman explains that the obligations arising from the services purchased at the Sports Centre have increased, while income has decreased. The increase in Hans Nieboer's contract hours has been fully integrated in the 2021 prognosis. His position falls under technical sports staff. The category 'servicing agreements' (DVO) covers all administrative and financial support staff. There are some questions concerning which expenses should be booked under which posts. This will be further investigated and discussed.

Mia Vrijens asks whether the board can unilaterally decide to increase a person's contract hours, and what reason they might have for doing so.

Irma explains that the decision was taken in September. It was submitted to the members at the time, and concerns an extension of the servicing agreement addendum. Herman indicates that there is also a trend towards hiring more technical sports staff.

Irma asks whether, despite the issues being raised and the lack of approval from the audit committee/board, the budget can be approved in its current form.

The budget is approved on the condition that further explanation is provided concerning the technical sports staff issue and Mia's question (see previous paragraph).

e. Finances in coming years

Finances in coming years will greatly depend on how member numbers develop in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. How many people will continue to work from home and how many will want to integrate the option of making use of SPR? In what way(s) can SPR continue to offer sports activities?

SPR has a small reserve, but if member numbers drop below 1,000, we will be running at a loss.

f. Subscription forms

The board has repeatedly discussed various subscription forms, and has once again looked into the matter. They have decided to not introduce any new subscription forms except an SPR day pass.

There are possibilities for adjusted subscriptions for temporary UG/Hanze UAS staff.

6. Election of board members

- Herman Blom is outgoing and eligible for re-appointment (2nd term).
- Following an introductory period, Anne Bouwmeester stood for candidate and was elected (1st term).
- Following an introductory period, Teye Marra stood for candidate and was elected (1st term).

This means that the SPR board is once again operating at full strength.

7. Suggestion for modifying the SPR logo

- Jansien van Dijk, former marketing and communication officer for Topsport, is working on a new website for SPR (which will be launched shortly). In this context, a new logo has been designed in the colours of the UG and Hanze UAS. The UG and Hanze UAS have granted permission for their names to be included in the logo.

Ruud Bos indicates that the R in SPR stands for the UG, so why has it not been removed?

Irma indicates that SPR is the official name that appears in the Articles of Association, and can therefore not simply be changed.

Mia Vrijens proposes to have 'R' stand for recreation. The General Meeting approves the new logo.

8. Any other business and closing

- Sami Johnson is a squash coach who teaches children and adults, and he has asked whether he can join ACLO/SPR/SC as a coach.

He also thinks that SPR offers an attractive and affordable selection of sports activities that should be promoted more.

Irma indicates that Hans Nieboer will contact Sami Johnson to discuss the possibility of him joining SPR as a squash coach.

Irma closes the meeting at 6.41 p.m.

The next SPR General Meeting is planned for Wednesday 27 October 2021.

The Matrix of Olympic Skating Gold

Gerard Sierksma was supposed to give a presentation on the *Matrix of Olympic Skating Gold*.

This had to be postponed due to time constraints.

We are exploring lockdown/community-building activities. Once a new date is announced, it will be communicated.