



**European Airsoft Association (EAA)  
INNAUGURAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Conducted via Skype p2p audio conference  
Sunday 30th October 2011 1900(CET)**

*IVK summarised the background of the EAA and explained that in the Netherlands there is a total ban on airsoft replicas. The EAA was set up to lobby for equal airsoft related laws across the EU and demonstrate that airsoft was an internationally recognised legitimate activity and therefore assist in legalising of airsoft in the Netherlands. The focus of the NABV has now moved away from the EAA to help them draft a new airsoft legal framework in the Netherlands (IVK is a lawyer from the Netherlands who specialises in European firearms law and helped establish the EAA and NABV)*

**1. Attendees-**

Matt Furey-King MFK  Temporary Chair  <b>UK (UKAPU)</b>	<b>Y</b>	David Biksadsky DB  <b>CZECH REPUBLIC (CRAA)</b>	<b>Y</b>	Icarus Van der Kolk IVK  <b>NETHERLANDS (NABV)</b>	<b>Y</b>	Andrew Fox (AF)-  Temporary Secretary  <b>UK (UKAPU)</b>	<b>Y</b>
Mario Nezaž MN  <b>ALBANIA (SH.K.S)</b>	<b>Y</b>	Marcello Avanzo MA  <b>ITALY (ASNWG)</b>	<b>Y</b>	Marko Bakovic MB  <b>CROATIA (HASS-CAF)</b>	<b>Y</b>	Luis Miguel Bastos da Silva LBS  <b>PORTUGAL (FPA-ALA)</b>	<b>Y</b>
Marco Houtmeyers MH  <b>BELGIUM (AAB)</b>	<b>Y</b>						

**a. Apologies-**

Joachim Dekkers (President NABV) JD

**2. To hear any objections to the establishment of a steering committee**



No objections were raised.

### **3. Election of temporary administrative officers**

#### **a. President**

MFK volunteered himself for the position

Seconded MB

No objections

MFK elected as President

MFK thanked the outgoing President, Gerard Goos, for his efforts in establishing the association

*A suggestion was put to the meeting that the committee should all be from one country, rotating in 6 month terms so they could all meet face to face. Alternatively the administrative officers could be elected from a mix of countries each term to improve consistency in manning. Following some discussion it was decided to postpone the rest of the committee elections till next meeting following further discussion online.*

Election of press officer, secretary and treasurer postponed

### **4. Composition of steering committee**

MFK proposed that the voting members of the steering committee are the heads of any European association which is formed, or under construction, and that attend a meeting, with one vote each. Administrative officers would not necessarily be entitled to vote.

No objections

Motion Passed

As such the steering committee membership is presently as follows;

Matt Furey-King representing UKAPU (United Kingdom)

Mario Nezaj representing SH.KS (Albania)

Marko Bakovic representing HASS (Croatia)

David Biksadsky representing CRAA (Czech Republic)

Marcello Avanso representing ANSWG (Italy)

Marco Houtmeyers representing AAB (Belgium)



Luis Miguel Bastos da Silva representing FPA-ALA (Portugal)  
Joachim Dekkers representing NABV (Netherlands)  
*(Note- IVK stood in for JD at this meeting)*

#### **5. Structure of the association (national bodies vs. individual members)**

MFK proposed that EAA membership should only be available to national associations and not individual members.

No objections

Motion Passed

#### **6. Parent state EU membership and EAA eligibility (territory of EAA)**

After some discussion it was agreed that the territory of the EAA should be simply quantified as mainland Europe and not take into account EU membership.

*AF suggested that applicant associations on the periphery of Europe can easily be subject to a committee vote if we were unsure whether it was in Europe.*

#### **7. Requirements for membership**

It was suggested that member associations must

##### **a. Have a Written Constitution**

No objections

Motion Passed

It was also agreed that this must be made public on the association's website (it would not have to be translated to English for the benefit of the EAA).

##### **b. Elect a committee every 12 months**

After some discussion and issues raised by the meeting this was postponed for further discussion.

##### **c. Make membership available for all resident airsofters**



After some discussion and issues raised by the meeting this was postponed for further discussion.

**d. Must be able to claim reasonable support**

After some discussion and issues raised by the meeting this was held for further discussion.

**e. Provisional membership and timeline for compliance**

MFK proposed that we should allow provisional members. These would be national associations who are just starting out, the EAA should help them gain support. They should have 1 year to comply with membership requirements or they will lose provisional membership status. It was not decided when this time period should start for current associations.

No objections

Motion Passed

**8. Multiple Associations for a single country**

Discussion was held regarding multiple associations from a country. A number of countries have several associations. It was suggested that we could accept only one association from each country, alternatively force them to choose a single representative between them or have a more complicated voting system for affected associations, which would still ensure that each state had just a single vote and similar 'talking rights'. It was decided to postpone this item till next meeting to allow discussion of propositions.

**9. Any Other Business**

- a. MFK Requested permission to clear and archive some of the EAA web forum and start afresh.

All agreed

Some committee members highlighted that they were not able to access the committee area and that their association was not yet listed on the EAA site. MFK to task webmaster for rectification.

- b. MW asked what kind of actions the EAA will be involved in.

It was decided to address the aims and objectives of the EAA after the structures and powers of the committee were established.



- c. MB asked for all steering committee members to be carbon copied in on all emails to increase dissemination of information. MFK mentioned that the EAA forum should also be utilised as much as possible.

All agreed

#### **10. Date and time of next meeting**

- a. MFK announced that the FPA have generously offered to pay for accommodation, food and a venue for a face to face EAA meeting in Portugal.
- b. The next Meeting will be announced following discussion online of the issues postponed at this meeting and feedback on the effectiveness of the Skype meet. It was noted that MH and DB were prevented from communicating freely via voice by technical problems.
- c. Minutes to be drafted and distributed within one week of meeting.