



FSF AGM 2018

Royal National Hotel,
London

Saturday 28th July

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1 - AGENDA

Football Supporters' Federation, Annual General Meeting 2018

Delegates are encouraged to arrive as early as possible to ensure the AGM can start on time at 2.30pm. Note that the times stated below are approximate and may be adjusted as necessary by the Chair.

- 1) Chair's welcome and introduction
- 2) Adoption of Minutes for FSF Annual General Meeting 2017 and matters arising
- 3) FSF AGM elections
 - Chair's explanation of format of elections
 - Election of FSF deputy chair (unopposed).
 - National Council election of directly elected representatives; introduction of nominees
- 4) Adoption of accounts & financial report
- 5) Consideration of Annual Review 2017-2018
- 6) Consideration of motions tabled by members
- 7) Chair's report on a unified national supporters' organisation
- 8) Any other business

5pm Close

Neil D. Springate
FSF Secretary

2 - Motions received for debate by the main assembly

Motion 1: Women's football

Motion reads:

The Football Association has sought the engagement of the FSF in supporting the development of women's football throughout the country. Whilst, both for health and recreational reasons, Federation applauds the creation of opportunities for young females to develop football skills and be involved in competitive play, it cannot support a franchise system where membership of the two senior women's leagues is decided on financial grounds rather than successful performance on the field of play.

- 1) Proposer: Sunderland AFC Supporters' Association
- 2) Seconder: FSF National Council

Motion 2: Football as a marketing platform for HFSS brands

Motion reads:

Federation notes that football at all levels is used to market food and drink products to fans that are high in fat, salt and sugar (HFSS). Marketing channels include club-based or league-based sponsor partnerships (e.g. Gatorade, Cadbury), broadcast media advertising (e.g. Domino's Pizza), and grassroots programme sponsorship (e.g. McDonald's, Mars), all of which look to engage children and young people. The UK is currently experiencing a child overweight and obesity crisis which will cost the NHS billions of pounds each year if trends are not reversed, with new data revealing 20% of all 4 and 5-year-olds are classed as obese.

Whilst parental and individual responsibility has a part to play in reversing this trend, new research has found that 50% of all TV advertisements seen by children aged between 4 and 15 are for HFSS brands, despite a ban on such products being advertised on 'children's programmes'. Companies marketing HFSS brands are specifically using football as a platform to shape the tastes and consumer habits of children and young people, contributing to the childhood obesity crisis. In May the Commons Health Select Committee called for "a commitment to end sponsorship by brands overwhelmingly associated with high fat, sugar and salt products [at] sports clubs, venues, youth leagues and tournaments".

The FSF recommends that further restrictions should be put in place by Government to limit the use of football as a marketing platform for HFSS brands, and will work with health campaign groups including Healthy Stadia and SUGAR SMART to ensure that fans voices are heard in protecting children and young people from such marketing tactics.

- 1) Proposer: Robin Ireland
- 2) Seconder: Christine Hamilton

Motion 3: Fixtures around the Christmas and New Year period

Motion reads:

FSF calls on the Fixtures Working Group, the leagues and their broadcast partners to recognise the significance and importance of fixtures around the Christmas and New Year period, particularly to families, and to commit to keeping games during that period to their traditional time slots. This should include:

- No kick offs after 3pm on Christmas Eve
- No kick offs before 12pm or after 5pm on Boxing Day
- No kick offs after 3pm on New Year's Eve
- No kick offs before 12pm on New Year's Day

We all call for a commitment to take into consideration likely travel disruption during this period when planning fixtures.

- 1) Proposer: BIAS
- 2) Seconder: Brentford LBGT

3 – Election of the FSF Deputy Chair

One nomination received for the post

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Martin O'Hara

Name of **PROPOSER**: Alan Bloore

Name of **SECONDER**: Rick Duniec

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected?

I am the current Deputy Chairman of the FSF and I'm about to complete my third two-year term. Prior to that I was a National Council member for a period of some years and was actively involved in several of the workgroups gaining experience of current issues. I am also a current board director of the FSF.

I am also secretary of the Viking Supporters Cooperative at DRFC and a supporters' board member. In recent years we have been subjected to hostile takeover bids by offshore hedge fund companies which I am proud to say that I helped resist in the strongest possible terms. Despite threats of legal action and other less salubrious acts we stood firm and now have ownership that have the best interests of the club at heart. I currently advise the club on all supporter issues.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as Deputy Chair.

During my time with the FSF I have participated in all the various campaigns, workgroups and activities. This gives me extensive experience and a knowledge base that encompasses everything that is current to supporter issues at all levels, this would include International football as well as the league structure in England and Wales. The issues of which I have extensive knowledge would be governance, safe standing, away fan experience, Policing and stewarding, plus a whole host of the day to day troubles that afflict football and its supporters.

I am also the current secretary of the Viking Supporters Cooperative and help run the IRWT campaign at Doncaster Rovers, which is a leader in fan engagement. This has attracted considerable praise and widespread acclaim for its achievements. Part of that responsibility also means I am a founder board director of the supporter's board at DRFC which again sets out to be a class leader. As usual I believe that we can and must work in partnership to achieve what we can for the benefit of all supporters.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

My aims and interests would be to carry on helping out and being involved in all aspects of the work that the FSF are currently involved in. In recent years, following on from our reorganisation, we have made tremendous progress in all our campaign areas and that is a tremendous result for all the volunteers and staff that have been involved. I intend to carry on with the work as a board director of the FSF and guide and encourage the organisation to keep doing the right things for the benefit of all supporters.

In particular, our price campaigns have met with tremendous success, what we need to do now is to capitalise on that and put that experience to work in other areas. We still have some work to do in the 'safe standing' area although recent discussions lead us to believe we can deliver on this. The increased role and use of SLOs', Policing and Stewarding along with the 'Away Fans Experience'

will all help shape our match days. I do believe that as Deputy Chair I can play a vital role in seeing major progress in all these areas.

4 - Nominations for Directly Elected National Council Members

11 nominations received for 11 posts

Name of CANDIDATE: Ally Simcock

Name of PROPOSER: Port Vale Supporters' Club

Name of SECONDER: Dave Tomlinson

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I have just completed my second term as a National Council member and eager to continue. I have worked with the Fan Experience Company and the Football League, supporting with the allocation of Family Excellence Awards.

I have been involved with the nominations and judging of the FSF awards for the past three years, where I helped to decide which individuals and fan groups deserved to be recognised. This was especially rewarding, as I got to read about some really inspiring changes.

I represent the FSF as part of the Fixtures Working Party, allowing me to be involved with the FL on behalf of the FSF, putting across the fans' viewpoints when looking at how fixtures are to be allocated. If elected, this is something I intend to carry on giving full commitment to. I am also a co-opted Supporters Direct board member on behalf of the FSF, where I help to communicate between the two organisations.

I have participated in structured dialogue meetings with the English Football League where I assist with putting the views of football fans across.

Outside of the NC, I have been Chair of the PVFC Supporters' Club since February 2013. I am responsible for the day to day running of the SC, liaising with the football club, it's staff, players and board, along with local Members of Parliament, Staffs Police, the FA, local schools, the FL, organisations and most importantly, the fans. I run meetings for the committee and for SC members on a monthly basis. I write an article in every match day programme and am regularly interviewed by local and national media, both in written and verbal formats.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as an FSF National Council member.

I have worked with young people and adults with complex needs in further education for over 15 years, teaching to level 3 in many subjects. This vocation requires me to be organised, diplomatic, conscientious, diligent and professional at all times. I feel the skills and knowledge I have acquired within my profession, along with my excellent interpersonal skills, will assist with supporting the FSF National Council in achieving many things. I am experienced in creating and amending policies for such topics as health and safety, equality and diversity etc. I am eager to get my teeth into a challenge and am passionate about football as a whole. I am also very experienced in creating lessons and resources to meet given criteria, which would assist with supporting the FSF to keep in line with quality standards and to work towards campaigns. My teaching job requires me to be unbiased, to consider others' points of view and to keep a balanced viewpoint. This will be useful when working on controversial topics.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

I am extremely passionate about equality and diversity. I would like to support the national council with working towards a reduction in discrimination cases within football as a whole. I would also aim to explore ways of capturing wider audiences for clubs, especially encouraging more diverse groups to attend matches. I aim to be involved in initiatives which help improve fan experiences across the board. I am also very interested in the discussion around football governance and safe standing.

Name of CANDIDATE: Carroll Clark

Name of PROPOSER: Manchester City Supporters' Club

Name of SECONDER: Ian Todd

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I have been associated with the FSF for 40 years. I was initially secretary of the Welsh Division of the National Federation of Football Supporters Clubs being appointed in January 1976 5 months prior to the Shrewsbury conference. I continued in that post until elected to the National Council of the NAT FED and given the portfolio of junior supporters and was responsible for organizing the national junior 5-a-side football competition. I was subsequently appointed Treasurer of the Nat Fed and was so for the 8 years prior to the merger with the FSA in 2003 and appointed treasurer of the new organisation.

I have also been involved in the organization of several successful annual conference.

When the Northern Division was divided into two divisions West and East I was elected chairman for 12 months to the 2009 AGM.

I support Wrexham and have been the chairman/treasurer of Wrexham Supporters' Association for many years. On match days I host the executive room which is frequented by season ticket holders in the executive viewing box. I have access to the board room on match days and consequently have met many well-known figures in the football world.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as an FSF National Council member.

My skills are really financial but 40 years' experience of both the organisation, attending National Council meetings, have helped me to gain sufficient knowledge to hopefully be of use to the FSF.

As a retired bank manager I believe that I have learnt sufficient people skills which should stand me in good stead.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

It remains to be seen what role I can play in the future but I am a fast learner and more than willing to adapt to a new role.

I am a Trustee of the FSF Trust Ltd and it may well be that I can further my involvement in this capacity having had involvement in a similar capacity with another organisation.

Name of CANDIDATE: Christopher Robert Johnson

Name of PROPOSER: Peter Pike (Clarets Trust)

Name of SECONDER: Liam Hallinan (Clarets Trust)

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

Since the age of seven I have been involved with football both as a player and latterly as a supporter. At the age of seven I made my debut for the under 11's with Folkestone town F.C. I then progressed to play for the youth team before joining Tottenham Hotspur F.C. as an apprentice. I stayed at Tottenham until the age of nineteen, progressing to reserve team football. At the age of nineteen I suffered a serious knee injury that ended my playing career. At the time I also had a contract to play cricket for Kent County Cricket Club. I have continued to work with the football community raising funds for Prostate Cancer U.K., Pendle Hospice, Derian House, Chorley, home for terminally ill children. In December 2017 I joined the Clarets Trust board with Burnley football Club.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as an FSF National Council member.

I have been involved in football all my life and while supporting my country, home and away for 50 years. I have established many contacts while raising money globally for charity. I believe that the skills that I gained while developing my own business for twenty five years. Prior to establishing my own business I worked for Barclays bank for sixteen years. I am a qualified member of the Institute of Directors with specialism in communications and marketing.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

My primary aim is to enhance the match day experience of all football supporters, particularly with a view to improving the disabled supporters ground facilities and accessibility. I am currently working with Burnley football Club with regard to the provision of the new stands for the disabled supporters, due to open at the beginning of the 2018/2019 season.

Name of CANDIDATE: Dave Pennington

Name of PROPOSER: Duncan Drasdo (Manchester United Supporters' Trust)

Name of SECONDER: Katrina Law (Tottenham Hotspur Supporters' Trust)

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

Following a period on our Fans Forum, I joined MUST and have since been an active Committee Member, and latterly a Board member, involved in successful direct dialogue with Club Directors on match-going fan issues. I recently led for MUST on challenging the FA on their excessive ticket price rises, securing a commitment to further dialogue in the coming weeks.

I have been active within SD's PL Supporter Trusts and FSF's PL Supporter Groups networks for several years, seeking to deliver results through genuine partnership between local and national supporter organisations. I am an active member of the FSF Safe Standing Group.

Following my election to FSF National Council last year I have input directly to the development of the future organisation blueprint, and engaged with other PL Supporter Groups and Football Supporters Europe colleagues to address significant policing and ticket price issues in our UEFA campaigns.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

From my work as a civil servant I have a good understanding of how legislation and regulation works and how wider government, civil service and ministerial processes work around it. This is important for the safe standing campaign and future change in the regulation of supporter interests in their clubs. I have also acquired generic skills including establishing and utilising networks, chairing and participating in meetings and running events/conferences.

As a life long and passionate supporter of my team, I am a season ticket holder (in a section where we all stand!) and also regularly attend domestic and European away matches. Through this I have experience, as well as personal interest, in some of the most significant match-going supporter issues.

Perhaps most important, since retiring from my full time career last year I can, and already have, committed the time, motivation and passion to deliver for football supporters through MUST and FSF.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

While much has been achieved recently, a key focus must be on further wins for match-going fans, particularly a final positive outcome on safe standing, but also ticket prices (including FA Cup Wembley matches), travel and other impacts of TV deals on away supporters across all Leagues.

We must continue to focus on delivering the full scope and quality of structured dialogue between clubs and their supporter groups, that 2015 government sponsored review agreed to.

Although of interest to only a small number of clubs, key challenges are emerging around UEFA Competition matches, including discriminatory ticket pricing, allocations and policing/stewarding for away fans. Removing the all-seater rule should also be on our agenda. I would like to see, and would be keen to work on, a European supporter groups campaign on these issues.

More needs to be done to create opportunities for supporter share stakes, and board representation, and the newly constituted FSF needs to provide full and effective support for supporter owned clubs and establishing new Supporter Trusts at other clubs.

To enable us to focus on all of these important deliverables, a key objective for me would be to support the prompt and effective transition to the new organisation ensuring that best use is made of available resources and expertise.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Fiona McGee

Name of **PROPOSER**: Roisin Wood

Name of **SECONDER**: Peter Daykin

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I have been a member of the FSF (and previously the FSA) for over 20 years and have been a member of the National Council and the FSF Board of Services for the past 4 years.

I initially joined the FSF as a result of my involvement in Leeds Fans United Against Racism and Fascism, before going on to become a volunteer for the Fans' Embassy teams between 2000 and 2008. I led the Fans For Diversity research on women's experiences as fans of the men's game and wrote the "Women At The Match" report published in 2015. I have previously represented the FSF at meetings and in the media, talking about issues such as safe standing and the Premier League TV deal.

I am also involved in football in a number of ways via my professional life. I have worked for Show Racism the Red Card, helping to research and write educational materials using football to talk to young people about racism. As an Associate Researcher for Substance, I have also worked on and helped to co-write briefing papers for Supporters Direct (e.g. Business Advantages of Supporter Community Ownership in Football). I currently work for a grassroots football project based in Brixton, which uses football as a tool to tackle wider social issues, including mental health, knife crime, literacy, and community cohesion.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

I have a lot of experience helping to run campaigns, both football and non-football related, which could be of use to the FSF in helping us to promote the interests of football supporters. I believe my skills as a researcher and writer would also be beneficial to the FSF, as I am used to gathering information and presenting it in a clear and concise way.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

Through the work that I have done in my professional life and through my own experiences of being a football fan, I am interested in issues to do with diversity, supporter ownership, transparent governance and how to ensure fans are getting a fair deal. As someone who now lives in Cornwall, the overwhelming majority of my match attendance is now at non-league level and I am interested in helping the FSF to develop the work it is doing in that area.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Ian Byrne

Name of **PROPOSER**: Jay McKenna (Spirit of Shankly)

Name of **SECONDER**: Dave Kelly (Blue Union)

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

The 2 years have been monumental in advancing fan activism by demonstrating how collectivism and solidarity between supporters can effect positive change.

I am extremely proud to have been involved in work done by the supporters' groups, including Spirit of Shankly, across the leagues in the support of the FSF 'Twenty's Plenty' campaign.

The importance of fan activism was demonstrated very powerfully when the Spion Kop 1906 group and the Spirit of Shankly organised the walkout at Anfield, demonstrating clearly that fans are the lifeblood of our game and the pricing out of the working classes, both young and old, had become intolerable, both in Liverpool and also nationally.

This is something for which we, as fans from all clubs, need to fight, and I will continue to support this objective through the FSF and other avenues.

This spirit of co-operation between fans has enabled me from SOS and Dave Kelly from the Everton Supporters Trust, both serving national council members, to start Fans Supporting Foodbanks. This is a joint project between Everton and Liverpool fans and local established foodbanks in which we collect foodstuffs from both sets of fans every home game under the strapline 'Hunger Doesn't Wear Club Colours'. From its beginnings as a couple of wheely bins in the local pubs, it has become a confederation of supporters, trade unions, local community and faith groups and, crucially, both clubs in spreading this message of cooperation. This led to the FSF organising a national summit for supporters interested in joining this initiative in 2018; a hugely successful day with clubs throughout the leagues now involved in helping communities through Fans Supporting Foodbanks. We at Fans Supporting foodbanks were proud to be nominated for the FSF community award and proud recipients of the Bill Shankly Community trophy awarded by Liverpool Football Club at their annual awards in May.

This collective solidarity for the common good is something in which I believe and I would use every minute as an FSF national council member to push this agenda.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

I serve as a committee member of SOS and am a member of the Liverpool Supporters' Forum, I have a wide experience of representing fans and members in different environments through pushing a fans' agenda at all levels. One of my main passions is grassroots football. As both a player and secretary of our local pub team and my involvement in helping running my kids football teams, I understand the difficulties within this sphere of the game. Grassroots football is vital in sustaining the love and future of our game. The need for accessible and affordable training and playing facilities for football players both old and young has never been more important, and we must pressure both football authorities and Government authorities to achieve this for the survival of our great game. Without a strong, healthy and vibrant grassroots football scene, the game as our communities know and enjoy is finished.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

One of the most important things as a football supporter is to be treated as an equal. Currently we are treated differently at a game from other fans of other sports and this is something the FSF needs to address and campaign against.

Fundamentally, our fantastic game, both spectating and participating, should always be accessible to all and I would always be pushing this agenda if elected.

I fully support the campaign for rail seating and firmly believe the option of choice for fans and clubs is the way forward for the next generation of supporters to enjoy our great game in a safer environment.

Name of CANDIDATE: Pete Daykin

Name of PROPOSER: Cardiff City Supporters' Club

Name of SECONDER: Ian Todd

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected

My professional background running a digital transformation agency and in football publishing (initially with the local fanzine and more recently in co-founding The Blizzard Football Quarterly) brings with it transferrable skills and contacts that are useful for the FSF.

I have been a member of the National Council since 2004 and have been paying to watch football since 1981. While I have enjoyed many of the changes football has undergone in that time, others have been less successful.

I play the game competitively, albeit at an appallingly low standard, without pace, grace or talent of any description, but with an enthusiasm that borders on the embarrassing for someone of my age.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a National Council member.

I have always tried to get involved in as wide a variety of the FSF's activities as possible. I am currently active on both the FSF's National Council and Board, and at different stages of my involvement over the course of the last decade I have given time to:

- Running the FSF's Standing Campaign
- On-the-ground campaigning with fans in the Northeast
- Setting up, running and handing over to FSF Services Ltd. the FSF office in Sunderland
- The FSF's Fans' Embassy service, with whom I have been in Russia this Summer
- Involvement in the FSF's National Council and Executive Committee/Board – I currently serve as one of the FSF Board Members, as voted by the National Council
- Editorial direction and production of the Federation's communications

I am a firm believer that there is no substitute for quality, and have worked extremely hard to ensure that everything I have been involved with on behalf of the FSF has been of a standard that befits – and benefits – the organisation.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

Aside from the FSF Board, where I hope my experience running businesses gives me a commercial perspective that compliments colleagues' experiences, I feel I can best serve the organisation by concentrating on my role as co-ordinator of the Standing Campaign.

Developments in the Standing campaign are, I hope, self-evident. In recent months we have been extremely active in working with the various footballing authorities – EFL, Premier League, SGSA etc. – to form a coalescence of strategy around a common position to take to DCMS.

Our Stand Up For Choice Campaign, which we launched jointly with the Football League, represents the first time the FSF has ever campaigned directly with one of the key players in the football landscape, and garnered some 34,000 survey responses (94% in favour of standing areas at football).

Publicly, we have walked the tight-rope between holding the Minister to account when she described standing as the domain of “a vocal minority” and cajoling her department towards a change in the law, supporting the successful petition that reached 100,000 votes, briefing MPs in advance of the parliamentary debate, liaising with politicians from both sides of the house on strategy and busying ourselves with the “soft” politics required to effect a change in the law.

At the time of writing, we have cause to be cautiously optimistic about the direction of travel. Whilst we are by no means where we need to be, and much remains to be done, news of an impending independent review is potentially game-changing and the first time in 29 years DCMS has strayed even marginally from its all-seater policy.

I hope to be elected to National Council in order that I can continue to build on the successes of the campaign.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Roy Bentham

Name of **PROPOSER**: Dave Kelly

Name of **SECONDER**: Simon Magner

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I've been involved in the 20's Plenty campaign, Safe Standing campaign, 'Phones for Food Bank campaign, Hillsborough Justice campaign (as a survivor) and also sat on the Spirit of Shankly management for eight years too.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

I will use all the experience I have acquired above to help the National Council and FSF in general. I'll also use the knowledge I've gained through the Safety Advisory Groups, LFC Local Forum and FSE dialogue to better our members' interests.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

On current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter I'd hope to keep pushing the safe standing campaign, in addition to democratically representing fans generally on football issues to the best of my ability if elected.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Steven POWELL

Name of **PROPOSER**: Arsenal Independent Supporters' Association

Name of **SECONDER**: Vince Alm

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

Employed as an administrative/clerical bank worker (zero hours) by Homerton University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.

Founding life member of both Arsenal Independent Supporters' Association and Arsenal Supporters' Trust. Life member of Arsenal Football Supporters' Club. Member of Gay Gooners. Individual member Football Supporters' Association/Football Supporters' Federation 1996-present. Member, Level Playing Field. Former director and vice-chair Supporters Direct. Former FSF Director of Policy. Worked for the FSA/FSF for thirteen years. Former FSF National Council member. Long-term involvement in the FSF safe standing group.

I'm also a socio (voting member) of both Club Atlético River Plate (Buenos Aires, Argentina) and Club Nacional de Football (Montevideo, Uruguay).

I'm a life long follower of Arsenal and Wales. My "second teams" are AFC Wimbledon (Dons Trust member and shareholder), FC United of Manchester (member), Barnet, Queen of the South, Nacional, River Plate, The Strongest (La Paz, Bolivia), Aucas (Quito, Ecuador), FC St Pauli (Germany), Orlando Pirates (Gauteng, South Africa), Hearts of Oak (Accra, Ghana) and DC United (Washington DC, USA).

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

I'm an experienced negotiator and media advocate. I also have a background in employment and equality law allied to capacity-building/fundraising in the voluntary sector which may be of use. I'm a regular match-going fan of fifty years' standing having attended my first Arsenal game in January 1968 home versus Sheffield United. My first Wales match was a World Cup qualifier home to the USSR in September 1965 at Ninian Park. I "get" the different shapes, sizes and temperaments that make up the football supporting family.

I'm also a bit of an expert on the governance structures and processes of football and a number of other sports around the world. All in all I'm an out and proud sad trainspotter anorak who needs to get out more!

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

Helping build and maintain the steady upward trend in the FSF's influence and credibility, deploying my experience and skills where I can to assist.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Tim Hillyer

Name of **PROPOSER**: Mark Davis (The Dons Trust)

Name of **SECONDER**: Dan Crawford (Fulham Supporters' Trust)

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I have been an elected member of the Board of The Dons Trust for 18 months. As the supervisory and policy board, representing 3,000 AFC Wimbledon supporter, we oversee our League One club. These are exciting times with the imminent construction of our new stadium. I was involved in sections of the planning process, reconfiguring parts of the public transport section, and countering an appeal to English Heritage by identifying errors, omissions and oversights in the appellants' submissions. I spoke at the Planning Committee meeting of Merton Council as a local resident, alongside representatives from local business organisation, the local college as well as the architects and development partners.

At AFC Wimbledon, I led the team of volunteers who run the Club Shop until the appointment of a full-time manager last year. In recognition of my efforts, I was presented with a Club Employee of the Decade Award by the EFL.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a FSF National Council member.

As a qualified Management Accountant, my day job is in finance at a medium sized charity. I have looked at the financial statements of organisations as diverse as The FA (on behalf of FSF) and Football Supporters of Europe (FSE), for whom I conduct an internal audit each year.

At university following the footsteps of Trevor Phillips, who became head of the Commission for Racial Equality, then EHRC, Commission for Equality and Human Rights, I had an interest in what is now called Diversity. This led to attending Kick It Out and pride In Football events as well as FSF Roadshow meetings.

For the past two years I have been a co-opted member of the Board of Supporters Direct, initially as the FSF representative. Having stood down in the interests of improving diversity, I was invited back to add strength to the business and finance skills of the Board. Much of the work lately has been preparing for the members' decision to form a new organisation with FSF.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

The integration of governance issues into the new organisation formed by FSF, hopefully with the support of the members of Supporters Direct, will dominate activities for the coming year. It will be vital to ensure that the core campaigns continue to be supported effectively. I have a particular interest in the Stand Up For Choice movement. I was present at the recent House of Commons debate to hear the Minister for Sport announce the next steps towards Safe Standing, which will sadly come too late to integrate rail seats in the new stadium in Plough Lane.

The work of the Independent Football Ombudsman have in recent years acknowledged supporter issues to a greater degree. It is encouraging to note that the IFO Chairman now takes a more robust approach with clubs, although not every club follows each of his recommendations.

As a home and away supporter, transport issues affect me personally, giving insight into how football supporters are treated as coach travellers and train passengers. I have sat several times on the Rail Football Forum as an FSF representative and attend Meet the Met meetings as a club representative. Similarly I share a similar role with colleagues at EFL Structured Dialogue gatherings.

Name of **CANDIDATE**: Billy Grant

Name of **PROPOSER**: Ally Simcock

Name of **SECONDER**: Dave Tomlinson

1) Please give any experience or past involvement in football which you consider may be relevant to your nomination, or which could be useful to the FSF if elected.

I have served on the FSF National Council for 4 years and the FSF board for the past three years.

I was involved in the FSF's '20's Plenty' campaign – with a focus on trying to get the campaign some sort of traction in the lower leagues. After the success of '20's Plenty' in the Premier League, there is now a switch on trying to get EFL clubs to adopt a fairer pricing policy across the board.

I go to football regularly. I support Brentford – having watched them play home and away for over 35 years. I also follow England away since 1988 - having been to 7 World Cups and 6 Euro Championships.

I have been involved in 'Beesotted', the Brentford fanzine, since 1992 – writing articles, podcasting and video-blogging for the online site.

Beesotted.co.uk carries our popular unique fan terrace videos made weekly - an interesting insight into (positive) football fan culture – as well as twice weekly podcasts on football 'stuff'. We have been working with Brentford Football Club – delivering a number of fan engagement projects.

Have worked with Kick it Out delivering videos on diversity within football as well as organising events on their behalf to highlight prejudice, including a panel featuring Chris Kamara and Chris Powell.

I know football fan culture implicitly and have always been involved in campaigns to show football fans in a positive light.

2) Outline how you might be able to use any skills, knowledge or experience you have, as a National Council member.

Being the co-editor of a lower league fanzine and having travelled to football for years, I know how fans think and the issues that are important to the regular football fan. In particular, I am a big champion of the so called 'lower leagues' and will be still so – even if Brentford ever get to the Premier League.

Having worked in PR and sponsorship, I have the skills on how to incorporate that successfully into the football arena.

I work in the music industry and was involved in setting up a diversity charter to encourage a more diverse workforce in the industry (ethnic, female, disabled, LGBT, socially deprived, etc.)

As a black football fan, I understand the issues when it comes to diversity and prejudice in football (not only racism but sexism, disability, homophobia, etc.) and can come up with ideas to combat this.

3) What would be your aims or interests if elected? What are your views on current issues which affect the welfare and interests of the football supporter?

Diversity issues in football are now currently being addressed which is a positive thing. I have a son with a hidden disability and I strongly feel that disability is one issue which needs to be raised on the radar.

Fans first. Ensuring that fans are treated fairly and with respect. We are paying customers after all. I'm a big fighter for lower league football fans and clubs - ensuring their voices are also heard. Football wasn't invented in 1992.

Promoting positive actions of football fans (PR).

Like most football fans, I am a big advocate of safe standing – having stood on terraces for the last 35 plus years at Brentford I can guarantee you that standing at football is safer than ever.

4 - Chair's report on a unified national supporters' organisation

I. Letter from the Chair

Fellow supporters,

These are exciting and encouraging times for the FSF. I think we are in a better place than at any time since I became involved in the national supporters' movement more than two decades ago. We are taken more seriously by the football authorities, clubs and Government as a key player in the national debates than we used to be. We have a very strong staff team and are in a better financial position than we have ever been. We have had some notable achievements in various areas which you can read about in the Annual Review, although of course there is a huge amount still to be done.

As you may be aware, over the course of the last year there have been detailed discussions about the possibility of the FSF and Supporters' Direct (SD) coming together to form a new, single, united national supporters' organisation. Together with this letter you will find a document setting out what such an organisation might look like. The document was drawn up and agreed by the Chairs and CEOs of the two organisations and has been endorsed by your National Council.

The Board of SD has decided not to recommend that proposal to the SD Annual Conference. SD members will vote on the document at the Annual Conference, which is due to be held on the morning of 28th July 2018. The FSF Annual Conference is being held in the afternoon of the same day.

It would be quite inappropriate for me to attempt to influence that decision by SD, which is, of course, a separate, autonomous organisation. The future of SD is solely a matter for those Trusts in membership of SD, and we will respect whatever decision they take. We would not, in any event, wish to form a new organisation with an unenthusiastic partner. Shotgun marriages rarely succeed!

Your National Council has also resolved that, even if SD do not wish to come on board, we will propose to you, our members, the same vision outlined in the document, and the same, or very similar, structure, at a special Conference in November.

Why change? Our existing constitution has remained almost unaltered since its adoption in 2002, following the merger between the Football Supporters Association (FSA) and the National Federation of Football Supporters' Clubs (Nat Fed) to form the FSF, when in truth it was a bit of a scissors and paste job. It needs modernising to take account of today's circumstances.

For those many members who weren't around at the beginning of the century, and those of you who were but have forgotten, I have attached an appendix giving a brief history of the national supporters' movement.

The large majority of our elected National Council are elected as individual members. In between Conferences, they don't have a reference point to report back to and take guidance. The majority of decisions in football, apart from those taken by the FA, where we now have representation, are taken at league level, but our governance structures don't reflect this, even though our new "structured dialogue" arrangements do in that we have groups set up by league. Our National Council should now reflect this reality and establish an accountability framework to match it.

Whilst refocusing the main Council in this way, we must of course retain strong representation for our individual members who may not be involved in fans' organisations at club level.

We should also recognise the need to create representation for other significant groups who, whilst in membership of the FSF, are not explicitly represented at the moment such as those with a diversity focus and supporter trust owned clubs.

Uniquely among supporters' organisations, we represent all supporters, be they members of affiliated Trusts or Clubs or individual members or both, and we cover the full gamut of issues of concern to supporters. All our members, of whatever category, are affected by the nature and structures of football governance at both national and club level. It is the deficiencies in those structures, and often the lack of proper fan involvement and representation in them, which often lead to the "matchday" problems of prices, lack of standing areas, matches moved for TV, poor stewarding and so on. That is why any distinction between "governance" and "matchday issues" is a false one and we must tackle them all.

Our constitution and ways of working should be modernised to reflect these realities and make us fully fit for purpose (we are already pretty fit but can get even better!). It's an exciting future, and I hope you will come along for the ride.



Malcolm Clarke,
Chair - The FSF

II. Appendix - A brief history of the national supporters' movement.

The first national supporters' organisation was founded in 1921 by Coventry City supporter Herbert Kendall. The National Federation of Supporters Clubs (Nat Fed) was an organisation for supporters' clubs only. In the 1980s, following the Heysel disaster, two Liverpool supporters, Rogan Taylor and Peter Garrett, founded the Football Supporters' Association (FSA). It was predominantly an organisation for individual members but had affiliated supporter groups as well.

In 2002 members of Nat Fed and the FSA recognised that the interests of supporters would be better served by having one national supporters' body. After lengthy discussions, the FSF was formed from the merger of these two national organisations. This view had been endorsed in December 1999 by the Football Task Force set up by the Government under the chair of the Rt. Hon. David Mellor PC QC, two of whose recommendations were:

- Supporters' Associations should be encouraged as far as possible to be represented at national level with a single voice;
- The Football Authorities should provide sufficient funding for the proper running and effective functioning of a national supporter representative body (my emphasis).

The concept of a single national organisation is therefore not new and while at the time it was a matter of much debate and some differences of opinion, we would now struggle to find anyone who thinks that in the light of subsequent experience the decision to merge in 2002 was the wrong decision.

During this period, up in Northampton, the late Brian Lomax was developing his own ground-breaking concept of supporters' trusts as a vehicle for the ownership of shares in football clubs, and sometimes the ownership of the clubs themselves.

This was particularly valuable in the early years of this century when there was a very high incidence of clubs in financial insolvency and administration events but remains very relevant and important today. Brian and his colleagues established Supporters Direct in 2000 to promote and support trusts. Brian decided that he did not want SD to be part of the new organisation. Had he taken a different view it would have been possible to incorporate his ground-breaking ideas into it. At the time this did not unduly concern those of us involved in the merger process because SD was originally set up in an academic institution as part of Birkbeck College, and this was a very valuable new professional and academic resource for supporters of clubs in trouble.

Had we known that it would subsequently transform itself to become a new national representative organisation, after we had gone to considerable trouble to achieve a single organisation, I think we would have wished to discuss that question with Brian and his colleagues.

III. The Case for a Single New Organisation

Mission & Delivery

The new organisation will exist to represent, promote and advocate issues of concern and interest to its membership, specifically incorporating the mission of both the FSF and Supporters' Direct (SD) into the representative structure, constitution and operating arrangements for the new organisation. The new organisation will be committed to delivering the current activity, policy and priorities of both SD and FSF as an integral part of a single, national football supporters' organisation.

The current work of FSF and SD, where distinct, is in many ways nevertheless linked. Many of the day-to-day supporter issues which FSF deals with arise partly as a result of poor governance in the game and insufficient engagement with supporters from clubs and could have been avoided with a greater proportion of clubs having board level supporter representation or being community owned. Forming a new single organisation recognises that link and is designed to enable supporters to have a strong and cohesive voice to advocate for the broad range of supporter issues.

The delivery model will be network-focussed, with national democratic representation structures organised according to levels of the football pyramid and specialist protected networks for community-owned clubs and diversity issues. However, where there is a desire, there will continue to be opportunity to meet and collaborate with colleagues on a regional basis. The network structure will give supporters' groups a single point of contact to provide support from individuals with experience and knowledge at the relevant level of football. The network model will enable a single representative body to assist and encourage supporters to work together to achieve common aims.

The existing SD and FSF staff possess a broad range of capability and experience which if brought together will provide a strong, balanced and highly skilled workforce in the interests of football supporters across a wide range of issues. This will also ensure that from the start, the missions of both the FSF and SD can be protected, enhanced and developed in a new organisation with the relevant specialist knowledge and experience embedded in the professional staff team.

The existing locations of staff and offices would also mean that the new organisation would begin with a spread of staff, with both a London and Sunderland location. There would be no immediate intention to close either office.

It is essential that areas of current SD work such as governance, reform and supporter ownership retain priority and focus in a new single organisation. The leadership of both organisations have stated their determination that the mission of SD will be protected, not least because of its influence on the cause of other issues and concerns to supporters. The new organisation will maintain a

policy position that supports and promotes community ownership of clubs and supporter shareholdings where possible. This, and other related governance and supporter engagement work will be ringfenced within the new organisation, with a specialist department dedicated to the pursuit of those objectives. This will further be enhanced with organisational KPIs designed to incorporate this as priority area of activity against which the organisation's professional leadership will be measured, to be developed by the proposed interim board. The FSF National Council and SD Board members have been working closely on proposals for further reform to governance of the game, illustrating the existing recognition of the significance of these issues to supporters.

Representation of community-owned clubs will be ensured through a specific network and council, with consequent guaranteed membership of the board for supporter organisations of community owned clubs.

Leadership

Should both existing organisations resolve to merge to create a new organisation, an interim board made up of three members appointed from each of the current FSF and SD boards, with co-chairs from each organisation, will be formed to oversee the process of establishment and inauguration. At the point of inauguration of the new organisation, a new board will be formed with three members from the interim board for the purposes of continuity, with the remainder subject to election after the first Annual General Meeting; we trust the new membership to put in place a balanced and progressive board.

The interim board will also be required to appoint a Chief Executive Officer for the new organisation. We envisage that the interim board would wish to ring-fence applications to the two existing CEOs. In the event of both applying for the post, it would use an objective and transparent appointment process which may well include independent input on the appointing panel. The aim is that whoever is appointed, the other would be offered a senior post so as not to lose their experience and skillset.

A previous study has shown that the benefits of operating shared service back office across SD and the FSF would be minimal. However, it was also expected that a new organisation could provide some productivity savings. The additional time created will allow those staff to focus more on real delivery as opposed to administration tasks.

An organisation that supports all football fans is a powerful voice and as such ought to benefit from some commercial sponsorships. Secondly, with the cross-section of skills in place there would be an aim to push for more of the consultancy type work that SD already undertakes in other sports. Although the new organisation would be a representative body only for football, the potential to provide services in certain other sports is significant and will help strengthen the organisation in the long term.

Potential Advantages of a Single Organisation

There could be a number of clear advantages arising from the creation of a single national supporters' organisation. A united organisation might have great potential strength and influence, with the power of a single voice. It could eradicate the elements of confusion generated by the existence of two bodies sometimes perceived as being in competition with each other. It could allow for consistent and common messaging to fans, to football and governmental authorities, and to the broader media, and also enable much greater lobbying power.

A single organisation could also enable the pulling together of both financial and personnel resources, without competition for funding and removing concerns from funding bodies about unnecessary duplication of activity.

With a single set of networks and representative structures, there will be savings of activist time, with supporters' trusts in particular no longer being expected to attend two sets of meetings. The staff team could also benefit from the removal of duplication of back-office tasks, allowing more time and attention to be devoted to front-line campaigning activity, policy development and services to members.

Working with the funders will be key; although funding commitments have been made, it will be essential to ensure all core areas of both SD and the FSF remain supported. The leadership of a new organisation would work to balance resource and prioritise work, taking into account the areas of important work that both the FSF and SD currently undertake.

A single organisation could also create the breadth of remit that allows us to become a “onestop shop” for all supporter issues, and a staff team large enough both to guarantee maintaining focus on current core subject matter and to develop an even wider range of knowledge and skills. Pulling all the staff together into one team will facilitate a good geographical spread and lend an impetus of new-found dynamism to creativity and fresh thinking, building on the best of the methodologies of both current organisations.

Objectives and Mission Statement

The objectives of the organisation are:

- (a) To encourage, promote and develop support of association football and goodwill between football supporters at local, national and international levels.
- (b) To support and protect the interests of member supporters' trusts, clubs, individuals and, wherever necessary, their dependents.
- (c) To promote good governance in sport and encourage clubs to be run in a sustainable manner
- (d) To promote the benefits of and encourage the creation of community-owned clubs, and supporter representation on club boards.
- (e) To work with supporters, governing bodies, the leagues and clubs to encourage, promote and embed meaningful supporter engagement at all levels.
- (f) To gain representation for football supporters on the executive and governing bodies of association football.
- (g) To provide an independent and democratic structure through which the views of supporters may be channelled and articulated.
- (h) To initiate and support campaigns on issues of concern to football supporters.
- (i) To carry out research into and disseminate information on football related issues.
- (j) To promote diversity and oppose all forms of discrimination in relation to football.
- (k) To work against the abuse of football by those who bring violent intent and actions to our football grounds.
- (l) To liaise with all interested parties to achieve these objectives.

The organisation will be non-partisan, non-profit making and non-party political. As a consequence, any person, group (including fanzines and websites) or democratically-run supporters' organisation supporting football and the objectives of the organisation shall be eligible for membership at the appropriate tier.

The new organisation must agree a single set of objectives, constitution and mission, incorporating those of both SD and the FSF. that both presently stand for. The constitution will also require a threshold of a 70% vote of members to amend it.

Membership

Historically, SD's membership has been its member trusts, each of whom also have their own membership. The FSF has a mix of individual and organisation members. A new organisation will be structured democratically, encompassing the full range of current memberships.

The membership structure will allow for the participation of individuals, of democratically organised and formally structured supporters' trusts and groups, and of entities in between – groupings that are more than just individuals but who do not have a democratic structure or accountability, or who do not meet some of the other requirements of affiliate status.

We are therefore proposing three categories of membership:

- **Individual members** – as is currently the case within the FSF, anyone can become a member by accepting the conditions of membership and providing a name, email address and the name of the football club that they support. It is proposed that in order to exercise a vote at a meeting, individual members would also need to provide additional personal details, including their postal address.

- **Affiliate members** – these will be a supporters' group who fulfil a number of key criteria of basic sound governance and democratic principles. These requirements would be:

- The organisation must have a written constitution
- Their membership must be open to all supporters of the relevant football club at an affordable fee, if any
- The operation of the organisation must be independent of the football club (unless that organisation is a Trust that is the direct owner of its football club)
- The organisation must have a democratic structure and decision-making process, based on one member, one vote
- The majority of the organisation's governing committee must be elected by the membership, either at a general meeting or by postal or online ballot
- The organisation must publish either audited or certified annual accounts or at least ones approved by its membership at an AGM
- The organisation must keep track of its membership, holding basic details of each current member
- The organisation must adopt a diversity policy (a template can be supplied)

All trusts in full, current membership of Supporters' Direct will already meet these criteria. There would not be a limit imposed as to the number of affiliates at each club provided all the above criteria are met.

- **Associate members** – this is the tier of membership for all those entities in between individual membership and affiliate membership; in other words, any supporters' group or collective based on more than one individual, but which does not fulfil all the criteria listed above for an affiliate. This could therefore be democratically-structured groups which are restrictive in the membership they appeal to, like regional or geographically based supporters' clubs; organisations that are not independent of the football club, like some clubs' fans' forums; traditional fanzines, or newer collective entities like fan websites, Facebook groups, podcasts, Twitter feeds, etc.

Membership fees

It is proposed that membership for individuals and for associates remains, as it currently is within the FSF, free of charge. Our proposal is that membership for affiliated organisations could be

subject to an annual fee, to be set and regularly reviewed by the organisation's National Council (see below for details of this body).

Decision-making and Structures

Ultimate decision-making and determination of policy within the organisation will of course reside with the General Meeting, at which all members of every tier of membership will be able to exercise their votes. It is proposed that the General Meeting be held every year, in other words an Annual General Meeting.

Between sessions of the general meeting, there is a need for another body to deal with policy issues and the general direction of the organisation. It is proposed to establish a National Council of the organisation to meet between AGMs, with representation from all tiers of the membership and throughout the football pyramid. It is envisaged that this body would meet at least three times between AGMs.

The primary vehicle for activity and the involvement of affiliates between AGMs will be through 'networks' based mainly around the various tiers of the football pyramid. The networks would be expected to meet three or four times a year, as well as being in contact virtually. Meetings can also be attended by individual and associate members (partly welcome from clubs where we have no fully-fledged affiliate), but only affiliate organisations would be able to vote. This could act as an incentive towards the establishment of a democratic supporters' organisation or trust where none yet exists. We would propose the following networks of affiliates:

- Premier League
- Championship
- League One and Two (combined)
- National Game

In addition, to ensure that no focus is lost on the current SD core issue of supporter/community ownership, we would propose an additional network of Supporter/Community-owned clubs, based on those clubs where Supporters Trusts own at least 50% of a club's shares, albeit the network would be able to invite other Trusts involvement for special cases, e.g. a Trust who owns 49% of shares in its club.

The sixth and final network that we would propose would be the Fans for Diversity network, consisting of individuals and groups who have been active and received funding as part of the Fans for Diversity programme run in partnership with Kick It Out. This we consider necessary not only to assist and encourage the development of this network, but also as a step towards diversifying the membership and representative bodies of the organisation.

There could be either a demand or a need for further networks to be established in future. We would propose that the National Council be authorised to establish a new network, subject to the subsequent ratification by the General Meeting.

Each of these networks would then have the right to elect an equal number of representatives from among their membership to represent that network on the organisation's National Council. Those representatives would be elected by the network meeting at or just before the AGM, for a two-year term. If during that two-year term the club of an elected member is relegated or promoted out of the league or leagues represented, that elected member would have to forfeit their place on the National Council, with a replacement being elected by the network.

As well as the networks of affiliates appointing National Council members, it will also be necessary for individual members and associate members to seek and achieve representation on the National

Council. It is therefore proposed that at the General Meeting the individual members and associate members, from among their own numbers respectively, also elect members to the National Council.

The composition of the National Council would therefore consist of:

- EPL network reps 3
- EFL Championship network reps 3
- EFL Leagues One and Two network reps 3
- National game network reps 3
- Community-owned clubs network reps 3
- Fans for Diversity network reps 3
- Associate reps (elected at AGM) 3
- Individual members' reps (elected at AGM) 6

The National Council will also need a Chair and Vice-Chair: these will be additional posts directly elected by the entire membership at the AGM.

The National Council would also have the authority to co-opt additional members and/or representatives from other organisations to take part in its proceedings. The strategic direction of the organisation, its financial and employment affairs – and in cases of urgency between National Council meetings, decisions on policy – will be the province of an Executive Committee or Board, which will need to be a smaller, tighter body able to meet more frequently.

We propose that the Executive Committee / Board be elected primarily by the National Council from among its own membership. The EC/Board would comprise nine members elected by and from the National Council (on staggered three-year terms, with three elected each year).

In the first year of the new organisation's existence, three board members would be elected for a three-year term, three for a two-year term and the three from the interim board for a one-year term, to begin the process of the board being elected three a year for three-year terms.

In addition, there would be ex-officio places on the EC/Board for the organisation's Chair and Vice-Chair. The EC/Board would also have the power to co-opt further members, should they consider it necessary for reasons of diversity or required skills.

Voting

There are various forums in which votes can take place. For network meetings, including the election of National Council members, each affiliate would have one vote. Associate and individual members would not have a vote at these meetings.

At the General Meeting, when electing individual members' representatives to National Council, each individual member would have one vote. Similarly, when electing associate members' representatives to National Council, each associate member would have one vote.

At National Council meetings, each Council member would have one vote, with the chair having an additional casting vote if required. At EC/Board meetings, each board member would have one vote, with the chair having an additional casting vote if required. At General Meetings, voting will be weighted as follows:

- Individual members – one vote
- Associate members – one vote
- Affiliate members – five votes

For the constitution of the new organisation to be changed a 70% majority of votes cast will be required.

Interim Board

Should the memberships of both current organisations vote to form a new single organisation, the aim will be for the new organisation to be operative by January 1st 2019, with an aim of having an inaugural general meeting in November of 2018. Following the votes at respective AGMs and until the first AGM of the new organisation, an interim board will be created to assist and guide the two CEOs in working towards that goal.

The boards of SD and the FSF will each select three of its Directors to sit on this interim board and it is expected that both Chairmen will be one of the three. The interim board will operate with Co-chairs, those being the current Chairs of both the FSF and SD. To ensure an element of continuity, the interim board will appoint three of its members to take up the three one-year board posts of the new organisation once it moves from a shell to actually being operational. The rest of the interim board will be entitled to stand through the normal representative elections.

Incorporation

The decision regarding the type of entity that is incorporated will be decided by the interim board. The board will utilise the initial report already commissioned by the FSF, but recognising that this advice was not jointly sought, and nor did it advise on some significant relevant aspects relating to incorporation of a new organisation, and highlights areas where the consultant was not qualified to provide advice, further supplementary specific expert advice will be sought prior to a final decision being made by the interim board. The interim board will therefore commission financial, tax and legal advice, experience from current mutual organisations and examine whether there are potential relevant future funding streams where particular forms of incorporation are prescribed and, alongside the existing initial advice, make a decision on the type of entity which is the most appropriate form for the new organisation to take in the long term.

Other Sports

Both organisations – SD to a much greater extent than FSF – have previously been involved in providing advice and support to groups from other sports. We are keen to continue to develop that role as a consultancy, sharing relevant expertise with groups outside of football.

However, we must consider that we are establishing a single representative football fans' organisation, and therefore other sports will not have representation within its structures, or any voting rights on football policy. We would be happy to consider the establishment of and service for networks for other sports and ensure that their wishes and needs as customers of our consultancy services are articulated and met, but that can be done via the networks and representative staff rather than via the football supporter structures. We believe supporting other sports in this fashion will be beneficial in the long term, although support to organisations from other sports would be limited to that which they can afford to "purchase", and no 'football money' would be used to support work in any other sport. It is recognised that Trusts and possibly supporter groups of other sports where work is being funded will need to be affiliated to an umbrella organisation. To support this a "Friends of" scheme could be set up to allow these organisations to align to an umbrella and ensure their networks are effectively supported.

6 - Standing Orders

(As adopted at the Fans' Parliament of the Federation on 20 June 2009)

RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL COUNCIL

1. The National Council shall be responsible for the publishing of the annual report and accounts, which shall include:
 - Minutes of the proceedings of the previous annual conference
 - Matters arising from the previous annual conference
 - Annual reports from the National Council and division secretaries
 - Annual accounts
 - Appointment of auditors
 - Elections of national officers and other posts determined in the rules
 - Motions
 - Amendments and alterations to the constitution, rules and standing orders.
2. The National Council shall appoint an Agenda committee of three members to assist the smooth running of conference, and act in accordance with these standing orders.

CONFERENCE CHAIR

3. The Federation Chair shall chair the Conference. In his/her absence, or for any matter dealing with his/her own position, the deputy chair shall chair conference, or in his/her absence another national council member nominated by the Agenda committee, will take the chair.
4. The ruling of the chair on any question of procedure arising at the conference shall be final and can only be challenged as allowed for in Standing Order 27.

CONFERENCE VOTING

5. Voting shall be by show of appropriate voting cards or by ballot as indicated by the appropriate Bye Laws of this constitution. The agenda committee shall appoint persons to count votes and organise any ballots required.
6. Voting shall be restricted to accredited delegates, and shall be in accordance with the rules and bye-laws of the Federation. In the event of any dispute the agenda committee shall decide on eligibility.
7. Decisions shall be made by simple majority, except where stated to the contrary elsewhere in these Standing Orders.
8. The chair shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote.

CONFERENCE MOTIONS AND DEBATE

8. A motion which is published in the agenda can only be withdrawn with the consent of the conference.
9. Any motion received after the closing date for submission of motions, which shall be determined by the National Council, shall be reported to the conference by the Agenda committee. The Agenda committee shall determine whether the motion shall be heard by conference and what position it shall appear on the agenda. Motions received after the closing date must relate to a matter which has arisen after the closing date for motions, or which requires urgent attention.
10. Motions shall be moved by the delegate in whose name they stand. If the mover is not present the motion will fall, unless conference gives leave for an alternative proposer.
11. All Motions and Amendments shall require a seconder before they are moved. If no seconder can be secured, the motion or amendment will fall.
12. Amendments may be moved by giving notice to the chair, except in the case of procedural motions as referred to in Standing order 27.
13. If an amendment to a motion is moved, a further amendment shall not be moved until the first amendment is disposed of.
14. An amendment shall not be moved while a vote is being taken.
15. An amendment must be related to but may not negate the substance of the original motion.

16. The mover of the motion shall be asked whether he/she accepts an amendment. If the amendment is accepted by the mover it will automatically become part of the substantive motion.
17. The mover of a motion (including an amended motion) shall have the right of reply, after which the motion shall be put to the vote without further debate, except in the case of procedural motions as referred to in Standing Order 27.
18. The mover of an amendment shall not have the right of reply.
20. Speakers shall state their name (and the organisation they represent, where appropriate).
21. If two or more delegates wish to speak at the same time the chair shall decide to whom priority shall be given.
22. Should the chair call for "Order" during a debate, the delegate speaking shall immediately sit down and neither he/she, nor any other delegate, shall speak until the chair invites them to do so.
23. The chair shall ensure that debates are conducted in a spirit of mutual respect. Any delegate disobeying, or attempting to defy, the ruling of the chair may be suspended for the remainder of conference. The Chair shall call attention to continued irrelevance, repetition, unbecoming language or any breach of order on the part of a member, and direct such member to discontinue their speech.
24. A delegate shall not speak more than once to the same motion or amendment except with the permission of the chair.
25. The maximum time allowed for the moving of a motion or an amendment shall be five minutes; all other speeches including the mover's right of reply, shall have a maximum time of three minutes except at the discretion of the chair.
26. Any delegate may raise a point of order or ask a question but must confine this to the subject before conference at the time.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

27. The following procedural motions may be moved at any time without previous notice:
- That leave shall be given to withdraw a motion or an amendment
 - That leave shall be given to refer a motion or amendment to the National Council for consideration
 - That the chair's decision or ruling be challenged
 - That the question be now put (*)
 - That the conference proceeds to the next business (*)
 - That the speaker shall no longer be heard (*)
 - That the debate be adjourned (*)
 - That conference be adjourned
 - That persons present who are not members of the Federation leave the conference for a specified period

None of the procedural motions marked (*) can be moved by a delegate who has already addressed conference on the motion or amendment under debate. Any procedural motion shall be immediately put to the vote after there is one speech in favour of the motion and one against. No amendment shall be allowed.

CONFERENCE BUSINESS NOT TAKEN

28. Any business not taken at conference due to lack of time shall be referred to the National Council.

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS UNDER FEDERATION RULES

29. The proceedings of the conference shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the Federation (of which these standing orders form a part).

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

30. Any standing order may be suspended by a motion to conference provided that at least two-thirds of the delegates voting vote in favour.